

If we commence the day devoutly, if our first act be one of gratitude and devotion, if we earnestly pray to God for his guidance and blessing it is most likely the day will advance and end better than if we neglect to pray to God and to thank him for his mercies. It is no wonder when a little boy or girl forgets to pray to God in the morning that everything should go wrong. No wonder that peevishness, fretfulness, unkindness, impatience and naughtiness should mark the passing hours of the day? No wonder that on going to bed he or she should feel unhappy. No, no: a bad beginning, in this matter, will never make a good ending. Be assured, to begin the day well is one way to secure a good ending; and so to begin life well is a fair pledge of a good close. Then, dear readers, begin every day well.

Obedience to Parents.

Children are commanded to obey their parents. This is a law of God, and God attaches a promise to it. The due observance of this law is always of advantage. Parents know a great deal better than their children what is most for their good; and a Christian parent will never command a child to do what is wrong. Sometimes little folk think they know a great deal more than older persons; and not unfrequently children think their parents hard and unkind in their commands and prohibitions. But this is a mistake. Yet if it were otherwise children would do well to obey their parents. We do not recollect a single instance in which a disobedient child

has turned out well; and we have read of hundreds whose early disobedience prepared them for early sorrow, a gloomy prison and a premature grave. "Children obey your parents in all things, for this is right."

Punctuality at School.

A good scholar will always be early at the Sabbath School, unless prevented by circumstances which he cannot controul. A slight cause will not be sufficient to make him late in his attendance. *It is not the good scholar who comes, Sabbath after Sabbath, fifteen or twenty minutes too late, and then says he didn't get his breakfast in time, or the clock was wrong, or his sister kept him late.* No, no: it is not the good scholar who does so. Just look at the scholars of your school; and you will see at once that the good scholar is always in his place betimes. Who is it that is negligent in the school, has his lessons imperfectly, and is most frequently rebuked by his teacher? You will say at once, it is the scholar that comes habitually late to school.

THE NINTH COMMANDMENT.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
—Exod. xx 16.

Beware the tongue that's set on fire of hell
And flames in slander, falsehood, perjury,
In malice, idle talking, thoughtless tales.
Speak not too much, nor without thought;
let truth
In all things, small or great, dwell on thy
lips.
Remember, God hath said, "he that
word
Offends not, is a perfect man; while he
That bridles not his tongue, deceives
himself
And shows his faith is vain."