



DANIEL IN BABYLON.

## LESSON NOTES.

## THIRD QUARTER.

LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF OUR LORD.

B.C. 606.] LESSON XIII. [Sept. 23.

## DANIEL'S ABSTINENCE.

Dan. 1. 8-20. Memory verses, 8, 9.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself.—Dan. 1. 8.

## OUTLINE.

1. True to God, v. 8-16.
2. Honoured of Men, v. 17-20.

TIME.—B.C. 606.

PLACE.—Babylon.

RULER.—Nebuchadnezzar.

## INTRODUCTION.

This incident teaches many moral lessons. It is brought forward for our study to-day to teach the doctrine of temperance. Daniel's noble decision of character, exemplified in this lesson, makes him the typical temperance man in the truest and best sense. Within narrower limitations, every boy and girl has similar problems to solve, and has abundant opportunity to evince Daniel's noble qualities, or to make a moral failure.

## EXPLANATIONS.

8. "Daniel purposed"—Daniel was leader, but doubtless the three other youths shared his purpose. "Defile himself"—The king's meat had been consecrated to false gods, and Daniel ate it or drank of the wine he would be unfaithful to his God.

10. "The prince of the eunuchs"—The keeper of the captives. "Endanger my head"—Beheading was of daily occurrence at court in those days.

12. "Pulse"—Vegetable diet in general. Vegetable oblations were not made to idols.

17. "Understanding in all visions and dreams"—Daniel eclipsed the Chaldean sages.

## HOME READINGS.

- M. Daniel's abstinence.—Dan. 1. 8-20.  
 N. The king's meat.—Dan. 1. 1-7.  
 O. The Rechabites.—Jer. 35. 1-10.  
 P. The Rechabites.—Jer. 35. 12-19.  
 Q. Appearance of evil.—1 Thess. 5. 14-23.  
 R. A stumbling-block.—Rom. 14. 13-21.  
 S. Not expedient.—1 Cor. 10. 15-23.

## PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Where are we taught in this lesson—

1. To be true to conscience?
2. To be courteous to all men?
3. To be diligent in business?

## THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Who was Daniel? "A young Jewish captive in Babylon." 2. Where was he taken to be educated? "To the palace of the king." 3. How did Daniel act in the palace? "He was faithful to his God." 4. How did he show his faithfulness? "By refusing to drink

the king's wine." 5. Why did he thus refuse? Golden Text: "Daniel purposed in his," etc. 6. How did God reward Daniel for his faithfulness? "He gave him wisdom and honour."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The reward of faith.

## CATECHISM QUESTION.

What is the Spirit's work in believers?

He enlightens their minds to understand the Scriptures; bears witness with their spirits that they are the children of God; helps their prayers; purifies them from inward and outward sin; and fills their hearts and lives with perfect love and every grace.

## THE NECROMANCER'S FEAT.

BY J. W. BENGOUGH.

A NECROMANCER once visited a Canadian town to give a show. On the appointed evening, before the Performance began, the Town Council waited upon the Professor and collected the Customary License Fee, giving him a Receipt therefor, duly signed by the Mayor and Town Clerk. A large Audience gathered, and the Necromancer announced that he would perform a Wonderful Feat, if any Man present would allow his Boy to come up on the Stage. A Parent in the Audience complied, and sent up a Fine, Bright Lad, who went forward with a Smile on his Face. Placing the Boy in full view of the People, the Professor waved a Wand over him and said, "Presto!" At once the Boy was transformed into a Simpering Imbecile in Rags and Tatters. "Now, Sir," cried the astounded and horrified Father, "restore him to what he was!" But the Necromancer replied, "That I do not profess to be able to do. You had better send him to a Gold Cure Institute or somewhere." Then, in his rage, the Father sought to break up the Show, but the Professor, under the pro-

tection of his License, called upon the Police to eject him as an Unruly Person—which they did.

MORAL.—The name of the Professor was Rumrade, and he goes on performing this same feat night after night in every town and city of the country.—From "The Prohibition Esop," in the Templar.

## THE MISSIONARY PENNY.

THE Rev. Walter W. Bagster, a missionary of the American Board of Foreign Missions, died in Southwest Africa in 1882. His mother early taught him his obligations to Christ. He said that the following incident was among the earliest recollections of his childhood:

"My mother one evening gave me two pennies, suggesting that it would be well to give one of them to the Lord. To this I readily assented, but kept them both for a little while to play with. Unfortunately, I lost one, and hunted the room over, but could not find it. With tearful eyes I told my mother, who quietly remarked, 'Well, Walter, which penny is lost, yours or the missionary penny?' I thought the matter over a moment and told her that I thought it must be the missionary penny, for I had mine left.

"In a few moments mother said that it was time for me to go to bed, but she wanted me to think over this matter about the pennies, and let her know in the morning which penny was lost. I thought it over, and before I went to sleep decided that it was my penny that was lost and the missionary penny left, which I would put into the contribution box (several of which were fastened up in our house). Early in the morning I bounded out of bed and told my mother my decision. She smiled and said, 'That's right, Walter. It was your penny that was lost, but after you went to bed I found it under the lounge; here it is.'



THE NECROMANCER'S FEAT.

## READING ON HIS PLATE.

LITTLE Blue eyes came to visit grandpa during the summer. Her papa was a kind, good-natured man, but he had never believed on Jesus and confessed him before men. His little Abbie was very much of a take-notice child, and when every time they sat down to the table all the talking stopped and grandpa, in his slow, solemn way, bowed his face over his plate and set his big farmer hand up edgewise on the table, and in deep, reverent tones spoke thanks to God, it went deeply into her heart. The visit ended, and she went home, loving her grandpa more than ever because of these table prayers.

The first time they sat down to eat after her return, she stopped her prattle, folded her tiny hands, and looking with her blue eyes right into her papa's a moment, said, "Papa, why don't you read on your plate as grandpa does?"

The question went into his heart. After a time prayer was set up in the house, both at the table and around a family altar. That question doubtless was one of the helps to it. The man of the story died in Christian hope and true joy. He was eighty-six years old. And the once little Blue-eyes, now a devoted teacher in the South, sent me tidings of his last hours.

## A HAPPY HEART.

My little boy came to me this morning with a broken toy, and begged I would mend it for him. It was a very handsome toy, and was the pride of his heart just then, so I did not wonder to see his lips quivering, and the tears come into his eyes.

"I'll try to fix it, darling," I said, "but I'm afraid I can't do it."

He watched me anxiously for a few moments, and then said, cheerfully:

"Never mind, mamma. If you can't fix it, I'll be just as happy without it."

Wasn't that a brave, sunshiny heart! And that made me think of a little girl, only three years old, whom I once saw bringing out her choicest playthings to amuse a little homesick cousin. Among the rest was a little trunk, with bands of silk paper, for straps—a very pretty toy; but careless little Freddie tipped the lid too far back and broke it off. He burst out with a cry of fright, but little Minnie with her own eyes full of tears, said:

"Never mind, Freddie; just see what a nice little cradle the top will make."

Keep a happy heart, little children, and you will be like sunbeams wherever you go.—Young Reaper.

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