

science of vocal expression ; living, sympathetic, reverent, devout master builders, so that when we build, our foundation may be on a rock, and the fair fabrics we raise may stand the

tests of time and change, uplifted from the shifting sands of an inelegant, equivocal, or erroneous diction, and so a step nearer the sunlight of a perfected knowledge.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR SCHOOL AND HOME.

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NO. 6. THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT.

INTRODUCTION. So far Commandments have taught about God and our duty to Him. Remaining six teach about our neighbours, *i.e.*, those with whom we are brought in contact.

I. THE DUTY ENJOINED—*Obedience.* (Read Eph. vi. 1-8.) Words apply to all persons—have duties to those over them. Can take three classes: (a) *Children.* Repeat fifth Commandment. Honour includes obedience, love, help. Parents set over children by God, must be obeyed. Remind how Christ was subject to His earthly parents at their home at Nazareth. (Luke ii. 51.) Children must *obey* parents in *all* things; *e.g.*, choice of friends, books to read, time to leave school, choice of occupation, etc. Must also *love* them. Think what they have done for children, worked for them, nursed in sickness, cared for. Child should often think, how *can* I show love in return? Not by teasing for what I want, but by *helping*. Remind of Miriam, little girl watching baby brother, Joseph providing for aged father, Christ, when dying, thinking of His mother. Children can often help with younger children, give part of wages to old and sick parents, help busy mothers on Saturdays. (b) *Servants.* Not

always stay at home. Boys work under masters in farm, shop, office, etc.; girls in shops and homes. Service must be faithful, such as Joseph's, whose master able to trust him. Such service done as to God will receive special reward. (Eph. vi. 8.) Potiphar and Pharaoh both blessed for Joseph's sake. (c) *Citizens.* St. Peter tells us to fear God and honour the king. Good subjects will obey laws of their land.

II. THE SIN FORBIDDEN—*Disobedience.* (Read Deut. xxi. 18-21.) What a fearful punishment on a rebellious son! Do not know whether often carried out, but do read of Absalom. King's son raising rebellion against father, and coming to untimely end. This, in lesser form, very common sin. Children speaking disrespectfully, giving saucy answers, choosing own way; servants neglecting orders, not attending to master's wishes, answering back rudely—all break this Commandment.

III. THE REWARD PROMISED. Called first Commandment with promise. Two promises in Eph. vi. 3. What can be happier than family trained in habits of obedience, respect and mutual help! Parents may well look forward to happy and comfortable old age; know children will not let them want. Those who thus act