

GOLDEN TEXT

1 Pet. 4: 16. If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed.

DAILY READINGS

M.—Acts 21: 27-39. Paul arrested.
T.—Acts 21: 40 to 22: 9. Paul's defence.
W.—Acts 22: 10-21. Defence continued.
Th.—Acts 22: 22-30. "Away with him."
F.—Luke 23: 13-23. Jesus reviled.
S.—1 Peter 3: 12-17. Happy in suffering.
S.—Rev. 2: 1-10. Reward.

CATECHISM

Q. 76. Which is the ninth commandment?

A. The ninth commandment is, Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

TIME AND PLACE

The spring of A.D. 58. According to Prof. Lewin, Paul arrived at Jerusalem Wednesday, May 17. The feast of Pentecost fell on the same day. The riot occurred a few days after this date. The place was within the courts of the temple.

LESSON PLAN

- I. A Riotous Mob, 30, 31. Seeking the life of Paul.
- II. A Prompt Rescue, 32-36. Of Paul by the Roman soldiers.
- III. A Reasonable Claim, 37-39. By Paul to be heard in his own defence.

LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise, 250; 40 (Ps. Sel.); 256; 263; 267; 149.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—Whence had Paul come? To what city? What counsel did the disciples give him? How did he act? Who sought to kill him?

30, 31 In what building was Paul? In what part of it? Who dragged him out? Tell why. What did they intend to do to him? Who was told about this? What doors are spoken of?

32-34 What is a centurion? How had the crowd been treating Paul? How did the soldiers treat him? Who had foretold this? (ch. 21: 11.) What question was asked of the crowd? How did they answer? Whither was Paul taken? By whom? Who followed? Why had Paul to be carried?

37, 38 What request made by Paul? In what language? Who had the chief captain thought he was?

39 Name Paul's birthplace. In what country? For what was it noted? What did Paul wish to do?

Seniors and the Home Department—30, 31 What two courts of the temple are referred to here? Who were forbidden to enter the inner court? On what penalty? With what was Paul charged? On what ground? (vs. 28, 29.) Why were the doors shut? Who was the chief captain? (ch. 23: 26.) What does the word mean?

32-36 What action did the chief captain take? Whence did the soldiers "run down"? What effect had their coming? Why could nothing be learned from the mob? What cry did they utter? About whom had the same words been used? (Luke 23: 18; John 19: 15.)

37, 38 What surprised the chief captain? Why was he surprised? Who were the "Assassins"? Who had dispersed them?

39 What rights did Paul claim? (ch. 22: 25.) Where had he done this before? (ch. 16: 37.) Why are Christians persecuted? (Matt. 13: 21.) Who delivers from persecution? (2 Tim. 3: 11.) Who will reward those who suffer persecution? (Matt. 5: 12; Luke 6: 22, 23.)

Prove from Scripture—That we should take pride in our country.

Practical Points—1. We should not believe or repeat an accusation against any person without good reason.

2. "A man in anger is like a chariot without a driver or a ship in a storm without a pilot, or a scorpion which stings itself as well as others."

3. When we are doing right, we can look the whole world in the face.

4. The bondage of passion and of bad habits is worse than chains and imprisonment.

5. A tiger cub may be tamed and become a harmless pet, until it has once tasted blood. Then it becomes dangerous and must be killed. So our temper and appetites will work great mischief unless they are kept under control.

6. We ought to take a pride in our own country and town. And we should remember that the good name of the place where we live depends on ourselves. It will be judged by what people see in us.

7. We need never be ashamed to suffer if it is for doing the duty to which God has called us.

8. It is often best to keep silent when we are injured by others. But sometimes greater good can be done by speech than by silence, and then it is our duty to speak out clearly and boldly.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Who sought to kill Paul?

2. By whom was he rescued? Describe the arrest.

3. Where was he imprisoned?