

that our souls might grow in goodness ; second, we were made the children of God, and have a kind Father in Heaven to care for us ; third, we were made inheritors of the Kingdom of Heaven ; we have a right to Heaven when we die, if we do not lose our right to it by wicked conduct.

CHAPTER II.

THREE PROMISES.

I said that your Godfathers and Godmothers made some promises for you when you were baptized. What were those promises? They were three things promised in your name. In your name means they made them for you until you should be old enough to promise them for yourselves.

The first promise they made was that you should renounce all kinds of sin. To renounce means to put away ; to have nothing to do with. You know there are many kinds of sin. Who is it that tries to make us sin? It is the devil. The devil is wicked, and all his works are wicked, and he tries to make us wicked like himself. So we must have nothing to do with him ; we must put away all his works.

The catechism tells us the world we live in is wicked. Why? Because the world loves sinful pleasures and forgets all about God. We cannot please both God and the world, because the world loves things which do not please God. If we try to please the world, we forget God, and we know that is not right ; we must serve God, whatever else we may have to give up.

And then our hearts are wicked. If we listen to what they tell us, they will want us to do wrong. The Bible tells us the heart is very wicked indeed, and will lead us into sin. So you see in how many ways we may be led to sin. What can we do then? We must pray that God will put his Holy Spirit into our hearts and make them good. This was the first promise we made ; to put away all sin. Of course, we cannot do this of ourselves, but it is the work of God's Holy Spirit to make us good, and God has promised to give Him to all who ask.

The second promise was that you should believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith. This time you promised to believe something. What was it? All the Articles of the Christian Faith ; that is, everything a Christian ought to believe. If you have learned the Creed, which begins "I believe in God the Father," you will know all the Articles in the Christian Faith, for they are all in that.

The third promise was that you should keep God's commandments always. You know there are ten commandments which God has given to us, and we are not only to learn them, but also to obey them. When your father on earth tells you to do anything, you do it ; so must you obey what your kind Father in Heaven tells you to do.

Now, let us go over this again. In the last chapter I told you about the three good things you get from God by your baptism, and in this one I have been speaking of the three things you promise

to God. First, to put away all sin ; second, to believe all that is in the Creed ; third, to obey God's commandments all our lives.

Do you not think, my dear little children, that you must keep these promises your Godfathers and Godmothers made in your name? Yes ; indeed, you must : and let me tell you again that you cannot keep them if you do not have God's help ; because the devil is tempting you to sin, your hearts are very wicked, and you live in a sinful world. And you should be very thankful to God that He has given you parents who have brought you to be baptized, so that you have gained such good gifts, and you must never forget to pray for the help of the Holy Spirit, that you may be able to keep these great blessings all your lives.

(To be continued.)

A YOUNG pianist was giving concerts in the provinces of Germany. In order to attract the public she announced that she was a pupil of the famous Liszt. On arriving at a little town she had advertised a concert ; but great was her consternation when she noticed among the list of new arrivals at the hotel the name of the Abbe Liszt. How could she get out of the difficulty into which she had brought herself? Her fraud could not fail to be discovered, and she would not be able to give any more concerts ; she already saw her future ruined. Trembling all over, she presented herself before the *maestro* to confess to him her trickery and deceit, and to implore his pardon. She threw herself at his feet, and, with her face bathed in tears, related to him her past history. An orphan at a very early age, poor, possessing nothing but her talent, the young girl thought she could only surmount the obstacles which beset her path by making use of the name of Liszt.

"Well, well," said the great musician, helping her to rise, "we will see, my child, what we can do. There is a piano ; let me hear you play a piece intended for to-morrow's concert."

She obeyed ; the *maestro* sat down beside her, gave her several hints, suggested some changes, and when she had finished her piece, said to her :

"Now, my child, I have given you a music lesson ; now you are a pupil of Liszt."

Before she could stammer out a few words of gratitude, Liszt asked her :

"Are the programmes printed?"

"No, sir ; not yet."

"Then put on the programme that you will be assisted by your master, and that the last piece will be performed by the Abbe Liszt."

A vulgar disposition would gladly have embraced this opportunity to punish the poor young girl, who, doubtless, deserved it for so impudently using Liszt's name. But charity is ingenious to cover a multitude of faults—to turn evil into good. Let us acknowledge, too, that the young girl did the best thing possible in confessing her guilt, and throwing herself at the feet of the generous man whose name she had so wrongfully used.