

The Institute Leaflet for Church Sunday Schools.

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TEXTS TO BE LEARNED—St. Matt. xxv. 21; St. Jno. vii. 26.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY.

Almighty and merciful God, of whose only gift it cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service: grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I.—FAITHFUL SERVICE.

What is the Collect about? Doing God service. What parable teaches us about the same thing? That of the talents. S. Matt. xxv. 14-24. Who were called the faithful servants? With what did they serve the master? The money he gave them. What was their reward? First text for repetition. How must we serve God? Wholly or not at all. We must give Him true and laudable service. From whence comes the power to serve God? It is the gift of God and springs from faith. How is faithful service shewn? By love to God and man.

II.—FUTURE REWARDS.

Who calls us to this service? God Himself. With what does He supply us? Grace and strength to do Him faithful service. But what does He promise us? Future reward. What is this called in the Collect? "Heavenly promise." Which is the best of all? To be with Christ and honored of God. (Second text for repetition.) Does our service deserve a reward? No it is all of grace. Yet what will be the measure of it? Our works. Let us seek to run the way of God's commandments. So run that ye may obtain." 1 Cor. ix. 24.

THE CATECHISM.

What is the Fourth Commandment? (Learn answer in Catechism.)

CONSPIRATORS AND PROTECTORS.

Read parts of Acts xxiii, xxiv, and xxv.

Learn Isa. liv. 17.

How were the various countries St. Paul visited ruled? By magistrates or governors.

Why? Because all belonged to one great Roman Empire.

Was this helpful to the spreading of the Gospel? Yes, for travelling was easier, and the Roman laws were just and good.

Show how it aided St. Paul? At Phillippi, on appeal, he was set free; at Corinth, Gallio would not punish him.

Mention other instances. See last two lessons.

What plot does the 23rd chap. speak of? Ver. 12 and 13.

Who were in this conspiracy?

How did St. Paul escape?

What measures did Lysias take for his protection?

Why did he take this trouble? Because Paul was a Roman citizen

Where were his enemies obliged to accuse him? At Caesarea.

Was St. Paul found guilty of the charges?

Then why was he not released? (xxiv. 26.)

How long was he kept in prison?

Was this beneficial or otherwise? If set free, the Jews would certainly have killed him.

Who succeeded Felix as governor? xxiv. 27.

What shows the Jews' hatred of and cruelty against St. Paul? Their bad feelings lasted all these months, and they again try to secure him in their toils. (xxv. 1, 2.)

After his second trial at Caesarea, what was his greatest danger? (xxv. 9.)

How did he escape? He appealed unto Caesar.

What do we learn from the lesson? The great blessing of good government. How God orders all things.

Why did St. Paul always escape? Not because he was a Roman citizen, but because he was a citizen of Heaven.

HYMN for September—A. & M., 379; Church Hymns, 439.