

## The Runaway!

**F**ATHER had two boys. One of them wanted to see life! He persuaded his father to give him a lot of money, and away he went to a foreign country, where he spent it as fast as he could, and soon it was all gone! What could he do now? Beg? No! Work? Yes, he would if he could get any! But the only thing he could get was to feed pigs! He did that till he began to think of what he had left, and how much his father loved him. Then he determined to go back. He started and soon got near home. But his father saw him coming and met him on the way and gave him a *real* welcome Home!

This is a picture of God and ourselves. We have wandered from Him, but He will take us back when we are willing to come to Him.

## The Three Sieves.

**"MAMMA!"** cried little Blanche Philpott, "I hear such a talk about Edith Howard! I did not think she could be so very naughty. One—" "My dear," interrupted Mrs Philpott, "before you continue, we will see if your story will pass the three sieves."

"What does that mean, mamma," inquired Blanche.

"I will explain it. In the first place, *is it true?*"

"I suppose so; I got it from Miss White, and she is a great friend of Edith's."

"And does she show her friendship by telling tales of her? In the next place, though you can prove it to be true, *is it kind?*"

"I did not mean to be unkind, but I am afraid it was. I should not like Edith to speak of me as I have of her."

"And, *is it necessary?*"

"No, of course, mamma; there was no need for me to mention it at all."

"Then put a bridle on your tongue. If we can't speak well, speak not at all."

## Obey your Parents.

HE WAS SUBJECT UNTO THEM.—Luke ii. 51.

**W**HAT does this mean: "He was subject unto them?"

It means that when our Lord Jesus was a child like you, He was always obedient to His parents; that He did not try to get His own way, or to do His own will; that

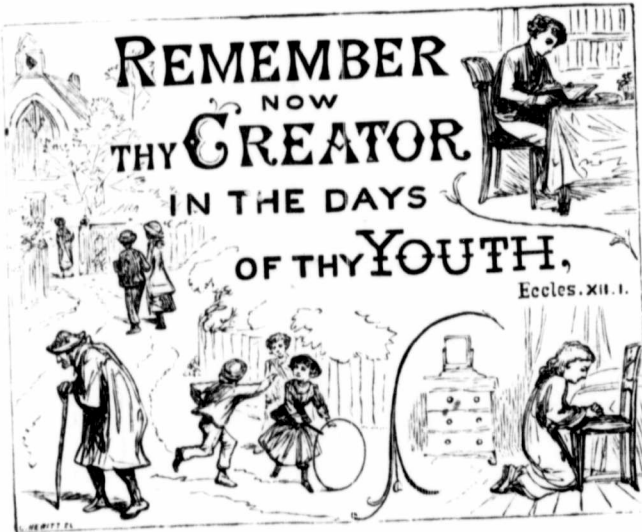
He never fretted when he could not do as He liked, or complained when His tasks were hard, but minded, as you should mind, quickly and gladly.

Does it seem strange that the Holy Son of God should have had little tasks to do, lessons to learn, errands to run, just as these little children have?

Ah! remember that he came to earth, not only to save us from our sins, but also to set

us a copy that should help us learn to live such lives as our Heavenly Father will approve. And because He wanted the little ones to have this helpful copy as well as their elders, He began His earthly life as a little child, that He might teach them by His example how a child of God should live.

Think of this when Mother or Father sets you a task, and remembering how the Holy Child would have hastened to obey, try to do their bidding in the same glad spirit. Be "subject" to them, as He was to His parents in the home at Nazareth, for so you will be learning one of the first lessons in which He gives you the help of His example.



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