

5. THE WONDERFUL CHOICE, ver. 22. (1.) *Halting between life and death.* HEARD. So earnest an inquirer would listen thoughtfully. SORROWFUL. He had some love for Jesus. "Jesus loved him." Mark x. 21. He thought of life, of death, of Jesus, of his wealth. "Shall sell all and stay with Jesus; or, keep all and lose heaven?" He is sorry to leave Christ, but more sorry to give up his riches. Money is his God. (2.) *The soul bartered for earthly treasure.* HE WENT AWAY. The struggle over. The question settled. He loves "this present world." 2 Tim. iv. 10. Cursed love of gold! "Very rich" in this world's goods; but the inheritance of eternal good gone forever.

See the young man running to Christ: kneeling...and lifting heart, voice, vision, in one impassioned prayer!...Noble youth!...But, see the suppliant rising from his knees! See him! recreant to duty: declining eternal life: and turning his back on Christ!...He is "sad," is he! "Grieved," is he? "Sorrowful," is he? Why? Because he...has "great possessions." Great possessions! Are they great? Great indeed! A pile of stones, a lot of dirt, a bag of metal! Or, if you prefer poetry to philosophy—a palace, a domain, a treasury filled with gold and silver and precious stones: These are great possessions are they? How great? Great as personal perfection?...Great as the benedictions of the poor? Great as treasure in heaven? Great as eternal life?...O, said I not well—he is no man, he is only a ruler?...Rich! Why, he is the veriest pauper; destitute of the love of God, the love of man, and the hope of glory.—*Stockton.*

### III. HINTS FOR INFANT CLASS TEACHERS.

#### Whisper-Song.

Jesus,  
We come near Thee,  
For we hear Thee  
Saying:  
COME TO ME!

Jesus,  
We believing  
And sin leaving,  
COME TO THEE!

There need be no difficulty in interesting the children in this lesson, since it contains the gracious invitation of Jesus to them. Have a picture of the scene in front of the class during the lesson. Notice: 1. Why these children were brought to Jesus. No blessing without Christ. He prays for us now. 2. Who brought them. Probably their parents. How anxious parents are to get every thing good for their children. 3. The conduct of the disciples. Explain the meaning of "rebuked." 4. What Jesus said

and did. Let the whole class repeat the fourteenth verse. All this shows the love Jesus had for the little children; but shortly after this he showed his love for those who are older. A young man asked him a question and received an answer. What was the question? What was the answer? This young man knew the commandments and kept them. Do you know them? How many are there? What is the first? etc. [The Ten Commandments ought to be a part of the regular drill of every infant class. They should be repeated every Sunday. So ought the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles' Creed. A few minutes will suffice for all.] Something more is necessary than merely keeping the commandments. We must give up the world and follow Jesus. Repeat Golden Text.

### IV. MISCELLANEOUS.

*Prayer-Meeting Topic:* Incentives to early piety.....*Texts:* Prov. viii. 17; xxii. 6; Eccles. xii. 1; Isa. xlv. 3; Acts ii. 39; Eph. vi. 4.....*Foster:* 615, 627, 5096, 5099, 5101, 5271.....*Blackboard:*

LET US { LOVE  
LIVE for  
GIVE all to

JESUS

THAT WE MAY BE

Contented,  
Honest,  
Innocent,  
Loving,  
Dutiful,  
Reverent,  
Earnest,  
Noble.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1873.

LESSON VI.—*Hosanna to the Son of David.*—  
Matt. xxi. 8-16.

GOLDEN TEXT, Matt. xxi. 9.

English Teacher's Notes.

The success of this lesson will depend in no small degree upon the teacher's ability to picture the scene. To do so at all effectively he needs to know the exact route of the procession, from Bethany, round the corner of the ravine "over against" Bethphage, over the southern shoulder of Olivet, down into the steep Kedron Valley, and up again to the city walls, entering at what