

Sabbath School. BIBLE LESSONS. SECOND QUARTER.

(Condensed from Palou's Select Notes.) Lesson XI. June 12. Dan. 6: 16-28.

THE DEN OF LIONS.

GOLDEN TEXT.

"No manner of hurt was found on him, because he believed on his God."—Dan. 6: 28.

EXPLANATORY.

16. And they brought Daniel. The execution of the sentence was carried out, according to Oriental custom, on the evening of the day in which the accusation was made. And cast him into the den of lions. The story of the den of lions is strictly in keeping with Babylonian usages. Assurbanipal says in his annals, "The rest of the people I threw alive into the midst of the bulls and lions, as Semerly, my grandfather, used to do." Lions abounded round the great city, and the Great King is frequently portrayed in the sculptures as engaged in their pursuit. It is probable, moreover, that numbers of captive lions were kept in the preserve attached to the palace, to be turned out for the chase when the king wished. The king spoke. As they were putting Daniel into the den. Whom thou servest continually. A person's testimony to the religious character and fidelity of the prophet. Compare Matt. 27: 43; John 18: 38. He will deliver thee. As he had, in former times at Babylon, delivered both Daniel and others. I cannot help you, but God can, for He has proved His willingness and power. This may be read as a wish,—"May He deliver thee."

17. And the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords. In the days when very few could read or write, signets were used instead of writing the name. The sealing was done by attaching a lump of clay to the stone by strings, or in some other way, in such a manner that the stone could not be moved without breaking the strings or the clay, while moist, and then impressing upon the clay, while moist, the stamp of the seal. The sealing was done by both parties so that neither of them could interfere to add or injure Daniel without its being known. THE GREAT DELIVERANCE. 18. The king passed the night fasting. The idea that lies at the basis of fasting is grief so deep that it takes away the desire for food. The king was grieved at the loss of Daniel, but that grief was greatly increased by his consciousness that the evil came upon him through his own weakness and sin. Prayer for Daniel's safety was doubtless joined with his fasting. Neither were intercessory prayers. For his enjoyment. The word for instruments is of uncertain origin and meaning. "Concubines" is the probable rendering.

19. The king arose very early. Literally, "in the dawning, in the morning." Arise with trepidation as well as haste; so the word implies. 20. Cried with a lamentable voice. Full of grief and anxiety. Servant of the living God. The God who is the source of life, a personal living being. Whom thou servest continually. In all places and circumstances. He was no intermittent Christian. Only such a servant of God as has any right to expect God's deliverance and help in time of need. All our previous life and character have to do with the answers to our prayers and our expectations from God. Able to deliver. No doubt He was able. The only real question was whether, in God's wisdom, it was best to deliver him in this way, or to hasten his reward in the unspeakable joys of his heavenly home. 21. O king, live for ever. The common salutation in addressing a king. There might be more than mere form in this. Did he have any thought of the life here, that repentance unto life on the part of the king, which would open to him the door to true living forever?

22. Sent His angel. Daniel does not say whether the angel was visible or not, but it is probable that he was. This would be to him a manifest token of the favor and protection of God. It is no more absurd to suppose that God employs angels to defend His people, or to impart blessings, than that He employs one human being to convey important blessings to another. See Heb. 1: 14. "So Daniel had company in the den of lions." "No music nor gladness in the palace, but celestial intercourse between Daniel and the angel in the den." Before him in mercy. This is said to show his conscience was clear. He had been faithful to God in disobeying the unjust law, and suffering the consequences. There is always that alternative. The higher law must rule; but he was faithful to the law requiring him to do wrong must prove his sincerity by accepting the penalty. Also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. The best subjects, those who do the most to uphold the law, are those who obey God and conscience at any cost. The 120 governors all together did not do so much for the king and his government as did Daniel alone, by going into the den of lions rather than do wrong. 23. Then was the king exceeding glad. That the evil consequences of his folly had been warded off; that his best friend and counsellor was preserved; that he had such a man at the head of his government. No manner of hurt was found on him. This is said to show the perfectness of the miracle. Because he believed in his God. With a faith that had made him faithful, and purified his character and sanctified his life. No other faith can do such wonders (see Heb. 11).

