

But what has all this to do with us? Has such an offer come to us? No; God knows how little most of us could be trusted with such a choice. He has made us a better offer: "How much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? . . . Ask, and ye shall receive." Matt. 7. 7, 11.

Yet there is a choice to be made. Those who set their heart upon the things of this world, who seek its pleasure, its wealth, its ease, its honour, are deliberately turning aside from God's offer. Our hearts cannot seek two opposite things at one time. The earthly must give way to the heavenly, or the heavenly will never be won. Make Solomon's choice in the highest sense, and that will be the same as David's. "Wisdom [that is, Christ revealed to us by his Spirit] is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom."

### BEREAN METHODS.

#### Hints for the Teachers' Meeting and the Class.

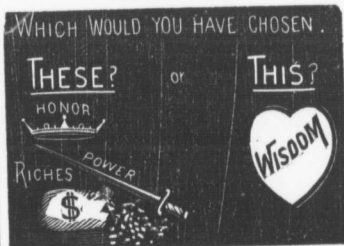
Draw a map of Jerusalem and its environs, and show Gibeno on the northern road. . . . Relate the incidents of the lesson. . . . Show how every young man in our time is a *king*, with an empire within himself to govern—in character, impulses, affections, and opportunities. . . . ILLUSTRATION. A legend is related that once a mechanic seated himself on Solomon's throne, saying, "I am a king!" Others would have dragged him down, but Solomon said, "Let him sit on the throne, for he is a king." So every young man sits on Solomon's throne. . . . Next notice the *circumstances* of the choice: 1. It was in youth; 2. It was under great responsibilities; 3. It was under God's eye; 4. It was a choice having life-time results. So it is with every youth who chooses his plan and aim in life. . . . Observe the *character* of the choice, why it was wise: 1. It chose wisdom, not pleasure nor riches; 2. It chose usefulness, not selfish aims; 3. It chose righteousness, doing God's will. . . . The *results* of the choice: 1. It obtained what was chosen; 2. It obtained more than was chosen. . . . Application. Choose carefully, and then follow your aim earnestly. . . . ILLUSTRATION. A shepherd-boy in the Alps, while minding his sheep, saw a strange flower at his feet. He picked it, and a door opened in the hill-side. He entered, and found a cave piled up with gems, in the centre of which sat a gnome, who said, "Take what you wish, but don't forget the best!" He dropped his flower, and loaded himself with jewels, then went out, hearing again, "Don't forget the best!" Once more in the open air he remembered his "key-flower," and turned back to pick it up; but the door was gone, and in a moment more all his gems

had turned to dust! He had forgotten the best, after all!

**References.** FOSTER'S ILLUSTRATIONS. Ver. 5: Prose, 2550, 8148. Ver. 7: Prose, 3093. Ver. 9: Prose, 3506, 10141. Ver. 11: Prose, 3497. Ver. 13: Prose, 3040, 5107.

#### Blackboard.

BY J. B. PHIPPS, ESQ.



The blackboard puts the choice before you. Which do you now desire? What is the strongest desire now of your heart?

I MUST BE { WILLING TO DO HIS WILL.  
INTENT  
S ANCTIFIED  
E VER PRAYERFUL

#### Primary and Intermediate.

BY M. V. M.

**LESSON THOUGHT.** *Wisdom better than Gold.* To be taught: 1. What is wisdom. 2. Where wisdom may be obtained. 3. Who are sure to have wisdom.

1. Teach that Solomon was now a great king, ruling over many lands. But he was very young—between fifteen and twenty years of age. What great work was given Solomon to do? He was to build the temple; he was to judge the people; if trouble came he had to decide what to do. Show that a king is responsible for his people as a father is for his children. See if the children think Solomon would feel this responsibility. Yes, for he wanted to be a good king, and please God in all his ways. Tell of his visit to Gibeon, and the great sacrifices he made there. He was willing to give to God, and he asked God to give to him that which he most needed. Let children tell what they think he needed most, and teach that wisdom is the knowledge given by God to guide our feet into right paths.

2. Describe Solomon's dream. He had offered a thousand burnt-offerings to God that day. He wanted to show God that he loved him, and was thankful to him for all his goodness. At night he lay down to sleep. Then God came and spoke to him. He could see in Solomon's heart the wish to please him. Then