

NEVER GET ANGRY.

Oh! never get angry when you are at play,
Good temper will gain you a friend;
But sour looks and words drive companions away,
And lead to a sorrowful end.

Nor ever get angry when you are at school,
If you would a rich reward earn,
Be cheerful and practise each wise golden rule,
And soon every lesson you'll learn.

Nor ever get angry when you are at home,
Let love and affection there reign;
Where angry words enter, oft quarrels will come,
And there lead to sorrow and pain.

Nor ever get angry when you are abroad,
Strive wisely right habits to form;
For better is he who can thus obey God,
Than he who can great cities storm.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT FROM SOLOMON TO ELIJAH.

LESSON II.—JULY 10.

JEROBOAM'S IDOLATRY.

Kings 12. 25-33. Memorize verses 28-30.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Keep yourselves from idols.—1 John 3. 21.

THE LESSON STORY.

Though Rehoboam, King of Judah, had so small a part of the land to reign over after the division of the kingdom, he had the beautiful city of Jerusalem that held the golden temple that Solomon had built. Besides that there were palaces and gardens and fish pools and great treasure gathered by Solomon within a region spreading fifty miles each way, for the little tribe of Benjamin was joined to Judah. The great feasts of the Jewish church were always held at Jerusalem, and from every part of the land of Israel the people gathered to worship in the temple and keep the Lord's commands. Yet many mingled their worship of the Lord at Jerusalem with a worship of household idols at home. When the new king of Israel, Jeroboam, was building up Shechem, in Mount Ephraim, for his capital city, he thought a great deal about that wonderful temple in Jerusalem. "When the people go up again to sacrifice in the temple," he thought, "Rehoboam will win their hearts, and they will kill me and go back to him. What shall I do?" A wicked thought came into his

mind, and he made it a wicked deed. He made two golden calves, and set up one in the northern part of his kingdom, and the other in the southern part, and sent word through all Israel that, as Jerusalem was too far for them to go, he had set up places of sacrifice for them, and the gods that brought them out of the land of Egypt were there. This became a great sin of both king and people, which brought trouble and death with it.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where was the kingdom of Judah? In the southern part of Palestine.

Who was the king? Rehoboam, the son of Solomon.

What was in Judah? Jerusalem and the Golden Temple.

What was the kingdom of Israel? All the rest of Palestine.

Who was king of Israel? Jeroboam, the son of Nebat.

What was the capital city? Shechem, in Mount Ephraim.

What did he fear? That his people would go to Jerusalem to sacrifice.

What did he do? He set up idol-worship in his own kingdom.

What were the idols? Two golden calves.

Where were they placed? In Bethel and in Dan.

Did the people worship them? Yes.

Against whom did they sin? The one true God.

LESSON III.—JULY 17.

ASA'S GOOD REIGN.

2 Chron. 14. 1-12. Memorize verses 2-5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Help us, O Lord our God; for we rest on thee.—2 Chron. 14. 11.

THE LESSON STORY.

After Rehoboam, King of Judah, died his son Abijah reigned for three years and was no better than his father; but his son Asa, who became king, was a good man, and for forty-one years kept the pure worship of God in the temple at Jerusalem. He took away the altars of strange gods that were upon the hills, and cut down the groves around them, and broke the idols, and commanded his people to seek the Lord only and do his commandments.

Then God gave the people of Judah rest, and they built walls and towers around their cities, and through ten years of peace prospered. Asa, too, built up his army, so that he might be ready when any of the nations around him made war upon him.

That soon happened, for Zerah, the Ethiopian, came out against Judah with a thousand thousand men, while Asa had hardly more than five hundred thousand.

Then Asa, instead of sending to other nations to help him, offered a prayer to the Lord, which many have since found a great help in time of trouble. A part of it is in our Golden Text. He said, as he faced that great army in the valley of Zephath, "Lord, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on thee and in thy name we go against this multitude. O Lord, thou art our God: let not man prevail against thee." So the Lord helped Judah, and their enemies fled.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who reigned in Judah after Rehoboam? His son Abijah.

Who followed Abijah? Asa, his son.

What can you say of him? He was a wise and good man.

What did he first do? Sought the God of his fathers.

What did he do next? He broke down idols and their altars.

What did Judah have for ten years? Rest from wars.

Who first made war with Asa? Zerah, the Ethiopian.

How large was his army? There was a thousand thousand men.

Did Asa go to meet him? Yes.

What did he do before the battle? He prayed to God.

What is a part of his prayer? The Golden Text.

Which army conquered? Asa's army, because God helped Asa.

WAKING UP.

The brown earth was fast asleep. Folded under her thick coverlet lay the seeds of the flowers and the bulbs of the tulips and hyacinths. She was so fast asleep, with all her children, that even the south wind could not rouse her, though he shook the branches of the trees softly and whispered, "Spring is here, Mother Earth! Wake up!" But the brown earth slept on.

The sun shone bright in the sky. "Wake up!" he cried. "I have come for the summer to make a long stay with you. Where are your beautiful garments of grass and flowers? Wake up and put them on." But the earth did not hear, though she felt warmer.

Then April came merrily along. A bee flew beside her, and a bird perched on a bush and sang loudly as she passed.

"April is here! April is here! A welcome to April," he sang over and over again, and the bee buzzed with all his might, though he could not sing a note.

Then April laid her rosy palm upon the cheek of the sleeping earth. "Wake up!" she cried, in her laughing voice. And all of a sudden the earth woke up!