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The Mother and Her Child

The whole world once to a mother came To buy her child away;

There were rich and poor, there were great and small,

There were wise men old and gray.

"The world and its treasures, all, wilt take? Its gold, its castles and lands?"

'The world", she replied, "could purchase not

The touch of my baby's hands."

So the world returned to its wealth and pride, To sail its ships on the deep; But none were happy as she who sat Singing her babe to sleep.

From Heaven to Earth

"The Messiah came to earth;
But so lowly was His birth,
That His majesty from us was concealed."

So runs the children's hymn; and the Lessons for the first half of this year tell how that majesty made itself known.

In the three months now beginning, we see, first, John the Baptist, who rebuked men so boldly for their sins, pointing two of his own disciples to Jesus, His cousin from Galilee, as the "Lamb of God". They immediately follow Jesus, and others are gathered in. Then this Jesus from Galilee cleanses the temple of wicked men, and calls it His Father's house—meaning God's. By His words to a ruler who sought Him by night, and to a woman whom He met at a well at noonday; by healing a nobleman's

boy, and a man who had been helpless for thirty-eight years; by feeding a great multitude with five small loaves and two small fishes, and by the wenderful words He spoke atterwards; and then by giving sight to a man born blind:—in these ways He showed that He came from God, that He knew God, and that, in truth, He was God.

The Children and the Church Service

By Mrs. Marion Cruikshank

We all admit the necessity of inculcating in our children such habits as honesty, cleanliness and consideration for others. Has it occurred to us to add church-going to the list? In after years, when cares and pleasures encroach on the spiritual life, a well developed habit of letting nothing but strict necessity prevent our attending the worship of God in His house, will be one of the greatest safeguards towards keeping us, although in the world, yet not of it.

More or less, children take their opinions from their elders. If church, therefore, is a weariness of the flesh to these, or the service and sermon merely an opportunity for criticism, too soon the little ones will tire of

But, if they see at home an appreciation and love of divine worship, it will likely develop in them the spirit which says, "May I go"? instead of, "Must I go"?

But it must be taken into consideration, that, however well and reverently children have been taught to behave, so long a period of enforced quietude as a church service is a severe strain on their patience. The