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#### Our Story.

JANET MAOFARLANE'S PRAYER.

> BY MRS. AMELIA & BARR. IN THREE CHAPTERS. CHAPTER III.

Par, far above thy thought
Ills consist shall appear,
When fully lie the work hath wrought
That caused thy perdiess fear i

"I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward."—Gen. zv. 1.

ONE afternoon in August, John came in early. "There is going to be a storm, gude wife, and there is a party o' strangers on the hills. They'll bo here for shelter vera soon. Get the fire built up, for they'll be wet enough before they reach it."

John's surmise was true. In half an face. She was sitting quietly under a hour a couple of fadies and gentlemen, large tropical plant, its broad green accompanied by a guide, stopped at leaves making an exquisite background the lattle house. There was a good for her her white-draned form.

It was impossible for Malachi to and for a short time the quiet, spotless and for a short time the quiet, spoiless hide his delight in seeing her again, kitchen was as busy as an inn. One of the ladies was Helen Forbes, but her cousin Gordon was not with her. She was soon attracted by a picture standing open upon the high mantelstanding open upon the high mantelshelf. She drew near the fire, and, holding her wet feet toward it, she looked, without seeming to look, at the pictured face. She had not a doubt as to its identity, but what was "I was in Jura for a month," she reholding her wet feet toward it, she looked, without seeming to look, at the pictured face. She had not a doubt as to its identity, but what was it doing there? Then she remembered that she was on the MacFarlane's land, and that very likely this motherly old woman had been a nurse, or feeten as the land of the long to the land of or foster-parent. "To morrow I will come again, and come alone;" and with this thought in her heart, she contrived to drop her tiding glove, where it would not be readily seen.

The next afternoon Janet, sitting spinning in her house-place, saw Helen Forbes standing at the door. She remembered her face readily, and said at

"I would like well the cream and he continued:

whole life; only too happy to have such a patient listener. Helen could never forget that hour. She thought through all the future she would reunrough all the future she would remember just how the sun glinted through the open door, and how the bees hummed among the stocks and thyme in the small garden, and how the old woman's happy voice blended woman's happy voice blended to the beautiful the tick; the " of the long clock in the cone" clock in the corner.

"You have a good son," she said in a soft voice. "I has the best son i' a' the wide

world, miss." What made you call him Malachi?

It is a very unusual Scotch name."
"I'll tell you, miss. It was the day before he was born, and I had done up the house-place, and sat down to rest a wee, and read a few words in the Holy Book before his father cam' frac Malachl I opened, and my e'en fell upon his description o' a gude minister—here it is, miss, read it." Helen read: "The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips; he walked with Me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from loiquity. For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the lawat his mouth; for he

pleasure, to gie me a lad baim and pen?'
to mak' him ane o' His messengers. "Ol 

it was granted."
"He is a doctor," said Janet, a little us."

sadly.
"Nevertheless, your prayer will be

granted.

"All things are possible to God, miss; I ken that." Helen perceived that there was something unexplained, but she thought she understood Malachi's motive, and she kept her thoughts in her own heart, where also a great personal con-flict was going on. She had all the class prejudices of her rank, and she valued good birth more than gold. As far as the world could appraise Malachi far as the world could appraise Malachi MacFarlane, he was only a peasant's son. "But," she told herself with a tender glow upon her face, "he was consecrated from his birth for the service of God! He is sure to become a burning and shining light in the kirk; and Scotland has the grace to put, even socially, the ser-vants of the King of kings on a rank with any earthly nobles. When hands have been laid upon him, and he can assume the gown and bands of his

assume the gown and bands of his office, he will be greater than the judge

on the bench, or the earl in his rober I am not ashamed of my peasant born lover; and, if he is not ashamed of the cottage where God caused him to be reared in all noble simplicity, then he shall understand that I think him most worthy of love and honour."

She did not meet him again until Christmas. Malachl had returned to his classes at the proper time, but Helen did no, go to Edinburgh until near the holidays. She saw at a glance that travel had much improved him. He was standing at the side of Dr. Guthrie, and the great man's hand was affectionately laid upon his shoulder

he deny, or even evade the truth? Alas, if her idol should be clay after all! It took but a moment for these painful doubts to wound her, and in that same moment Malachi had faced once:

"Come in, and welcome. I found your glove this morning. Will you hae a cup o' tea, or a cup o' cream and a bit o' oat cake?"

the question before him. It was to be her test, as well as his. If she shrank from it, it was better to know the truth at once. He looked at her steadily, and yet with all his soul in his eyes, as

"Some or take."

It was easy enough to get the proud mother to talk of the one so dest to both. She took down the picture, and explained how much inferior it was to the original. "As N I did not know that," whispered Helen to herself. "Farlane's hills. My mother—there is no sweeter mother—is just a pious, wice housewife, whose sole aim is to please her Maker and make her hus-band and son happy. But I do assure you, Miss Forbes, that I bless God for them morning and night! I owe the opportunities I have had to their industry, economy and love. All hon-ours I may come to will be the reward of honouring my father and my mother. I would be a blast craves to be ashamed of them! I have no cause to be ashamed of them ! If you only knew

them, you would understand that I"

The face she lifted to him was bright with admiration, her eyes tearful and tender.

