

Refreshment Sunday. (MARCH 31.)

Bad Passions.

Passage—2 Samuel xii. Text—Genesis vi. 5.

A. The Sixth and Seventh Commandments.

I. 'Bad Passions' are of two kinds, both 'works of the flesh.'—1. *Anger*—against the Sixth Commandment. 2. *Impurity*—against the Seventh Commandment.
'Passion' in an innocent sense signifies *Suffering* (as next Sunday).

II. Explain the Sixth Commandment—'To hurt nobody by word or deed' Genesis iv. 8. 'To bear no malice or hatred in thy heart.' 1 S. John iii. 15.

III. Explain the Seventh Commandment—'To keep my body in temperance (warning of Noah), sobriety (warning of Noah), and chastity (warning of Dinah).

B. 1st. *Collect*.—'Evil deeds' of passion deserve punishment.

Epistle.—'The works of the flesh' typified by Ishmael, who was 'a wild man.'

Gospel.—'Self-indulgence' unfits the soul for the simple food of the Bread of Heaven.

2nd. *First Lessons*.—

Morning, Genesis xlii.—Joseph an example of gentleness and of purity in a heathen land.

Afternoon, Genesis xliii.—His generosity to his cruel brethren.

Evening, Genesis xlv. 21.—His warning not to fall out by the way.

C. Two questions to ask myself—

First.—(About the Sixth Commandment.) Am I tempted to be violent? or to be sulky?

Second.—(About the Seventh Commandment.) Do I ever do, or say, or think of, anything that I should be ashamed to be known by my Mother? my Teacher? my Clergyman? my Guardian Angel? my God?

Passion Sunday. (APRIL 7.)

Distrust of Providence.

Passage—Joshua vii., Nahum i. 7.

A. The Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Commandments.

I. The Eighth Commandment—'To be true and just in all my dealings'—'To keep my hands from picking and stealing.' (Take warning from Achan.)

II. The Ninth Commandment—'To keep my tongue from evil speaking, lying, and slandering.' (Take warning from Ananias.)

III. The Tenth Commandment—'Not to covet,' &c., to the end. (Take warning from Ahab.) The other two commandments guard the 'hands' and the 'tongue'—this regards the *heart*.

IV. The breaking of any of these three Commandments is a proof that we do not trust our interests to God. (See S. Matthew vi. 33.)

B. 1st. *Collect*.—We pray for the good government and preservation of Almighty God.

Epistle.—Our 'eternal inheritance' has been purchased for us by the Blood of CHRIST, and should make us careless about worldly prosperity.

Gospel.—Jesus did 'not seek His own glory,' but trusted HIMSELF to His FATHER.

2nd. *First Lessons*.—

Morning, Exodus iii.—The Promise of the deliverance of God's People.

Afternoon, Exodus v.—Pharaoh's contempt for, and Moses' distrust of, that Promise.

Evening, Exodus vi.—Renewal of the Promise under the name JEHOVAH.

C. The Grace of PROVIDENCE accepted with Honesty (8th Commandment), Truthfulness (9th Commandment); and Contentment (10th Commandment).

First.—Providence is Almighty. Ps. xci. 1. Therefore trust in Him.

Second.—Providence is All loving. Ps. ciii. 13. Therefore pray to Him.

Third.—Providence is All wise. Ps. xxxvii. 18. Therefore wait for Him.

