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The Primary Quarterly

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The Blind Child

I know what Mother's face is like,
Although I cannot see :
It's like the music of a bell,
It's like the way the roses smell,
It's like the secrets fairies tell—
All these it's like to me.

I know what Father's face is like,
I'm sure I know it all :
It's like his step upon the stair,
It's like his whistle in the air,
It's like his arms that take such care,
And never let me fall.

So I can tell what God is like,
The God whom no one sees :
He's everything my mother means,
He's everything my father seems,
He's like my very sweetest dreams,
But greater than all these.

—Emily Sargent Lewis

"All Together"

By Rev. P. M. MacDonald, M.A.

A small boy was coming to the time of life when some moral and religious instruction is necessary. He had been allowed to play with some ill-trained children and was learn- to tell a lie when it suited him. One day his mother caught him in an untruth, and with loving and wise treatment tried to get him to see that it is wrong to tell a lie. She said, "My little son cannot go to heaven if he tells lies. There are no liars in heaven. Promise me you will tell the truth always, Harold."

"Well, mama, tell me first if you and daddy always tell the truth", said Harold

in a perfectly respectful way. Somewhat surprised at this remark the mother said, "My darling we try to, and we pray to God to help us to be truthful ; but why do you ask such a question ?" "Well, mama, if you and daddy do not *always* tell the truth, you can't go to heaven, and I don't wish to go unless you and daddy go, so if you and he don't *always* tell the truth, I don't think I will."

This speech, revealing as it did a deep affection, startled the mother, and she saw in a flash that she was being appealed to by her boy in a most solemn fashion to live a truer life. At once she and he came to an agreement that they would always speak the truth and when the father came home, he gave his promise to do the same, and at worship every morning they prayed for strength to keep their word.

One evening, as Harold was being tucked into bed, he whispered,—“O, mama, we are going to heaven all together. Heaven would be no good without you and daddy.”

Toronto

Teaching the Golden Text

By Miss E. M. Russell

The Golden Text is supposed to embody the truth of the lesson or to emphasize that truth. How to teach it depends to a great extent on the lesson,—on the truth itself ; on the class ; on the particular truth you wish to impress.

Before beginning the lesson, decide what particular truth you wish to teach, and make your lesson circle round that, remembering that *one* truth is quite enough for little ones.

Take, for instance, the lesson for October 29th, Ps. 85. One might teach it by a simple story of a child who had been so naughty that her mother had to send her away from the others—up to her own room. When she was sorry, and ready to be good, mother let her come back, and oh, how glad she was! That is just like God's people who had disobeyed Him, so that He had to punish them by sending them away to a strange land. They did not like it. I think they cried as the little girl did. When they were sorry, God brought them back, and how glad they were! Do you know what they said? "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

If, instead of this, you prefer to use the Golden Text for the Thanksgiving season, make your lesson centre round v. 12,—“Yea the Lord shall give that which is good”, etc. Picture the fruit on the trees, the harvest in the fields, showing the children that it all comes from God, and let them sing this verse:

For nuts and rosy apples,
For all things that we need,
For father and for mother dear,
We give Thee thanks indeed."

The children long ago did not know this verse, but they were just as glad and happy as you. Wouldn't you like to learn one of the verses they said? Golden Text.

It is well to have as much variety in teaching the Golden Text as possible. Sometimes it might be used as the starting point of the lesson. Then again it would come in as the climax, or sum of the teaching. Or it might be like a golden thread all through the lesson. But in whatever way it is taught, be sure that it is made plain to the minds of the children. They should not be required to memorize it till this is done.—Toronto

Her Mission Offering

By Mary Isobel Houston

Two big tears rolled off the end of Nettie's freckled nose as she looked at her empty purse.

"I meant to have my off'ring all ready", she said, as she shook the purse again to make sure there was not a copper hidden in the lining. "Miss Ellis should have given us longer notice, so's we could be ready."

"Huh! you said that last time", said

Bobbie, jingling the thirty-seven cents that had gathered in his mite-box. "I don't b'lieve you care for the heathen one bit."

Nettie said no more, but she was thinking how much easier it was for Bobbie to earn mission money. She had not told Bobby that the last ten cents had gone to buy a slate for Jamie Harris when he broke his by falling almost at Nettie's feet. She had offered it to him before she thought, and could not ask it back again.

"I'll not go to the meeting at all", she said, as she walked down the street on an errand for mother. "Yes, I will, too. I'll promise to earn some more money right away and—" A sound from the doorway of the house she was passing made her look up to see Mrs. Smith and active little Baby Smith coming toward the gate.

"Going to the meeting, Nettie?" asked Mrs. Smith in a tired voice.

"Ye-es", said Nettie slowly. Then remembering that Mrs. Smith was the member of a Mission Circle that met that day, she asked politely, "You going too, Mrs. Smith?"

"No, dear", and Nettie was sure there was a tear not far away. "Baby's too cross. I'll just send my offering."

"Could I take it?" asked Nettie quickly. Then a better idea entering her curly head, "Could I mind Baby? I'll be ever so careful, and I know he'll stay with me."

Baby Smith did stay with Nettie all the long afternoon, and more than once the little girl wished that she had gone to Mission Band,—even without an offering,—rather than care for a cross baby. Even the sight of Mrs. Smith's happy face when she returned to find Baby asleep, or the bright quarter she slipped into Nettie's hand, did not help much.

"I'm sorry I had nothing to bring to the meeting", faltered Nettie, when she met Miss Ellis on her way home.

"We have counted your offering, dear", said Miss Ellis, who had heard the story. "You have given something better than money; you gave up the bright afternoon, and gave us Mrs. Smith, our most helpful member." And as Nettie slipped the shiny quarter into the old black purse she was happier than she had been for weeks.

Toronto

AN ORDER OF SERVICE

FOR PRIMARY CLASSES OR THE HOME LESSON

Fourth Quarter, 1911

I. RESPONSIVE SENTENCES :

Teacher. What was Jesus' custom on the Sabbath day ?*Class.* "As His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day."

II. SINGING. Hymn 573, Book of Praise.

III. PRAYER. All recite with bowed head and folded hands :

Father of all, in heaven above,
 We thank Thee for Thy love ;
 Our food, our homes, and all we wear,
 Tell of Thy loving care.

(Let the children remain standing while the teacher leads further in prayer.)

IV. SUPPLEMENTAL LESSON. Learn and repeat Scripture Memory Passage. For those under six, The Good Shepherd, Ps. 23. For those under eleven, The Ten Commandments, Ex. 20 : 1-17. (A pretty Certificate in colors is awarded for the correct recitation of all the verses in the List of Passages For Those Under Six ; and a larger Certificate for the correct recitation of the complete List of Passages For Those Under Eleven.)

V. SINGING. Hymn 535, Book of Praise, v. 3. (This is the last verse of the Supplemental Hymn for the Half Year. The verse should be learned by heart. As the little ones sing it Sunday after Sunday, they will soon come to know it by heart.)

We'll bring the little duties	And better are these treasures
We have to do each day ;	To offer to our King
We'll try our best to please Him,	Than richest gifts without them,
At home, at school, at play :	Yet these a child may bring.

VI. OFFERING. Make the children familiar with the Bible story of the widow's two mites. Let the teacher recite during the offering :

Jesus sat beside the treasury,
 Saw the love gifts as they came,
 Knew the hearts that loved to bring them
 For the sake of His dear name.

VII THE QUESTION ON MISSIONS FOR THE DAY. (See each Lesson.) The very little ones will not be expected to learn this by heart, but bits may be picked out of it, and any needed explanation given.

VIII. SINGING. Hymn 562, Book of Praise.

IX. LESSON FOR THE DAY.

X. SINGING. Lesson Hymn. (See each Lesson.)

XI. CLOSING PRAYER.

XII. DISMISSAL.

Lesson I.

THE PROPHET EZEKIEL A WATCHMAN

October 1, 1911

Ezekiel 3 : 12-21. Study Ezekiel 3—*Memory Verses 17-19.

Golden Text—Hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.—Ezekiel 3 : 17.



12 Then the spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a voice of a great rushing, saying, Blessed be the glory of the LORD from his place.

13 I heard also the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels over against them, and a noise of a great rushing.

14 So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit ; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.

15 Then I came to them of the captivity at Tel-a-bib, that dwelt by the river of Chebar, and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days.

