

# SUNDAY SCHOOL GUARDIAN.



"ALL THY CHILDREN SHALL BE TAUGHT OF THE LORD."

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The following article, taken from the *New York Sun*, contains some excellent thoughts on the benefits resulting to the youth and the country, from the religious instruction which it is the design of the Sabbath School to impart. We commend the subject to the serious consideration of all who labour and pray for the spread of that Christian knowledge which is the guide in the attainment of personal salvation, and the basis of national elevation and prosperity:—

"Properly conducted Sabbath schools are excellent helps in the training of the young. The influence of the Sabbath school accompanies the scholar through life; and, though serious and fixed religious convictions may not always be the result of Sabbath school teaching, yet if all such schools were closed for one generation, religion would lan-

guish, and but few churches be needed to hold the worshippers among the next generation. The preaching of the gospel is not more necessary to the preservation and extension of Christianity, than is the teaching of the young the simple lessons of inspired truth.

'Train up a child in the way he should go,' says the wise man, 'and when he is old he will not depart from it.' He may forget for a time. When the sun of prosperity shines on him, he may become proud and boastful of himself. When health imparts vigor to all his energies of mind and body, he may not duly reflect upon the uncertainty of life, and his dependence, for all his mercies, upon his Creator; and when the world, with its temptations and vanities beset him on every side, he may yield and fall into sin, but not all these can entirely destroy the principles of religion and virtue implanted in his mind. They will, when adversity clouds his path, when sickness humbles his thoughts, when the penalties of vice press heavy upon him, revive in his soul, causing a sense