

ples and their courts were converted into a fortress. From being a city, it has dwindled down to an insignificant village, and bit by bit, by the slow ravages of time, by the shock of earthquakes, but more by the ignorant rapacity and vandalism of its Arab masters, its splendid fanes have become more and more ruinous. Indeed, but for the hand of man they would still seem to mock at time, for where unbroken and secure, the exquisite delicacy of the carving is as clean and sharp in its detail as when it issued from the deft hand that chiselled it so many long centuries ago.

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Sunday School Banner.

W. H. WITHROW, D.D., EDITOR.

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Sunday-school Teaching.

WHEN we take up the calling inconsiderately or thoughtlessly, we are in danger of treating this great work with too much indifference. This is the reason why so many continue for a brief time in the Sunday-school and then leave it. We fear such superficial workers did not count the cost. "No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." The present day requires teachers who will work with zeal, discretion, patience, firmness, prayerfulness, and studiousness, having the Master's help very near. Thus Sunday-school teachers will become mighty

instruments in the hands of the Saviour; in all their efforts they will produce a powerful influence over their scholars. We require more teachers having such qualities. The Sunday-school needs steady, persevering work from teachers who have a solemn consideration of the responsibility of the work, as those who have to give account. Our lessons and addresses and discipline in the Sunday-school should mean that we are in earnest, as engaged in work of the highest importance. We must not think that anything will do for the Sunday-school, whose chief aim is for the salvation of the young. When we consider the greatness of the Saviour's love in coming into the world to die the dreadful death of the cross to reconcile man to His Father, we may very soon see the importance and character of the work we co-operate in. The redemption of man was a stupendous and infinite work which the Saviour achieved. We, His servants, should labor with prayerful and solemn consideration. The Sunday-school is a nursery for the training of the young immortals for an eternal destiny. The reward to the faithful will be glorious in a better world. Yes, an imperishable crown, which will never fade away, eternal in the heavens.

It behoves every Sunday-school teacher, in consideration of the vastness of the work, to deeply consider what is necessary when he takes the teacher's chair. Let us say that, first of all, Jesus must dwell in our hearts, having the control of their workings and aspirations. Keeping close to the Master, and receiving His help, His Spirit, the wisdom He is able to give, we shall gain greater influence over our scholars, and, in God's hands, with them as trophies for the Redeemer, shine for ever and ever.

A WIDELY CIRCULATED TRACT.—In October 1881, H. L. Hastings, of Boston, delivered a lecture on *The Inspiration of the Bible*, before a Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of Massachusetts, at Spencer. It was issued in the annual report, and the following year was reprinted as a 5 cent tract. Within ten years from that time more than two million copies had been published. It has been translated into German, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Bohemian, Polish, Hindee, Hindustani, Tamil, Japanese, and we know not how many other languages, and it is still being printed by the hundred thousand. Persons who have never read this tract should send a quarter of a dollar to H. L. Hastings, 47 Cornhill, Boston, and get a half dozen copies for distribution, or obtain an assorted package of his anti-infidel lectures for examination and circulation among the young and inexperienced who are misled by skeptical arguments and infidel doubts and cavillings.