

"Did we not forbid you to preach about Jesus?" What was their reply? [Repeat GOLDEN TEXT.] What did the chief priests fear? That the people would accuse them of killing Jesus. What do we learn from these things? The power of God. What else? The weakness of his enemies. Of what may we be sure? That God will take care of his friends. How should that encourage us? To stand up for Jesus.

#### WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

The Holy Spirit is given—To them that obey God. To them who declare what he has done for them. To them who stand up for Jesus when others are silent. To them who deny self that they may please Jesus.

#### ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE.

##### How God Helps his People in Persecution.

#### I. BY ANGELIC MINISTRY.

The angel of the Lord by night. v. 19.

"The angel of the Lord . . . round about." Psa. 34. 7.

#### II. BY DELIVERANCE.

Opened . . . doors, and brought them forth. v. 19.

"Doors were opened . . . bands were loosed." Acts 16. 26.

#### III. BY DIRECTION IN DUTY.

Go, stand and speak . . . words of this life. v. 20.

"What I tell you . . . speak ye in light." Matt. 10. 27.

#### IV. BY FEARS OF ENEMIES.

They doubted . . . whereunto this would grow. v. 24.

"No wisdom nor understanding . . . against the Lord. Prov. 21. 30.

#### V. BY THE RESPECT OF THE PEOPLE.

They feared the people, lest . . . stoned. v. 26.

"The common people heard him gladly." Mark 12. 37.

#### VI. BY IMPARTING COURAGE.

We ought to obey God rather than man. v. 29.

"What the Lord saith . . . that will I speak." 1 Kings 22. 14.

#### VII. BY THE TESTIMONY OF THE SPIRIT.

The Holy Ghost, whom God hath given. v. 32.

"Power . . . the Holy Ghost . . . upon you." Acts 1. 8.

#### ADDITIONAL PRACTICAL LESSONS.

1. Those who work for the cause of Christ must expect to meet with opposition and endure persecution. v. 17, 18.

2. Persecution generally comes from the rulers in religious matters, rather than from the secular powers. v. 17, 18.

3. The common prison may become a palace when one enters it for Christ's sake. v. 18.

4. God always aids his people in trial, sometimes by imparting strength, and sometimes by giving deliverance. v. 19.

5. Persecution should not cause God's workers to cease their testimony, but should make it more pronounced and bold. v. 20, 21.

6. God's persecuted saints often have all the greater power with men because of their trials. v. 26.

7. God's will is to be wrought even when persecution lies in the path. v. 29.

#### CATECHISM QUESTION.

15. How ought you to speak of God?

I ought to speak of God with reverence and praise.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.—Exod. 20. 7.

God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.—Psalms 89. 7.

#### ENGLISH TEACHER'S NOTES.

BY SARAH GERALDINA STOCK.

In turning over the pages of a magazine published for boys one is sure to find two or three pictures of a highly sensational and attractive type. I use the word sensational in no ill sense. I merely mean that the pictures are of a nature to draw attention and excite in the beholder the desire to know how the persons therein delineated got into the condition in which we see them, and, perhaps, yet more, how they ever get out again. Here is a shipwrecked crew, tossing in a small boat on the rough waves; a hunter, struggling in deadly conflict with a savage beast; a fugitive, hotly pursued by the enemy; and others of a similarly exciting nature. And the young reader hastens to find out all about the shipwreck—how the hunter got into that dangerous position—and whether the fugitive escaped in safety.

Now there are no less than three pictures in the verses for to-day's lesson, the same persons being drawn over again in each, only the drawing is with the pen of the writer instead of the pencil of the draughtsman. And they are pictures which ought to be full of interest to the youthful mind.

The first picture presents to us twelve men fast shut up in prison; the second shows us these very prisoners in full liberty, surrounded by crowds who listen to their teaching; the third displays the men who had regained their freedom once more in the hands of their enemies. Now, the questions which arise at once are: first, how did these men get thrown into prison? secondly, how did they manage to escape? and thirdly, how