

## Lesson XII. A PRAYER FOR THE TEMPTED—TEMPERANCE LESSON June 20, 1915

Psalm 141—Memory Verses, 3, 4.

**Golden Text**—Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me.—Psalm 141 : 9 (Rev. Ver.).



1 LORD, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee.

2 Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

3 Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.

4 Incline not my heart to any evil thing, to practise wicked works with men that work iniquity: and let me not eat of their dainties.

5 Let the righteous smite me; *it shall be a kindness*: and let him reprove me; *it shall be an excellent oil, which shall not break my head*: for yet my prayer also *shall be* in their calamities.

6 When their judges are overthrown in stony places, they shall hear my words; for they are sweet.

7 Our bones are scattered at the grave's mouth, as when one cutteth and cleaveth wood upon the earth.

8 But mine eyes are unto thee, O God the Lord: in thee is my trust; leave not my soul destitute.

9 Keep me from the snares *which they have*

laid for me, and the gins of the workers of iniquity.

10 Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst that I withal escape.

### THE LESSON RETOLD

Our Lesson to-day is called a Temperance Lesson. Even little children know something of the harm which is done through drink. They have seen drunken men staggering along the street, and have heard of the foolish and wicked things which they often do.

In the Lesson psalm, we find the words: "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips." This is a prayer to God which we may all offer. We should ask God to keep us all our lives from the temptation to let strong drink of any kind cross our lips. Then we shall be saved from doing many wrong things.

Another verse in the psalm speaks of "them that work iniquity." As we read these words, they make us think of bad companions who, if we should listen to them, would lead us astray. It is by going with bad companions that many learn to use the drink which is sure to do them so much harm.

Surely it is a good thing for us to ask God to guard us from evil company and to make up our minds that we will not listen to those who would tempt us to do wrong.

Still another verse of the Lesson psalm says: "In Thee is my trust." David meant by this that only God's power could keep him from evil ways and that His power was sufficient. It is just as true to-day, that God is able to save us from temptations of all kinds.

### Questions on the Lesson

1. What is our Lesson to-day called?
2. What kind of things does strong drink make people do?
3. What does the Lesson teach us to ask about our lips?
4. Why should we not let strong drink cross our lips?
5. What verse in the Lesson psalm speaks of bad company?
6. Why should we ask God to save us from evil companions?
7. In whom does the psalm teach us to trust?