

from the Old Testament, His sufferings and death and resurrection, how everything was completely fulfilled in Jesus of Nazareth. What passages in the Old Testament would furnish Paul with his best texts for such a sermon? Who wrote the first life of Christ? (See Isa. 53.)

2. Note, further, that in both cities a good many converts were made to Christianity. What classes were reached? (Vs. 4, 12.) Special mention is made of women, "honorable women", amongst the converts in these two cities. Dwell upon what women are doing for missions in our own church.

3. The mission was more successful in Berea than in Thessalonica. What was the reason of this? Sometimes it is difficult to tell why mission work is more successful in one place than in another. Some people are more noble than others. What does "noble" mean in the Lesson? (See Exposition.) Goodness is a badge of God's nobility. God's good man is always God's nobleman.

In what respects were the Bereans more noble? Was this little country town more conducive to the development of a noble type of character than the large city of Thessalonica? Is it easier to live a good life in the country than in the town?

4. Riots in both cities, vs. 5-7, 13. Who were the ringleaders, and what were their tactics?

5. Paul's flight from both cities, vs. 10, 14. Note that the brethren "sent away Paul". He was too brave to flee of his own accord, but his friends were too wise and loving to allow him to be exposed to danger. There are times when the bravest thing that a man or a woman can do is to run away from danger. We must take care not to run away from duty.

For Teachers of the Boys and Girls

The Lesson falls into two parts, which may be headed respectively: I. AT THESSALONICA. II. AT BEREA. These headings may be written on the blackboard at the beginning of the Lesson, or on pads by the scholars. The points in the story belonging to each place may then be noted under the proper heading as the Lesson proceeds.

I. AT THESSALONICA. Let the position of this important city be noted (see Geography

Lesson). Call attention to Paul's selection of great centres of population and influence for preaching the gospel.

Bring out the following points, by question and, where needed, explanation. (1) The synagogue ministry. Note the authority to which Paul appealed,—“the scriptures”, that is, of the Old Testament, common ground to the hearers with himself; and his method,—“opening” or explaining the scriptures, “alleging” or proving from them that the Messiah was to be a Sufferer; and, finally, showing, by comparing the facts of the life of Jesus with the Old Testament, that He is the Messiah described in those writings. (2) The twofold result of the preaching in the synagogue,—the winning of many converts (v. 4 mentions three classes), and the exciting of opposition (picture the mob's attack on the house of Jason where Paul and Silas were lodging). (3) The accusation before the rulers of the city (note the unwitting testimony to the apostles' influence in “turned the world upside down”, and discuss in what sense Jesus is a King). (4) The bond taken of Jason and others, and the departure of the missionaries from the city by night.

II. AT BEREA. Have the position of this city pointed out on the map. Here, as at Thessalonica, Paul began his preaching in the Jewish synagogue,—his usual custom. Here the points for question and explanation are:

(1) The description of the Berean Jews,—“more noble than those in Thessalonica”, and that in two respects, namely their “readiness of mind” or willingness to receive the truth, whoever might bring it, and their “daily” study of the scriptures to see whether the teaching were true. A little talk about the benefits of daily Bible study and plans for it will be in place here. (2) The results of Paul's teaching and the people's study,—the conversion of many (note, again,—the different classes in v. 12). (3) The coming of Paul's enemies from Thessalonica and the disturbance caused by them. (4) Paul's departure from Berea for Athens, by way of Dium, the nearest seaport (make it clear, that the apostle's leaving first Thessalonica and then Berea was not a cowardly flight from