

barred door, and, lo, immediately it swung open and she entered into the columned sanctuary of the everlasting. Repent and believe and thou shalt be saved.

God's purpose for the world was always missionary. In the days when the children of Israel regarded themselves as God's peculiar people, the great Father's heart went out in love and care for other peoples. Jonah is sent out as a missionary to the Gentiles of Nineveh.

THE LESSON GRADED

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

For Teachers of Bible Classes

The gospel according to Jonah, like the gospel according to John, is at once simple and profound. It is the Gospel of the Second Chance. The prophet ran away from his appointed work, and so missed his first chance. But

1. *A second chance came to Jonah, vs. 1-4.* It is not true that when men go contrary to the divine purpose, the waves invariably close over their heads and they are never heard of again. Jonah, like the primitive and modern church, was reluctant to take up Foreign Mission work. But in the end he responded and saw results that fairly bewildered him.

Count Frontenac, as Governor of Canada, made a bad showing on his first chance, and was recalled to France. He was sent out again, however, and on his second chance, did so well that when he died it was truthfully said that never people wept over a better governor. A British regiment, for insubordination, had their colors taken from them. Their officer said, "Men! your colors are at the top of that hill: charge!" They seized their second chance, and, through shot and shell, storming the position, took it. John Mark missed his first chance with Paul and caused a bitter separation between the apostle to the Gentiles and Barnabas, Acts 15:39. But Barnabas proved to have the greater insight regarding Mark and afterwards Paul admitted that the young man had risen to his second chance and made good, 2 Tim. 4:11.

Where would any of us be without the Gospel of the Second Chance? It is the

We do not need to pray that God should save the heathen. We do need to pray that God may make us of this day more faithful to the great commission. When some one was complaining to the Duke of Wellington as to the ill success of missionary effort, the Iron Duke replied: "What are your marching orders?" and he quoted the words of Christ: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

gospel of Christ. The parable of the Prodigal Son might better be called The Story of the Second Chance (see Luke 15:32).

2. *A second chance came to Nineveh, vs. 5-10.* Had Jonah better realized what had happened to himself, he would not have been so disappointed (ch. 4:1), that his message to the Ninevites had effected such a change in them as averted their doom. When Charles Darwin, in 1832, visited Tierra del Fuego, he saw a people so low that he declared they could never be raised from their degradation. Afterwards, when he heard how changed they had become through the work of Thomas Bridges, he sent a generous subscription to the Church Missionary Society.

It has been the Gospel of the Second Chance that has transformed the New Hebrides, New Guinea and other islands of the sea, and that gives hoary civilizations in India, China and Japan a forward impetus. A single life devoted to preaching this gospel in the regions beyond touches interests truly vast in their material, social, commercial, scientific and religious aspects. Give all the world its second chance!

For Teachers of the Senior Scholars

Remind the class that our "Foreign Missionary Lesson" is taken from the Old Testament. We are apt to think that the religion of the Old Testament was intended merely for the Jews. Evidently the Jews thought so themselves and acted as if they were the only people worthy of divine consideration. Bring out that from the very first God's outlook was world-wide, God's affections were world-embracing. (See Gen. 12:3; and Ps. 72:17.) Discuss the missionary features of this passage: