

AN INDIGNANT SCHOLAR.

Such a horrid jogafray lesson!
 Cities and mountains and lakes,
 And the longest, crookedest rivers,
 Just wriggling about like snakes.
 I tell you I wish Columbus
 Hadn't heard the earth was a ball,
 And started to find new countries
 That folks didn't need at all.

Now wouldn't it be too lovely
 If all that you had to find out
 Was just about Spain and England.
 And a few other lands thereabout;
 And the rest of the maps were printed
 With pink and yellow to say,
 "All this is an unknown region
 Where bogies and fairies stay!"

But what is the use of wishing,
 Since Columbus sailed over here,
 And men keep hunting, 'sploring
 And finding more things every year!
 Now show me the Yampah River,
 And tell me where does it flow?
 And how do you bound Montana?
 And Utah and Mexico?

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON VIII. [May 23.]

THE CONFERENCE AT JERUSALEM.

Acts 15. 1-6, 22-29. Memory verses, 3, 4.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.—Acts 15. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. Jewish Law, v. 1-6.
2. Christian Liberty, v. 22-29.

THE LESSON STORY.

Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch in Syria a long while, preaching and teaching; but during that time they went once to Jerusalem to settle a matter with the apostles.

Some Jews had come to Antioch who told the Christians that they ought to keep all the laws that Moses made, such as the law of circumcision and the law of sacrifices. But Paul and Barnabas said that Gentiles need not keep these laws. This raised a dispute, and Paul and Barnabas, with some other good men, went to Jerusalem to settle it with the other apostles. On the way they preached and made many glad by telling how the Gentiles had turned to the Lord, and how God had blessed them.

When they came to Jerusalem there was a meeting of the believers, and there was much talk about the matter. At last they decided to write a letter to the Gentile Christians, telling them not to be troubled

about keeping the law of Moses. The new law of love asks for the heart, and the right heart is very likely to do right acts. Paul and Barnabas, with two other brethren sent from Jerusalem, carried the letter back to Antioch and read it at a meeting of the believers, to their joy and comfort.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

- Mon.* Read the first part of the lesson. Acts 15. 1-6.
Tues. Read Peter's speech. Acts 15. 7-11.
Wed. Find what James said about it. Acts 15. 13-21.
Thur. Finish reading the lesson verses. Acts 15. 22-29.
Fri. Learn the only way of salvation. Golden Text.
Sat. Learn who is the end of the law. Rom. 10. 4.
Sun. Find the difference between law and faith. Gal. 2. 16.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

Where did Paul and Barnabas stay a long time? What took them to Jerusalem? What was the dispute that arose in Antioch? About keeping the law of Moses. Who said the Gentiles ought to keep it? What did Paul and Barnabas say? What meeting was held in Jerusalem? What did Paul and Barnabas tell the brethren? Verse 12. What did Peter think about the law for Gentiles? Did James think they ought to keep it? What new law did Jesus come to bring? The law of love. What did the apostles write? Who took the letter to Antioch? What did it bring to the believers?

THE DIFFERENCE.

The law says, "Do, and thou shalt live." The Gospel says, "Live, and thou shalt do."
 Do you obey God because you love him?

LESSON IX. [May 30.]

CHRISTIAN FAITH LEADS TO GOOD WORKS.

James 2. 14-23. Memory verses, 14-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I will show thee my faith by my works.—James 2. 18.

OUTLINE.

1. A False Faith, v. 14-20.
2. A True Faith, v. 21-23.

THE LESSON STORY.

James was one of the apostles, and his home was in Jerusalem. He wrote a letter to the Jewish Christians who were scattered abroad, in which he told them many things we need to know about faith and works. What good does it do a man to say he has faith if his acts are not good and right? It is as if a naked, hungry one should come to us, and we should say, "Go in peace, be warmed and fed," without helping to warm and feed him! That would be faith without works, which James says is dead.

Faith without works is not the kind that Abraham had when God told him to offer Isaac on the altar. Isaac was his only son, and God had said that Abraham should have a great multitude of descendants. But he did just as God bade him do, because he really believed God. His faith was alive, and not dead. These bodies of ours are dead when there is no living spirit in them. Just so faith, without works, is dead, for faith is the living spirit which leads to good works. So we must not have faith alone, or works alone, but the two must work and live together if we want to please God.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

- Mon.* Learn all you can about the apostle James.
Tues. Read the lesson verses carefully. James 2. 14-23.
Wed. Ask, "Can I truthfully say the Golden Text?"
Thur. Read what Jesus said about faith only. Matt. 7. 28, 27.
Fri. Find what one is like who hears, and obeys not. James 1. 23, 24.
Sat. Learn what we must have to please God. Heb. 11. 6.
Sun. Learn how we may have the right faith. Heb. 12. 2.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

Who wrote a letter to the Jewish Christians? Where were they? Where did James live? Who was he? What did some people think? That faith alone would save them. What did others think? That works alone would save them. Which were right? Neither. What kind of faith did Abraham have? What had God promised him? What did he tell him to do with Isaac? Why did Abraham get ready to slay his son? Because he trusted God. How did God honour his faith? When are our bodies dead? What is faith like? The living spirit. What must we have to please God?

DO NOT FORGET—

That faith cannot stand alone.
 That good works must hold faith up.
 That God will give us real faith if we ask.

WHERE TOMMY SENT IT.

Tommy was not afraid of the sound of his own voice, it is very evident. A Western paper tells us what Tommy's father did.

"Tommy," said Mr. Figg sternly, "I hung a motto in your room to the effect that little boys should be seen and not heard."

"Yessir."

"I find that it has disappeared."

"Yessir."

"What did you do with it?"

"I—I took it down to the deaf an' dumb orphan asylum."