

guard over this faithful follower ; and soon he will have great need of God's help.

A Plot Against Daniel—The princes of Babylon were angry that Daniel should be placed above them. "How can we get Daniel into disgrace, so that the king will put him to death?" they say one to the other. "Let us get the king to make a law that if anybody prays or asks anything of any one, God or man, except of the king, for thirty days, he shall be cast into the den of lions", vs. 6, 7.

A Cruel Law—The king does not know of their wicked plot ; so this law is made and written on a scroll and signed with the king's seal, and is read all over the land. Daniel's enemies are delighted. "Daniel will not bow his knee to any one except to his God", they say ; "he will be found praying to his God, and then he will receive the punishment and we will be rid of him forever."

Faithful Daniel—Daniel knew their wicked plan, but he was not afraid. Picture him praying as usual. One day enemies are watching him, vs. 11, 12. Listen to their sneering words,—"That Daniel, which is one of the captives of Judah, does not pay any attention to your law, O king, but goes on praying three times a day to his God." The king was sorry he had made this law, for

he loved and trusted Daniel. He planned all day to find some way to save Daniel from the punishment, but in vain. When Daniel is brought before the king, he receives no angry looks, only kindly, helpful words,— "Thy God whom thou servest...He will deliver thee", v. 16.

The Den of Lions—Daniel is led out to the cave or den (Outline) where the lions are kept (see Exposition). A stone is placed at the opening, and everything done to prevent any chance of Daniel's getting away, v. 17.

Daniel Safe—The king spent a sad, wakeful night, v. 18. He arose very early and went in haste to the den of lions. Tell of his surprise and joy at the wonderful sight he saw,—Daniel safe, unharmed.

Faithful Followers—Tell the great results that followed because of the faithfulness of Daniel. Great things can be done if each of you is a faithful follower of Jesus. (Give simple illustrations of this.)

Golden Text—Repeat and explain.

Sing (Hymn 568, Book of Praise, v 3)—

"Then, Jesus, let the angels,

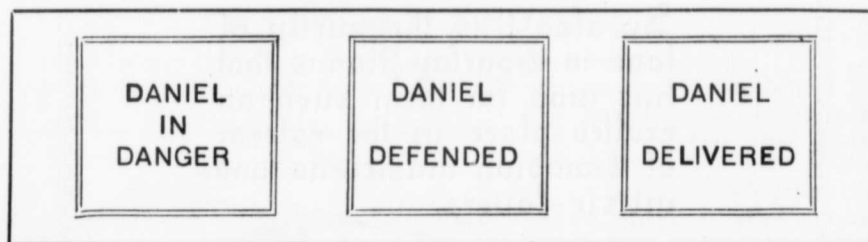
Who watched us through the night,

Be all day long beside us,

To guide our steps aright".

Something to Think About—I should be true to God.

FROM THE PLATFORM



Draw on the blackboard three squares to represent three pictures found in the Lesson. In the first square print DANIEL IN DANGER, and question somewhat as follows : What was Daniel's danger ? Who had induced King Nebuchadnezzar to have him cast into the lions' den ? With what offence had they charged him ? Why could the king not save him ? Print in the second frame, DANIEL DEFENDED. Ask : By whom was Daniel defended ? What is the angel said to have done to the lions ? What reason did Daniel give for this ? What is "the angel of the Lord" (Golden Text) said to do for His people ? In the third square print, DANIEL DELIVERED, and bring out, by questioning, the anxiety of the king, his coming to the den early in the morning and his gladness at finding Daniel unharmed. Dwell on the teaching of the Golden Text as to the safety of those who fear God.