"I do know them I" she said, softly, "I honour you with all my heart for what you have said."

She gave him her hand, and then he found the words to say all that was in his heart. An hour afterward, going home, he felt as if Paradise had been regained. Life seemed so beautiful, so wonderful. Everything was possible. There was a prayer in his heart that

was a song.

"Perfectly happy 1" he whispered to himself. "Perfectly happy 1 What must it be in heaven to be always perfectly happy?"

On Princes Street he met Gordon.

"What is the matter Malachi?

dovetail into any others that lie before

(To be continued.)

### Sabbath School Work.

LESSON BELPS. POURTH QUARTER. LESSON VII, November 18. HELPING ONE ANOTHER. Josh, xxl 43-45 and xxil 19. MEMORIZE VERSES XXII. 1-4. GOLDEN TEXT: — Bear ye one another's burdens, and so faifil the law of Chist.—Gal. vi. 2.

CENTRAL TRUTH. Twin virtues. - Faithfulness and Helpfulness.

DAILY READINGS.

M. Josh xx. 19.
Th. Josh xxl. 43-45.
W. Josh xxil. 1-34.
Th. Num. xxxl. 26-47.
R. Num. xxxil. 1-27. Se. Ps. cili, 1-22, Se. 1 Sam. xxx. 9-25.

Time.—B.C. 1444. Not very long after the last lesson.

PLACE - Joshua had made his can tal at Shiloh (v. 9), where the taberna-cle remained nearly all the time of the Judges. Shiloli was seventeen miles nonh of Jerusalem, half way between Be hel and Shechem.

Tith Conquest completed after neatly seven years of watfare.

THE LAND DIVIDED. -Nine and onehalf tribes west of the Jordan; two and one half east of Jordan. HELPS OVER HARD PLACES. -43.

He was standing at the side of D.
Guthie, and the great man's hand was a affectionately laid upon his shoulder.
They were in patious crowded with notables from the kirks and the cololing, but here yet rested upon no two nobler figures. For nearly an hour nobler figures. For nearly an hour mobile figures. For nearly an hour mobile figures. For nearly an hour with the wilderness, by giving them the victory and the wilderness by giving them the victory. Malachi did not know that Islein was present. Suddenly he met her face to it face. She was sitting quicitly under a large tropical plant, its broad green and the street of the summer at white of the summer at well and the summer travels. And it was under the was to call the following day and show her some prints he had collected during his summer travels. And it was a street of the summer at her hour over them that he asked Islein "it was the part is secure, if for the part is the summer travels. And it was the call the following day and show her some prints he had collected during his summer travels. And it was a first of the part is asked Islein "it was the near a first in the series. A person often the summer tay the summer travels. And it was a first and person and the the summer at her hour over them that he asked Islein "it was the near the council of the part is the summer tay of the part is the summer at her hour over them that he asked Islein "it was the near a first in the series. A person often the summer at her hour over them that he asked Islein "it was the near the council of the part is the Num. xxxl 26: 1 Sim xxx. 22 25.

SUBJECTS FOR FURTHER STUDY AND SPECIAL REPORTS.—The division of the land.—The promises God fulfilled to them.—God's faithfulness to all His promises.—Helping, our brethren.— The exhortation in v. 5.—Those who do the work dividing with those who stay at bome.

QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY .-- What was the subject of our last lesson? How long were the Irraelites in making the con-quest of Canaan? What place had Joshua made bis capital?

#### SUBJECT : FAITHFULNESS.

I. THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD (VL. 43:45.) What promise had God fullighted? When was this promise made? (Gen. xv. 18.) How large was the land transfer from field? (John L. 4.) Did that Israelites occupy all of it? Judg. L. 1.

3. 21, 26.) Could they have done it if they would? Was God's gift perfect? Scriptures. What offender cannot easily catalogue the variations on the

iv. 18; Jan L 17.)

II. FAITHFULNESS TO ONE ANOTHER (vs. 2-4.) — What three tribes had their inheritance on the east of the Jordan? What did they promise when they asked for this inheritance? (Num. xxxii. 6, 7, 26, 27.) How had they fulfilled their promise? How long had they been away from their homes? Did all this show a good deal of the right spirit?

NEW TESTAMENT LIGHT. - What should seek the law at his mouth; for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts."

Helen laid down the Bible, saying, "A beautiful description, indeed."

"Even sae; and as I read it my soul rose up to my God, and I asked of him with a' my heart, if it was His pleasure, to gie me a lad bairn and pleasure, to gie me a lad bairn and of the messenger of the Lord of hosts."

On Princes Street he met Gordon.

"What is the matter, Malach? You look as if you had come into a kingdom."

You look as if you had come into a kingdom."

In what ways can we help our brethern? How help ministers? How help missionaries? How help those who work in the temperance cause?

III. Fatthful.ness to God (v. 5)—

To what dangers would the tribes east of the Lordan he arroysed? (See

Joshua give them? Is to do these that list text might make men laugh, things true religion? Is it the way to the best and the happiest life? What did Christ once say of words like these?

ample. (t Sam. xxz. 2225) Do those who aid and support missionaries and labourers in Christ's vineyard have a reward with these workers?

