

Meantime a prophet of the Lord had said to Ahab, "The Lord hath said, 'Behold, I will give this great host into thy hand ; and thou shalt know that I am the Lord.'"

Then the prophet told Ahab how to fight the battle. Ahab had few soldiers, but amongst them were a number of brave young men.

At noon all was ready, and the young men started out from the city. Some of Benhadad's soldiers saw them and went to his tent and told him.

But what was the matter with Benhadad ? Why was he in his tent instead of out in the field leading his soldiers ?

I will tell you. All this time he and his chief officers had been in their tents drinking wine. Now their heads were not clear. They could not think quickly nor plan wisely. They were not fit to fight a battle.

But soon the young men of Israel rushed upon the camp. They struck right and left. Men fell on every side.

Benhadad's men tried to fight. But after the young men sent to attack them first, the rest of Ahab's army came up, and the Syrians were completely defeated. How could they win the battle ? Their leader did not help them. He was drunk with wine. And soon that great host of the Syrians turned in fright and fled.

Benhadad himself climbed upon a horse and galloped away with them. He had lost the battle.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Who was Benhadad ? 2. Against what king had he come to fight ? 3. What message did he send to King Ahab ? 4. What answer did Ahab send back ? 5. Why did he answer in this way ? 6. What second message did Benhadad send ? 7. What was Ahab's answer to this ? 8. What did Benhadad say that he would do to Samaria ? 9. What did Ahab answer ? 10. What promise did a prophet bring to Ahab ? 11. Who told Ahab how to fight ? 12. Why was Benhadad not fit to lead his soldiers ? 13. Which army gained the victory ? 14. What is the G. Text ?

Lesson Hymn

Tender Shepherd, never leave us
From Thy fold to go astray ;

By Thy look of love directed,
May we walk the narrow way !
Thus direct us, and protect us,
Lest we fall to sin a prey. Amen.

—Hymn 586, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—46. What was done with the body of Jesus after His death on the cross ? The body of Jesus was taken by His friends and laid in a tomb, or grave.
47. What happened on the third day after Jesus died and was buried ? On the third day Jesus rose from the dead.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Review Questions 28, 29.

The Question on Missions

12. What further Settlement work does the church hope to do ? It is proposed to establish similar centres in all the more important cities, in this way helping to meet the needs of those living in the more crowded districts, and also to introduce Settlement methods into country communities.

AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL

In the drawing (*color*) we have a soldier all ready for battle. We may not have to fight



with sword and spear, but there are many foes in our hearts and round about us for us to fight, and God will make us good soldiers.

I Have Learned To-day That

I SHOULD HATE STRONG DRINK