16 And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Is'rael : therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die ; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked

from his wicked way, to save his life ; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity ; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity ; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

20 Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die : because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered ; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

21 Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned ; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

THE LESSON RETOLD

When Jehoiachin was king in Jerusalem, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, carried away captive its king and many of its chief people. He gave them a place in Babylon where they might live by themselves, near the river Chebar.

Amongst the captives was a priest named Ezekiel, who one day had a very strange and wonderful vision, in which he saw the power and the glory of the Lord, and in the midst of the vision a message came to him. The Lord told him to go and speak to the Jews who were captives with him by the river Chebar. They had been disobedient and sinful, and Ezekiel was to deliver to them a message of

warning from the Lord, that they should cease from sin.

Then Ezekiel was filled with the Spirit of the Lord, and with anger against the people of Israel who had sinned so greatly. So he came to the captives by the river Chebar, and there he sat down amongst them, but he was so dazed and bewildered by the vision which he had seen, that for seven days he could not speak a word. Then the Lord came to him again and said : " Ezekiel, I have made you a watchman to My people Israel ; therefore, when I give you a message for them, you must deliver it. If I say, ' Those who commit sin shall surely die ',

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Leaflets are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. Their recitation leads to the obtaining of a beautiful Certificate or Diploma.

and you do not give them this warning, they will be punished for their sins, but you also will be held guilty. Even those who do right must be warned lest they fall into temptation, for if they sin, I shall hold you also guilty, if you have not given them My message." God told Ezekiel, however, that if he warned the people, and they did *not* turn from their evil ways, he would not be blamed, because he had been faithful in warning them.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Whom did Nebuchadnezzar carry away captive? 2. Beside what river did they live? 3. To what man did there come a vision? 4. What message came to him from the Lord? 5. How did Ezekiel feel towards the people? 6. Why? 7. How long did he remain silent? 8. Who then came to him? 9. What did the Lord tell Ezekiel He had made him? 10. What was he to do when a message was given to him? 11. For what would he be blamed? 12. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Story

Little brother John had not come home to lunch from school; but he would get out at three o'clock. "Don't forget to tell John as soon as you reach school", said mother to Teddy, as he was starting back to school for the afternoon, "that he is not to come home by the bridge. A runaway team broke through it to-day and it has not been properly mended yet." But Teddy forgot, and when he came home at four he found little brother John lying all bruised and hurt from the fall he had had through the broken boards of the bridge. "And all", sobbed Teddy, contritely, "because I did not warn him, when you told me to, mother."

Lesson Hymn

Hark! 'tis the watchman's cry,

Wake, brethren, wake!

Jesus our Lord is nigh:

Wake, brethren, wake.

Sleep is for sons of night;

Ye are children of the light,

Yours is the glory bright;

Wake, brethren, wake! Amen.

—Hymn 83, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—48. How long did Jesus remain on earth after He rose from the dead? Jesus remained forty days on earth after His resurrection. 49. What was Jesus doing for His disciples during the forty days after His resurrection? He came to His disciples at different times to comfort and teach them.

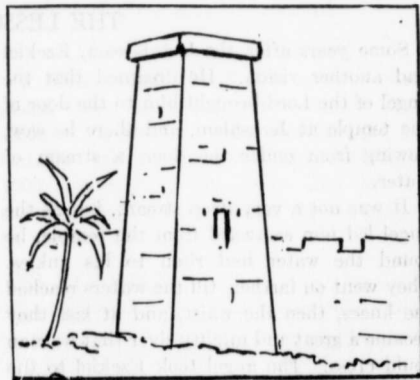
SHORTER CATECHISM—101. What do we pray for in the first petition? A. In the first petition (which is, *Hallowed be Thy name*) we pray, That God would enable us and others to glorify him in all that whereby he maketh himself known; and that he would dispose all things to his own glory.

The Question on Missions

(CANADIAN PROBLEMS: October, Safeguarding the Sabbath.)—1. Why should the Sabbath be safeguarded? Because it is of great value as a day of rest, a day for worship, and an opportunity for helping others. It is in danger from greed of gain, love for pleasuring, unbelief, and moral and religious indifference.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

In Eastern cities the watchman used to stand on a tower like the one in the drawing (*color*), and keep a lookout for enemies, so



that he might warn his people. Jesus wants us to warn others if we see them doing anything that will injure them.

I Have Learned To-day
THAT SIN BRINGS DANGER

Lesson II.

THE LIFE-GIVING STREAM

October 8, 1914

Ezekiel 47 : 1-12. Read Revelations 22 : 1-5—Memory Verse, 9.

Golden Text—Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.—Revelation 22 : 17.

1 Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house ; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward : for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar.

2 Then brought he me out of the way of the gate northward, and led me about the way without unto the utter gate by the way that looketh eastward ; and, behold, there ran out waters on the right side.

3 And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters ; the waters were to the ancles.

4 Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through the waters ; the waters were to the knees. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through ; the waters were to the loins.

5 Afterward he measured a thousand ; and it was a river that I could not pass over : for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over.

6 And he said unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen this ? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river.

7 Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other.

8 Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea : which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed.

9 And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live : and there shall be a very great

multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither : for they shall be healed ; and every thing shall live whither the river cometh.

10 And it shall come to pass, that the fishers shall stand upon it from En-ge'di even unto En-eg'laim ; they shall be a place to spread forth nets ; their fish shall be according to their kinds, as the fish of the great sea, exceeding many.

11 But the miry places thereof and the marshes thereof shall not be healed ; they shall be given to salt.

12 And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed : it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary : and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Some years after the last Lesson, Ezekiel had another vision. He dreamed that the angel of the Lord brought him to the door of the temple at Jerusalem, and there he saw, flowing from under the door, a stream of water.

It was not a very deep stream, but as the angel led him eastward from the temple, he found the water had risen to his ankles. They went on farther, till the waters reached the knees, then the waist, and at last they became a great and mighty river that no man could cross. The angel took Ezekiel to the bank of the river, and when he looked about him, he saw beautiful trees growing on the banks on both sides.

"Do you see this great river?" said the angel to Ezekiel. "Its waters run down eastward to the desert, and behold, the desert is no longer a desert, but trees such as these

grow where once all was barren, and the leaves of the trees possess a healing power and never wither, and their branches bear fruit every month.

"This healing river shall flow also to the Dead Sea," continued the angel, "and instead of being salty and poisonous, it shall become pure and sweet, with fish and other creatures living in it. Fishermen shall dwell on its banks, and cast their nets into what was once that poisonous water, and so obtain food for themselves and their children. For, wherever these waters of the temple come, they bring life and healing."

This strange vision of Ezekiel's had, of course, a meaning for God's people Israel, and he was given the vision that he might tell it to them again. The river is a beautiful picture of the blessings to His people that come from God, who dwelt in the temple.

At first these blessings were like a small stream flowing amongst the people of Israel. But, like the stream ever broadening and deepening, they were to come at last to all the peoples in the world; and just as the dream river made the desert to bring forth fruit, so God Himself, through the blessed Holy Spirit, would make hearts everywhere pure and sweet, and lives full of the fruit of good deeds.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Who came to Ezekiel in a dream?
2. What building did the angel show Ezekiel?
3. What was flowing from the door?
4. How large was the stream at first?
5. To what size did it grow in the end?
6. What did Ezekiel see growing on the banks?
7. How did the stream change the desert?
8. What did the stream do to the Dead Sea?
9. Why was this vision given Ezekiel?
10. Of what was the river a picture?
11. To whom alone did these blessings at first come?
12. To whom were they to come at last?
13. What would God do for hearts and lives everywhere?

Lesson Story

"Mother", said Francis, looking up from his book of Eastern pictures, "here's a funny looking man carrying a goat-skin bottle full of water through the streets, and people are paying money for it—just fancy! And under the picture it says, 'The Gift of God'." "That's because it is so precious, Francis", said his mother. "In the East water is not so easily got as with us, and in these hot countries the people would often die of thirst without the water carrier." "Why", said Francis, "only last Sunday Miss Martin

said that we should go to Jesus for help just as a thirsty man seeks for water sometimes to save his life. Now I know better what she meant."

Lesson Hymn

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 'Behold, I freely give
 The living water; thirsty one,
 Stoop down, and drink, and live!'
 Amen.