THE REACTION.—24. They brought those men which had accused Daniel. Not the whole 120, who were doubtless scattered over the kingdom, but only the accused who had yielded by instigating the king to his course. Their children and their wives. According to the barbaric custom of the time, which may have grown out of the prevalent feeling that the son was bound to avenge the shedding of the father's blood. To spare the children was thus to leave a crop of blood-seeds. "To the Persians a man's family were one with himself and must share his lot. The same feeling made it a law with the Hindus for a wife to share the husband's funeral pile. They were cruel... but a wife and children starved and brutalized by the

drunkenness of a husband is a thing quite as revolting." It is impossible wholly to escape from the fact of which the above practices are exaggerations and excesses. Every member of a family is affected by the sins and by the virtues of any one member. All share in the ruin, or in the prosperity and happiness. The lions had mastery of them. Showing that Daniel's preservation was from God.

At this point Josephus introduces a singular feature into the story. He observes that the satraps, on hearing sentence pronounced against themselves, remarked to the king that the lions had been recently fed, and for this reason failed to devour Daniel. The king, with grim readiness, ordered the lions to be fed, and then cast the satraps into the den. Then it appeared plain to Daniel that it was God who preserved Daniel, for the lions spared none of them. 25. I make a decree. He publicly acknowledged the truth. "The decree contains expressions which sound very much like Daniel's, which is very natural; for in all probability Daniel, as prime minister, was commissioned to draw it up. For Daniel was at once decreed to favor, and to more than his former power." Moreover, the decree would be to make the people more lenient toward the exiles, and less inclined to persecute them, and more inclined to aid their return, which was to follow in a year or two. Moreover, it would confirm the faith of the Jews who were scattered over the kingdom.

28. Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius. Which, however, lasted only two years. And in the reign of Cyrus the Persian. Who took sole charge of the death of Darius. Daniel was probably too old to return with the exiles, and could probably do much more for his countrymen by keeping control of the government. How long Daniel lived under Cyrus we do not know. The mention of him is in the third year of Cyrus (10: 1).

Yesterday and To-Day.

NEAR AT HAND.

To most Americans the world is altogether a greater world than it was twenty-five years ago; not because they have travelled, but because they have learned to use their eyes. There was a time when very few people in this country found any real interest in nature or in any continuous account of her phenomena. Striking sunsets and brilliant trees in October attracted their attention, but to the more illusive and unobtrusive forms of beauty they were indifferent. They had not learned to use their eyes nor had they attained to any degree of culture in the perception of the beautiful. To-day there are countless Americans who find in their own neighborhoods an exhaustible world of beautiful objects, of marvellous phenomena; to whom every day brings some fresh disclosure of the miracle of creation. They have learned that there is beauty in every season; that the swamp has its charm no less than the garden; that the weed is quite as precious to the eye as the flower. The world has become immeasurably greater, because they have learned to see what is in it. We owe this in part to such writers as Ruskin, Thoreau, Burroughs, and the like; to observers and reporters of natural phenomena; we owe it in part also to our increasing habit of out-door life and exercise. This multiplication of interests in nature might be paralleled in every human life. There are countless things in every human life which might be turned to account as sources of pleasure and interest, if we only had eyes to see them and the intelligence to use them. Happiness does not lie any more than duty at a distance. It is always to be found, if we find it at all, at our own firesides. The man who cannot be interested in the circumstances in which he finds himself and amid the things which surround him, cannot be interested anywhere. He may, very naturally, long for the special features of a larger life; but he is not fitted to comprehend or enjoy them until he has entered into the life in which he finds himself. No man can really understand Legation or Paris who does not comprehend the little village which he makes his home. Content and happiness are not to be found in a multiplicity of things, but in the intelligent use of a few things. Delight in life is a very simple, homelike quality. It comes from the man, not from his surroundings; and it is able to impart a glow to the most commonplace and familiar objects in which he is surrounded. If it has not the power to make least things glow, it won't have power to give a charm to the greatest and most splendid objects. Happiness, content, and zest in life, like charity, begin at home.—The Christian Union.

SOME MINOR RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS. The data relating to the religious denominations of the United States collected by the census will, on completion, give a more comprehensive view of the several churches than any other publication yet issued. The latest of the bulletins on this subject deals with the Quakers, the Jews and the "Reformed" churches of the Calvinists. The Quakers have 1,056 organizations in the United States, with 107,208 communicants or members. The Orthodox Quakers have 80,655 of these, the Hicksites 21,992, the Wilburites 4,329 and the Primitive 232. The church property of the Quakers is valued at \$4,541,334. The greatest strength of the Quakers is in the West and South. In Indiana the Orthodox Quakers have 25,935 communicants or members; in Ohio, 10,884; in Iowa, 8,146; in Kansas, 7,762; in North Carolina, 4,904. In New York they number 3,544 and in Pennsylvania, 3,490. Massachusetts is credited with 1,560 Orthodox communicants, of whom nearly one-half are dwellers in Bristol county. Nearly one-half of the membership of the Hicksite Quakers is found in Pennsylvania, where they number 10,001. The bulletin reports that there are in the United States 316 Orthodox Jewish congregations, and 217 Reformed Jewish congregations, the former having 57,597 communicants or members, and the latter 71,899, making the total of both 130,496. It should be remembered that in Jewish congregations the head of a family only is counted, and the number of communicants does not indicate the number of members of a synagogue. Of the 57,597 Orthodox Jewish communi-

