

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From the International Lessons for 1877, by Edwin Rice, as issued by American Sunday-School Union)

LESSON XIX.

NOVEMBER 4

PAUL BEFORE FELIX. (About 68 A. D.) READ Acts xxiv 10-25. MATT. 23-26.

DAILY READINGS.—M.—John 5: 25-47 T.—1 Cor. ix. 16-27 W.—Matt. xxi. 31-40 Th.—Rev. ix. 6-16 F.—Prov. i. 20-33. Sa.—Luke xiii. 18-30. S.—Acts xxiv. 10-25

GOLDEN TEXT.—And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled.—Acts xxiv. 25.

CENTRAL TRUTH.—Sinners put off repentance.

CONNECTED HISTORY.—A party of the Jews banded themselves together to kill Paul. The chief captain was informed of the plot, and sent his prisoner away under guard to Caesarea. The Jewish party came down and preferred charges against Paul before Felix. A pleader named Tertullus made the accusation. Paul defended himself.

TO THE SCHOLAR.—From the verses preceding the lesson fix in mind the three charges made against Paul by Tertullus. Note how Paul meets each charge.

NOTES.—Judge: The governors of provinces exercised the chief judicial office personally. Felix, a manumitted slave and a favorite of the Emperor Claudius, made procurator of Judea A. D. 52: subdued the banditti (hence the compliment in Acts xxiv 2), married three princesses in succession, of whom Drusilla was one. He was artful, cruel and lustful and Tacitus said of him, "He wielded the sceptre of a monarch with the soul of a slave. Drusilla, one of the three daughters of Herod Agrippa I, married Azizus, king of Emesa, outlived away from her husband to become the wife of Felix, about twenty years old at this time and famous for her beauty, betrothed with her son Agrippa in an eruption of Vesuvius 79 A. D.

EXPLANATIONS AND QUESTIONS.

LESSON TOPICS.—(I.) PAUL'S DEFENCE. (II.) FELIX'S INDECISION.

(Observe that the charges (vs. 5, 6) were:

- 1. Seditious, which Paul answers in vs. 12-13.
2. Heresy, " " " " 14-16.
3. Sacrilege, " " " " 17-21]

I. PAUL'S DEFENCE (10.) MANY YEARS, BETWEEN SIX AND SEVEN YEARS, JUDGE, see NOTES. (11.) JUDGE CAN UNDERSTAND, CAN EASILY LEARN, TWELVE DAYS IN WHICH YOU NEED TO INVESTIGATE MY CONDUCT; WANT OF, FROM THIS VERY PLACE, CAESAREA, TO JERUSALEM, NOT TO INCLUDE SEDITION (12.) RAISING UP THE PEOPLE GATHERING A MOB (14.) HERESY, A SECT, SCHOOL, OR PARTY, AS IN V 5 (15.) THEY THEMSELVES, THESE VERY MEN WHO ACCUSE ME. (16.) EXERCISE MYSELF, EXERT MYSELF, AS IN GYMNASIUM EXERCISES. Compare 1 Cor. ix. 27. (17.) MANY SEVERAL, ABOUT FOUR YEARS; ALIKE, COMPARE ROM. xv. 25, 26; 1 Cor. xvi. 1-4; 2 Cor. vii. 1-4; OFFERINGS, ACTS xxi. 28 (19.) OBJECT, ACCUSE ME. (20.) THESE SAME MEN, ANANIAS AND THE ELDERS, v 1 (21.) VOICE, UTTERANCE.

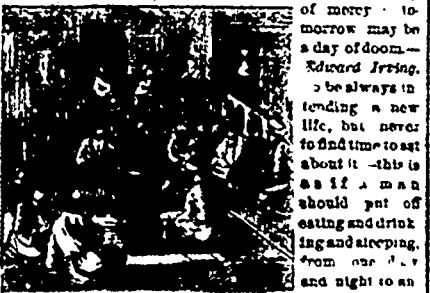
QUESTIONS.—Before what judge was Paul now on trial? Who were his accusers? State the three charges, vs. 5, 6. How was Paul invited to speak? State its opening words of his defence. What qualifications had Felix for judging? How did Paul refute the charge of sedition? How the charge of heresy? What hope had he? For what did he exert himself? State his refutation of the third charge. For what had he come to Jerusalem? Who assaulted him? What ought they to have done? v 19. Whom was Paul willing to have testify? v 20. What had he said in the council?

II. FELIX'S INDECISION (22.) THAT WAS, THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION, DEFERRED THEM, DISMISSED THEM WITHOUT GIVING A DECISION, KNEW THE CETERUM, FULLY INQUIRE INTO (23.) LIBERTY, INDULGENCE. (24.) FELIX DRUSILLA see NOTES. (25.) REASONED, DISCOURSED, RIGHTLY CONSIDERED, JUSTICE, TEMPERANCE, RESTRAINT OF ALL THE PASSIONS; TREMBLED, BECAME AFRAID BECAUSE OF HIS WICKEDNESS, see NOTES.

QUESTIONS.—Why did Felix postpone his decision? Upon what pretext? What order give concerning Paul? With whom did he next come to hear the apostle? What did Paul preach about? State the effect upon Felix. His reply.