—Hymn 138, Book of Praise

**I Have Learned To-day
 THAT I SHOULD BEAR FRUIT**

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—50. What happened at the end of forty days? After forty days Jesus went up to heaven. 51. What is Jesus now doing for us in heaven? He intercedes for us, and He rules over all things for our good.

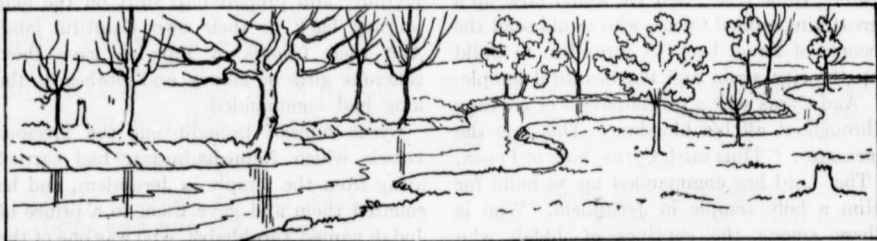
SHORTER CATECHISM—102. What do we pray for in the second petition? A. In the second petition (which is, *Thy kingdom come*) we pray, That Satan's kingdom may be destroyed; and that the kingdom of grace may be advanced, ourselves and others brought into it, and kept in it; and that the kingdom of glory may be hastened.

The Question on Missions

2. What organized effort is made to safeguard the Sabbath? The Lord's Day Alliance, organized at Toronto in 1895 for Ontario, and at Hamilton for Canada in 1902, has secured the Lord's Day Act for Canada, and seeks to secure its observance so as to preserve the Sabbath rest.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

Color the drawing, and think of all the blessings that God sends to us every day.



Lesson III. THE RETURN FROM THE CAPTIVITY October 15, 1911

Ezra 1 : 1-11. Study Ezra 1 : 1-11 ; 2 : 64-70—Memor. Verses, ch. 1 : 3, 4.

Golden Text—He retaineth not his anger for ever; because he delighteth in mercy.—Micah 7 : 18.

Ju'dah and Ben'jamin, and the priests, and the Le'vites, with all *them* whose spirit God had raised, to go up to build the house of the LORD which *is* in Jeru'salem. 6 And all they that *were* about them strengthened their hands with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods, and with beasts, and with precious things, beside all *that* was willingly offered. 7 Also Cy'rus the king brought forth the vessels of the house of the LORD, which Nebuchadne'zar had brought forth out of Jeru'salem, and had put them in the house of his gods; 8 Even those did Cy'rus king of Per'sia bring forth by the hand of Mith'redath the treasurer, and numbered them unto Sheshbaz'zar, the prince of Ju'dah. 9 And this *is* the number of them : thirty chargers of gold, a thousand chargers of silver, nine and twenty knives, 10 Thirty basons of gold, silver basons of a second *sort* four hundred and ten, and other vessels a thousand. 11 All the vessels of gold and of silver *were* five thousand and four hundred. All *these* did Sheshbaz'zar bring up with *them* of the captivity that were brought up from Bab'yion unto Jeru'salem.

THE LESSON RETOLD

At last, when the Jews had spent seventy years in captivity, the time came for them to go back to their own land, and God made Cyrus, who was now king in Babylon, willing to let them go.

So the words which God had spoken through His prophet Isaiah many years before, came true—that He would raise up a great king named Cyrus, who would send the people of Israel back to Jerusalem to build up the city again and the beautiful temple.

And Cyrus sent a proclamation or message throughout all his kingdom. This was the message : " Thus saith Cyrus, king of Persia, ' The Lord has commanded me to build for Him a holy temple in Jerusalem. Who is there among the captives of Judah who

1 Now in the first year of Cy'rus king of Per'sia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremi'ah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cy'rus king of Per'sia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and *put it* also in writing, saying,

2 Thus saith Cyrus king of Per'sia, The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth ; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jeru'salem, which *is* in Ju'dah.

3 Who *is there* among you of all his people ? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jeru'salem, which *is* in Ju'dah, and build the house of the LORD God of Is'rael, (he *is* the God,) which *is* in Jeru'salem.

4 And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that *is* in Jeru'salem.

5 Then rose up the chief of the fathers of Ju'dah and Ben'jamin, and the priests, and the Le'vites, with all *them* whose spirit God had raised, to go up to build the house of the LORD which *is* in Jeru'salem. 6 And all they that *were* about them strengthened their hands with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods, and with beasts, and with precious things, beside all *that* was willingly offered. 7 Also Cy'rus the king brought forth the vessels of the house of the LORD, which Nebuchadne'zar had brought forth out of Jeru'salem, and had put them in the house of his gods; 8 Even those did Cy'rus king of Per'sia bring forth by the hand of Mith'redath the treasurer, and numbered them unto Sheshbaz'zar, the prince of Ju'dah. 9 And this *is* the number of them : thirty chargers of gold, a thousand chargers of silver, nine and twenty knives, 10 Thirty basons of gold, silver basons of a second *sort* four hundred and ten, and other vessels a thousand. 11 All the vessels of gold and of silver *were* five thousand and four hundred. All *these* did Sheshbaz'zar bring up with *them* of the captivity that were brought up from Bab'yion unto Jeru'salem.

wishes to go back to his own land ? Let him go now and build up the house of the Lord. And let the people of my kingdom help those who go, by giving them gold and silver, cattle and provisions to take with them.' "

So the Jews, who had been captives so long in this heathen country, gathered together joyfully, and prepared to start on the long journey back to their own beautiful land. And their friends in Babylon gave them generous gifts of money and clothes as the king had commanded.

Cyrus himself brought out the precious vessels which Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from the temple in Jerusalem, and he counted them and gave them to a prince of Judah named Zerubbabel, who was one of the

leaders of those who were going to Jerusalem. Altogether the vessels of gold and silver numbered 5,400.

The number of the children of Israel that went back to the land of Judah was 42,360, besides 7,337 servants. When they came to Jerusalem, they found everything in ruins, with the beautiful temple and the walls of the city and the houses broken down, just as Nebuchadnezzar had left them so many years before. But the hearts of God's people were now filled with hope, and they began quickly to build up their city and homes again, and to gather materials together to build another temple to the glory of the God of Israel.

Questions on the Lesson

1. How long were the Jews captive in Babylon? 2. How did King Cyrus come to let them go? 3. What message did Cyrus send throughout his land? 4. What were his people commanded to do? 5. What gifts did they give the Jews when they left? 6. What did Cyrus give them to take back? 7. How many vessels were there altogether? 8. How many Jews returned to their own land? 9. How many servants were with them? 10. In what condition did they find Jerusalem? 11. What did the people at once begin to do? 12. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Story

"Why, why, what has my little boy been so busy at?" cried mother in surprise, looking down at the rows of feathery carrot-tops and the trim lines of green onion shoots—not a trace of a weed anywhere. "Oh! that's just saying thanks to father for what he did for me yesterday", said Danny. "He took a long time to mend my shovel and pail, and this was 'bout the only thing I could do to let him know how glad I was." "I know father will be surprised and delighted", said mother heartily. "Just as happy as our Father in heaven is, when His children show their thanks for His gifts by serving and loving Him", she added softly.

Lesson Hymn

Whither, pilgrims, are you going,
Going each with staff in hand?

We are going on a journey,
Going at our King's command;
Over hills and plains and valleys,
We are going to His palace,
Going to the better land. Amen.

—Hymn 583, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—52. What promise did Jesus make to His disciples when He was going away? Jesus promised to send them another Comforter, or Helper, to remain with them forever.

SHORTER CATECHISM—103. What do we pray for in the third petition? A In the third petition (which is, *Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven*) we pray, That God, by his grace, would make us able and willing to know, obey, and submit to his will in all things, as the angels do in heaven.

The Question on Missions

3. What is the aim and method of the Lord's Day Alliance? It aims to obtain the right of Sabbath rest, with the privilege of worship, for all the people of Canada. It works to give the public a true view of the Sabbath law, and to prevent violation of it, if possible, by friendly remonstrance and persuasion without appeal to the courts.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

How glad we should be to use our money in helping on Jesus' work in the world!



What we spend in this way will make us far happier than what we spend on ourselves. Copy the drawing.

**I Have Learned To-day
THAT I SHOULD BE KIND**

THE FOUNDATION OF THE SECOND TEMPLE LAID

October 22, 1911

Ezra 3 : 8 to 4 : 5. Study Ezra 3 : 1 to 4 : 5—Memory Verse, ch. 3 : 11.

