

proof is another thing.

14-16. This I confess. "One crime he confesses, but he declares it to be no crime." **After the Way** (Rev. Ver.); the Christian religion (compare chs 9 : 2 ; 19 : 9, Rev. Ver.). **They call a sect** (Rev. Ver.); a separation from the Jewish faith. **The God of our fathers** (Rev. Ver.); the God worshiped by the Jewish race. **Believing . . . the law, and . . . the prophets**; the Old Testament scriptures. **Hope toward God**; hope built on God Himself and His promises. **Resurrection**; the general belief of the Jewish people. **Just and unjust** (see Dan. 12 : 2, 3); a sharp thrust at Felix, whose life was evil. **Herein**; because I believe in the resurrection and expect to stand before God as my Judge. **I exercise myself**; like an athlete training for a race. **A conscience void of offence etc.**; a conscience that does not offend God or cause others to stumble.

II. A STRAIGHT STORY.—17-21. After many years; the four or five (see ch. 18 : 21, 22). **Came to bring alms**; the money collected in the churches of Europe for the poor Christians in Jerusalem, Rom. 15 : 26 ; 1 Cor. 16 : 1 ; 2 Cor. 8 : 4. **Offerings**; belonging to the Nazirite vow, ch. 21 : 23-26, Lesson I., Oct. 3. **Jews from Asia**. See ch. 21 : 27, 28. **Purified** (according to the Jewish law) **in the temple**; "then, how did I profane it?" (Chrysostom.) **Who ought to have been here**; to make their accusations in open court. **Let these men say** (Rev. Ver.); Ananias, the high priest, and those with him, v. 1. **Touching the resurrection, etc.** See ch. 23 : 6. Only the Sadducees would blame Paul for teaching this doctrine.

III. A COWARDLY JUDGMENT.—22-27. More exact knowledge of the Way (Rev. Ver.); well aware that what the Jews said against the Christian religion was false. **Deferred**; afraid to offend the Jews by setting him free. **Lysias . . . come down**. See ch. 23 : 25, 26. **Felix . . . with . . . Drusilla**; a Jewess. **Sent for Paul**; to gratify the curiosity of Drusilla, and perhaps also, because his own conscience had been touched. **He reasoned**; spoke about. **Righteousness**; and Felix had murdered a high priest. **Temperance**; self-control, and he had yielded to his evil passions. **Judgment to come**; at which he would have to answer for his wickedness. **Trembled**; "was terrified" (Rev. Ver.), but not ready to give up sin. **A convenient season**; which, alas, never came. **Felix never changed his conduct. Hoped . . . money . . . given him**; as a bribe to set Paul free. Two years later, Felix' term of office expired, and he made way for Porcius Festus, and to please the Jews, he left Paul a prisoner.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON

Herod the Great, in twelve years, built the city of **CESAREA**, on a site where previously there had been only a landing place, with a castle named Strato's Tower. The chief boast of the city was its harbor, which provided a safe basin of considerable extent for ships visiting the coast of Palestine.

LESSON QUESTIONS

What three charges against Paul before Felix ?

10-13 For how many days had Paul been in Jerusalem ? For what purpose had he gone to Jerusalem ? What does he challenge his enemies to do ? On what kind of testimony had Jesus been condemned ? (Mark 14 : 55-59.)

14-16 Whom did Paul say that he served ? What that he believed ? What hope did he cherish ? Who denied the resurrection ? What did Paul train himself to do ? Where does he liken the Christian life to athletic contests ? (1 Cor. 9 : 24-27.)

17-21 What account did Paul give of his conduct in Jerusalem ?

22-24 Why did Felix send often for him ? Of what did Paul speak before the governor ? What was the effect ? For what new governor did Felix make room ? What did he do with Paul on leaving ? For what reason did he do this ?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. The boldness of innocence.
2. The danger of putting off decision for Christ.

A LESSON FOR LIFE

The shepherds, in Bunyan's story, showed the pilgrims, on Mount Innocence, one Mr. Godly-man, clad in pure white, with two men, Prejudice and Ill-will continually casting dirt upon him. But the dirt, in a little time, fell off and the white robe looked as clean as ever.

Prove from Scripture—That sin makes men cowards.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 32. What benefits do they that are effectually called partake of in this life ? A. They that are effectually called do in this life partake of justification, adoption, and sanctification, and the several benefits which, in this life, do either accompany or flow from them.

The Question on Missions—3. What races compose the population of Formosa ? The aboriginal inhabitants of Malay origin, the Chinese, and the Japanese. The Japanese are the rulers, and took possession in June, 1895. At the beginning of 1905 they numbered about 50,000 ; the mountain "head-hunters" number about 100,000 ; and the Chinese nearly 3,000,000.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What charges were made against Paul, and what was his answer ?

2. How did he make Felix tremble ?