

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity (SEPTEMBER 26).

'Special Grace'—*Our Duty*.—2 Chronicles xiii. 1-19, S. John xv. 3; Hymns 270, 271.

A. See the Question in the Catechism that follows the Ten Commandments.

- 'My good child.' { This is not what you are,—S. Matt. xix. 17.
but what you ought to be.—Eccles. xii. 13.
'Not able.' Because we are weak { through nature.—S. John iii. 3.
{ through habit.—Gal. v. i.
'Special' i.e. more than usual.—S. James iv. 6.
'Grace.' Does not here mean the *thanks* we give to God for our food, but the *strength* He gives us to keep His Commandments.—2 Tim. ii. 1.

B.

Jeroboam, who had no grace.	Compare and	Abijah, who had grace.
(a) King of Israel—verse 1.		(a) King of Judah—verse 1.
(b) 800,000 men—verse 3.		(b) 400,000 men—verse 3.
(c) a rebel and usurper—verse 6.		(c) lawful king—verse 5.
(d) worshipped false gods—verses 8, 9.		(d) worshipped the Lord—verses 10, 11.
(e) set an ambush—verse 13.		(e) cried to the Lord—verse 14.
(f) fled—verse 16.		(f) prevailed—verse 18.

C. 1. What is 'Grace'?—The help of God.

2. Why do we need help?—Because we are weak and Satan is strong.

3. Who is stronger than Satan?—God Almighty.

4. What is 'special grace'?—Help just as we need it.

5. When do we need special grace?—When the temptation takes us suddenly, unawares, violently.

6. What should we do when we are tempted?—Pray first for grace, and then use it.

7. What will God do if we do this?

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity (OCTOBER 3).

'Diligent Prayer.'—*Our Prayers*.—Daniel vi. 18 (Prayer-Book version); Hymns 246, 247.

A. Examples of diligent Prayer:—

Abraham—who prayed for wicked Sodom.—Gen. xviii.

Isaac—who prayed in the fields.—Gen. xxiv. 63.

Jacob—who wrestled with God in prayer.—Gen. xxxii. 24.

Moses—who prayed all day long.—Exod. xvii. 11, 12.

David—who used to pray three times.—Ps. lv. 18; or seven times a day.—Ps. cxix. 161.

Daniel—who would say his prayers in spite of the lions.—Dan. vi.

Nehemiah—who prayed before he answered a question.—Nehemiah ii. 4.

B. Daniel vi. 10 teaches us about Prayer—

1st. its difficulty, fear of man, 'the writing was signed.'

2nd. its place { 1. 'his house,' not only in Church.

{ 2. 'his chamber'—quiet and alone.

{ 3. 'windows open towards Heaven.'

{ 4. 'towards Jerusalem'—in union with the whole Church.

3rd. its posture—'on his knees'—for reverence.

4th. its time—'three times a day'—i.e. morning, evening, mid-day.

5th. its subject—not only 'prayed,' but also 'gave thanks.'

C. 1. What do we need in order to keep God's Commandments?—His special grace.

2. How must we seek for this?—By diligent prayer.

3. What do you mean by *diligent* prayer?—Prayer that is made regularly, punctually, earnestly, reverently.

4. To Whom do we pray?—To God THE FATHER,
THE SON,
THE HOLY GHOST.

5. Through Whom do we pray?—Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

6. Where should we pray?—Anywhere, but especially in Church and at home.

7. When should we pray at home?—At any time, but at least three times a day.

* * * The complete Scheme of these Instructions, arranged for the Sundays after Trinity, is now ready, and can be had of the Publishers, price 3d.