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The Lord will give—

1. Salvation.
2. Strength.
3. A song.

Explain the meaning of these words, and tell what blessings are included in the thought of each of them, and then sum up as follows:

I WILL TAKE THE LORD

FOR MY **S**ALVATION.
TRENGTH.
ONG.

STUDY IN ADVANCE.

Have the pupils read Acts 3, 12-26 for the twofold object of understanding—

1. The kind of preaching that turned the world upside down.
2. The cause of the anger of the leaders of the Jews.

By Way of Illustration.

"At the gate of the temple." Almost all the alms of the world are administered at the gates of God's temples. Nearly all the charitable institutions of the world and the benevolent movements of society depend on those who go to the temple at the hour of prayer. When money is needed to relieve the world's distress men go straight to the gate of the temple to beg. It is a testimony to the worth of Christianity.—*R. R. Doherty.*

"Expecting to receive something from them." One of Mr. Spurgeon's preachers was discouraged. He seemed to be effecting nothing. He came to tell his discouragement, saying, "I have been preaching and preaching, and apparently it does no good." Mr. Spurgeon replied, "You do not believe God will bless every truth you declare, do you?" "O, certainly not," said the discouraged man. "And that is just the reason why he does not," was the answer. God would have us turn toward him expectantly when we work for him, just as the lame man did toward the apostles.

"What I have, that give I thee." When you preach Christ you are giving the people something better than silver or gold. I was preaching on my first charge one Sunday evening when a young man came in and sat down by the door. There was an earnestness in his face which attracted me. He left before the service closed, but by inquiry I found that he was a hired man living on a farm a mile away. I drove out that night and called for him, saying to him, "You are convicted of sin and need Jesus Christ. Shall I pray for you?" "Yes," he said. He was converted that night. Suppose

that instead of bringing him to Christ I had given him fifty dollars. People would have said, "That's the way to help a young man on in the world." But I did for him that which was better. Years afterward I visited that place. The young man had become a steward in the church, and I was a guest in his home. He said to me, "I own this farm, am a director in the bank, and hold a position of influence and honor in the community. It all began with my conversion. I was just then vacillating between good and evil."—*Bishop C. C. McCabe.*

Heart Talks on the Lesson.

There are compensations in suffering. The blessings and the ills of life are more evenly distributed than we think. We will see this more clearly when we gain spiritual vision in a world of purer atmosphere. Here was this man helpless from his birth. A part of his compensation was the fact that his condition awakened sympathy and brought him friends. Somebody cared for him and carried him every day to the temple gate that he might get help from the passers-by. Can we not trust God that, in the larger realm of being which he sees, but we do not see, his gracious law of compensation will bring, through divine love and wisdom, out of sickness, sorrow, and sin, greater good for redeemed humanity? I surely believe it. There are compensations even in this life; trust him to reveal fully his plan of love for all who suffer, in the broad, open plain of his own eternity.

The great work in which God the father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit is now engaged, in which he asks our cooperation, is to bring the needy and helpless within reach of the help. If this can be done perfect soundness will result.

This man, lame from his birth, helpless, in pitiful need at the gate of the temple, is a picture of this sinful, sorrowful world. We may make it a personal matter, and say it is a picture of ourselves if we have not been restored to spiritual health through the power of Jesus's name; so near the temple, symbol of all that is pure, noble, worth possessing—the place where God manifests himself, where the aspirations of the immortal soul are satisfied—and yet outside, helpless to enter, until through faith in the wonderful Name we are made strong. But—happy thought!—it is beside the Beautiful gate that the helpless are lying. He who said, "I am the way," makes it possible for all to enter; the beautiful gate of his love is always open, and he gives us strength to leap up, stand,