

What did he promise not to eat? Grapes in any form.

How long did the vow last? A week, or a month, or a whole life-time.

What noted men were Nazirites all their lives? Samson and John the Baptist.

What is caused by strong drink? Great misery and crime.

What is a safe rule for Christians? "Touch not, taste not, handle not."

Who alone are truly separated to the Lord? Those who obey him.

What has God said about wine? "Look not upon the wine."

Words with Little People.

"Wine is a mocker."

Satan uses wine as one of his agents.

He says that it is a pleasant, harmless drink.

He says that a little cannot do any harm.

Do not let Satan deceive you.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

[For the entire school.]

1. What was a Nazirite? A man consecrated to God.

2. Who gave the law to govern the lives of Nazirites? The Lord gave it to Moses.

3. In what were they for examples to us? In their total abstinence from wine.

4. Who was the most shining example in history of absolute total abstinence? John, the Lord's herald.

5. What prophecy was made concerning him? "For he shall be great," etc.

ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE.

An Ancient Temperance Society.

I. DIVINELY COMMANDED ABSTAINERS.

The Lord speaks unto Moses. v. 1.

"Walk after the Lord." Deut. 13. 4.

"Obey my voice." Jer. 7. 23.

II. PLEDGED ABSTAINERS.

Separate themselves to vow. v. 2.

"Vow, and pay unto the Lord." Ps. 76. 11.

"Unto thee....vow be performed." Ps. 65. 1.

III. TOTAL ABSTAINERS.

Separate himself from wine. v. 3.

"Drink not wine nor strong drink." Judg. 13. 4, 5.

"Drink neither wine nor strong drink." Luke 1. 15.

IV. CAREFUL ABSTAINERS.

No vinegar....nor moist grapes. v. 3.

"Abstain....appearance of evil." 1 Thess. 5. 22.

"Zealously affected....good things." Gal. 4. 18.

THOUGHTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

Lessons from the Nazirite.

1. The Nazirite shows us that even in that early day, fifteen centuries before Christ, there was danger in the use of wine, and that those who aspired to be perfect avoided it.

2. The Nazirite shows us that total abstinence is the safe rule, and not moderation. Notice how carefully and how thoroughly the Nazirite was required to abstain from every thing connected with strong drink, even where it might seem to be harmless.

3. The Nazirite shows us that God specially honors those who abstain. Some of the noblest names in the Bible, as Samuel, Daniel, and John the Baptist, are those of total abstainers. We have reason to believe that Elijah was also a Nazirite, and therefore an abstainer. Total abstinence people are in good company.

4. The Nazirite shows us that the pledge is desirable: for the vow of the Nazirite was a pledge. He was a pledged man, and not ashamed to be known as one. Let us not hesitate to make public profession of our temperance principles and practice.

Berean Methods.

Hints for the Teachers' Meeting and the Class.

Let the teacher read all the passages in the Bible which refer to "Nazirites," "vows," "drinking neither wine nor strong drink," etc., and find what is taught in Scripture concerning these subjects....A good method of teaching is hinted at in the Analytical and Biblical Outline: "An Ancient Temperance Society." 1. Its founder, Moses, under God's command. 2. Its members. 3. Its pledge. 4. Its thoroughness, etc.. .Show wherein our circumstances are different from those of the Nazirites, and how far their rules should apply to us....The lesson will give opportunity to show the benefits of the pledge, among which are— 1. It strengthens resolution. 2. It encourages others by its influence. 3. It removes temptation.

In thy cleft, O Rock of Ages.

The Christian's hiding-place.

In the secret of his presence.

Yield not to temptation.

Dare to do right.

Take up the cross.

Rescue the perishing.

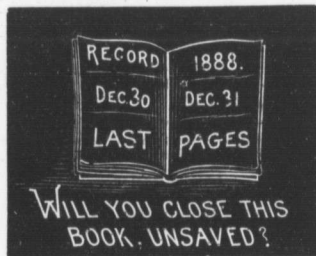
Heaven is my home.

I'm a pilgrim.

No compromise.

Blackboard.

BY J. B. PHIPPS, ESQ.



This is the last Sunday of the year. To-morrow will be the last day of the year, and then the record for 1888 will be closed. How is it with your soul? Will you close the book with it unsaved? The Nazirites, as shown in to-day's lesson, separated themselves unto the Lord. Now is the time to separate one's self from wine and strong drink, and all manner of evil, by giving the heart to God. Let the last session of the school this year be one of heart-searching and heart-giving, with prayer for divine guidance.

LESSONS FOR JANUARY, 1889.

JAN. 6. The Mission of John the Baptist. Mark 1. 1-11.

JAN. 13. A Sabbath in the Life of Jesus. Mark 1. 21-34.

JAN. 20. Healing of the Leper. Mark 1. 35-45.

JAN. 27. Forgiveness and Healing. Mark 2. 1-12.