

For Teachers of the Boys and Girls

Have the scholars tell the story, from the unprinted portion of the Lesson, of the refusal of the three companions of Daniel, now twenty years older than in last Lesson, to obey the royal order to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image, and of the laying of information against them before the king. This will lead up to the point at which the printed portion of the Lesson begins. Question somewhat as follows:

1. *What threat did King Nebuchadnezzar make against the three Hebrews?* (Vs. 13-15.)

Follow up this question until you have brought out fully and clearly the furious rage of the king, his command that the disobedient trio should be brought before him, his angry challenge as to their conduct, his cruel threat that unless they should worship the golden image they should be cast into a burning furnace, and his wicked defiance of their God to deliver them.

2. *What reply did the Hebrews make to the king's threat?* (Vs. 16-18.) In like manner, under this question, elicit the account of the boldness of the three men, their heroic declaration that for their worshiping they were

accountable to God alone and not at all to the king, their confidence that God was able to rescue them even from the fiery furnace if He chose to do so, and their unflinching declaration that, even though they should perish for their faithfulness, they would not worship the king's image.

3. *What became, in the end, of the Hebrew heroes?* (Vs. 19-27.) Bring out, under this question, the rage of the king, his command that the furnace should be heated seven times hotter than usual, the casting into the flames of the three men, the death of the men who put them in the furnace, the astonishment of the king at the sight of the three Hebrews walking in the flames and a fourth by their side, the king's hastening to the mouth of the furnace with his eager question, the coming forth of the Hebrews unharmed, and the testimony borne to this fact by all the onlookers.

A fine point of application is suggested by the last clause of v. 15 and v. 16. Nebuchadnezzar defies God, and the three Hebrews take their stand on His side, trusting in His power. Impress the truth that those who are on God's side must surely win out in the end.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON

In the time of Nebuchadnezzar the kingdom of Babylon had reached a very high stage of industrial civilization and military power. In the British Museum at London there is a slab of stone on which some old sculptor, living within a few years of the storied time of Daniel, carved the figure of an Oriental soldier. Without going over to the British Museum (or even to the Metropolitan Museum in New York, where they have a plaster copy of the carved stone), you can study the figure by means of a stereograph. As you look through the stereoscope, you see the soldier in full length profile, grasping the vertical shaft of a long spear

whose point reaches higher than his own head. The soldier has a full beard, and wears a curious sort of a helmet over what was probably meant for curly hair. He carries a bow and a quiver full of arrows on his shoulder. It is easily possible that the Babylonian soldiers who carried out Nebuchadnezzar's orders about the fiery furnace may have been grave, bearded men much like this one. To see the ancient sentinel for yourself, use a stereograph entitled, *A Soldier of King Darius, Sculptured 2,400 Years Ago, in Royal Palace at Persepolis*. See also *HOME STUDY* and *INTERMEDIATE QUARTERLIES* and *LEAFLETS*.

ADDED HINTS AND HELPS

In this section will be found further assistance under various headings.

Something to Look Up

1. In Revelation there is the beautiful

promise,—“Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.” Find the chapter and verse.

2. “When thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the