

## Lesson VI.

## PETER DELIVERED FROM PRISON

May 11, 1902

Acts 12 : 1-9. Study Acts 12 : 1-19—Memory Verses, 5-7.

**Golden Text**—The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.—Ps. 34 : 7.



chains fell off from *his* hands. 8 And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

9 And he went out, and followed him ; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel : but thought he saw a vision.

## THE LESSON RETOLD

Again the church at Jerusalem was in great trouble. The wicked king Herod had put a good man to death. It was James the apostle, one of the three disciples whom Jesus loved best.

When Herod saw that his cruel acts pleased the Jews, he sent for Peter next and put him in prison, saying to himself, "I will wait until after the feast of the Passover, then I will kill this man also." In the prison, Peter was given in charge of four soldiers, who put chains on his feet and hands and watched him closely all the time.

When the believers heard what had been done to Peter, they were very sad and said, "Let us meet together and pray to God night and day, that He will save Peter's life."

The night before Herod meant to kill him, Peter was fast asleep in the prison, chained to two soldiers, one on either side, and two

1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth *his* hands to vex certain of the church.

2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)

4 And when he had apprehended him, he put *him* in prison, and delivered *him* to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him ; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.

5 Peter therefore was kept in prison : but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains : and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon *him*, and a light shined in the prison : and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his

others with their swords keeping watch by the door. Suddenly a bright light shone around him in the dark prison and an angel from heaven touched him on the side, and awakened him, saying, "Get up quickly, Peter, and put on your belt and shoes."

Immediately the heavy iron chains fell off upon the floor and Peter stood up. "Throw your cloak around you and follow me," said the angel. Then, going before him, the angel led Peter through the prison and past the sleeping soldiers until they came to the great iron gate leading out into the street. It was locked fast. They had no key, but all at once it opened of itself, and when Peter and the angel had gone through, it closed quietly behind them.

They were now outside in the streets of Jerusalem, but Peter could hardly believe it, and supposed he must be dreaming.

When the angel had taken him as far as