

With what forms of pleasure did he acquaint himself? Did he find enjoyment in them? Was Solomon's plan wise, or the contrary?

2. **A Wise Man's Wisdom**, v. 11-13. What was Solomon's conclusion about worldly pleasure? What is said of pleasure in 1 John 2: 16? Why is pleasure vanity? Why is it vexation of spirit? What exceeds pleasure in value? [GOLDEN TEXT.] What is the highest wisdom? How may Solomon's example be a profit to us?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

How are we here shown—

1. The enticements of pleasure?
2. The vanity of pleasure?
3. What will give the best pleasure?

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

What is the natural desire of the heart? To be happy. What mistake do we often make? That happiness is found in worldly pleasure. What can only make us happy? The love of God in the heart. What is the end of all earthly pleasures? Vanity. What did Solomon seek? To learn what would bring happiness. What did he do? He sought every kind of pleasure. What did he gather together? Silver and gold and the treasures of kings. With what did he amuse himself? With songs and music. What did he possess above all other men? Riches, power, honour, and worldly knowledge. What does he say of these things? "All is vanity and vexation of spirit." How had he proved this? By his own experience. To what is wisdom compared? To light. What is the end of worldly pleasures? Darkness. Where is happiness alone found? In loving and serving God.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Only God can give you true happiness and wisdom. Ask him to give you a pure heart. Ask him to help you to be loving and unselfish. Ask him to keep you from sin, and lead you in the right way. Ask him for strength to do his holy will. "Seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated on the right hand of God."

CATECHISM QUESTION.

12. *What is the Providence of God?*

The Providence of God is His preservation of all His creatures, His care for all their wants, and His rule over all their actions.

In Him we live, and move, and have our being.—Acts xvii. 28.

Upholding all things by the word of His power.—Hebrews i. 3.

And Thou preservest them all.—Nehemiah ix. 6.

The eyes of all wait upon Thee; and Thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest Thine hand, and satisfieth the desire of every living thing.—Psalms cxlv. 15, 16.

The blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords.—1 Timothy vi. 15.

ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE. Worldly Vanities.

I. THE VANITY OF MIRTH.

I will prove thee with mirth, v. 1.

"Eat, drink, and be merry." Luke 12. 19.

"Walk . . . light of your fire." Isa 50. 11.

II. THE VANITY OF WINE.

To give myself unto wine, v. 3.

"Be not drunk with wine." Eph. 5. 18.

"Wine is a mocker." Prov. 20. 1.

III. THE VANITY OF LABOUR.

I made me great works, v. 4.

"Pull down . . . and build greater." Luke 12. 18.

"God said . . . Thou fool!" Luke 12. 20.

IV. THE VANITY OF WEALTH.

Gathered . . . also silver and gold, v. 8.

"Walketh in a vain show." Ps. 39. 6.

"Your riches are corrupted." James 5. 2.

V. THE VANITY OF PLEASURE.

Withheld not . . . from any joy, v. 10.

"Choked with . . . pleasures." Luke 8. 14.

"Liveth in pleasure . . . dead." 1 Tim. 5. 6.

VI. THE VANITY OF HONOUR.

What . . . cometh after the king? v. 12.

"Be wise now . . . O ye kings." Ps. 2. 10.

"Terrible to the kings." Ps. 76. 12.

ADDITIONAL PRACTICAL LESSONS.

Worldly Pleasure.

1. There is a craving in the heart of man for pleasure, which leads many to seek it as the chief aim of life.

2. Every one who seeks satisfaction in pleasure finds that the attempt is vain, for the heart remains empty still.

3. The man who makes the experiment of worldliness and sin, while learning its unsatisfactoriness, at the same time suffers lasting harm from it.

4. The heart which was created for God can find no real contentment in worldly splendour, in sin, and in labour.

5. True wisdom requires a noble purpose in life, and the consecration of all powers toward it, regardless of pleasure.

6. He finds the most enjoyment in life who does not seek it as an aim.

ENGLISH TEACHER'S NOTES.

BY SARAH GERALDINA STOCK.

THERE is always a great degree of interest attached to any journey of discovery. The many voyages formerly undertaken in search of the "north-west passage," the later ones in search of Sir John Franklin, the journey of Stanley in search of Livingstone, the expeditions to discover the source of the Nile, have all awakened much public curiosity and