

Will men be any better for his having spoken them?
Yes; for he said his word should go forth to bless men.

Words with Little People.

You all want to be happy. Sometimes, it may be at Christmas, or your birthday, you are very happy, for a little while, but you soon get tired of the new things and want more; even if you have a great many you will want something else, or something different. This want in your little hearts is what is meant by being thirsty. God put it there that you might want the water of life which only Jesus can give. What is the water of life? It is the peace that comes when our sins are washed away. It is the joy and happiness that come after our "good times" are all over, and we feel that Jesus is better than them all, and that he loves us, and is getting ready a home, a white robe, a crown, and a harp in that land where all our wants will be supplied with the water of life, which flows from the throne of God.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

[For the entire school.]

1. When should we seek the Lord? "While he may be found."
2. What should the wicked do? "Let the wicked forsake his way."
3. If he returns unto the Lord, how will he receive him? "He will have mercy on him."
4. What does God do? "Abundantly pardons."
5. What does the Lord say concerning his word? "It shall not return unto me void."

CATECHISM QUESTION.

44. What is the teaching of the New Testament concerning children as members of the Church?

It is implied that their baptism places them in the same relation to the New Covenant in which infants were placed to the Old by the rite of circumcision. Hence they are spoken of, addressed, and exhorted, as heirs of gospel privilege. [Matt. xix. 14; Mark x. 14; Isaiah xl. 11.]

ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE.

Salvation through Christ.

I. A NEEDED SALVATION.

Every one that thirsteth. v. 1.

"Let him that is athirst come." Rev. 22. 17.

"All ye that labor . . . heavy laden." Matt. 11. 28.

II. A FREE SALVATION.

Without money and without price. v. 1.

"By grace are ye saved." Eph. 2. 8.

"Justified freely through his grace." Rom. 3. 24.

III. A FULL SALVATION.

Let your soul delight itself in fatness. v. 2.

"They shall be abundantly satisfied." Psa. 36. 8.

"A feast of fat things." Isa. 25. 6.

IV. AN ETERNAL SALVATION.

An everlasting covenant with you. v. 3.

"The gift of God is eternal life." Rom. 6. 23.

"Springing up into everlasting life." John 4. 14.

V. A UNIVERSAL SALVATION.

Nations that knew not thee. v. 5.

"The forces of the Gentiles shall come." Isa. 60. 5.

"Far off are made nigh." Eph. 2. 13.

VI. A PRESENT SALVATION.

Seek . . . while he may be found. v. 6.

"Now is the accepted time." 2 Cor. 6. 2.

"To-day if ye will hear his voice." Psa. 95. 7. 8.

VII. A CONDITIONAL SALVATION.

Let the wicked forsake his way. v. 7.

"Repent ye . . . be converted." Acts 3. 19.

"If my people . . . turn from . . . ways." 2 Chron. 7. 14.

THOUGHTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

The Conditions of Salvation.

1. Those who would enjoy the privileges of salvation must *thirst* after it, that is, must have an intense and determined desire for it. v. 1.

2. They must be willing to seek salvation, to act, to take some trouble in order to obtain it; but they will find that its joys more than repay all it costs. v. 1, 2.

3. They must be willing to take Christ, "the sure mercies of David," as their leader and commander, to submit to him, and give up all to his will. v. 3, 4.

4. They must seek the Lord in time, not delaying for opportunities that may never come, nor until they are far away from God. v. 6.

5. They must cease from all conduct that God hates, even in thought, and must live the life that is in accordance with his will. v. 7-9.

English Teacher's Notes.

THE subject for to-day is peculiarly suitable for the approach of Christmas, the time when the good things of this life are brought into particular prominence. I suppose there is in this respect no difference between America and England, or if any, it may be that American stores are furnished even more lavishly, and decked out even more attractively, than the shops in our English streets. Every thing is done to engage attention to the wares displayed, every thing done to excite admiration, and to gratify tastes of every kind. All sorts of novelties are brought out "for Christmas," and admiring crowds throng round the well-filled windows.

But for whom is all this display intended? For whom has the rich supply been gathered together? They are intended for the buyer. To one who does not buy they are but a passing sight. It is the buyer who enters and takes possession of one thing and another.

Our passage gives us a display of "good things under various figures—refreshing "waters," food, "wine," and "milk." I need not stop to point out the force of the figures used—water, without which no human being can exist, and the supply of which, in scorching eastern lands, is beyond all price—wine and milk, the signs of plenty, and which formed the riches of the land of Judah. Gen. 4. 9, 11, 12. The point is, that the things the prophet set before his hearers are not only necessary, but highly desirable, the things which made the prosperity of a country. Let us ask,

1. For whom are these things? The word of the Lord by the prophet is: "Come, buy." Evidently they are for the buyer. But we must carefully consider what is here meant by the buyer. The popular idea of a buyer is of a person who has money to spend, and who does spend it. It is not so here; for we read, "buy . . . without money." Something else, then, must be meant.

What is the essential difference between a buyer and a mere gazer in at a shop-window? It is not the possession of money. A man with his pockets full may turn away without buying. The former is not satisfied with gazing at a thing. He is determined to make the thing his own. He goes forward to get possession of it. But this is not all. It is not the determination that makes the thing his. He has to part with something for it. Now the good things put forward under the figure of "water," "wine," "milk," are not intended just