Kennedy's Medical Discovery

Takes hold in this order: Bowels, Liver, Kidneys, Inside Skin, Outside Skin.

Driving everything before it which ought to be out. You know whether you need it or not.

Sold by every Druggist, and manufactured by Donald Kennedy, Roxbury, Mass.

Burdock BLOOD BITTERS CURES DYSPEPSIA. CURES DYSPEPSIA. CURES DYSPEPSIA.

PROMOTES DIGESTION. Mr. Nell McNeil, of Leith, Ont., writes: "Dear Sir, For years and years I suffered from dyspepsia in its worst form, and after trying all means in my power to no purpose I was persuaded by friends to try a few bottles of your medicine, and lo! it was completely cured."

GATES' INVIGORATING SYRUP

THIS preparation is well known throughout the country as a safe and reliable Cathartic and FAMILY MEDICINE, superseding all pills, and should be in every house. For Coughs, Colds and Catarrhs. A little night and morning will soon break them up. For Dyspepsia, It will give immediate relief. For Irritability of the Bowels, Nothing can be found to excel, as it causes no griping nor pain. For Asthma & Palpitation of the Heart, One swallow gives instant relief. Sick Headache, Stomach & Pin Worms are cured at once. It is an invigorator of the whole system, whereby a regular and healthy circulation is maintained; has been well tested, and will do us every day if only 50 cents a bottle—\$5.50 per dozen. For severe cases of Catarrhs, use the Bitters in conjunction with the Syrup, and for Stomach Pain, Pains, Spasms use Gates' Liniment and Ointment. Always take a few bottles of Bitters and Syrup after an attack of Grippe. C. GATES, SON & CO., Middleton, N.S.

R. D. C. acts like magic on an over-taxed stomach. Free sample to any person. R. D. C. Company, New Glasgow, N.S.

G. C. RICHARDS & CO. Gents.—I sprained my leg so badly that I had to be driven home in a carriage. I immediately applied MINARD'S LINIMENT freely, and in forty-eight hours could use my leg again as well as ever. Edgewater, N.S.

That string on your finger means "Bring home a bottle of MINARD'S LINIMENT."

McLEAN'S VEGETABLE WORM SYRUP Safe Pleasant Effectual

TO BENJAMIN ABRAMS and ELLEN JANE, his wife, and all others whom it may concern: WE HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE that in default of payment of certain mortgage money owing to me, the undersigned Margaret Anne Parshier, by virtue of the indenture of mortgage executed by you, bearing date the thirty-first day of October, A. D. 1890, we shall, on SATURDAY, the eighteenth day of June next, at two o'clock, p.m., at Public Sale, in Prince William Street, in the City of Saint John, in the County of Saint John, a sale of the land and premises mentioned and described in said indenture in execution of the powers thereby vested in me, the said Margaret Anne Parshier. Dated the sixteenth day of April, A. D. 1892. MARGARET ANNE PARSHIER, A. H. DEMILLI, Solicitor for Mortgagees.

TO THOMAS W. KREIBER and CATHERINE, his wife, and all others whom it may concern: WE HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE that in default of payment of certain mortgage money owing to me by virtue of the indenture of mortgage executed by you, bearing date the thirty-first day of October, A. D. 1890, we shall, on SATURDAY, the eighteenth day of June next, at two o'clock, p.m., at Public Sale, in Prince William Street, in the City of Saint John, in the County of Saint John, a sale of the land and premises mentioned and described in said indenture in execution of the powers thereby vested in me, the said Margaret Anne Parshier. Dated the sixteenth day of April, A. D. 1892. MARY S. FLYOR, JESSIE INAH BEL CAMERIDGE, For M. A. PARSHIER, her Attorney, Trustees children of W. F. Fryor. A. H. DEMILLI, Solicitor for Mortgagees.

CINCINNATI BELL FOUNDRY CO. SUCCESSORS BY BUYER BELLS TO THE BLYMYER MANUFACTURING CO. CAPITALIZED WITH 2250 TESTIMONIALS. D. L. CHURCH SCHOOL FIRE ALARMS.

