

may get hard hearts, so that they will do wicked things and not feel sorry for them. Some children have been known to lie, steal, swear and even to kill, and not care any thing about it. This may be illustrated by the fact that a piece of hot iron which at first could not be held in the hand may by and by be held without causing pain, the hand becoming hard and tough little by little. Beware of a hard heart.

### Miscellaneous.

#### THEMES FOR BIBLE READINGS.

1. THE RESISTING HEART. Exod. v. 1, 2; Isa. lxiii. 10; John iii. 19, 20.
2. THE STUBBORN HEART. Isa. xlviii. 4; Jer. xix. 15; Isa. i. 2, 4.
3. THE HARDENED HEART. Exod. viii. 15, 19, 32; ix. 34, 35; Deut. ii. 30; Ezek. xii. 2.
4. THE JUSTICE OF GOD. Psa. lxxxix. 14; cxlv. 17; Rom. ii. 2, 3; Rev. iv. 8.
5. THE CONSEQUENCES OF RESISTING GOD. Prov. xxviii. 14; xxix. 1; Ezek. v. 17; ix. 9, 10; xxxv. 6; Matt. vii. 23.
6. BLESSINGS TURNED TO CURSES. Acts ii. 20; Nahum i. 4; Matt. xi. 23; 2 Cor. ii. 16.
7. THE PLEA OF GRACE. Heb. iii. 8, 15; iv. 7; 1 Sam. vi. 6; Titus ii. 11.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1874.

#### LESSON VII.—*Jehovah's Passover.*

Exod. xii. 21-30, 51.

GOLDEN TEXT: 1 Cor. v. 7.

#### Berean Notes.

BY REV. G. H. WHITNEY, D.D.

##### 1. TO THE TEACHER.

This is one of the most impressive lessons in the whole Bible. By earnest and devoted preparation you will not fail to show how the truth contained in the Golden Text was like a chain of gold through every thought in the Lesson Service.

##### II. GENERAL STATEMENT.

In Lesson VI. we had an account of the Plague of Blood. Nine other fearful plagues were next inflicted upon the Egyptians, from all of which the Israelites were exempt. See Exod. vii.-xi. Before the tenth plague, and preparatory to "The Exodus," the Lord establishes the "Pass-

over." Time: Abib or Nisan 14, B.C. 1491. Abib was the seventh month of the civil year; but with the institution of the Passover it became the first of the ecclesiastical year. It corresponds to the last part of March and the first part of April.

#### III. NOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

1. THE SLAIN LAMB, ver. 21. (1) *God's command concerning it*, ver. 3-20. THEN. After learning God's will. The good and the wise are always directed of God. (2) *Mode of making the command known*. Through ALL THE ELDERS—doubtless the chief men of each of the twelve tribes. Many thousand of FAMILIES to be reached throughout Goshen. The rabbins held that there should be at least ten persons to one paschal lamb, and not more than twenty. (3) *The divinely appointed sacrifice*. DRAW—select, take. The beginning of an ordinance to continue through many ages. Num. ix. 4; Josh. v. 10; 2 Kings xxiii. 21; Ezra. vi. 20; Luke xxii. 7; etc. LAMB. Most innocent of animals; best type of the "Lamb of God." John i. 29. KILL. PASSOVER—that is, kill for the feast—"the Lord's passover," ver. 11. The lamb must be without blemish, vers. 5, 6. Christ was spotless. Heb. vii. 26; 1 Pet. i. 19.

2. THE SPRINKLED BLOOD, vers. 22, 23. (1) *The mode*. HYSSOP. A plant found in great abundance in Arabia and Palestine, growing about a foot and a half high; and by reason of its bushy stalks, well adapted for sprinkling. By a strange coincidence, the hyssop was used by the soldiery when Christ, the Lamb of God, was slain. John xix. 29. DIP—in order to sprinkle THE BLOOD. (2) *The blood stained door*. LINTEL. . . SIDE POSTS. Where most readily seen, and least easily removed. HOUSE. Possibly the Israelites dwelt in tents. NONE. . . GO OUT. Typical of the value of the blood. (3) *The divine Avenger*. THE LORD. . . THE DESTROYER. His vengeance may be slow, but evil will slay the wicked. 2 Sam. xxiv. 16; Nahum i. 2; 1 Cor. x. 10; Heb. xi. 28. (4) *The sure defence*. SEETH. God's wrath does not hide the lowly dwellings of his people from his vision and his love. The simple blood-mark saves every household of faith in the realm.

That startling word "blood" would be the last one man would select for a symbol of peace and purity. . . While blood would render whatever it touches impure, it is the only thing that takes away the stains of sin. You go up till you get to the drapery of heaven, and it is white, and made white in the blood of the Lamb. This underlies all the efficiency of the work of grace; there is blood everywhere. In a convention of the Unitarians the question was asked,