Golden Text—Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise.—
Psalm 100 : 4.



Ben'jamin bear.i that the children of the captivity builded the temple unto the Lord God of Is'rael ;
 2 Then they came to Zerub'babel, and to the chief of the fathers, and said unto them, Let us build with you : for we seek your God, as ye do ; and we do sacrifice unto him since the days of Es'sar-had'don king of As'sur, which brought us up hither.
 3 But Zerub'babel, and Jesh'ua, and the rest of the chief of the fathers of Is'rael, said unto them, Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God ; but we ourselves together will build unto the Lord God of Is'rael, as king Cy'rus the king of Per'sia hath commanded us.
 4 Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Ju'dah, and troubled them in building,
 5 And hired counsellors against them, to frustrate their purpose, all the days of Cy'rus king of Per'sia, even until the reign of Dari'us king of Per'sia.

THE LESSON RETOLD

At last the people of Judah were ready to begin building the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem. They had already set up an altar on which they offered up sacrifices every day to God, and they had gathered together from far distant countries the precious woods and the stone of which the temple was to be built.

Then, on the day when the foundation was to be laid, the people gathered together for a great thanksgiving service. The priests and the Levites played on sweet instruments of music and sang songs of praise to the Lord. And the people were glad, and shouted with joy, because the building of the temple was begun. But many of the old men, who remembered the beautiful temple which had stood there before and which had been destroyed because of Israel's sins, wept

8 Now in the second year of their coming unto the house of God at Jeru'salem, in the second month, began Zerub'babel the son of Sheal'tiel, and Jesh'ua the son of Jo'zadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and the Le'vites, and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jeru'salem ; and appointed the Le'vites, from twenty years old and upward, to set forward the work of the house of the Lord.

9 Then stood Jesh'ua with his sons and his brethren, Kad'miel and his sons, the sons of Ju'dah, together, to set forward the workmen in the house of God : the sons of Hena'dad, with their sons and their brethren the Le'vites.

10 And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Le'vites the sons of A'saph with cymbals, to praise the Lord, after the ordinance of Da'vid king of Is'rael.

11 And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the Lord ; because *he is good*, for his mercy *endureth* for ever toward Is'rael. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.

12 But many of the priests and Le'vites and chief of the fathers, *who were* ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice ; and many shouted aloud for joy :

13 So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people : for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.

Ch. 4 : 1 Now when the adversaries of Ju'dah and

loudly. So, both the sounds of shouting and the sounds of weeping went up together and were heard far off.

Now, years before, when the king of Assyria had carried away captive the ten Northern tribes of Israel, he sent people from his own land to live in the cities which they had left, and these people, who were called Samaritans, had been living there since that time. Though they pretended to serve God, they really worshiped idols. But when they heard that the people of Judah had returned and were building the temple, they came to Zerubbabel the prince of Judah, and Jeshua the high priest, and others of the rulers, and said to them, " Let us help you, for we are servants of God as well as you, and have offered up sacrifices to Him ever since the

king of Assyria sent us to live in this land."

But the men of Judah answered the Samaritans, "You have nothing to do with the building of the Lord's house; we will build it ourselves, as Cyrus king of Persia commanded us."

The Samaritans were very angry at this, and tried in every way to stop the work of the Jews on the temple; and this they did all the years that Cyrus lived. When Cyrus died, and another king, Artaxerxes, reigned in his place, the Samaritans again stirred up trouble by writing letters to the king, until at last he made a decree that the building of the temple should cease altogether.

Questions on the Lesson

1. What preparations did the people of Judah make for the building of the temple?
2. What sort of a service had they on the day when the foundation was laid.
3. How did the people show their joy?
4. Who were glad?
5. Who wept?
6. Who were the Samaritans?
7. What did they worship?
8. To whom did they come with an offer?
9. What was the offer?
10. What did the men of Judah answer?
11. How did the Samaritans feel at this?
12. What did they do to annoy the Jews?
13. What did they do when Cyrus died?
14. Golden Text?

Lesson Story

It was the first service in the new little frame church on the prairie, and every one was happy and glad that at last they had a church of their own in which to worship. When the offering was taken up, there wasn't a happier little girl in the church than Molly Evans. Mother looked in surprise at the crisp dollar bill her little girl placed reverently on the plate; but it wasn't till they were driving home that Molly explained all about it. "I wanted to help too, mother, and I've been keeping every cent of my 'chicken money' for ten months." Mother's face was shining as well as Molly's. "Now my little girl will feel that she, too, has had a share in helping to build God's house", she said.

Lesson Hymn

Jesus, we love to meet
On this Thy holy day,

We worship round Thy seat

On this Thy holy day. Amen.

—Hymn 573, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—53. Who is the Comforter or Helper whom Jesus promised to send to His disciples? The Holy Spirit is the Comforter whom Jesus promised to send.

SHORTER CATECHISM—104. What do we pray for in the fourth petition? A. In the fourth petition (which is, Give us this day our daily bread) we pray, That of God's free gift we may receive a competent portion of the good things of this life, and enjoy his blessing with them.

The Question on Missions

4. What has been done thus far? More than 100,000 seven-day-in-the-week toilers have been set free to rest on the Lord's Day. The distribution and sale of American Sunday newspapers has been greatly reduced, and hundreds of instances of law violation have been stopped.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

The Lesson tells of men beating cymbals, like those in the drawing (color), and playing other musical instruments for joy at the



foundation-laying of the temple. So we should be very joyful when we go to God's house to worship Him.

I Have Learned To-day

THAT I SHOULD BE THANKFUL

Lesson V.

A PSALM OF DELIVERANCE

October 29, 1911

Psalm 85. Read Psalms 121, 122, 126—Memory Verses, 10, 11.

Golden Text—The Lord hath done great things for us ; whereof we are glad.—Psalm 126 : 3.



1 LORD, thou hast been favourable unto thy land : thou hast brought back the captivity of Ja'cob.

2 Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Se'lah.

3 Thou hast taken away all thy wrath : thou hast turned *thyself* from the fierceness of thine anger.

4 Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause thine anger toward us to cease.

5 Wilt thou be angry with us for ever ? wilt thou draw out thine anger to all generations ?

6 Wilt thou not revive us again : that thy people may rejoice in thee ?

7 Shew us thy mercy, O LORD, and grant us thy salvation.

8 I will hear what God the LORD will speak : for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints : but let them not turn again to folly.

9 Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him ; that glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth are met together ; righteousness and peace have kissed *each other*.

11 Truth shall spring out of the earth ; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 Yea, the LORD shall give *that which is good* ; and our land shall yield her increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him ; and shall set *us* in the way of his steps.

THE LESSON RETOLD

When part of the Jews came back to Jerusalem from Babylon, whither they had been carried captive so many years before, they came with joy and hope in their hearts. They had left the land of their enemies behind them, and their own beautiful country lay before them, where they could once more live in peace and safety, and where they could worship the one true God in His own holy city of Jerusalem.

But alas ! when they came to the city, they found the walls broken down ; their homes and the beautiful temple lay in ruins, and the streets were empty and deserted. Their hearts failed them, for they were a tiny band of people, alone and unprotected in this great, desolate land ; their homes, their friends, their city, were gone, and they were filled with sorrow.

But one of the sweet singers of Israel sang a song to the Lord, and when the people heard it, their hearts were lifted up ; they remembered what God had already done for

them, and they felt that soon He would give them back His love and His full forgiveness.

" Lord, Thou hast received back Thy people again ", sang the psalmist or singer. " Thou hast brought back Israel from captivity ; Thou hast forgiven the sins of Thy people ; Thou hast taken away Thine anger from them."

Still, in spite of God's forgiveness and His goodness in bringing them back to their own land, there was something wanting ; so now the psalmist prayed, " O God, cease to be angry with us ; do not punish the children for the sins of their fathers ; give back to Thy people their old power and glory ; put new life into our land ; grant us Thy mercy and Thy salvation."

Then the psalmist listens for God's answer to his prayer, and he gives to the people God's word that rich blessings are in store for them,—for those who are truly His people in deed as well as in name. But these blessings, and God's perfect forgiveness,

would only come if they did not go back to their old sinful ways.

And at last the psalmist bursts out into a song of gladness. "Glory will yet be in our land", he sings, "and mercy and peace, truth and righteousness shall dwell there also. Truth shall come from the people of the earth and righteousness from heaven; and all the land shall prosper, if we follow in the footsteps of the Lord our God."

