

either loyal subjects or rebels. But he is more than King to his loyal ones; he is a Deliverer, a Brother, the one nearest and dearest to their hearts. How ought he to be received? If a long-absent father is expected, will the children be asleep? Will they be amusing themselves instead of looking out for him? So those who are the Lord's should be watching for him, with soberness, faith, love, and hope, because they know "neither the day nor the hour" when he cometh.

### BEREAN METHODS.

#### Hints for the Teachers' Meeting and the Class.

Notice Thessalonica on the map; Paul's visit and preaching; the founding of the Church; where the apostle was when writing this epistle; its subject and purpose . . . Coming now to the lesson, notice its leading thought—Christ's coming as the comfort and hope of his people . . . I. Notice the aspects or traits of the Saviour's coming, as here presented: 1. Certain; 2. Glorious; 3. With sleeping saints; 4. To meet the living saints; 5. Unexpected. . . II. How we Christians should regard the coming of the Lord. (See Additional and Practical Lessons) . . . III. Christ's coming to unbelievers, and what it brings: 1. Terror; 2. Destruction; 3. No escape. . . IV. Our present duty in view of Christ's coming: 1. Watchfulness; 2. Sobriety and self-control; 3. Faith; 4. Love; 5. Hope. . . ILLUSTRATIONS. When we enter the cabin of a steamer, we look to see that there are life-preservers; not that we will surely need them, but that they may be ready at any moment of possible need. Salvation, in one aspect, is a life-preserver—a preserver against not only danger that may come, but will surely come. . . Agrippa was put into prison by the Emperor Tiberius because he had expressed a hope of the emperor's speedy death, which would be followed by the accession of his friend Caius to come to his kingdom! When he became emperor his first act was to call his friend from the dungeon, and give him gold by weight equal to the chains which he had worn. So we may look forward to the hour when our Friend and Elder Brother comes to his kingdom. . . A lighthouse keeper on the coast made arrangements with a friend to telegraph him from a distance when the inspector was coming. But the officer happened to take the train unnoticed, and came unexpectedly, so that the light-house was unprepared for the investigation, and the keeper lost his place. . . A bank must keep its accounts in such perfect order that at any moment the examiner of the government may find them perfect.

**References.** FOSTER'S ILLUSTRATIONS. Ver. 13: Poetical, 2678; Prose, 9616. Ver. 14: Prose, 717. Ver. 16: Poetical, 3098, 6347. Ver. 17: Prose, 5790. Ver. 2: Prose, 6147, 1234. Ver. 3: Prose, 10053, 1699. Ver. 6: Prose, 5386, 12111. Ver. 7: Prose, 10743. Ver. 8: Prose, 5401. . . FREEMAN: Ver. 8: The breastplate, 251.

#### Lesson Word-Pictures

Still wearily turns the world between the two Advents. He has come once, and now earth waits again for its King. O that second coming when the Lord shall descend from heaven! Around that shining, central form of the Saviour-king what myriads of the holy angels will be gathered! Like rays from the sun, how their wings extend to North, to South, to East, to West, opening out in vast pyramids of glory only to come back again and centre in the still greater splendour of him who is the brightness of the Father's glory and the express image of his person! And what sounds attend that second coming, the clear archangel voice, that far-echoing peal of "the trump of God!" Above is that great host looking down while advancing. Below, what multitudes are looking up, some in hope, some in fear, all in wonder! They have ceased their work, their business, their trade, every calling, and from field and street, from hill-top and valley, from city and country, they are looking up, the light of that coming making a white and solemn awe in their faces. O day of the coming of my Lord, who will be looking for thee, who will be ready for thee!

#### Blackboard.

BY J. K. PHIPPS, HQ.



**DIRECTIONS FOR COLOURING.** Make the cross with white; shade the sides with dark blue or brown; make the rays with yellow, and letters on the cross with bright red; make the front part of the cross well defined, but have the other side not so distinct. The lesson being on "The Coming of the Lord," the application of the diagram is from 1 John 4. 2, 3: "But we know that, when he