

Seeking Early.

BY REV. A. SAPHIR, D.D.



GOD loves children. We know this from Holy *Scripture*. He continually remembers the children, and ordains that they should be taught His ways by their fathers.

God loves children. We know this from the way in which *Jesus* regarded children. How beautiful are the words of our Lord: "Suffer little children to come

unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

God loves children. We know this from the *Apostles*, whom our Lord sent forth. When they entered a house, they were to think of the whole family, and to say, "Peace be to this house."

God loves children. We know this from *experience*. See how He blesses them, and watches over them, when they are helpless and weak. See what love to them he has put into the hearts of fathers and mothers.

God loves little children, and therefore He speaks to them, *He seeks them*.

Dear children, God wants you, and therefore He says to you: "*They that seek Me early shall find Me.*" Only think of the joy, the honour of *finding God*? He is God over all, blessed for ever; Light to fill our minds and hearts with true wisdom and knowledge, Infinite Love, to make us happy and joyful for ever.

When God says to us, "Seek Me," He makes it so easy for us. He tells us where to find Him. *Look unto Jesus Christ!* God was manifest in the flesh. Jesus is the Son of God, He is the

Light of the world. "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have life everlasting." And little children can believe in Jesus. They can trust in Him.

You should seek God, because He is so good and loving, He wishes you to be always with Him and to enjoy His help. He can and will give you grace to resist temptation. He can make you gentle and kind, unselfish and pure. He can strengthen you, He can make you patient and calm. He can incline your hearts to keep His commandments. And then think how much you may be enabled to do for God.

Samuel was a little child when the Lord appeared to him, and what a long life of usefulness and labour was his.

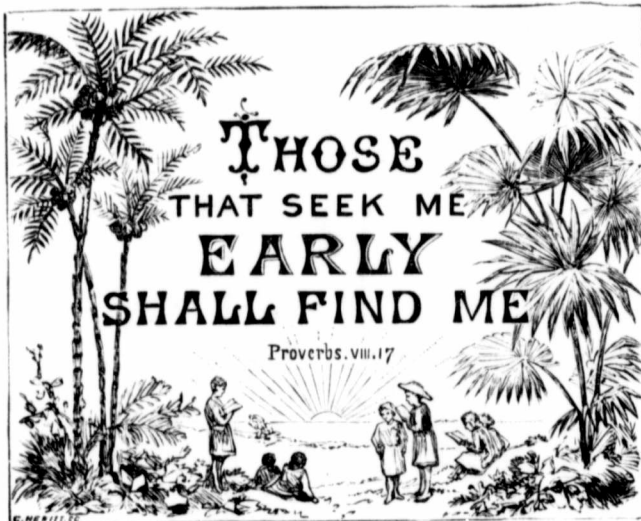
Josiah was only eight years old when he began to reign. Only fancy a child of eight years sitting on the throne and ruling a great nation! And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord. When he was twenty years old he began the Reformation, restoring the worship and service of God. He laboured for six years in this great work, and it is said

of him, "like unto him there was no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart."

Daniel sought the Lord early, and when he was young he feared God. What a long life of eminent service was granted to this young disciple!

Many other eminent names are written in the history of the Church, of men who began in their childhood to seek God and to love the Saviour.

"They that seek Me early shall find Me." They shall find heavenly wisdom, eternal love and unfading joy. Whether they live or die, they are the Lord's; blessed on earth, and still more blessed in heaven.—"*Seek Me Early*" Series.



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