

II. THE JOY OF SALVATION.

Great joy unto all the brethren. v. 3.

"Fruit of the Spirit....joy." Gal. 5. 22.

"In thy presence....fulness of joy."
Psa. 16. 11.

III. CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.

They were received of the Church. v. 4.

"We have fellowship one with another."

1 John 1. 7.

"That they may be one." John 17. 21.

IV. THE WITNESS OF THE SPIRIT.

God....bare them witness. v. 8.

"He that believeth....witness in himself." 1 John 5. 10.

"The Spirit....witness with our spirit."
Rom. 8. 16.

V. THE GIFT OF THE SPIRIT.

Giving them the Holy Ghost. v. 8.

"The Holy Ghost fell on all them."
Acts 10. 44."Ye shall receive....Holy Ghost."
Acts 2. 38.

VI. PURITY OF HEART.

Purifying their hearts by faith. v. 9.

"God hath cleansed....call not....common." Acts 10. 15.

"Sanctified in Christ Jesus, called....saints." 1 Cor. 1. 2.

VII. FREEDOM FROM LAW.

Why....put a yoke upon the neck? v. 10.

"Jerusalem....free....mother of us all." Gal. 4. 26.

"Stand fast....in the liberty." Gal. 5. 1.

ADDITIONAL PRACTICAL LESSONS.

How to be Saved.

1. All men bear with them the consciousness of sin, and long for some way to be freed from its burden here, and its results hereafter.

2. There is some way of salvation, the right way divinely given, if among the strife of men's opinions it can be discovered. God will have all men to be saved, and the very disputes of men concerning it show that there is some way. v. 1, 2.

3. God's way of salvation for all men is one. There cannot be one way for a Jew, another for a Gentile; all men must enter into life upon the same terms.

4. Some men strive to make the essentials of salvation consist in outward forms and services, which are not the conditions and requirements of the Gospel. v. 1, 5.

5. The sole condition of salvation is faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, apart from all the works of the law. v. 9.

6. The evidence of acceptance before God in salvation is the fruits of the Spirit. v. 8.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

1. What do you mean by religion?

Our whole duty to God our Creator.

2. How may you divide that duty?

Into two parts: What we have to believe; and what we have to do.

ENGLISH TEACHER'S NOTES.

BY SARAH GERALDINA STOCK.

I REMEMBER once watching, from a sick couch, the erection of a house close at hand. I saw the ground cleared, and the foundation laid. I saw the walls, day by day, rising higher and higher, until at length there was little besides the roof wanting. The house, now complete, is an agreeable and commodious dwelling. It has a large garden, and stands in a pleasant situation. But I should not like to live in it. Why not? I saw the foundation laid, and it struck me at the time it was exceedingly slight. I should not imagine that house to be very healthy or very secure. The foundation is the most important part of the building.

But it is not all. After the foundation must come the superstructure. The foundation is laid for the very purpose of having something erected on it. If no erection follows, its purpose is lost.

In the first of the four lessons arranged for the present month, our attention is called to the foundation of the Christian Church, the basis on which must rest the hope and life of every believer. The three others are taken up with the superstructure of holy walk and communication which should be erected upon this basis.

The conference at Jerusalem was called for the purpose of discussing the most important of topics. The very being of the Church was in danger. We read in the pages of history of many a besieged city which has baffled the attempts of the enemy, and often, when the besiegers had failed in every open assault, they have changed their tactics and sought to undermine the walls, and thus sap the very foundation of the defences. This is what the adversary of the Church was now seeking to do. He had sought to stifle it by sowing "tares among the wheat" (in the case of Ananias and Sapphira); he had endeavored to stamp it out by persecution; but nevertheless "believers were the more added unto the Lord" (chap. 5. 14), and the work was spreading among the Gentiles in distant lands. He now tried to undermine the foundation.

What was the foundation of the Church? See what Peter preached on the day of Pentecost (chap. 2. 22, etc.), and afterward in the temple (chap. 3. 13, etc.); what Philip preached to the Samaritans (chap. 8. 5, 12); Peter to Cornelius and his friends (chap. 10. 36, etc.); Paul and Barnabas at Antioch, in Pisidia, at Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. Chap. 13, 23, 38, etc.; 14. 7. 21. The subject of all