WHAT FACTS IN THIS LESSON TEACH US.—(1.) How good men may repel false charges. (2.) How faithful preaching alarms sinners. (3.) How sinners put off repentance.

ILLUSTRATIONS.—Procrastination Breivittis. Faith in tomorrow instead of in Christ is Satan's nurse for man's perdition.—Dr. Cheever. The road of by and by leads to the town of never.—Spanish Proverb. This day is a day of mercy; tomorrow may be a day of doom.—Edward Irving.



AN EASTERN COURT.

starred and destroyed.—Tillotson. It will not always be summer.—Hesiod.

Procrastination, Omitting.—A girl of nine years was asked by her pastor if she was not ready to join the church. "I have put it off long enough," was her reply.—Parker's Cyclopedia.

LESSON XX.

NOVEMBER 11.

PAUL BEFORE AGRIPPA. (About 60 A. D.) READ Acts xxvi 6-20. MATT. 16-18.

DAILY READINGS.—M.—Jer. xxxiii. 14-26. T.—Luke ii. 25-40 W.—1 Tim. i. 12-20 Th.—Acts ix. 1-22 F.—2 Cor. iv. 3-18. Sa.—Matt. xviii. 1-20. S.—Acts xxvi. 6-20.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Whereupon, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision.—Acts xxvi. 19.

CENTRAL TRUTH.—God's call must be obeyed.

CONNECTED HISTORY.—Paul was kept a prisoner at Caesarea for two years Acts xxiv. 27, when Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus, in A. D. 60. The Jews accused Paul before Festus. Paul asserted his innocence, refused to be judged at Jerusalem, and appealed to Caesar. Agrippa and Bernice paid Festus a visit, and Paul was brought before them.

NOTES.—Agrippa: Paul was Herod Agrippa II, brother of Drusilla and Bernice, a man of extraordinary accomplishments, according to Josephus; made king Chalcis with the right of appointing the Jewish high priests; promoted to the hierarchy of Trachonitis, etc., which yielded him an income of \$125,000 per year; had a palace at Jerusalem, but was residing at his capital, Caesarea Philippi, with Bernice, when Festus arrived in the other Caesarea, on the sea-coast. Nazareth, in Lower Galilee, sixty-six miles north of Jerusalem. Now a Turkish town of from 5,000 to 10,000 inhabitants, called En Nazira. Damascus, said to be "the oldest city in the world," situated 133 miles north-east of Jerusalem Hebrew tongue, perhaps the ancient Hebrew, still the sacred language. more probably the corrupted Hebrew spoken after the captivity, called the Syro-Chaldee or Aramaean. Priests, the ox-goads used by the Oriental farmers, eight or ten feet long, and terminating in a sharp point. Coasts of Judaea, the borders or bounds of Judaea the southern division of the Holy Land, and including the whole region thus bounded.

EXPLANATIONS AND QUESTIONS.

LESSON TOPICS.—(I.) PAUL THE JEW. (II.) PAUL THE CHRISTIAN.

I. PAUL THE JEW (6.) AS JUDGED, PUT ON TRIAL: PROMISE, OF THE MESSIAH, GEN. iii. 15, xiii. 15, xiv. 17; DEUT. xviii. 15, 2 Sam. vii. 12, Isa. vii. 14, ix. 6, 7, Jer. xxxiii. 6; MAL. iii. 1, and in many other passages. (7.) TWELVE TRIBES, THE WHOLE JEWISH CHURCH. Comp. James i. 1, INSTANTLY, INSTANTLY, SERVING GOD, IN THE TEMPLE ORDINANCES AND WORSHIP, COMP. LUKE ii. 37; AGRIPPA, see NOTES. (8.) WITH YOU, A PLURAL FORM, YOU WHO HATE ME, SHOULD RAISE THE DEAD, WHEN YOUR OWN SCRIPTURES TEACH IT. (9.) OCCUR, THAT IT WAS MY DUTY; MANY THINGS, AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. (10.) I ALSO DID, IN THE GREAT PERSECUTION Acts vii. 13; SAINTS, HOLY ONES, VOICE VOTE, PERHAPS AS A MEMBER OF THE SANHEDRIM, ALTHOUGH THIS IS DOUBTED. (11.) IN EVERY SYNAGOGUE, SCOURGING WAS INFLECTED IN THE SYNAGOGUES, MAL. i. 17; xxxiii. 34. Mark xiii. 9, LUK. xiii. 19; COMPELLED, TRIED TO MAKE THEM BLASPHEME. STRANGE, FOREIGN CITIES, OUTSIDE THE HOLY LAND. (12.) WHEREUPON, OR, "IN WHICH THINGS" (being engaged).

QUESTIONS.—Before whom was Paul now pleading? State how he began his address. For what was he now on trial? v. 5-6 State some of the Old Testament promises of a Messiah? How were the twelve tribes waiting for the fulfillment? What seemed incredible to Paul's hearers? What did Paul think it was his duty to do? How did he execute the saints? For what purpose was he going to Damascus when he was converted?

