

turned the world upside down, we cannot help feeling that there was a great deal of truth in it. They recognized that christianity was revolutionary in its character and calculated to transform human society and change the character of the world as a whole.

IV. PAUL AT BEREÄ.—Here he finds his work unhindered and eminently successful.

And the reason lies in the spirit with which the Bereans listened to the gospel. "They were more noble than those in Thessalonica," and daily searched the Scriptures. They "proved all things," and held fast to the good. Christ's cause does not fear scrutinizing. It challenges us to "search the Scriptures whether these things are so."

Let that be our work daily, familiarizing

ourselves with the blessed Book and then we shall always be able to give a reason for the hope that is in us.

ADDED POINTS.

1. Good habits as well as bad ones cling to a man.
2. The subject of true preaching is Jesus.
3. Hold your earthly possessions with a loose grip, if you want to ride the storm safely.
4. Which side are you on? order or uproar!
5. Paul and Silas fled from the city but not from Christ.
6. "Before honor is humility."
7. Do you search your Bible or only scan it.

LESSON IV—July 25th, 1897.

Paul Preaching in Athens. Acts 17: 22-34.

(Commit to memory verses 24-27. Read verses 13-21).

GOLDEN TEXT: "God is a spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4: 24.

PROVE THAT.—Christ will be our Judge. Acts 17: 31.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 85. *What doth God require of us, that we may escape his wrath and curse due to us for sin?* A. To escape the wrath and curse of God due to us for sin, God requireth of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communicateth to us the benefits of redemption.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 4, 8, 14, 69.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* The new doctrine. Acts. 17: 16-21. *Tuesday.* Paul preaching at Athens. Acts. 17: 22-34. *Wednesday.* The mighty God. Isa. 40: 9-17. *Thursday.* Incomparable. Isa. 40: 18-26. *Friday.* The true God. Jer. 10: 1-12. *Saturday.* God is a spirit. John 4: 19-26. *Sabbath.* Judgment by Christ. 2 Cor. 5: 1-10. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

EXPOSITORY NOTES.

INTRODUCTORY. So bitter were Paul's enemies at Thessalonica against him that they came to Berea and excited another disturbance. It was therefore deemed prudent that he should continue his journey by sea rather than by land. Accompanied, therefore, by devoted friends, for he never seems to have travelled alone, he set sail for Athens, leaving Silas and Timothy to pursue the slower journey by land. Arrived at Athens he discussed the prophecies in the synagogue with the Jews and in the market place exposed the fallacies of heathen philosophy. His words made so much impression that he was invited to expound his doctrines at greater length before the chief court of the city, that which met on Mars' Hill, or the Areopagus. Time A. D. 52.

LESSON PLAN. I. God our Creator. vs. 22-25. II. Man our Brother. vs. 26-29. III. Christ our Saviour. vs. 30-31.

22. Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, (R. V. the Areopagus), and said, "Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious (somewhat superstitious). The word for "stood" conveys the idea of courage and confidence. He took his stand boldly before the august tribunal. The name of Mars' hill is ideriv-