

warned against his evil ways, and the next opportunity finds him drinking again, until drunkenness has become such a habit that he cannot leave off.

Not only does drunkenness take away a man's health and happiness, but it leads him into other sins as well, and especially the sin of lying, so that it is almost impossible to believe a drunkard's word. After a time nobody respects him, and he loses faith even in himself.

To allow oneself to come to such a state through strong drink, Solomon said, is as dangerous and senseless as to try to lie down on the crest of a wave, or on top of a high ship's mast, for in the end it is certain ruin and destruction: not only to the body, but to the mind and soul as well.

Drunkenness is as much an evil to-day as it was in Solomon's time, for it breaks up home, destroys business, and does more harm and causes more unhappiness than almost any other sin in the world.

Questions on the Lesson

1. To what two poisonous reptiles did Solomon compare the sin of drunkenness?
2. What makes these animals dangerous?
3. Why is the habit of drinking like them?
4. What kind of feelings does drinking wine give at first?
5. To what does it afterwards lead?
6. What was the name of Solomon's book?
7. For whom was it written?
8. What description does Solomon give of the drunkard's appearance and behavior?
9. Why is drunkenness as foolish as to lie down in the water?
10. To what other foolish act did Solomon compare it?
11. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Story

"M-m-m!" said Bobby, regarding the quarter in his hand with shining eyes, "twenty-five whole cents, and Uncle said to do what I liked with it. Guess I know what I'd like to do—buy all the chocolates I could eat. Never had more'n five cents worth before. Mother always says that's enough; more would make me sick, but I don't see how it could. Why, chocolate is food."

He gazed a long time at the tempting display in the shop window before he could make up his mind, and when he came out it

seemed such a big parcel, that Bobby smiled all over his face when he thought he could eat them all himself. He sat down under a tree near the house and began. The first ones tasted so nice, but after he had eaten a great many of the rich, creamy lumps, he wondered why he had ever liked chocolates.

Then the tea-bell rang, but he didn't want any tea. He felt so queer and miserable and as if he never wanted to eat *anything* again. Mother noticed his white face. "It was the chocolates," he explained. "I thought it would be lovely to eat a whole lot, but—"

"Ah!" said mother sadly, "sometimes things that seem very good hurt us when we abuse them. This is just like sin. It seems like pleasure to begin with, but the evil consequences are always felt in the end."

Lesson Hymn

My soul, be on thy guard,
Ten thousand foes arise,
And hosts of sins are pressing hard
To draw thee from the skies.

Oh, watch and fight and pray;
The battle ne'er give o'er;
Renew it boldly every day,
And help divine implore. Amen.

—Hymn 247, Book of Praise

SOMETHING TO DRAW

There is a plant that looks very pretty and harmless. But if we touch it, it will make us very ill. The plant is called poison ivy.



So our Lesson tells us that strong drink seems harmless at first, but it really destroys both the body and soul of those who use it.

I Have Learned To-day That
I SHOULD SHUN STRONG DRINK