

from the mouth of the lion.

Thy God (v. 20). *My God*, v. 22. There is many a lesson in the pronouns of the Bible. It is a great thing when one is so evidently serving God and looking to Him for help, that those who know him best can

find no better description of God than "Thy God", the God whose will and character are reflected in the life of His servant. And when others can say to us, "Thy God", we may say with the utmost confidence, "My God". He is ours, and that implies that all His strength and wisdom and grace are working for our good.

My God hath sent his angel, v. 22. It is told of Horace Bushnell, the famous New England preacher and author, that when he was found to be suffering from an incurable disease, to prolong his life he was sent to the White Moun-

tains, where he spent his last six months on earth. He was visited there by Rev. Joseph Twitchell (Mark Twain's minister), and as they sat together one night under the starry sky, Bushnell said, "One of us ought to pray." Twitchell asked Bushnell to do so, and Bushnell began his prayer with the words, "I have remembered all the way Thou my God hast led me", and then burying his face on the ground, he poured out his heart, "until", said Twitchell, in recalling the incident, "I was afraid to stretch out my

hand in the darkness lest I should touch God." The loving Father is ever near to His children when they cry to Him in their need.

No manner of hurt, v. 23. A missionary to Burma tells of a native Christian who was tied to a cross on which it had been decreed that he should be crucified the next day. Prayer was made for him by the church. While

his captors were feasting to celebrate their success, the prisoner worked his thongs until he set free, first one hand, then the other, and finally his feet. In the shadows he slipped past one armed guard after another, and entered the church where the people were praying for his release. God has many methods of delivering His people. He may save them by natural means or supernatural; He may rescue them from death or by death. Whatever happens to those who trust and serve God, it will always be true, in the highest sense, that "no manner of hurt" will be found upon them. They are armor-proof against any real injury.

Because he believed in God, v. 23. A picture by the famous artist Doré is called *Ad Leones*, "To the Lions". The scene is a Roman amphitheatre, in which Christians are being torn to pieces by lions, before a heathen crowd. But above, unseen by the persecutors, are multitudes of angels welcoming to the joys of heaven those who are being destroyed below.

TEACHING HINTS

This section embraces teaching material for various grades in the School.

For Teachers of Bible Classes

Follow the history of Daniel, bringing out the fact that, as he had been faithful under the Chaldeans, he now appears as faithful under his new masters, the Medes and Persians. The present Lesson, closely resembles the last in its insistence upon obedience to the law of God and God's care of His own.

Elicit the facts in the early part of the chapter,—the exaltation of Daniel under Darius in the reorganization of the kingdom (vs. 1-3), and the plotting of his foes to overthrow him. Dwell on the recognition which

faithfulness brings, and how envy seeks revenge. The attempt was twofold: (a) to find dishonesty in Daniel's administration, which failed; (b) to trap him in his religion, which succeeded. The clever malice of the enemy in catching the king should be brought out as a striking example of the deep hypocrisy of envy in seeking its own ends. Let the discussion proceed along some such lines as the following:

1. *Daniel's pronounced loyalty to his God*. Make it clear that he did not parade his religion, nor hide it to suit personal convenience or escape danger. His religion was a matter of will, of fixed habit, of principle, and all knew where he stood. He was not disturbed or influenced by threats. Dwell