

in the land of Canaan, but how had they behaved? Instead of bearing the good fruit their Master had a right to expect, their souls were full of pride and greediness and drunkenness and dishonesty, like the wild and sour grapes. These people had said to themselves, "We have as much as ever we wish to eat and drink. Let us then have a good time." So they spent their days in plotting against the poor and their nights in feasting and drinking.

But the warning and the story were not only for the people of Israel. God says through them to every nation, "Every one among you that doeth such things shall be destroyed." For the love of strong drink takes away man's judgment, so that he does not know good from evil. It takes away his

health and home and at last separates him from God Himself.

Questions on the Lesson

1. What kind of place did the gardener choose for his vineyard? 2. How did he prepare it for planting? 3. What kind of plants did he plant? 4. Why did he take so much trouble? 5. What did he find when the crop was ripe? 6. How did he feel? 7. To whom did God tell the story? 8. Of what was it a picture? 9. Why were the lives of the children of Israel like wild grapes? 10. What was their sin? 11. For whom was God's warning intended besides the Israelites? 12. What does the love of strong drink do for a man? 13. What is the Golden Text?

Not the Right Sort of Boy

A sunny-faced boy stood in Mr. Bell's office beside the window where hung the sign, "Boy Wanted."

"Weren't you standing out here on the sidewalk five minutes ago," questioned the gentleman, "when a policeman was trying to lift that drunken man out of the gutter?" "Yes, sir." "You were laughing, I saw." The boy smiled. "Yes, sir," he said frank-

ly. "As soon as the policeman got him up, the fellow's knees would bend right up again. It was awfully funny."

"Now, my boy," said the old gentleman, "I have no place for you. If you could write like a copy-book and add like lightning, I wouldn't have you in my office. A boy who laughs at a drunken man isn't the boy for me."

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY

How dangerous strong drink is

Primary Catechism—57. Where do all our good thoughts and desires come from? The Holy Spirit puts good thoughts and desires into our hearts. **58.** In what other ways is the Holy Spirit our Helper? The Holy Spirit helps us in our study of the Bible and in prayer.

Shorter Catechism—103. What do we pray for in the third petition?

A. In the third petition (which is, *Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven*) we pray, That God, by his grace, would make us able and willing to know, obey, and submit to his will in all things, as the angels do in heaven.

Lesson Hymn

Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin;
Each victory will help you some other to win;
Fight manfully onward; dark passions subdue;
Look ever to Jesus,—He will carry you through.

Shun evil companions; bad language disdain;
God's name hold in reverence, nor take it in vain;
Be thoughtful and earnest, kind-hearted and true;
Look ever to Jesus,—He will carry you through.

Amen.

—Hymn 530, Book of Praise