Questions on the Lesson

1. Where had the Jews been held captive many years? 2. With what feelings in their hearts did they come back? 3. Why were they filled with joy? 4. In what state did they find the city? 5. What were their feelings then? 6. Who sang a song to the Lord? 7. How did this song affect the people? 8. What things did the psalmist say the Lord had done for His people? 9. Why were they still not perfectly happy? 10. What more did the psalmist pray that God would give them? 11. For what did he then listen? 12. What word came from God? 13. How only would these added blessings come? 14. How did the psalmist show his joy at this? 15. What were the words of his song? 16. How only could the people prosper? 17. Golden Text?

Lesson Story

"Are you finding it hard to be good?" asked the big, kind Sunday School teacher of the little newsboy with the honest eyes, who had been attending his class so regularly. "Yes sir, I am", was the emphatic reply. "Well, the next time you find it hard, or you are not selling your papers, try sending a telegram—a sky telegram; and this is the way to do it. Just think this thought

quickly, 'Jesus help me', and God will see the thought in your mind and send you the help you need."

A few weeks later the little newsboy met his kind friend again. "Say, teacher", he cried eagerly, "I've been tryin' the 'sky telegram', and I've got an answer every time. I've sold more papers than ever before, and I've kept out o' scraps too; it's great to know there's some One you can get to help you just for askin'."

Lesson Hymn

Let us, with a gladsome mind,
Praise the Lord, for He is kind:
For His mercies aye endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure. Amen.

—Hymn 17, Book of Praise

I Have Learned To-day

THAT I SHOULD BE JOYFUL

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—54. What did Jesus tell His disciples the Holy Spirit would do for them? Jesus said the Holy Spirit would help them to remember and to understand what He had taught them.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Review Questions 101-104.

The Question on Missions

5. What remains to be done? Much misunderstanding of the Lord's Day Act must be removed, the people led to see the benefits of its operation, and those who come from other lands guided to its fair and reasonable observance. The purpose of some to repeal the Act and so break down the Christian Sabbath, must be defeated.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

How many things we have to make us glad! Copy the words from the Golden Text.

Wherof we are glad

Lesson VI. ESTHER PLEADING FOR HER PEOPLE November 5, 1911

Esther 4 : 10 to 5 : 3. Study Esther 4 : 1 to 5 : 3—Memory Verses, ch. 4 : 13, 14.

Golden Text—The Lord preserveth all them that love him.—Psalm 145 : 20.



16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shu'shan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day : I also and my maidens will fast likewise ; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law : and if I perish, I perish.

17 So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

Ch. 5 : 1 Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house : and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house.

2 And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight : and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre.

3 Then said the king unto her, What wilt thou, queen Esther ? and what is thy request ? it shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Not all the Jews returned to Jerusalem with Ezra and Zerubbabel ; many of them still lived on in the land of Persia. Now the name of the king who reigned over Persia at this time was Ahasuerus. And Ahasuerus had married a beautiful Jewish girl named Esther ; but he did not know that she was a Jewess, for her older cousin, Mordecai, with whom she lived, had advised her not to tell.

Mordecai himself was a servant in the king's palace. Haman, the king's chief officer, became very angry at Mordecai, because he refused to bow down before him in reverence, like the other servants of the king. So Haman determined to punish Mordecai, and not him alone, but also all the Jews who were still left in Persia. So he got

10 Again Esther spake unto Ha'tach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai ;

11 All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live : but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.

12 And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place ; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed : and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this ?

15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,

the king to make a decree that on a certain day all the Jews were to be killed.

There was great distress and mourning amongst the Jews, when they heard this, and Mordecai sent a message to Queen Esther asking her to plead with the king for her people. But Esther sent a message back to her uncle, saying, " All the people of Persia know that whoever shall go in to the king without being called, will be put to death, unless the king shall hold out his golden sceptre. Now, I have not been called to go in to the king for thirty days ; how then can I ask this ? "

Then Mordecai sent another message to Esther : " Do not think that because you are the queen our enemies will spare you when

they kill all the Jews in the land. However, if you will not try to save your people, some one else will save them; but who can tell whether you have not been made queen at this time on purpose that you may save Israel? Then Esther decided to do this hard thing whether she perished or not; and she told Mordecai to gather all the Jews in the city together and ask them to fast and pray for her for three days that she might find favor in the king's sight.

So, on the third day, Esther dressed herself in her royal robes and stole softly into the inner part of the king's palace, where none might come unless he were called. But God filled the king's heart only with kindly thoughts towards Esther, and he held out to her his golden sceptre and said, "What is it that you wish from me, Queen Esther? I promise you that I will give it to you even if it is half of my kingdom."

So Esther's fears were taken away. God had indeed answered the prayers of His people. And when the king afterwards found out what wicked Haman had done, he hanged him to a gallows fifty cubits high; but he made Mordecai a great man in his kingdom and saved the Jews from death.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Did any of the Jews remain in Persia after Ezra returned to Jerusalem?
2. What was the name of the king of Persia?
3. Whom did he marry?
4. What was the name of Esther's cousin?
5. Who hated him?
6. Why?
7. What did Haman determine to do?
8. What did he persuade the king to do?
9. What message did Mordecai send to Esther?
10. What reason did Esther give for not doing what he asked?
11. What second message did Mordecai send?
12. What did Esther say in reply to this?
13. What did Esther do on the third day?
14. How did the king receive her?
15. Who had made him kind?
16. What three things did the king afterwards do?
17. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Hymn

O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;

Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend!

Amen.

—Hymn 255, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—55. **How may we get the Holy Spirit?** Jesus says that God will give His Holy Spirit to us if we ask Him.

SHORTER CATECHISM—105. *What do we pray for in the fifth petition?* A. In the fifth petition (which is, *And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors*) we pray, That God, for Christ's sake, would freely pardon all our sins; which we are the rather encouraged to ask, because by his grace we are enabled from the heart to forgive others.

The Question on Missions

(CANADIAN PROBLEMS: November, Canada and the Bible Society.)—6. Who received from the Bible Society the first translation of the scriptures into their own language? The Mohawk Indians, who lived in various parts of what are now the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec. The first grant of funds by the Society was for an edition of 2,000 copies of the Gospel of John translated by Captain Norton, a chief of the Six Nation Indians in Upper Canada.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

It was a sceptre like this that the king held out to Esther, when he promised to do for



her what she asked. Copy the drawing, and remember that God is willing to hear and answer our prayers.

I Have Learned To-day

THAT I AM SAFE IN GOD'S KEEPING

Lesson VII.

BELSHAZZAR'S FEAST AND FATE— November 12, 1911
WORLD'S TEMPERANCE SUNDAY

Daniel 5 : 17-30. Study Daniel, ch. 5—Memory Verses, 25-28.

Golden Text—God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.—Ecclesiastes 12 : 14.

17 Then Dan'iel answered and said before the king, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation.

18 O thou king, the most high God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour.

19 And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down.

20 But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:

21 And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses; they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will.

22 And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this:

23 But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know; and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:

24 Then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this writing was written.

25 And this is the writing that was written, ME'NE, ME'NE, TE'KEL, UPHAR'SIN.

26 This is the interpretation of the thing: ME'NE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.

27 TE'KEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.

28 PE'RES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

29 Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Dan'iel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

30 In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.

THE LESSON RETOLD

While the prophet Daniel was living in the heathen city of Babylon, his friend, King Nebuchadnezzar, died, and Belshazzar reigned in his stead. One night Belshazzar gave a great feast. He asked a thousand of the lords of the land and their wives to the palace, and there they ate and drank from the beautiful gold and silver dishes that had belonged to Nebuchadnezzar.

But some more dishes were needed, and then Belshazzar did a dreadful thing—perhaps because he had drunk so much that he did not know what he was doing: he sent for the sacred vessels that Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from God's holy temple in Jerusalem, and the wicked men and women at his feast drank wine from them, praising, as they did so, their heathen gods.

Suddenly a hush fell on all the gay company; the king turned pale with fear, and

his knees shook together. For there, on the brightly lighted wall of the banqueting room, could be seen quite distinctly a man's hand. There was no head, no body, nothing but the strange and dreadful sight of a hand writing slowly and clearly four words of an unknown language. The guests were all terribly frightened, and, shaking with fear, the king cried out for all the wise men of his kingdom to come and tell him what the words meant. Whoever could do this, he promised, should be richly rewarded and made a great ruler in the kingdom. But not one of the wise men could tell what the strange words meant. Then came the queen into the banqueting hall and reminded the king of Daniel, who was so wise and good. So Daniel was sent for, and he, too, was promised a great reward if he could read the writing on the wall.

