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THE SUNBEAM

Vol. II.

FEBRUARY 5, 1881.

No. 3.



SELFISHNESS AND KINDNESS.

THREE young ladies called at Mr. Halsey's just as Susan, his daughter, had seated herself at the piano to practise her lesson.

"We are going to see old Mrs. Green and

take her some fruit, and we want you to go with us," said Ida Harrison, in behalf of her companions.

"I don't think a visit to Mrs. Green, will be very interesting to me," said Susan, "and I must beg to be excused."

"Mrs. Green is very lonesome, and I am sure a visit from you would be very interesting to her."

"Very likely, but I have my lesson to practise."

"You can put off your practising till you return."

"I could if I saw sufficient reason for so doing."

"We are sorry to go without you."

"If you were going to some pleasant place, I should be happy to go with you; but as you are not, I will go to my practising."

The girls then went on their way.

Let us now go with the young ladies to Mrs. Green's. She lived in a very small house. She was very poor.

"I am very glad to see you," said she to the young ladies as they entered the room; "it is very good in you to come and see me."

"We are glad to see you and to find you so well," said Ida.

"I am very well, that is for me. I never expect to walk again; but I have not had much pains in my limbs for several days."

"Here are some flowers we have brought you," said Eliza Johnson.

"Thank you, dear, they are very beautiful. When I was young I was a great lover of flowers, and I am now, but I can't go to them now. I must believe that there will be flowers in heaven."

At this moment Ida's father, in a beautiful carriage, stopped before the door and called to her. "I have business at the lake; if you and your friends would like a drive you can go with me. You must shorten your call, for I am in haste."

When Mrs. Green understood the state of the case she urged her young friends to leave her, saying that she should enjoy their drive as much as their company. So they took their seats, and made a delightful excursion around the lake, while Miss Halsey was practising on her piano, and seeking something interesting to her.

The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY 5, 1881.

IN A GARRET.

FOUR little children, with their mother and a blind grandmother, live in these two cold garret rooms. There is no carpet on the floor, and but little coal in the cracked stove, and O! it would make your heart ache to see how little food there is in the cupboard!

Of course these little folks are often cold and hungry, and you pity them; but do you remember to thank God for your own good things, and to ask Him to give you a heart full of love toward those who have so little to make them happy? Maybe you have heard of the little boy who wanted to give pleasure to God, and so set out all the animals of his Noah's Ark in a row that God might see them and be pleased! Now, God will be pleased if we bring out all the love and thankfulness of our hearts in good,

loving deeds, for Him to see! We cannot earn anything of God, but we can love him, and try to give Him pleasure!

IF WISHES WERE HORSES.

IF wishes were horses," dearie,
How fast and how far we'd ride,
On our beautiful snow-white chargers,
Bounding with life and pride;
Straight as the flight of an arrow,
Swift as the flash of a spear,
We'd travel for ever and ever—
"If wishes were horses," dear.

To the tops of the sunset mountains,
Ere they flicker and fade away,
To the dusky hills of the twilight,
To the flush of the new-born day,
To the silent stars of midnight
As they shine in the darkness clear,
We'd ride like the flight of a fancy—
"If wishes were horses," dear.

Through billows of Western prairies,
And dazzle of Arctic plains,
Through perfume of Southern roses,
And mists of the sweet Spring rains;
Abreast of the echoing thunder,
With the quiver of lightning near,
We'd ride in the van of the tempest—
"If wishes were horses," dear.

And into the lives we cherish,
To brighten their clouded skies,
Bring smiles to the sweet pale faces,
And light to the saddened eyes;
To bring them a message of comfort,
And whisper a word of cheer,
Oh, how we would gallop and gallop—
"If wishes were horses," dear.

—*Wide-Awake.*

Be true. The first duty of love is to be true. Before you are kind, be sure you are true. From your lips speak the truth! In your minds think the truth! In your hearts love the truth! In your lives live the truth!



“BEG, CARLO.”

THESE little girls are teaching their dog to beg for bits of bread or cake.

