

When Stephen saw that they were preparing to stone him to death, and that there was no escape, he bowed his head with these words, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." As the stones began to fly thicker and faster about him, he fell on his knees and cried with a loud voice, saying, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. Forgive the wickedness of these men." With these words his eyes closed, and as the Bible says, "he fell asleep."

When Stephen's friends heard that the brave martyr was dead they were very sad, and came and carried his body to the grave with great mourning and weeping.

Now the Jews were not content when they had put Stephen to death, but turned in their fury against the whole Church. And they forced the believers, all except the apostles, who would not go away, to give up their homes and leave Jerusalem at once.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Before whom had Stephen's enemies

dragged him? 2. Of what did they accuse him? 3. Did he make any answer? 4. How did his face look? 5. What did the High Priest say to him? 6. What did he say to them about God's blessings upon the Jewish nation? 7. What were some of the blessings? 8. What was God's greatest gift to them? 9. What did Stephen say that made the priests and scribes and elders angry? 10. How did they show their rage? 11. What did Stephen see that they could not see? 12. What did they do when he told them about his vision? 13. Where did they take Stephen to put him to death? 14. With whom did they leave their coats? 15. What did Stephen say when he saw they were going to kill him? 16. What were his last words? 17. What is meant here by his "falling asleep"? 18. How did they feel about his death? 19. Who carried his body to the grave? 20. How did the Jews behave towards the other believers? 21. For what reason were they made to suffer? 22. What is the Golden Text?

HANGING THE JEWS

"Well, well! what's all this?" exclaimed Mrs. Carter, as, on coming into the sitting-room, she saw half-a-dozen of Nellie's paper dolls dangling from the door knobs by various lengths of string tied around their necks.

"Why, mamma, those are the Jews," said Charlie; "and I have been hanging them because they killed my Jesus."

This is a true story, and it may be that some other children are making the same

mistake that Charlie did. We ought not to have any bad feelings towards the Jews, for when Jesus was on the cross He prayed, "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do." They did not understand how very wicked it was for them to treat Jesus as they did. And perhaps when you disobey your mother, or say what is not true, you may be really just as bad as the Jews who crucified Jesus; for He said, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments."

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I Should be Forgiving

Primary Catechism—76. Why should we go to a place of worship on the Lord's day? Because God's Word tells us that we should, and because it helps us to be good.

Shorter Catechism—11. What are God's works of providence?

A. God's works of providence are, his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all his creatures, and all their actions.

Lesson Hymn

More like Jesus I would be,
Let my Saviour dwell with me,
Fill my soul with peace and love,
Make me gentle as the dove.

Amen.

—Hymn 524, Book of Praise