

*The Institute Leaflet for Church Sunday Schools.*

Vol. II—March 5, 1882. THE CRY OF THE HELPLESS. 2nd S. in Lent—No. 15.

TEXTS TO BE LEARNED.—Ps. cxxi. 7; Rom. viii. 31.

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY.

Almighty GOD, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves; keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversity which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## I.—OUR HELPLESS CONDITION.

What statement is made in the Collect? That we have no power of ourselves, etc. What does this imply? That we are in danger. What kind of dangers threaten us? Bodily and spiritual. Name some bodily dangers? Plague, pestilence, famine, etc. But what are worse than these? Those dangers which assault the soul. Who is the chief enemy of the soul? 1 S. Pet. v. 8. How does he assault it? With evil thoughts. What do we most require? Safety and help. Why cannot we avoid danger ourselves? Because of our infirmities.

## II.—THE SOURCE OF HELP.

To whom must we look for help? Can He guard us against bodily dangers? Ps. lxxxiv. 11. But does He always do so? No, He sometimes sends sickness and trials. For what purpose? Rom. viii. 28. But for what may we ask God? To defend us against all evil thoughts, etc. Why do we pray to be kept from evil thoughts? Because they are from Satan, and lead to evil deeds. Acts v. 3. Why do we seek God's help? Because He knows our weakness. Ps. ciii. 13, 14. Because He has promised to help us. Ps. xxxiv. 17. Give an instance of the Saviour's readiness to help? (See Gospel for this Sunday.) When need we expect God's help? When we strive to depart from evil and do good. Ps. xxxiv. 15, 16.

## THE CATECHISM.

What is the Ninth Commandment? (Learn answer in Catechism.)

## THE PERSECUTOR CONVERTED.

Read Acts ix. 1-19.

Learn Acts xxii. 14; 1 Tim. i. 19.

What became of the disciples after S. Stephen's death? Acts viii. 4.

Were they safe where they fled? Acts xxvi. 11.

Who was their chief persecutor?

What did God design this man to be? A chosen vessel. Acts ix. 15.

To what city did he journey? For what purpose?

As he drew near what did he see? Ver. 3.

Was that all he saw? No, he also saw Christ. 1 Cor. ix. 1.

What did Saul hear? Ver. 4.

How could Saul persecute the ascended Christ? By persecuting His Church, which is His Body.

What did Saul reply? Ver. 6.

How did he enter the city? Ver. 8.

For how long did he remain blind?

During this time what did he do? Fasted and prayed. Ver. 9 and 11.

What was probably Saul's chief wish now? That God should pardon him for the sinful past.

Who alone could bestow this?

Who came seeking this blind pharisee? Ver. 10.

Was he willing to come? Why not? Ver. 13 and 14.