

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE LESSONS. THIRD QUARTER.

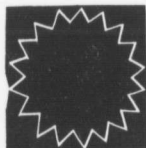
LESSON I. (July 4.)

FIRST CONVERTS IN EUROPE. Acts 16, 6-15.

GOLDEN TEXT. "The entrance of thy words giveth light." Acts 9, 34.

Primary Notes.

BY MARTHA VAN METER.



[A great golden sun may be drawn on the board or cut from yellow paper. Encourage the children to talk a little about the sun, what it gives, to whom, and why. Tell the story of a very poor child who, hearing others talk about Thanksgiving Day, said she could not think of one thing in her life for which to be thankful. But as she was willing to find something she remembered the blessed sunshine, and said she was thankful for that. Remind the children that the sun is like God, giving to all, shining for all, helping and blessing all.]

Review. What great missionary have we been studying about? What is a missionary? Do you remember who went with Paul on his first missionary journey? What church sent the two missionaries out? Who told the people of this church to send these men to the heathen? [Impress upon the children that the call came from the Holy Spirit.] Did you ever see or hear tell of a missionary? Who calls missionaries now? If the Holy Spirit still calls men and women to go and teach the heathen what ought we to do? Help to take care of them. Do you belong to a Mission Band? Would you like to belong to one?

[Show a globe or map of the earth, and see how many can name the four great divisions—Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. Ask if missionaries go to all these parts of the earth, and see if children know to which divisions the greater number go.]

Here in Asia the first family on earth (whose family was it?) lived. In Asia the Christian Church was first formed. The Gospel of Jesus was preached first in Asia, and it was here that Paul and Barnabas had been preaching among the cities of Asia.

But now the Holy Spirit said they must go away from Asia (show on the map) into Europe. The great, warm, beautiful sun shines on all lands, and just so the light of God's love and truth ought to shine everywhere and on all people. This is why we send missionaries now to Asia and Africa, even to some parts of our own Canada—because we want the light of Jesus to shine away sin from all dark hearts.

[Uncover the simple and suggestive blackboard.] Here is a picture of the great light; what do we call it? What book says, "God is a sun?" Here is the cross to remind us of Jesus, who came to show us the light. Do you know who said, "I am the light?"

What are the three little lights? Barnabas was not with Paul now, but Silas and Timothy were. We may name these little lights. The tallest one we will name Paul, the next Silas, and the shortest Timothy, who had not been a believer in Jesus long.

Where did these all get their light? Yes, from God, who is the sun of our souls. There could be no little natural lights in this world if there was not a great sun shining in the heavens, and just so there could be no light in your heart or mine if the great light did not shine down into our darkness.

Away over here in Europe, in the city of Macedonia, were many people in the darkness, who prayed to idols and did not know, or even want to know, about the true God. But the Holy Spirit told Paul to go there and tell them the truth about Jesus. Do you wonder how the Spirit told Paul? In the night, when he was sleeping, he saw in a vision or dream a man of Macedonia saying the words on the board. You may read them. Paul knew this was God's voice, for when anyone really listens, as Paul did, to hear what God will say, he will be very likely not to make a mistake.

Another helper came to Paul, now at Troas, and the four sailed away to Philippi, in Macedonia. We must make another little light now, and this one we will name Luke. What do you know about Luke?

What were these men going to do in Macedonia? The man in the vision said, "Come," "Help." Yes, they were going to help. [Tell what they did on the Sabbath, and who was helped. Show that as soon as Lydia had been helped she wanted to begin helping somebody.]

Do you know that every man, woman, and child in the world either helps or hinders? [Tell how



Paul was once a hinderer, and what changed him into a helper.]