

anxiously watching to see what he would do, he sent a soldier and had John beheaded in the prison. And his head was immediately brought in a basin and given to the girl, who in turn gave it to her mother. When John's friends and disciples heard what had been done, they were very sorry; and they took their brave master's dead body and laid it lovingly in a grave, and went and told Jesus.

Now when Herod came to himself, he was afraid because of what he had done, knowing John to have been a good man. And when after a time he heard of the preaching and miracles of Jesus, he cried out in terror, "This is no other than John the Baptist. He is risen from the dead, and so is able to do these great wonders that we hear of." So his guilty conscience troubled him.

Questions on the Lesson

1. What kind of a man was Herod? 2. Who warned him against his sins? 3. How did Herod punish John for his faithfulness? 4. How did the king keep his birthday? 5. Who danced before Herod and his guests? 6. What drunken promise did the king make Salome? 7. What did the girl's mother tell her to choose? 8. Why would Herod not break his word? 9. What command did he give? 10. Who cared for John's body? 11. To whom did they go in their trouble? 12. What did Herod say when he heard of Jesus? 13. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Story

A British soldier was keeping guard along the line of march at the time of Queen Victoria's Jubilee procession.

While waiting for the royal coach to pass, a spider crawled upon his neck, but he could not so much as lift a finger to get rid of it, for on duty a soldier must remain motionless, unless his captain gives the word. Soon the spider entered his ear causing him great pain, but he neither moved or stirred.

Speaking of it afterwards, the soldier said that it would have been easier for him to have faced a loaded gun, than to endure the torture of that day. It is sometimes easier to be a hero in a time of great danger, than to do one's duty when vexed by some annoying trifle. We are tested by little things.

Lesson Hymn

The Son of God goes forth to war,
A kingly crown to gain;
His blood-red banner streams afar:
Who follows in His train?
Who best can drink His cup of woe,
Triumphant over pain,
Who patient bears His cross below,—
He follows in His train. Amen.
—Hymn 250, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—79. How do we worship God when we go to His house? We worship God by praise, prayer, the reading and preaching of God's Word, and by our offerings.

SHORTER CATECHISM—13. Did our first parents continue in the estate wherein they were created? A. Our first parents, being left to the freedom of their own will, fell from the estate wherein they were created, by sinning against God.

SOMETHING TO DRAW

"V. C." in the centre of the drawing stands for "Victoria Cross." The Victoria Cross is given to soldiers who have done some specially brave deed. We all have a battle



to fight against sin. Jesus our Leader wants us to be brave. He is watching us as we fight. And He has a crown to give us when we have won the victory. What a joyful moment it will be when we receive the crown from His hand! The very thought of it makes us strong now.

I Have Learned To-day that
JESUS WANTS ME TO BE FAITHFUL