BUCKEYE BELL FOUNDRY. CHIMNEY BELLS AND BELLS. Most favorably known for over 50 yrs. THE VARDOLFE & TITTO CO. Cincinnati, O.

Baltimore Church Bells. Since 1848 celebrated for superiority over others are made only of Purest Bell Metal (Copper and Tin) Rotary Moulds, warranted satisfactory. For Prices, Circulars, &c. address BALTIMORE BELL FOUNDRY, 4, Broadway, N.Y.

MENELY & COMPANY. WEST PROY. N. Y. BELLS. For Churches, Schools, etc. Also Castings and Pails. For more than half a century noted for superiority over all others.

BRADDA'S LITTLE TABLETS. Mild, Safe, Efficient. Far superior to any pill. For Headache and Liver Complaint. Invaluable for Constipation. Tablets. With THE DISCOVERY they cure Rheumatism. 50 in a box only 35 cents.

SUMMER BOARDERS. THE Subscriber is prepared to accommodate for Boarding, at the rate of \$1.00 per week, at the Mills—17 miles from St. John City on the Shore Line Railway—with privileges for Trout Fishing on the Margate River, and camping out if desired. Apply to C. C. CLINCH, Clinch's Mills, N. B.

counts returned, 29,064 are in New York State, 4,405 in Illinois, 2,521 in New Jersey, and 1,291 in Massachusetts. Of the United States (German Reformed), 217 in all, New York has 27, Pennsylvania 18, Ohio 17, Indiana 15, and Massachusetts 2. Of the 72,899 communicants returned, 16,478 are in New York, 6,576 in Illinois, 5,882 in Pennsylvania, and 1,383 in Massachusetts. Of the various religious denominations represented in this bulletin, the Reformed church in America (Reformed Dutch) has 92,970 communicants; the Reformed church in the United States (German Reformed), 204,018, and the Christian Reformed, 12,470, or a total of 309,458. The Reformed Presbyterians, with their off-shoot organizations, have 25,367. The number of Spiritualists is put down at 45,130 in the United States on the basis of communicants or members, of whom 7,245 are returned for Massachusetts, 4,361 for New York, and 4,559 for Pennsylvania. There are more Spiritualists in Massachusetts than in any other State in the Union.—Boston Transcript.

SAFEGUARDS OF HEALTH. While disease at one front of battle is every yielding to the advances of medical skill, it is another at the rear, and the chief to the progress of hygiene. To-day the physician is asked not only how the sick may be healed, but how the well may stay well. From year to year in the United States the list of diseases strictly preventable, and diphteria, or typhoid only linger to mark the neglect of well-understood precautions. Vaccination has been so striking an example of what prophylaxis can do, that hundreds of our experienced surgeons are now turning to the prevention of disease, rather than to the cure of it. Seeds of disease which find a foothold in an encumbered frame are either repelled by a round and hearty constitution or harmlessly digested by it. To maintain this happy condition wholesome food, abundant exercise, personal cleanliness, temperance in all things, and the avoidance of worry are indispensable. There are a good many people who know their lung tissues to be delicate, or whose heart action is so irregular, or who suffer from some other constitutional weakness. Among this class the custom is gradually spreading of consulting a physician, not when acute disease has broken out, but when some infirmity is detected and periodically thereafter. Not seldom health is maintained in this way and life lengthened, for it is in their early stages of development that many diseases, especially the obscure derangements of the nervous system, can be most successfully treated. Perhaps it is the daily glass of spirits or the weekly supper party, which the physician interdicts. Quite as often it is the allotment of the stock exchange or the card table, which he has to prohibit. Whatever his advice, it is incalculably more value in preventing a crisis than in dealing with it after it has come to pass. Just as the advocate so much as in steering his client clear of the courts, so the doctor finds his worst task to be in keeping his patient free from the need of cure or healing. In the task of maintaining healthful conditions, general and special, a science has grown up in which not only the physician but the architect, the sanitary engineer, the purveyor of food and drink, the manufacturer of clothing, have deep interests.—Popular Science Monthly for April.