You see how patiently he waits and lifts up his paw, and perhaps will bark, or “speak,” as his young mistress calls it. I have known dogs that would let you put a piece of cake on their nose, and they would not offer to eat it till they got leave. And

I have known boys and girls at table snatch a piece of cake first thing, before any one else was helped. Which do you think was the better behaved?

“Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth.”

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”

LESSON NOTES.

B.C. 6.] LESSON V. [Jan. 30.

SIMEON AND THE CHILD JESUS; or, Salvation Seen.

Luke. 2. 25-35. Commit to memory verses 28-32.

GOLDEN TEXT.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation.—
Luke 2. 30.

OUTLINE.

1. A Saint's Desire, v. 25-26.
2. A Saint's Delight, v. 27-35.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

1. *A Saint's Desire*, v. 25, 26.—What is a saint? A holy man. What saint is here spoken of? Simeon. Where did he live? In Jerusalem. What is said about him? "He was just and devout." What is it to be "just?" To be honest with all men. What is it to be "devout?" To be earnest, and often in prayer. For what was Simeon waiting? For the coming of Christ. What had God promised him? That he should live to see Christ.

2. *A Saint's Delight*, v. 27-35.—To what place did Simeon come? To the Temple in Jerusalem. Whom did he meet there? Joseph and Mary, with the child Jesus. How old was Jesus then? He was a little more than a month old. For what had they brought him to the Temple? To make an offering for him. What did Simeon do when he saw Jesus? He took him up in his arms. What did he say? That he was ready now to die. Why did he say that he was ready to die? [See GOLDEN TEXT.] What did he call Jesus? A Light to lighten the world. What did he do to Joseph and Mary? He blessed them. What did Simeon tell them? That Jesus should find enemies. Whom did he mean? The Jews who would oppose him. What did he say to Mary? "A sword shall pierce through thy soul." When was this word fulfilled? Years after, when she saw her Son on the cross.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

1. Patiently wait for God to fulfil his promise.
2. Take Christ, not to your arms, but to your heart.
3. Be among the friends, and not the enemies, of Jesus.
4. Live so that at any time you will be ready to die.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The personality of the Holy Ghost.

TINY TEXT.

Salvation is of the Lord.—Jonah, 2. 9.

A.D. 8.] LESSON VI. [Feb. 6.

THE BOYHOOD OF JESUS; or, Filled with Wisdom.
Luke 2, 40-52. Commit to memory verses 48-52.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon him.—Luke 2. 40.

OUTLINE.

1. The Child, v. 40.
2. The Journey, v. 41-45.
3. The Temple, v. 46-50.
4. The Home, v. 51-52.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON

1. *The Child*, v. 40.—What is said of Jesus as a child? [GOLDEN TEXT.] In what did Jesus grow? In body and mind. What is said of his mind? He was filled with wisdom. What did he enjoy? The favor of God and men. What should every child try to do? To be like Jesus. How may we have the fear of God? By loving and obeying him.

2. *The Journey*, v. 41, 45.—To what place was the journey? To Jerusalem. Who went to Jerusalem? Joseph and Mary. How often did they go? Every year. For what purpose did they go? To worship God in the Temple. When did they take Jesus with them? When he was twelve years old. How long did they stay at Jerusalem? A week. What did the child Jesus do when they were going home? He stayed in Jerusalem.

3. *The Temple*, v. 46-50.—Where did they find Jesus? In the Temple. With whom was he? Among the teachers of God's word. What was he doing? Listening, and asking them questions. What did the people around think of him? They wondered at his knowledge. What did his mother say to Jesus? "Why hast thou thus dealt with us?" What did Jesus say? "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?"

4. *The Home*, v. 51, 52.—Where did Jesus go from the Temple? To his home. Where was his home? At Nazareth, in Galilee. What is said of him there? That he obeyed his parents. What did his mother do? She kept his words in her heart. In what did Jesus grow? In knowledge and goodness. What did others think of him? He was loved by God and men.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

1. Be like Jesus in loving God's house.
2. Be like Jesus in seeking to know the truth.
3. Be like Jesus in obeying your parents.
4. Be like Jesus in growing in goodness.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The Divine Sonship of Christ.