

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR SCHOOL AND HOME.

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## NO. 9. THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT.

TO the teacher. This lesson will require some little care. It will be best to dwell more on the positive duty of purity and temperance than on the sin forbidden, particularly with younger children, for whom these lessons are specially intended.

I. THE SIN FORBIDDEN—*Adultery*. (Read Matt. xiv. 1-5.) Remind how God made Adam and gave him Eve for his wife—what was Adam told to do? (Matt. xix. 4, 5.) To cleave to her—*i.e.*, to love and honour always, as long as they lived. What did Herod do? Left his own wife and took his brother's—breaking this Commandment.

This Commandment forbids any excess. See how children can break it. Food is necessary, but must not take too much. Sleep needful, but must get up at proper time. Pleasure right, but not carried to excess. So Commandment forbids *gluttony, sloth, impurity* and all sins of the body.

II. THE DUTY ENJOINED—*Temperance*. (Read Dan. i. 8-17.) A story in this chapter of three young men—princes of the Jews—had been taken captive with the rest of the Jews—received special honour—to live near the king as his courtiers (verse 4). What favour did Daniel ask? Was allowed rich food and wine—he and the three princes. What did they ask for? Why did they want simple food? Perhaps because the food had first been offered to idols—perhaps because knew might be tempted to take too much—at any rate, they chose to live simply, temperately,

soberly. Did their *bodies* suffer? Were found to be fairer and fatter than those who had rich food and drink. Did their *minds* suffer? God gave them wisdom and knowledge. Did their *souls* suffer? Read afterwards how they chose death rather than worship other gods and sin against God.

Children may learn from them to be *temperate*—not necessarily keeping from all nice food or pleasure, but learning to be moderate in appetite—to keep their bodies in subjection—will help to make their *bodies* healthy—not so likely to have headaches, or catch diseases, etc.—their *minds* clear—better able to learn lessons—their *souls* right before God. Therefore must never *listen* to—or *speak*—or *do* anything we should not like God to hear or see. Our bodies are meant to live in heaven—must watch and pray, so that they may be made ready for heaven now. (1 Cor. vi. 19.)

LESSON. *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*

## NO. 10. THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT.

INTRODUCTION. Dishonesty said to be peculiarly the sin of these days. Wasting time, scamping work, gambling, dishonest weights, robbing employers. Teachers may well find out the special temptations likely to beset their children, and try to bring the lesson of honesty practically home.

I. THE SIN—*Dishonesty*. (Read Josh. vii. 11-26.) Story of a battle. Joshua and Israelites against city of Ai. Israelites defeated—why? Because have displeased God. What