

### QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

Who shall know the truth about Jesus? **His disciples.**

What is a disciple? **One who learns.**

Did any Jews believe in Jesus? **Some did.**

What did he say the truth would do for them? **Make them free.**

From what does the truth about Jesus set free? **From the power of sin.**

What did some of the Jews tell Jesus? **That they were not slaves.**

Who is the slave of sin? **He that commits sin.**

Who came to deliver us from sin? **Jesus, the Saviour.**

Why would not the Jews believe in Jesus? **They were false, and did not want to be true.**

In what did the Jews glory? **In being Abraham's seed.**

How did they show that they were not true chil-

dren of Abraham? **By trying to kill Jesus.**

Who did Jesus say was their father? **The devil.**

Who are of God? **Those who hear God's words.**

Why did not the Jews hear God's words? **Because they were not of God.**

What does Jesus bring to us to-day? **God's word.**

### Words With Little People.

WHAT SATAN DOES.	Makes prisoners of all who believe in him.
	Binds them with the chains of sin.
	Shuts them up in the cell of unbelief.
WHAT JESUS DOES.	Says, "I will make you free."
	Breaks the chains of sin.
	Opens the prison door of unbelief to all who believe in him.

### Whisper Motto.

The truth makes free.

### General Statement.

Our last lesson ended with a "division" among the multitude in regard to the claims of Jesus. The officers who had been ordered to arrest him returned to the Sanhedrin, and when they were asked, "Why have ye not brought him?" all they could reply was, "Never man spake like this man." Immediately it was evident that there was also a "division" in the highest court of the nation. But this opposition did not cause our Lord to cease his ministry. He seems to have spent several days within the temple inclosure, part of the time in the "Court of the Women," and part in the porches surrounding the "Court of the Gentiles." During the feast of tabernacles, which had just been held, the "Court of the Women" was night by night brilliantly illuminated. When that feast was over the lights were put out, and with this, probably, for his text, Jesus said (John 8. 12): "I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness." His teachings at this time were conversations, rather than discourses, and he was constantly interrupted by his enemies, the unbelieving Pharisees. Yet such was the power of the truth as uttered by the Saviour that the conviction grew upon many hearts that he was indeed what he claimed to be, the Messiah, the anointed One, whose coming their prophets had long foretold.

### EXPLANATORY AND PRACTICAL NOTES.

**Verse 31. Those Jews which believed on him.** These were Jews who welcomed the words which Jesus had spoken, and accepted him as the Messiah of Israel, but "believed" with the head, not "with the heart." **If ye continue in my word.** (1) "The soul to be nourished by the word of Christ must abide in it as the body abides in and is nourished by the atmosphere."—Abbott. They supposed that to acknowledge Jesus as the Christ was the only requisite for all the privileges of his kingdom. He tells them that there is a wide difference between belief and discipleship. (2) *There are many now who accept the Gospel as true, and Christ as the Saviour, without becoming true Christians. My disciples indeed.* True discipleship consists not in outward profession, but in inward conformity to the will of Christ. The disciple is a learner. (3) *We should*

*hang as eagerly on the words of our Lord as did John or Peter.*

**32. Ye shall know the truth.** The unrenowned heart and the unclarified mind cannot comprehend spiritual verities. Only those who are in true communion with Christ as his disciples can take into their hearts and minds the truth which he reveals. **The truth shall make you free.** He who receives the word of Christ into his heart at once becomes free from the power of sin, free from the bondage of the world, free from the fear of death, and free from the dread of the judgment.

**33. They answered him.** "They" refers to the crowd that clustered about him—partly skeptics and enemies, partly half-hearted believers. **We be Abraham's seed.** All Jews are descendants of Abraham, and proud of their noble origin, as they have a right to be. When our an-