Two Electric Lamps. In the arc lamp the current passes through two carbon rods, which are separated from each other by a very short distance. In order that the current shall leap this interval, the rods are made to touch each other, and then they are separated; a flame, consisting of heated gases, passes between these carbon rods, which flame must not be mistaken for visible electricity. The powerful light is produced by the intense heat to which the end of the rods is raised. Suitable apparatus is connected with these carbons, in order that they may be fed as they burn away. Otherwise the distance between them will increase, and eventually the current will cease to flow. This form of light is termed "arc" because the flame resembles in shape an arc or a crescent. The incandescent or glow lamp consists of a very fine filament of carbon, hermetically sealed in a glass globe from which the air has been exhausted. The ends of the filament reach the outside of this globe by being attached within it to two platinum wires which pass through the glass to the outside, where they are dealt with in some convenient way whereby they may be attached to the circuit. The current consequently enters the filament at one end and leaves it by the other. The filament becomes white hot during the time that the current passes through it, and is not consumed, since it is not in the presence of air. The high resistance of the carbon filament necessitates a great loss of pressure in the current during its passage, and if the pressure is insufficient, the temperature to which the filament ought to be raised will not be reached, and the light will be far less than it should be under normal conditions. The light given by any lamp diminishes in far greater proportion than the equivalent fall in the pressure of the current; and the inverse is true. For instance, a lamp intended to give a certain light with a given pressure of current would give less than half this light if the pressure fell to one cent. in pressure. On the other hand, a four per cent. increase of pressure above the normal would produce at least double the light intended.—Sir David Solomon in Lippincott's.

—TO THE DEAF.—A person cured of deafness and noises in the head of 28 years' standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it free to any person who applies to NICOLSON, 80 St. John St., Montreal.

Minard's Liniment for rheumatism.

VERY MANY SUGN. RHEUMATISM.—Chas. DAVID WYLER, Brockville, Ont., writes: "I suffered intensely with rheumatism in my ankles. Could not stand; rubbed them with St. Jacobs Oil. In the morning I walked without pain." NEURALGIA.—St. Jacobs Oil cured her in a couple of days. BACKACHE.—"I can highly recommend St. Jacobs Oil as being the best medicine in existence. It promptly cured me of severe lumbago." G. N. BOYER, Carleton Place, Quebec. SPRAINS.—"My mother received a very severe sprain and bruise by falling down stairs. St. Jacobs Oil cured her in a couple of days." R. BURMAN, 124 Tecumseh St., Toronto, Ont. BRUISES.—Mr. ATCHISON, Hamilton, Ont., writes: "Fire Department says he was with a serious accident and his back and shoulders were terribly bruised, but by the use of St. Jacobs Oil he was completely restored." IT IS THE BEST.

THE Union Mutual Life Insurance Co. Portland, Maine. INCORPORATED 1818. Assets, Jan. 1, 1892, \$6,310,010.18. Surplus, estimated by the American Experience Table of Mortality with interest at 4 1/2 per cent. \$713,000.00. Payments to Policy-holders since organization of the Company. \$25,813,432.94. LIBERAL TERMS TO GOOD AGENTS. C. B. WELTON, Manager, 103 1/2 PRINCE WILLIAM STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B.

RETINERS IS THE BEST TAKE NO OTHER. EMULSION

Rhodes, Curry & Co. AMHERST, N. S. Manufacturers and Builders. 1,000,000 FEET LUMBER KEPT IN STOCK. PLANING MILL, SAW MILL, SHINGLE MILL, LATH MILL. Cabinet Trim Finish for Dwellings, Drug Stores, Offices, etc. School Offices, Church & House Furniture. Bricks, Lime, Cement, Colored Plaster, etc. Manufacturers of and Dealers in all kinds of Builders' Materials. ESTIMATES FREE.

HALL'S BOOK STORE, Fredericton. BAPTIST HYMNALS, SABBATH-school Libraries, Paper, Cards, Gospel Hymns. Headquarters for School Books, Sheet Music and Music Books.

AMES WHITHAM. A. A. AYER, SPECIAL AGENT. UNSURPASSED FOR FIT SHOES. QUALITY WEAR. BOOTS & CO. MONTREAL. PRICE. ASK FOR WHITHAM'S SHOES. ALL BEST RETAILERS KEEP THEM. TAKE NO OTHERS.

MONEY! AN EASY WAY TO MAKE IT. Everybody can do it. How? Why, by hunting up their very old letters that have stamps on them. I buy for cash all kinds of Postage Stamps, and pay from one cent to many dollars each for them. Hunt up old letters and look through them, you may find something worth many dollars. Stamps are most valuable if left on entire envelopes. Send what you find on approval, and I will make you cash offer for them. If you do not accept I will return them to you. Stamps of the present issue not wanted. Address—T. BURT SANDERSON, P. O. Box 305, St. John, N. B. Reference—The Messenger and Visitor.