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THE SUNBEAM

Vol. II,

AUGUST 20, 1881.

No. 16.



WHO IS THE TALLER ?

EDDIE and Bell are cousins. Bell is spending her holidays at Grandma Fulton's, and so are her cousins Jessie and Mary and Eddie. They are having a splendid time; for a visit to Grandma Fulton's is a treat indeed. "Let's see who is taller," said Mary, "Eddie or Bell." "Oh! I know Eddie is the taller," said

Jessie; "but let's see how much." So they measure. They begin to think there is not so much difference in their height after all. But suddenly Mary exclaims, "Oh, Bell! you little rogue, you are standing on tip-toe, while honest little Ned is flat on his feet."

"So Eddie is the taller, after all," says Jessie. "If Mary had not caught you, Bell, we would have thought you were as tall as our little brother."

So Eddie runs to tell Grandma how big he is.

THE CHILDREN'S PRAYER.

OUR Saviour loves to hear
The little children pray;
He watches such with gentlest care,
And guards them night and day.

He guides their tender feet
Through every dangerous place,
And at each onward step they meet
New tokens of His grace.

His own dear lambs are they
Who love the Shepherd's care,
And precious in His sight to-day
Are those who bend in prayer.

Far down in deepest mine or ocean; up on
highest mount or hill; in brightest day or
darkest night!—what?—God sees me.

The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, AUGUST 20, 1881.

AFRICAN BIRDS AT CHURCH.

THERE are some queer birds in Southern Africa. One species is called "hadedas" by the natives. These birds are as large as crows, with long legs and bills, and wings that are dark-green in one light and golden in another. The birds look like gentlemen in dress-suits, with their hands folded under their coat-tails. The hadedas live in marshy places, but they are easily tamed to live in houses, and soon go in as if they were a part of the family; and, indeed, you might almost think they were part of it, for when they cry they say, "Pa! pa! pa!" quickly, like an impatient child. Two of these birds were very fond of the father of the family, and would follow him about all day. On Sundays they would even walk after him into church unless he locked them up at home. Once they actually did walk into church, marching gravely up the aisle and taking their stand near their master (who was the minister), behind the reading-desk. It was very funny to see those three solemn figures standing there; and it was lucky the birds did not think to call out, "Pa! pa! pa!" just then; for the congregation laughed quite enough as it was. The birds would not go away, although the minister told them to in a severe tone; so he had to walk out, and they followed him into the open air. When he came in again he shut the door close behind him, and so kept them out.

If you *love* Jesus you should *show* it. "But I am so little," you say; "I cannot teach or preach, or work for Him." True, little one; but you can be kind, and helpful, and for-giv-ing, and pa-jent; and that is all that Jesus expects—to do what you *can*.

A little child about four years old, said, "Mother, does God love me when I do wrong?"

The mother replied that God could not love anything sinful or wrong.

"Oh," said he, "I know how it is. God loves me, but he does not love the wrong things that I do." Ah, my dear children, if God did not love you, you would not be alive before Him; for how much you do that is wrong.

STANDING ALONE.

THE baby is standing all 'loney!"
The children shout in their glee—
And father and mother and auntie
Must hurry and come to see.
So baby—the cute little darling!—
Is put through the wonderful feat,
And fondled and kissed and commended
For being so smart and so sweet.

With the cunningest air of triumph
She stands in the midst of us all—
While the outstretched arm of her mother
Is ready to save a fall.
And whenever the little one totters,
Around her is hastily thrown.
'Tis very fine fun—thinks the baby—
This frolic of standing alone!

Ah, many a time in the future
She'll long for the aid of that arm,
When the love and the care of a mother
No longer can shield her from harm!
For oft when our need is the sorest,
There's no one to whom we can turn—
And standing alone is a lesson
'Tis hard for a woman to learn.

And often and over, my baby,
Before life's long journey is gone,
You will learn in your hours of weakness
For something to lean upon.
When the props upon which you depended
Are taken away or o'erthrown,
You will find it wearisome, baby—
So wearisome! standing alone.



THE BROKEN SWING.

GRACIE LEE is visiting in the country, at her Uncle Robert's. Aminadab, her cousin, made her a swing under the apple tree; but he found it so nice that he swung on it himself till he broke it down; and her uncle had to come and make her one himself out of stronger rope. While doing so he fell out of the tree and was nearly killed,—all for Aminadab's selfish-

ness, who should have been driving the cows to pasture instead of interfering with his little cousin's play. I am glad to say that Uncle Robert got well soon; but it was always a lesson to little Aminadab, who now thinks more of pleasing Cousin Grace than himself. And now, dear children, I hope you'll profit by the moral of this little tale.

—ALICE W.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.—STUDIES IN THE PENTATEUCH.

B.C. 1491.] LESSON IX. [Aug. 28.
THE COMMANDMENTS; or, Love toward God.

Exod. 20. 1-11. Commit to memory verses 3-11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. Matt. 22. 37, 38.

OUTLINE.

1. The One God, v. 1-3.
2. The Worship of God, v. 4-6.
3. The Name of God, v. 7.
4. The Day of God, v. 8-11.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

1. *The One God*, v. 1-3.—How many gods are there? There is but one God. What did he say to the children of Israel? "I am the Lord thy God." What had God done for the Israelites? He had brought them out of bondage. What did God say in the first commandment? "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

2. *The Worship of God*, v. 4-6.—What did God forbid in the second commandment? "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image." What kind of images are here meant? Images made for worship as idols. How may we disobey this command? By loving anything or any person more than God.

3. *The Name of God*, v. 7.—What did God forbid in the third commandment? "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." What is the sin here forbidden? Profane swearing. What else is forbidden in this commandment? Speaking God's name carelessly.

4. *The Day of God*, v. 8-11.—What does the fourth commandment call upon us to do? "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." What ought we not to do on the Sabbath? We ought not to work or play. How should we spend the Sabbath? In rest and the worship of God.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

1. Love and serve God only and wholly.
2. See that there are no idols in your heart.
3. Be careful and thoughtful in speaking God's name.
4. Keep holy God's day.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Righteousness toward God.

TINY TEXT.

God spake all these words. Exod. 20. 1.

B.C. 1491.] LESSON X. [Sept. 4.

THE COMMANDMENTS; or, Love toward Man.

Exod. 20. 12-21. Commit to memory verses 12-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. Matt. 22. 39, 40.

OUTLINE.

1. The Law of God, v. 12-17.
2. The Presence of God, v. 18-21.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

1. *The Law of God*, v. 12-17.—Which of the ten commandments are in this lesson? The last six. What does the fifth commandment say? "Honour thy father and thy mother." How should children honour their parents? By loving and obeying them. What is promised to those who keep this command? Long life. What is the sixth commandment? "Thou shalt not kill." What is here forbidden? Anger at others, which may lead to murder. What is the seventh commandment? "Thou shalt not commit adultery."

2. *The Presence of God*, v. 18-21. Where did God show that he was present? On Mount Sinai. How did he show that he was there? By his glory on the mount. What signs showed his glory? Lightning, and thunder, and smoke, and the sound of a trumpet. How did the people feel when they heard and saw these things? They were afraid and went afar off. What did they ask Moses to do? To go and bring them God's word. What did Moses do? He went up alone into the mount with God.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

1. Fear God and obey his words.
2. Love God, and it will be easy to obey him.
3. Love all people, and it will be easy to do right toward them.
4. Talk with God by praying to him.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Righteousness toward men.

TINY TEXT.

All thy commandments are truth. Psa. 119. 151.

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