

(Explain) and carried them away off to his city of Babylon. Among these captives were four little boys. One was Daniel. He was about fourteen years old, just a little older than most of you. How lonely and strange they would feel in this new city, taken away from their home and friends! (Name the other boys.) What funny names! When they got to Babylon the king changed their names. (Give new names.)

These boys had been well trained at home, and had been taught to eat good, plain food and never touch wine or strong drink. King Nebuchadnezzar saw that they were fine, healthy-looking lads, and very quick to learn. He said they must be brought into his palace and trained to serve him. He ordered that the lads should be fed upon rich food and drink wine (such as was used at the king's table) for three years, and they were to be brought before the king and become his officers.

Daniel knew that this food and drink would do him harm. (He remembered his own training.) Besides, the food had been offered to the idols (Explain), and Daniel thought it would be a sin to eat it. So he made up his mind he would never touch the

king's food or drink his wine. (Teach and explain Golden Text. Teach also Prov. 20 : 1 ; 23 : 29-32.)

God saw that Daniel wanted to do right, and He helped him. (Tell the story very simply.) Daniel had not only dared to do right himself, but his example helped others. These four boys formed the first

Band of Hope. God gave Daniel great wisdom. He knew more than any person in the whole land, and he lived till he became an old, old man; and had great honor.

Practical Thoughts.—We should dare to do right at all times. We have to fight with ourselves sometimes to make us do right (Example). God will help us. Learn to say no when it is necessary to do so.

LESSON III.—July 16, 1899

THE HEBREWS IN THE FIERY FURNACE—Dan. 3 : 14-28

PREVIEW THOUGHT; *The Lord blesses and helps*

Golden Text—Our God whom we serve is able to help us.—Dan. 3 : 17.

To-day's Lesson Thought—God takes care of those who love Him.

Connection—See! I am putting four strokes on the board. These are the four boys we heard about last Sunday. (Recall lesson.) These four boys continued to live in Babylon and, amongst all the wicked people, they were true to God and dared to do

right at all times. The king was so pleased with Daniel that he made him a great man and gave him many beautiful gifts. Daniel was not selfish. He wanted his three friends to share his good fortune; so he asked the king, and he made them great men, too.

The Lesson—The teacher should be familiar with the facts described in chapter 3. Make the scene very vivid. Speak of the sin of worshipping idols. What does God