

TOUCH IT NEVER.

CHILDREN, do you see the wine
In the crystal goblet shine?
Be not tempted by its charm.
Children hate it!
Touch it never,
Fight it ever.

Do you know what causeth woe,
Bitter as the heart can know?
'Tis that self-same ruby wine
Which would tempt that soul of thine.
Children, hate it!
Touch it never,
Fight it ever.

Never let it pass your lips,
Never even let the tips
Of your fingers touch the bowl;
Hate it from your inmost soul.
Truly hate it!
Touch it never,
Fight it ever.

Fight it! With God's help stand fast
Long as life or breath shall last,
Heart meet heart, and hand join hand.
Oh then hate it!
Touch it never,
Fight it ever.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

B.C. 1249.] **LESSON X.** [Dec. 9.

GIDEON'S ARMY.

Judg. 7. 1-8. *Commit to memory vs. 2, 3.*

GOLDEN TEXT.

Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. Zech. 4. 6.

OUTLINE.

1. The Host of Midian.
2. The Host of God.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Into whose hands had the Israelites now fallen? Into the hands of the Midianites.

What had the Midianites done? Driven them from their homes.

Where were they living? In caves in the mountains.

What true servant of the Lord lived at this time? Gideon.

What had Gideon's father done? Built an altar to Baal.

What did Gideon do? He threw down the altar.

What did the Midianites do then? Raised an army to fight the Israelites.

What did the Lord tell Gideon to do? To raise an army of Israelites.

How many came at Gideon's call? More than thirty thousand.

What did the Lord say? That the army was too large.

What did he want to teach them? That he was their strength.

Who were told to go home? All who were afraid.

How many went away? Twenty-two thousand.

How many still remained? Ten thousand.

What did the Lord direct? That all go to the water to drink.

Who only were allowed to fight? Those who drank in a certain way.

How many remained? Three hundred.

Who only can win victories for God? The obedient.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

<i>My way is</i>	<i>God's way is</i>
To make a great show.	To work very quietly.
To seem to be very strong.	To choose weak ones to help.
To do as I think best.	To work through those who obey.

"When I am weak, then I am strong."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The Lord of hosts.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

Who were the apostles? Those twelve disciples whom Christ chose to be the first preachers of his gospel and rulers of his church.

B.C. 1120.] **LESSON XI.** [Dec. 16.

DEATH OF SAMSON.

Judg. 16. 21-31. *Commit to mem. vs. 22, 30.*

GOLDEN TEXT.

Great men are not always wise. Josh. 32. 9.

OUTLINE.

1. Blind.
2. Mocked.
3. Avenged.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Who was Samson? The son of Manoah.
What had God given him? Great strength.

Who were the enemies of Israel at this time? The Philistines.

What work had God called Samson to do? To deliver Israel from the Philistines.

How did Samson displease God? By telling the secret of his strength.

How did the Lord punish him? By taking away his strength.

What did the Philistines then do to him? They took him and put out his eyes.

Where was he confined? In a prison at Gaza.

What did he learn while there? That all strength is in God.

What did God restore to him? His strength.

To whom did the Philistines make a great feast? To their idol, Dagon.

Who was called to amuse the people? Samson.

Where was the feast held? In the idol temple.

Who were present? All the Lords of the Philistines and many others.

What did Samson pray that he might do? Slay all these people.

What did he then do? He pulled the house down upon the people.

What work was Samson thus able to do in his death? To deliver Israel from the Philistines.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

God gives us our strength and talents to use for him.

We must not use them to please ourselves.

We must not boast of what we have or can do.

God gives all to us; let us give all to him.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The fear of God.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

Who was Simon Peter? The apostle whom our Lord blessed for his good confession; who afterward denied his Lord, wept bitterly, and was forgiven; and who preached the first sermon on the day of Pentecost.

TWO NAUGHTY BOYS.

GEORGE and Fred were little neighbour boys. I am sorry to tell you they were not always good boys. Sometimes they did not mind their mamas; sometimes they did not go to school, but stayed out and played; and one day they climbed over farmer Jones' fence, and filled their pockets with the fine pears that were growing there. They were afraid to take them home, so they thought they would take a long walk and eat them as they went along. But they went so far that they did not know how to come home again. They were lost. Then the sun went down, and it grew dark except for the moonlight. They were frightened. Once they heard some sheep bleat, and they thought it was some one come to punish them for stealing. The Bible says: "The wicked flee when no man pursueth." The boys found their way home at last, and promised not to steal again.