Then Daniel stood up before the bad king,

and said bravely, "Keep your gifts. I do not want them. Yet will I explain to you what the writing means. God gave to Nebuchadnezzar a kingdom and glory and honor, but his heart was so full of pride that he forgot God. Then his throne was taken from him; he was driven from his palace and made to live with the beasts of the fields until he acknowledged God as the Lord and the Ruler of the whole earth. You knew all this, O king", said Daniel, "yet you, too, have sinned greatly against God. You have brought the precious vessels of His holy temple before you, and you and this wicked company have drunk wine from them, praising your idols of gold and silver, wood and stone, and praising not the one true God. So God has sent this message to you." Then Daniel read from the wall the four strange words that none could understand: "MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN." "This means", he said: "Thy kingdom shall be taken from thee, O king. God has tried thee, and thou hast not obeyed Him; so he will give thy kingdom to the Medes and Persians."

Then Daniel was given the beautiful robes that the king had promised him, and the gold chain, and was made third ruler of the kingdom. And that very night God's message came true. Belshazzar's enemies, the Medes and Persians, came with a great army and took the city, and killed the king.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Who reigned in Babylon after King Nebuchadnezzar died? 2. Whom did Belshazzar entertain one night? 3. From what did they eat and drink? 4. What wicked thing did Belshazzar do? 5. What suddenly happened that frightened the king and his guests? 6. For whom did the king send? 7. What did the king promise these men? 8. Could the wise men explain the writing? 9. Who reminded the king of Daniel? 10. What did the king promise Daniel? 11. How did Daniel answer? 12. Of what did Daniel remind the king? 13. Why was God going to punish Belshazzar? 14. What were the four words of the message? 15. What did these words mean? 16. How was Daniel rewarded? 17. What happened that night? 18. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Hymn

I need Thee, precious Jesus,
For I am very poor;
A stranger and a pilgrim,
I have no earthly store:
I need the love of Jesus
To cheer me on my way,
To guide my doubting footsteps,
To be my strength and stay. Amen.
—Hymn 121, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—56. **What will the Holy Spirit do for us?** The Holy Spirit will dwell in our hearts, cleansing them from sin and helping us to be good.

SHORTER CATECHISM—106. *What do we pray for in the sixth petition?* A. In the sixth petition (which is, *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil*), we pray, That God would either keep us from being tempted to sin, or support and deliver us when we are tempted.

The Question on Missions

7. What is the special work of the Bible Society? To give to all nations the Word of God. The Society circulates the Bible by itself, and in the native language of each people. In this way the Bible is like a letter from home to one far away.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

The words *to be copied* are those which Belshazzar saw written on the wall at his wicked feast. Now we know that strong drink

MENE, MENE TEKEL
UPHARSIN

causes people to do many wicked things. How we should hate drink, and work and pray that it may be driven from our land!

I Have Learned To-day

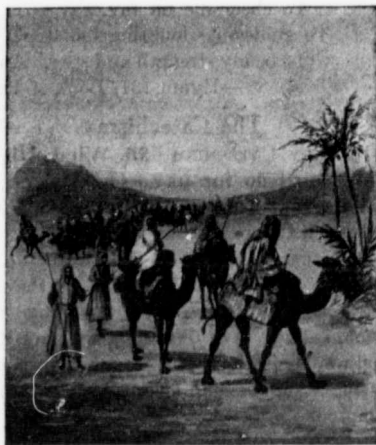
THAT I SHOULD BE TEMPERATE

Lesson VIII.

EZRA'S JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM November 19, 1911

Ezra 8 : 21-32. Study Ezra 8 : 15-36—Memory Verses, 21, 23.

Golden Text—The hand of our God is upon all of them for good that seek him.—Ezra 8 : 22.



21 Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Aha'va, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of him a right way for us, and for our little ones and for all our substance.

22 For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy in the way : because we had spoken unto the king, saying, The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him ; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him.

23 So we fasted and besought our God for this : and he was intreated of us.

24 Then I separated twelve of the chief of the priests, Sherebi'ah, Hashabi'ah, and ten of their brethren with them,

25 And weighed unto them the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, *even* the offering of the house of our God, which the king, and his counsellors, and his lords, and all Is'rael *there* present, had offered :

26 I even weighed unto their hand six hundred and fifty talents of silver, and silver vessels an hundred talents, *and* of gold an hundred talents ;

27 Also twenty basons of gold, of a thousand drams ; and two vessels of fine copper, precious as gold. 28 And I said unto them, Ye *are* holy unto the LORD ; the vessels *are* holy also ; and the silver and the gold *are* a freewill offering unto the LORD God of your fathers. 29 Watch ye, and keep *them*, until ye weigh *them* before the chief of the priests and the Le'vites, and chief of the fathers of Is'rael, at Jeru'salem, in the chambers of the house of the LORD. 30 So took the priests and the Le'vites the weight of the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, to bring *them* to Jeru'salem unto the house of our God. 31 Then we departed from the river of Aha'va on the twelfth *day* of the first month, to go unto Jeru'salem : and the hand of our God was upon us, and he delivered us from the hand of the enemy, and of such as lay in wait by the way. 32 And we came to Jeru'salem, and abode there three days.

THE LESSON RETOLD

While Artaxerxes was king of Persia, there lived in Babylon, one of his chief cities, a Jew named Ezra. He was a priest and teacher, and because he loved his people, he was anxious that they should serve and obey God. So he asked permission to go to Jerusalem, that he might teach God's laws to the Jews who were living there ; and Artaxerxes not only gave Ezra permission to go, but gave him rich presents of gold and silver to take with him as offerings for the temple. He also promised that any Jews who were still in Babylon and wished to return to Jerusalem might go with Ezra.

So Ezra called together all the chief men of the Jews who were still in Babylon, and they gathered by the river of Ahava. There

they set up tents and stayed three days, fasting and praying to the Lord to be with them on their long journey, to take care of them and their little children and the great treasures they were carrying with them.

For Ezra was ashamed to ask the king for soldiers to guard them on the way, because he had told him that the Lord always guarded those who obeyed Him and punished those who sinned against Him.

At the end of three days Ezra called to him twelve of the priests, and he weighed out to them the great treasures which had been given him by the king and the people of Babylon.

And Ezra said to the priests and Levites :
" This silver and gold is an offering to the

Lord. Watch over it carefully until you reach Jerusalem ; there you shall weigh it out again and hand it over to the priests and Levites at the temple." So the priests and Levites packed the precious treasure carefully, and they and Ezra and all the people who were returning to Jerusalem, started from the river of Ahava on the twelfth day of the first month. They had to pass through a desert country where wild beasts roamed and robbers lay in wait for lonely travelers ; but the Lord watched over them and kept them safe during the four long months it took to reach Jerusalem.

After coming into the city the little band rested three days ; then they went up to the temple, and there the silver and gold and precious vessels which they had brought from Babylon were weighed again, to see that none had been lost, and afterwards they were given to those in charge of the temple. And Ezra and his companions offered up there in the temple a great sacrifice to God, as a thanksgiving for His protecting care during their long and dangerous journey.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Who was Ezra ?
2. What did he ask of King Artaxerxes ?
3. How did Artaxerxes treat Ezra's request ?
4. Where did Ezra gather the Jews together ?
5. What did they do there for three days ?
6. Why did Ezra not ask for a guard of soldiers ?
7. What did Ezra give into the care of the priests and Levites before they started ?
8. How long did their journey last ?
9. Who kept them safe ?
10. What was done when they reached Jerusalem ?
11. How did Ezra and his companions show their gratitude to God ?
12. What is the Golden Text ?

Lesson Hymn

His call we obey,
Like Abram of old,
Not knowing our way,
But faith makes us bold ;
For, though we are strangers,
We have a good guide,
And trust, in all dangers,
'The Lord will provide.' Amen.
—Hymn 16, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—57. Where do all our good thoughts and desires come from? The Holy Spirit puts good thoughts and desires into our hearts. **58.** In what other ways is the Holy Spirit our Helper? The Holy Spirit helps us in our study of the Bible and in prayer.

