

we ask ? Through the merits of Jesus Christ. What may we learn from the Collect ? Not to suffer sin or ignorance to keep us from God ; to remember God waits to be gracious, and waits only for our prayers.

THE CATECHISM.

Repeat the Second Commandment. (Learn answer in Catechism.)

THE STRIFE OF TONGUES.

Read Acts xxii. 23-30 ; xxiii. 1, 2.

Learn Ps. xxxi. 20.

Where did we leave S. Paul ? On the steps of the castle, the people clamouring for his blood.

How did he escape ? The Roman soldiers protected him.

Where was he taken ? Into the Castle of Antonia.

What was the chief captain called ? Lysius.

How did he attempt to find out Paul's crime ? By scourging him, so as to force a confession.

Why was not this done ? Because to scourge a Roman citizen was illegal.

Where was S. Paul then taken ? Verse 30.

What council was this ? The Sanhedrim.

Had he ever been there before ? Yes ; but as judge when Stephen was tried, and not as a prisoner.

What statement did he make there ? xxiii. 1.

Whom did this offend ? 2.

What two sects were represented in the Council ?

Which of them did S. Paul go in over to his side ?

Why were the Sadducees most opposed to S. Paul's teaching ? Ver. 8.

What arose then ? Another strife of tongues.

Where was S. Paul again taken ?

What was in his mind just now ? His desire to bring the Jews to Christ and to preach the Gospel at Rome.

Who visited him in the cell ? Ver. 11.

With what object ? To comfort and assure him of success.

Did you ever hear the still small voice ? Do you listen for it and obey ?

HYMN for August—A. & M., 194 ; Church Hymn, 397.

"GIVING."

"Freely ye have received, freely give," is the rule which Christ gave to His disciples for their guidance in serving Him and His cause in the world. Look the world over and a cheerful conformity to this rule brings spiritual prosperity to individuals and to Churches. There is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty, says the proverb. Some Churches furnish striking verifications of this law and its working. They are given to withholding more than is meet from the Lord's treasury, and He frowns upon it. They rob God in tithes and offerings, and they are cursed with a curse. And then they wonder why they are not prospered as others around them are prospered. One prominent reason in such cases, that others around them scatter and so increase. When this selfish, self-seeking, self-gratifying spirit is once thoroughly slain by a generous activity in discovering and supplying the wants of others, thrift and vigor come as the ordained result. This is the Master's promise, "Give and it shall be given unto you.—*Christian Secretary.*