

is reserved for those who persist in practising evil (see Matt. 7 : 23). Pure, honest character that delights in God, is the truest blessedness that can reward those who seek to live with God, and the culmination of such a character is "salvation," vs. 5, 6. He who imitates God "ascends" highest and "stands" nearest to Him.

2. *What kind of God dwells with men?* vs. 7-9. Picture now the procession with the ark reaching the gates of Jerusalem amidst the shouts and the blare of trumpets. "The hill of the Lord" is climbed. In the processional hymn, God is represented as entering gloriously. A choir of singers, stationed within the gates, bursts into song, taking for theme the character of God. The gates need to be lifted very "high," particularly for Christ, whose stature fills space and time, and cannot be dwarfed by the background of eternity. God is described as (a) "the King of glory" (vs. 7, 9; 2 Pet. 1 : 17); (b) the invincible "champion," vs. 8, 10. The divine forces are a great army, conquering and to conquer. "Right is right, since God is God, and right the day shall win."

For Teachers of the Senior Scholars

What place did David choose as the capital of the united kingdom? How did David plan to make Jerusalem a religious place, the great religious centre of the nation? Our Lesson to-day tells how he in the end succeeded in this.

1. *The Ark in the House of Obed-edom*, v. 12. How did it get there? Recall the romantic history of the ark from the time it was taken into battle against the Philistines till it was left in the care of Obed-edom. How did it fare with Obed-edom during the time the ark was with him? (V. 12.) No doubt the presence of this sacred symbol awakened a spirit of reverence in the hearts of the members of that family, and led them to feel that God was with them. Remind the class that the presence of Jesus always blesses a home. He comes into our home-life and makes it richer and sweeter. We all know what it is to miss some loved one from the home. We feel that something is wanting to make our home life complete. Use this as an illustration of what home life is without Christ.

2. *David Brings the Ark up to Jerusalem*, vs. 12-15. Note the care taken this time that no unfortunate incident should mar the joy of that great festal day. This was one of the happiest days in the life of David and his people for it was a time of religious revival and restoration. Dwell upon the power of a great religious revival to increase the joy of the nation. (See Ps. 33 : 12.) It can do what material prosperity can not do, what social reforms and wise legislation, good as they all are, cannot do.

3. *The National Anthem Sung That Day*, Ps. 24. Note the wonderful conception of God's world-wide possessions (v. 1), and the beautiful ideal of life (vs. 3-5) which we have in this psalm. We are not our own and what we possess is not our own, so we cannot do what we like with ourselves and our money. We must have clean hands and a pure heart. We must do good honest work with these hands of ours out of love for what is good. What do the closing words of the psalm mean? What application have they to our own lives? We must live with minds and hearts open to everything divine.

For Teachers of the Boys and Girls

Recall briefly the history of the ark from the day when it was captured by the Philistines (1 Sam. 4 : 11); the disasters which its presence brought upon its captors (ch. 5) and its return to the city of Kirjath-jearim in Judah (ch. 6); then, seventy years later, David's first attempt to have it brought up to Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6 : 1-11), the failure of which led to its being placed for three months in the house of Obed-edom. Then take up the Lesson according to the Lesson Plan, questioning somewhat as follows :

I. THE PROCESSION. Who was Obed-edom? Why had the Lord blessed him? In what did the blessing consist? Who was told about this? What did David resolve to do? What was the city of David? In what spirit did David set about bringing up the ark? (V. 13.)

By whom was the ark carried? In what manner? Where had directions been given about this matter? How far did the bearers first move? What was their purpose in this? What was then done? How did