II. PAUL THE CHRISTIAN. (14.) HEBREW TONGUE, see NOTES; PRIESTS, GOADS, see NOTES. (16.) THIS PROPHET, what follows in vs. 16-18, IN THE WHICH I WILL AFFIRM, see Acts xviii. 9, xxiii. 18, xxviii. 11, 2 Cor. xii. 14, 7 Gal. i. 12. (17.) DELIVERING, RESCUING THEM FROM THE PEOPLE, THE JEWS, see Acts xiv. 19, xvi. 32, xxiii. 10.

QUESTIONS.—What other accounts have we of Paul's conversion? Acts ix. 1-18, xiii. 6-16. How does he describe his vision? 13. The words he heard? By whom spoken? For what purpose was this appearance? Paul's commission? His obedience? Places of his preaching? Substance of his preaching?

How does this lesson teach us.—(1.) That Jesus Christ was the Messiah promised in the Old Testament? (2.) That persecuting Christians is persecuting Christ? (3.) That the truly converted will obey Christ's commands?

We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ. 2 COR. 5, 10.

THE FALL CAMPAIGN.

WE DESIRE TO ENLIST every reader of the MESSENGER, young and old, in its service. Some three years ago we asked them to double its circulation and they did; two years ago we asked the same favor, and it was granted. Last year they rested on their oars, and to-day the circulation renews at the same figure that it was a year ago, fifty thousand. Now, after a long year's rest our friends will be able to go to work again in good earnest, and we have got some nice prizes for them. They will see in advertisement mention made of the skates, the watches, and the sewing-machine. We ask the little workers to look at the picture of the "Canadian Club Skate," which should have a special interest for them, as it is made in the smallest as well as ordinary sizes for their special benefit. In speaking of the prizes however, it must not be thought that we offer them, with the idea that our friends work for them only—not at all, we know they work for the MESSENGER because they love it and would contribute to its usefulness, as well as that of WITNESS and NEW DOMINION MONTHLY, and that the prizes but give a little spice of excitement to the work. Last year we sent out four hundred pairs of skates to our successful workers, and this year would like to send more than twice as many. Already we are beginning to be inundated with letters saying that the senders are going to work for the skates, and are pleased to witness the interest being taken in it.

THE NEW DOMINION MONTHLY, with the December number, will be enlarged by the addition of thirty-two pages, and thus greatly improved. Its price will be also increased to \$2.00, a very low price for a magazine of 128 pages, or a book of 1,536 pages. Our friends should not forget it in working for the skates.

NOTICE.

Subscribers finding the figures 11 after their name will bear in mind that their term will expire at the end of the present month. Early remittances are desirable, as there is then no loss of any number by the stopping of the paper.

A CLUB PACKAGE OF 10 MESSENGERS for Oct. 16th has been returned with the address obliterated by water and hard usage after being posted. The owner can have them forwarded by furnishing the address to this office, as it is impossible for us to find out for whom they were intended. Should anything like this occur again we will, on receipt of the proper address, be in readiness to supply the deficiency.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE CLUB RATES FOR THE MESSENGER are when sent to one address, as follows:—1 copy \$10; 10 copies, \$2.50; 25 copies, \$3; 50 copies, \$11.50; 100 copies, \$22; 1,000 copies, \$200. J. DODGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

TWENTY-FIVE FINE CARDS (SNOWFLAKE, DAMASK, &c.), no two alike, with name, 10 cents, postage. Three Packs for 25 cents. Canada Paper Money taken as pay. Send no Post-Office stamps. Address, NASSAU CARD COMPANY, Nassau, N.Y.

PALPITATION OF THE HEART. PRECEPT, DIGNY COURT, N. S., 19th Feb., 1863. JAMES L. FELLOWS, M.D.—Dear Sir,—I have during several years been troubled with a Nervous Complaint and Palpitation of the Heart, so much so, that at times I became unconscious of everything around me; in fact, my pulse stopped sometimes altogether. Hearing of the good effects of your Symplics, I purchased a bottle of your Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites, and have derived great benefit from its use, and whenever I am troubled again with the old complaint I shall always have recourse to your Syrup, feeling sure of obtaining relief from its use. You are at liberty to publish this for the benefit of other sufferers. I am, &c., respectfully yours, FANNY HAINES. For sale by all dealers.

GOOD HEALTH AND AN EVEN TEMPER ARE two of the best accomplishments a young lady can have, and these are necessary adjuncts to a beautiful face. The mark of a portion disposition may not long in stamping them on any face, naturally the most beautiful. But who can help feeling, especially when the health comes very low, indeed, more especially when it is entirely unaccountable. A bad cold, if obtained in carrying words of comfort to a sick friend, is endurable, but it is difficult to enjoy one taken through an act of bravado. Just as when young ladies become invalids through obeying the dictates of that fashion which says, "Put on corsets and lace them on any face, naturally the most beautiful. But who can help feeling, especially when the health comes very low, indeed, more especially when it is entirely unaccountable. A bad cold, if obtained in carrying words of comfort to a sick friend, is endurable, but it is difficult to enjoy one taken through an act of bravado. 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