

GOD IS ALWAYS ABLE TO DELIVER

from the hottest fire of trouble and temptation. To the adult portion of the school, and the home there is the deeper lesson. See 1 John 5: 4.

Faith in God. vs. 16-18. Faith in God tested. vs. 19-23. Faith in God approved. v. 25. Faith in God rewarded vs. 26-28.

[Feb. 14.] The Handwriting on (Dan. 5:)
the Wall. (1-12, 25-28.)

The glory of the Chaldean empire reached its height under the great king, Nebuchadnezzar; but matters move on until we come to his grandson, Belshazzar, who was associated with his father, Nabonnedus, in the throne of the empire. After a hundred years of power, the hour of doom has come. A new conqueror stands at the gates of the great city—Cyrus, the Persian—who has united under one crown, Persia, Media and Lydia, through whom God has an important work to accomplish for His repentant and faithful Hebrew people.

Self-security and impiety have manifested themselves on a large and daring scale, as depicted in this lesson.

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT OF THIS STARTLING SCENE is expressed in New Testament language, James 5: 9, Revised Version, "Behold the Judge is before the doors."

The following analysis of the passage is helpful:—

1. The hall of feasting and profanation. vs. 1-4.
2. The conscience-stricken, impious culprit. vs. 5-9.
3. The baffled and powerless magicians. vs. 8-11.
4. The remembered and chosen interpreter. vs. 25-28.

Call out the persons, their position, character, doings and utterances. There is gradation of importance and exercise in this order—first to the memory, then the intelligence, then moral appreciation, then judgment, to be fully carried out in adult classes.

The pen and the hand of the invisible Writer is still recording His decisions—on the face and form of the wine drinker, and the licentious; on the walls of the prayerless and godless home; on the door posts of selfish and self-satisfied churches. The pang of pain in the brain and the pang of the conscience has a double interpretation of mercy and justice. Read Christ's interpretation of this scene in the parable of the unfaithful husbandman. Luke 20: 9-19.

[FOR OUR MISSION.]

Changing.

Jesus, dear Master, the world is so empty,
Nothing can satisfy—nothing can last;
Friends are so chargeable—pleasures so fleeting,
Fond memory lingers o'er joys that are past,
Yearning in vain for the golden days over,
Sighing for friendships long since passed away;
Earthly flowers wither, and storms follow sunshine,
Pain comes with pleasure, as night after day.
Without Thee I could not live, Jesus, my Saviour,
Grief is too bitter, and heart pain too deep;
But in Thy kind, strong arms tenderly folded,
All Thy beloved shall peacefully sleep.
Kept through the changing years, all safe for ever—
Help me to walk in Thine own chosen way,
Till the dark clouds by the rainbow are lighted,
And earth's faint, struggling dawn, breaks into day.

KATIE.



MR. SCHIVEREA has again been labouring in Toronto, conducting services in the Hazleton Avenue Congregational Church. He continues for two weeks at that point, and then commence meetings in Erskine (Pres.) Church. May the Lord richly bless those labours.

AS a result of the Moody meetings in Montreal, a deep spiritual interest has been aroused, and special Gospel services are being held in some of the churches. May the Lord cause the tide to rise till it shall overflow the whole land.

L. P. ROWLAND has been labouring at Greenville, Ohio. A Post card from that place says: "A great work here. Never had a deeper power of the Holy Ghost." Mr. Rowland is now at Oberlin, Ohio.

REV. SAM. JONES has been labouring in St. Louis, where he has called the attention of thousands to their lost condition, and thus has been the means of creating an interest in the Gospel, which the pastors are now following up.

THERE are at present in connection with the China Inland Mission, 182 Missions, with about 100 native Pastors, Evangelists, Preachers, Colporteurs, &c. God has truly blessed this noble work, but when we think of these 282 workers, and then of China's millions, we might be led to repeat the words of the disciples, "What are they among so many?" John 6: 9; but praise the Lord for His ability to feed the multitude, and even to satisfy them. Let us, however, pray the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth labourers into the harvest.

MR. E. C. NEWBERY writes:—"Since I saw you, I have been doing the work of an itinerant evangelist, going about as I have felt called of the Spirit, and led by Him. I have preached and worked in Turin, Genoa, Pisa, Leghorn, Florence, Rome, and Naples, and can say, 'Praise the Lord, His mercy endureth for ever.' His smile has been upon me, and goodness and mercy have followed me. Blessing right along the line, wonderful doors opened to me; faith grows as it is continually being tried. Being known to a great many of your readers, and if you desire, I would send you a letter giving an account of the Lord's work in Italy as seen and known by me.