

plan of salvation, that God helps those who help themselves. This is as true to-day as in the time of the Exodus. Discuss :

1. *The Passover Rites*, vs. 3-23. Question the class about these rites,—the lamb, the feast, the unleavened bread, the bitter herbs, the pilgrim dress of the people, the blood. What meaning could the Hebrews have attached to these rites that night? (See Lesson Explained.) In the light of the New Testament what deeper meaning can we attach to these things? Dwell upon the representation of Christ as our passover (1 Cor. 5 : 7), as the Lamb of God (John 1 : 29), and without spot or blemish (1 Peter 1 : 19), holy, harmless, undefiled (Heb. 7 : 26), slain that we might feed upon His flesh, John 6 : 51. Take time to impress upon the class the meaning of the New Testament Passover, the Lord's Supper,—how we are pilgrims saved by the blood, who are journeying to the better land.

2. *The Passover Injunctions*, vs. 24-28. Why was this service to be perpetuated? Have a talk with the class about memory as a means of grace, Ps. 103 : 1-5. We impoverish life by forgetting God's goodness to us : we enrich life by remembering blessings human and divine. We need to pray Kipling's prayer :

"Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget—lest we forget."

Dwell on the fact that Israelitish parents were enjoined to listen to their children's questions about the meaning of the Passover and to explain the matter. It is a happy condition of things when parents and children talk over religious things together. A most successful pastor said once that he never had any difficulty in getting the young people from such families into the full membership of the church.

3. *The Awful Midnight Tragedy*, vs. 29-31. Question out the particulars of that awful night, and remind the class that a life of sin persisted in leads to awful consequences.

The Lesson gives the teacher a specially good opportunity to press home the great central truths of the gospel. Impress, with all earnestness on each scholar, that, just as there was safety for the Israelites in the

first Passover night only because they were behind the sprinkled blood, so the only way of salvation from sin is through the precious blood of Jesus, and that, as the Israelites must fall in with God's plan and sprinkle their doors, so we, if we are to be saved, must accept Jesus as our Saviour.

For Teachers of the Boys and Girls

Begin with a little talk about birthdays. The scholars will, likely, have something to say about their birthdays, and what happened on them. Then ask about the First of July and why we observe it as a holiday. Get the scholars to see that it was the birthday of our Canadian nation. Now tell the scholars, that the Lesson for to-day is about the birthday of the nation of Israel. On this day a feast was kept by the Israelites, which they kept also every year afterwards. At last its place was taken by another feast, which we call the Lord's Supper. To-day we shall study these two feasts.

I. *THE OLD FEAST*. Bring out the details of vs. 1-14 : the selection of a perfect lamb, the eating of it roasted, with unleavened bread and bitter herbs, the girded loins, the fastened shoes, the haste,—all indicating readiness for a flight. Refer to the pouring of the blood into a basin and the sprinkling of the doorways.

Have vs. 21, 22 read, showing how Moses carried out the directions given to him ; v. 23, containing the divine promise (the meaning of "passover" should be clearly brought out) ; and v. 24, the command to continue the observance of the feast. Tell the scholars how the Jews keep this feast until this day.

Dwell on vs. 25-27, in which the feast is set forth as a means of religious teaching. Explain the "Haggadah" custom (see Lesson Explained). Impress upon the scholars how much stress the Bible puts upon boys and girls knowing what their religion means:

Now take up vs. 29-31, bringing out, by questions, the happenings of that dreadful night when all the firstborn of the Egyptians were slain, while no harm came to the Israelites because of the sprinkled blood, and Pharaoh at last not only consented to let Israel go, but urged them to depart.