

(7) *An example of righteous indignation.*—Jonathau was angry principally because of the wrong done to David. Still he continued faithful to his father while he lived.

8 *The blessedness of having a true friend.*—It is a great blessing to have a true earthly friend: We can always find such a one in Jesus.

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May 28th, 1865.

JESUS POINTS OUT THE TRAITOR.

Matt. 26, 21-25. Mark 14, 18-21. Luke 22
21-23. John 13 21, 35.

Was troubled, v. 21.—This awful troubling of spirit occurred on several distinct occasions, ch. 12, 33, 12 27. The terms means to be agitated as water in a pool.

Doubling.—v. 22. "They were at a loss." *Lying on Jesus breast*. These terms are different from the former in v. 23. They mean rather falling upon the breast of Jesus.

A Sop.—This word means a morsel of food. After the second cup of wine, at the passchal meal, the master of the feast took a piece of unleavened bread, broke it in pieces, and gave a bit to each of those present. It was commonly dipped in the broth made of bitter herbs.

Obs. (1) *Christ grieves over the sinner's ruin.*—Even for Judas His spirit was "troubled." Four times during supper did Jesus seek to turn him from his treachery. See John 13 11, 18, 21 27. He "would not," Luke 13, 34, 35; Hosea, 4, 8.

(2) *It is only "friends" that can betray Christ.* How melancholy the thought that his enemies find help from his closest friends.

(3) *Judas should be a warning to us.*—Think how much he knew of Christ; how much he did for Christ; how unsuspected by his closest friends he was; how long he was near Christ; how Christ loved and warned him; yet he loved something better than Christ, and perished.

(4.) *How blessed to be loved as John was*

He was blessed to lie on Jesus' breast. Five times does John call himself the disciple whom Jesus loved.

(5.) *Love one another.* Christ commands the love. Love is all that is needed to make home, the school or the world happy.

KEEPING THE SABBATH BENEFICIAL.

You know that, in the land of Egypt, they have no rain. Instead of rain, they depend on the overflowing of the river Nile. This river runs all through Egypt. Every year it rises over its banks, and spreads itself gently over all the land. This overflowing of the Nile fertilizes soil, and makes every thing grow. Thus the Nile is the greatest possible blessing to Egypt. The comfort of the people and their very life, depends upon it. This river Nile rises far away up among the mountains of Abyssinia.

Now, suppose that the governor of Egypt had entire power over the Nile.—Suppose that, whenever he chose, he could stop, or dry up those distant springs, and prevent the river from rising. And suppose he should tell the people, that if they did not mind his laws, and do what he told them, he would dry up the springs of the river, and not let it rise. Then would it not be a very dangerous thing to disobey that governor? And would it not be very important for the people of Egypt to try and please their governor? Yes. And every man who kept his laws, would be doing the greatest good to his country. Well, now, we have no such river as the Nile in this country. For the power to fertilize our land, and make things grow in it, we depend not upon a river, but on the dews and the rains. And God, our Governor, has entire power over these.—He can give them, or withhold them, just as He pleases. Breaking the Sabbath provokes God and tempts Him to take them away. Keeping the Sabbath pleases Him, and He promises to send dews, and rains, and peace, and plenty on those who honor His Sabbath. The Sabbath-keeper does great good to his country,