II. God will give us a perfect victory over sin and temptation. III. Whatever our failures, they arise

from neglect on our part. our brethren.

V. There is great danger in isolation from Christian brethren and Christian privileges.

VI. Productly kindness enrices this life both temporally and spiritually.

VII. Those who systain ministers and be which soweth bountifully shall and missionarios receive a similar repaiso bountifully."—Mettlak's Herward with them.—Pelouket.

#### HANDLING THE WORD OF GOD HUMOUROUSLY.

THERE may be doubt about the men, one rude fellow was swearing "prosperity" of a jest under ordinary bolisterously, when a minister at his side simply touched his knee, and with verse or character is sure to raise a samile, whispered, "Those are very laugh. The poorest joker, the dullest strong words, my friend." Immediately labourer in the field of fun, can count on success if he take the word of God for success if he take the word of God for his material. Generations of irreversion for the swearer, if it was "a very bad ence have covered the ground quite thoroughly, but there is left enough not once again during that side was fext and personality for generations to guilty of an oath. The reproof was

Num. xxxi. 26 47. The Cananites reported and transferred by father to had forfeited it by their wickedness. Son. There is an invincible life-spirit Divide the spoil; those who remained in these traditions which imperil proper at home, taking care of their families reception of the Word of God. Much and possessions, were to receive their that our grandfathers did is our joy and portion, as well as the warriors. See pride, but their bequest of Bible Jokes

in a costly inheritance.
We contribute fresh material for fun at the expense of the Bible, futhermore, by repeating the laughable and often extraordinary comments of young child-ren on Bible stories. The child's strange views about the sacraments, for example, are frequently quoted with the lacritable result of causing listeners to associate what is diverting with these Situation healthy, beautiful and commanding, inestimable treasures. Even more Fall Term begins September 5, 1888, harmful and offensive is the perpetuation Apply of hamfuland offensives in the perpetuation of childish asyings about the person and work of God. The praire which is perfected "out of the mouth of babes sucklings" God delights in; but it where appears that childish humour about his being and doing is looked upon by the Almighty as a religious wehicle.

New TESTAMENT LIGHT.—Repeat some texts showing that God is still faithful to His promises. (1 Thess. v. 24; Rom. viii 38, 39; Phil. l. 6; 2 Tim. argument used by opposers of an un-restrained liberty of handling the Scrip-tures would have less weight if men and women who profess to love the Word of God set the example of frowning upon the joking habit, whose victim goes to the Bible hopefully and constantly, as Bible people want to Jacobs well.

A minister recently preached in one A minister recently preaction in one of our cities a "Let go" series of zermons, which included, it is said, an admonition to "let go" of your neighbour's umbrella. A "Let go" organization of the preaction of t tion formed to stop Jests on and about the Bible would have its hands full, and does Paul tell us to do? (Phil li. 4; ought to date from this month. If Gal. vl. 2) By what parable did Jesus all joined it who need to reform in this

of the Jordan be exposed? (See Bible handled with a reverence which Helps.) What earnest exhortation did believes that God gave his Word, not

### SOWING SEVEN GRAINS.

WE are told that it is a custom among the Indians when they are sowed to take care of their possessions at home? (See Helps; Num. xxvi. 7, 113, 34.) What rewards did the soldiers bring home? Give some idea of the amount from Num. xxxi. 26.47. With whom did they divide? Was this just as well as generous? Give another ex
The Indiana teach us a least of the roots. ing maire to put seven grains of ourn The Indians teach us a lesson. They tample. (t Sam. xxz. 22.25) Do hose who aid and support missionanes and labourers in Christ's vineyard have a reward with these workers?

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

I. The Lord fulfils all his promises to the letter.

II. God will give us a perfect victory

The Indians teach us a lesson. They teach us to sow good seed liberally, and not to be disappointed if all that we sow does not bring forth fruit. Our Saviour teaches us that some will fall by the wayside, some on stony ground, and some among thorns. This we must expect as good seed sowers. But what of it is should till fead us not to sow at all?

Nav. it should rather lead us like all? Nay, it should rather lead us like the Indians to sow more bountifully, lest with scanty sowing, the crows, the from neglect on our part.

IV. It is a privilege and duty to help harvest. If we sow bountifully we may not brethren.

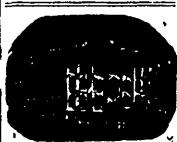
worms, and the squirrels get the whole harvest. If we sow bountifully we may rest assured of this, that the good seed V. There is great danger in isolation of truth will find its way to some honom Christian brethren and Christian est and good hearts and bring forth fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundred fold.

VI. Brothei'y kindness enriches this

The inspired Word tells us, "He which

#### SPEAK A WORD.

Ox a train one day, in a group of THERE may be doubt about the men, one rude fellow was sweating cest and personality for generations to guilty of an oath. The reproof was come to handle humourously. The given so gently and delicately that it future as well as the past is secure, if stirred within the man every noble im-



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