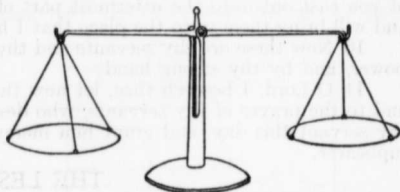
SHORTER CATECHISM—107. What doth the conclusion of the Lord's prayer teach us? A. The conclusion of the Lord's prayer (which is, *For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever, Amen*) teacheth us to take our encouragement in prayer from God only, and in our prayers to praise him, ascribing kingdom, power, and glory to him. And, in testimony of our desire, and assurance to be heard, we say, *Amen*.

The Question on Missions

8. Who are first amongst the helpers of the Bible Society? The missionaries, both at home and abroad. Many of the translations have been made by missionaries. They know how necessary it is for their people to have the scriptures printed in their own tongue, if they are really to understand the gospel message.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

Scales are used by merchants so that customers may receive what is fair and just.



As you copy the drawing, ask God to help you to be true and honest in all your words and deeds.

I Have Learned Today
THAT GOD IS MY GUIDE

Lesson IX.

NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER

November 26, 1911

Nehemiah, ch. 1—Memory verse, 9.

Golden Text—The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.—James 5 : 16.



1 The words of Nehemi'ah the son of Hachali'ah. And it came to pass in the month Chis'leu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shu'shan the palace,

2 That Hana'ni, one of my brethren, came, he and *certain* men of Ju'dah ; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jeru'salem.

3 And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach : the wall of Jeru'salem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire.

4 And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned *certain* days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven,

5 And said, I beseech thee, O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments :

6 Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Is'rael,

which we have sinned against thee : both I and my father's house have sinned.

7 We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Mo'ses.

8 Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Mo'ses, saying, *If* ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations :

9 But *if* ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them ; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, *yet* will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.

10 Now these are thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand.

11 O Lord, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name : and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer.

THE LESSON RETOLD

It was now ninety years since Cyrus, king of Persia, had allowed the Jews to go back to Jerusalem. Artaxerxes was still king of Persia, and Nehemiah, a Jew, was his cupbearer.

One day, when Nehemiah was in the palace of his master at Shushan, there came to see him some friends from the land of Judah ; and Nehemiah asked them about the Jews who had gone back to that land, and about the holy city of Jerusalem. His friends told him the sad news, that the Jews were in great trouble and affliction, that the walls of Jerusalem were still in ruins, and that the gates of the city had never been set up.

When Nehemiah heard this, he wept for the sorrows of his people and the city of Jerusalem, and he fasted, and prayed to God to hear and answer his prayer. He confessed to God that he and his people had not kept His laws and commandments which He had given them through His servant Moses ; they had sinned greatly and did not deserve forgiveness. He remembered, however, that God had said to His people : " If ye do evil, I will scatter you among other nations." They had done evil, and they had been torn from their own land and punished, as God had said. But God had also promised, that, if they repented of their sins and kept His com-

mandments, He would forgive them and gather them together once more in the land He had set apart for them.

So Nehemiah now prayed to God to listen to his prayer for his people. He acknowledged their sins and prayed for forgiveness, and he also prayed that God would make Artaxerxes willing to do what he should ask of him; for Nehemiah was planning to ask the king to send him back to Jerusalem, that he might build up the walls of the city and help the Jews who were there.

Questions on the Lesson

1. How long was it since the first return of Jews to Jerusalem? 2. Who was Artaxerxes' cupbearer? 3. Who brought him news one day? 4. What was this news? 5. What did Nehemiah do when he received it? 6. To whom did he go with his trouble? 7. What did he confess to God? 8. What did he remember that God had said? 9. Had His people been punished for their sins? 10. What promise had God also made? 11. What did Nehemiah now pray for? 12. What did he ask God to cause Artaxerxes to do? 13. What request was Nehemiah going to make of the king? 14. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Story

"I don't see any use in having to go and 'fess up to mother", pouted Jean, looking in dismay at the disturbed flower bed, where the crocuses were just beginning to peep up through the earth. "She'll see the hole where your foot went when I pushed you, but she'll think it was Snap's mischief."

"It was our fault, and I am going to tell mother just what naughty girls we were to be playing so near her new crocus bed", said Mary stoutly. "I know if I tell her all about it, and say how sorry we are, she'll forgive us; but I won't try to hide it or lay the blame on poor Snap." And that is just what happened. Mother said she was very sorry about the accident to her crocuses, but she was willing to listen to her little daughter's story, and forgave her willingly.

Lesson Hymn

What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry

Everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit,

O what needless pain we bear,

All because we do not carry

Everything to God in prayer. Amen.

—Hymn 404, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—59. What warning is given us in the Bible about the Holy Spirit? The Bible tells us not to grieve the Holy Spirit. 60. How may we grieve the Holy Spirit? All sinful thoughts, words, or actions grieve the Holy Spirit.

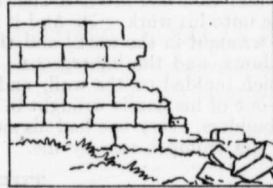
SHORTER CATECHISM—Review Questions 105-107.

The Question on Missions

9. Who are the colporteurs? They are the agents of the Bible Society who carry the scriptures to the people of all nations. They sell Bibles at or below cost, and often, where people are not able to pay for them, they give them away. The colporteurs, men and women, number 2,000, of whom 60 are employed in Canada.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

See this city wall broken down so that enemies could easily get in. The walls of Jerusalem were like that, when Nehemiah asked



God to send him to build them up again. God will answer our prayers as He answered Nehemiah's. Copy the drawing.

I Have Learned Today

THAT GOD ANSWERS PRAYER

Lesson X.

NEHEMIAH REBUILDS THE WALL OF JERUSALEM

December 3, 1911

Nehemiah 4 : 6-18. Study Nehemiah, ch. 4—Memory Verses, 16, 17.

Golden Text—Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.—1 Corinthians 16 : 13.



6 So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.

7 But it came to pass, *that* when Sanbal'lat, and Tobí'ah, and the Ara'bians, and the Am'monites, and the Ash'dodites, heard that the walls of Jeru'salem were made up, *and* that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth,

8 And conspired all of them together to come *and* to fight against Jeru'salem, and to hinder it.

9 Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them.

10 And Ju'dah said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and *there is* much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall.

11 And our adversaries said, They shall not know, neither see, till we come in the midst among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease.

12 And it came to pass, that when the Jews which dwelt by them came, they said unto us ten times, From all places whence ye shall

return unto us *they will be upon you*. 13 Therefore set I in the lower places behind the wall, *and* on the higher places, I even set the people after their families with their swords, their spears, and their bows. 14 And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, *which is* great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses. 15 And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work. 16 And it came to pass from that time forth, *that* the half of my servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held both the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the habergeons; and the rulers *were* behind all the house of Ju'dah. 17 They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, *every one* with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other *hand* held a weapon. 18 For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and *so* builded. And he that sounded the trumpet *was* by me.

THE LESSON RETOLD

King Artaxerxes very willingly allowed Nehemiah to go back to Jerusalem, as he asked, to build up the walls of the city. So Nehemiah came to Jerusalem, where he was so strengthened by God's promise to help him, that he put new life and spirit into the people, and immediately they began to repair their ruined walls; every one helped,—the priests, the Levites, and all the people, women, as well as men.

Now there were two wicked men who were enemies of the Jews. Their names were Sanballat and Tobiah. These men were

angry when they saw what the people of Judah were doing, and they planned together to go along with other enemies, and fight against them suddenly, and so hinder their work. But the Jews were told of their coming, and made ready for them.

And when their enemies heard that the Jews had thus made ready for them, they did not come up against the city. After that, half of Nehemiah's servants worked on the building of the wall, while the other half watched, well armed; and all those who were building carried their swords, some in

their hands and others by their sides. And Nehemiah kept a trumpeter near him, whom he commanded to blow on his trumpet if their enemies should come in sight. "For", he said, "the wall is very long, and while we are at work, we are separated far from one another. But as soon as you shall hear the sound of the trumpet in any place, make haste to help the men who are there."

