

THE CHILDREN'S RECORD

THE FIRST CHRISTIAN MARTYR.

Aug. 28. May, A.D. 37.
Lesson, Acts 7 : 54-60 ; 8 : 1-4.
Golden Text, Acts 7 : 60.
Memory vs. 57-60. Catechism Q. 91.

QUESTIONS.

Introductory.—Who was Stephen? On what charge was he arrested? Before whom was he brought? What false testimony was given against him? How did he defend himself? Title of this lesson? Golden Text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses? Catechism?

I. *The Martyr's Vision*, vs. 54-56.—What effect had Stephen's words on the council? How did they show their rage? What vision was granted to Stephen? Why is it said that he was full of the Holy Ghost? Why was Jesus represented as *standing*?

II. *The Martyr's Death*, vs. 57-60.—What did they do when they heard Stephen's words? Of what crime did they hold him guilty? How was blasphemy punished? Lev. 24 : 14. Where was Stephen stoned? Why were the witnesses present? Deut. 17 : 6, 7. Who took charge of their clothes? To whom did Stephen pray? What was his first prayer? His second? Who offered similar prayers? How is his death described?

III. *The Martyr's Burial*, ch. 8 : 1-4.—What followed the death of Stephen? What became of the church? Who remained in Jerusalem? Why did they remain? By whom was Stephen buried? Who was active in the persecution? What measures did he take? How was the persecution overruled for good?

PRACTICAL LESSONS LEARNED.

1. The indwelling of the Holy Ghost is the true source of Christian strength and power.
2. Saints on earth sometimes get a glimpse of heaven's glory.
3. Jesus ever watches over his disciples, and is ever ready to help.
4. The Christian never dies, but falls asleep to awake in heaven.

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Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep,
From which none ever wake to weep ;
A calm and undisturbed repose,
Unbroken by the last of foes.

Asleep in Jesus, O for me,
May such a blissful slumber be ;
Securely shall my ashes lie
Waiting the summons form in high.

PHILIP PREACHING AT SAMARIA.

September 4th. Summer A.D., 37.
Lesson, Acts 8 : 5-25. Golden Text, Acts 8 : 5.
Memory vs. 5-8. Catechism Q. 92-93.

Opening Words.—The disciples, dispersed by the persecution, went everywhere preaching the word. Philip, one of the seven deacons, (ch. 6 : 5), went down to Samaria and preached Christ to them. Multitudes were converted by his preaching and miracles, and there was great joy in that city.

QUESTIONS.

Introductory.—What followed the martyrdom of Stephen? What did the disciples do in their dispersion? Title of this lesson? Golden Text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses? Catechism?

I. *The Power of the Gospel*, vs. 5-13.—Who was Philip? Where did he go? What effect did his preaching produce? What signs did he work? What noted person did Philip meet? What influence had Simon with the people? What did the people do when they heard Philip? What did Simon do? How did Simon's faith differ from saving faith in Jesus Christ?

II. *The Gift of the Holy Ghost*, vs. 14-17.—Why were Peter and John sent to Samaria? What did they do on their arrival? What had these Samaritan disciples not yet received? What did the apostles do after prayer? What followed the laying on of hands?

III. *The Sin of Simon*, vs. 18-25.—What did Simon ask of Peter and John? Why did he wish this power? What was Peter's reply? What did Peter urge him to do? How might even Simon be forgiven? What request did Simon now make? What did this request show? What did the apostles do on their way home?

PRACTICAL LESSONS LEARNED.

1. The persecution and dispersion of earnest Christians spread the truth.
2. True saving faith brings joy to the believer.
3. God's gifts cannot be bought.
4. Baptism and church membership cannot save us.
5. We must have a clean heart and a right spirit, or we cannot please God.

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All things work together for good to them that love God.