

will be as great a surprise to themselves as the evil deeds of the wicked. 12. Let us live with the knowledge of the judgment before us.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth. Eccl. 12. 1.

OUTLINE.

1. Youth, v. 1.
2. Age, v. 2-7.
3. Life, v. 8-13.
4. Judgment, v. 14.

LESSON HYMNS.

No. 167, S. S. Hymnal.

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth !
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth :
Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing ;
Yonder shines the infant light :
Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

No. 164, S. S. Hymnal.

Hark ! the Christmas bells are ringing,
Angel voices join the lay,
Peace on earth, good-will for ever ;
Christ, the Saviour, born to-day.

Come to the manger, come and worship
Christ, the Saviour, born to-day ;
Come with the shepherds, come and worship ;
Star of Bethlehem guide our way.

Hark ! the Christmas bells are ringing,
Hail with joy the auspicious day ;
Sorrow, pain, and grief are banished,
Falling tears are wiped away.

No. 169, S. S. Hymnal.

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold ;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright ;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped
To that lowly manger-bed ;
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heaven and earth adore ;
So may we with willing feet,
Ever seek thy mercy-seat.

No. 170, S. S. Hymnal.

Glory to God in the highest,
Glory to God ! glory to God !
Glory to God in the highest,
Shall be our song to-day.
Another year's rich mercies prove,
His ceaseless care and boundless love,
So let our loudest voices raise,
Our glad and grateful songs of praise.
Glory to God in the highest,
Glory to God in the highest,

Glory, glory, glory, glory,
Glory be to God on high.

Glory to God in the highest,
Glory to God ! glory to God !
Glory to God in the highest,
Shall be our song to-day.
The song that woke the glorious morn,
When David's greater Son was born,
Sung by an heavenly host, and we,
Would join the angelic company.

TIME.—B. C. 980.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Remember*—Think of God, and keep him in mind. *Evil days*—After a life of sin old age is an evil time. *No pleasure*—A godless life is always unhappy. *Be not darkened*—The brightness of youth is compared with the darkness of age. *Clouds return*—When troubles come in quick succession. *In the day*—Verses 3-6 are a partial description of old age as a ruined house or mill. *Keepers of the house*—The hands trembling in old age. *Strong men*—The bowing knees. *Grinders*—The teeth. *Those that look*—The eyes. *Doors shall be shut*—On account of sorrow. *Rise up*—The old are apt to wake at the slightest sound. *Silver cord*—This verse is a picture of death. *Spirit shall return*—The spirit is with God to await the judgment. *Vanity*—All earthly things are vain, and soon pass away. *The Preacher*—Here meaning King Solomon. *As goads*—Penetrating and sharp. *Nails fastened*—Truth being sent to the heart by masters of thought. *Many boots*—Solomon had written many books, and wrote of his own experience. *Fear God*—After all his seeking after pleasure the king comes to this conclusion. *Into judgment*—At the day when Christ shall come.

HOME READINGS.

- M. The Creator remembered. Eccl. 12. 1-14.
Tu. Serving God in youth. 1 Sam. 3. 1-10.
W. The time to rejoice. Eccl. 11. 1-10.
Th. Man's whole duty. Matt. 22. 34-40.
F. The first punishment. Gen. 3. 16-21.
S. The end of the law. Deut. 6. 1-8.
S. Human life frail. Psa. 90. 1-10.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Youth, v. 1. What duty is here enforced ? When should it be attended to ? What does this remembrance include ? When should our religious instruction begin ? Prov. 22. 6. Why ?

2. Age, v. 2-7. What are our after-days called ? What lose there sense of pleasure with age ? What signs of failing sight are given ? What indicates dulness of hearing ? What other signs of decay are shown ? What comes at last ? To whom was this sentence first given ? Gen. 3. 19. Where does the spirit go ?

3. Life, v. 8-13. What lesson did the Preacher learn from this study of life ? What did he arrange ? To what are the words of the wise likened ? What final lesson does the Preacher gather ?

4. Judgment, v. 14. Why should men fear and obey God ? For what besides works