So the people labored at their work from morning till evening, and neither Nehemiah nor the men who were with him took off their clothes by day or by night, except when they took them off for washing; for no one knew when their enemies might come upon them to fight with them.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Who allowed Nehemiah to go back to Jerusalem? 2. What was he to do there? 3. Who strengthened Nehemiah? 4. What effect did this have on the people? 5. What did they immediately begin to do? 6. Who helped? 7. Who were two enemies of the Jews? 8. What did these men plan to do? 9. What happened when the Jews heard of this? 10. What did the enemies do then? 11. What did one half of Nehemiah's servants do after this? 12. What did the other half do? 13. Whom did Nehemiah keep near him? 14. Why did he do this? 15. How hard did the people work? 16. Why were they so watchful? 17. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Story

Once upon a time there were three little mice. They were building a nest, and right across a bridge from where they lived was a beautiful bunch of sticks. At least the mice thought they were beautiful, for their nest was made only of little straws and they needed one big stick anyway to give it some style. So they put their heads together. If one carried the big stick, he might step too near the edge of the bridge and fall over. If two carried it, one might pull too hard on one end and take them both over. But if three carried it, the big one in the middle would hold the little ones on by the stick, and all could lift together. So scamper, scamper, went the three mice over the bridge, and creep, creep, they came back again with the

stick. Then they had the nicest nest in all Mousetown, and all because they worked together.

Lesson Hymn

Simply trusting every day,
Trusting through a stormy way,
Even when my faith is small:
Trusting Jesus—that is all.

*Trusting as the moments fly,
Trusting as the days go by;
Trusting Him whate'er befall:
Trusting Jesus—that is all. Amen.*
—Hymn 293, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—61. How may we please the Holy Spirit? We may please the Holy Spirit by doing what He puts into our hearts.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Review Questions 1-19.

The Question on Missions

(CANADIAN PROBLEMS: December, The Women's Portion—Home Mission Hospitals.)
—10. When and wherefore was the Women's Home Mission Society organized? In June 1903; to aid the General Assembly's Home Mission Committee by undertaking hospital, nursing and other missionary work, and by helping to raise funds for general Home Mission work.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

We do not have to fight with swords, but we have enemies in the temptations that



come to us every day, and God wants us to be as brave in fighting these as soldiers are in battles. Copy the drawing.

I Have Learned To-day

THAT I SHOULD BE WATCHFUL

Lesson XI.

NEHEMIAH AND HIS ENEMIES

December 10, 1911

Nehemiah 6 : 1-12. Study Nehemiah, ch. 6—Memory Verse, 11.

Golden Text—The Lord is the strength of my life ; of whom shall I be afraid ?—Psalm 27 : 1.



1 Now it came to pass when Sanbal'lat, and Tobi'ah, and Ge'shem the Ara'bian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and *that* there was no breach left therein ; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates ;)

2 That Sanbal'lat and Ge'shem sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in *some one* of the villages in the plain of O'no. But they thought to do me mischief.

3 And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I *am* doing a great work, so that I cannot come down : why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you ?

4 Yet they sent unto me four times after this sort ; and I answered them after the same manner.

5 Then sent Sanbal'lat his servant unto me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand ;

6 Wherein *was* written, It is reported among the heathen, and Gash'mu saith *it*, *that* thou and the Jews think to rebel : for which cause thou buildest the wall, that thou mayest be their king, according to these words.

7 And thou hast also appointed prophets to preach of thee at Jeru'salem, saying, *There is* a king in Ju'dah : and now shall it be reported to the king according to these words. Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together. 8 Then I sent unto him, saying, There are no such things done as thou sayest, but thou feignest them out of thine own heart. 9 For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done. Now therefore, *O God*, strengthen my hands. 10 Afterward I came unto the house of Shemai'ah the son of Delai'ah the son of Mehet'abeel, who *was* shut up ; and he said, Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple : for they will come to slay thee ; yea, in the night will they come to slay thee. 11 And I said, Should such a man as I flee ? and who *is there*, that, *being* as I *am*, would go into the temple to save his life ? I will not go in. 12 And, lo, I perceived that God had not sent him ; but that he pronounced this prophecy against me : for Tobi'ah and Sanbal'lat had hired him.

THE LESSON RETOLD

At last the walls of Jerusalem were finished all but the doors of the great gateways. Sanballat and Tobiah still wished to do harm to the Jews ; but they were now afraid to go into this guarded city, so they sent a message to Nehemiah asking him to meet them in one of the villages near by. But Nehemiah, knowing they only meant him harm, sent back saying, "I am doing a great work. Why should I leave this work and come down to you ?" These men sent to him four times ; but each time Nehemiah answered in the same way.

Then Sanballat sent his servant with a letter. The letter said : "I have heard that the Jews are going to rebel against the king of

Persia and that you are going to make yourself their king, and it is for this reason you are building up the city wall. Now, before the king of Persia hears of this, you had better come out and talk to me about the matter." But Nehemiah sent back a brave answer to this impudent letter : "You know that these things are not true ; you are only making them up out of your wicked heart." And Nehemiah prayed to God to help him and his people, so that these their enemies should not hurt them.

Sanballat and Tobiah, not succeeding in getting Nehemiah out of the city, hired a man in it to deceive him. His name was Shemaiah. He pretended he had a message

from the Lord for Nehemiah, and sent to him to come to his house. There he tried to persuade him to shut himself up in the temple because his enemies were coming to seize him.

But Nehemiah said: "A man who is doing work for the Lord should not leave that work unfinished and flee away to save his own life. I will not go in." For Nehemiah saw that this was no message from the Lord, but that Sanballat and Tobiah had paid Shemaiah to do this. So the wall which was to guard God's temple and His people from their enemies, was finished and dedicated to the service of the Lord.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Who wished harm to the Jews? 2. What message did they send to Nehemiah? 3. What answer did Nehemiah return? 4. What did Sanballat next send? 5. What were the words of the letter? 6. What answer was sent to this? 7. What did Nehemiah then ask of God? 8. What did Nehemiah's enemies next do? 9. What did Shemaiah pretend? 10. What did he try to persuade Nehemiah to do? 11. What did Nehemiah answer? 12. Why did Nehemiah treat the answer in this way? 13. What was done when the wall was finished? 14. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Story

"We've formed the loveliest society", said Rosalind to Letty, "and we want you to join. We're calling it the 'Mother-love Society', and each Saturday we're going to do something to show our mothers how much we love them." Letty's face glowed. "That's beautiful! Of course I'll join." "Well then, to-morrow", said Rosalind, "we are going out to Barton's woods to get the loveliest flowers we can find for our mothers and—". "Oh!" cried Letty, her face falling,—she had promised to take care of Benny to-morrow while mother went to town,—"I can't." "You can't love your mother very much then", said Rosalind scornfully. "Oh I do, I do! Only—I think mother would rather have me do the thing she asked me, than something I'd like to do myself." And that is just what mother said when Letty told her.

Lesson Hymn

Gird thy heavenly armor on,
Wear it ever night and day;
Ambushed lies the evil one:
'Watch and pray.'

Hear the victors who o'ercame;
Still they mark each warrior's way;
All with one sweet voice exclaim,
'Watch and pray.' Amen.

—Hymn 254, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—62. What is a Christian? A Christian is one who loves and follows Jesus Christ.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Review Questions 20-38.

The Question on Missions

11. What are the different branches of the work? There are four—evangelical, educational, medical and benevolent. The evangelical includes: the support of nine mission fields; the Childerhose Memorial Fund for emergency work in Northern Ontario; an institutional church in Winnipeg located amongst the foreigners; and deaconess work.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

Nehemiah got a letter from his enemies that was meant to frighten him. But he knew that he was doing God's work and that



God was on his side. So he kept right on building the walls of Jerusalem. So, when we are doing what is right, nothing that our enemies can say or write should make us fear. Color the drawing.

I Have Learned To-day

THAT I SHOULD BE BRAVE

Lesson XII.

EZRA TEACHES THE LAW

December 17, 1911

Nehemiah 8 : 1-12. Study Nehemiah, ch. 8—Memory Verses, 2, 3.

Golden Text—The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul.—Psalm 19 : 7.

1 And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate ; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Mo'ses, which the Lord had commanded to Is'rael.

2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month.

3 And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand ; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.

4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose ; and beside him stood Mattithi'ah, and She'ma, and Anai'ah, and Uri'jah, and Hilkiah, and Masei'ah, on his right hand ; and on his left hand, Pedai'ah, and Mi'shael, and Malchi'ah, and Hash'um, and Hashbada'na, Zechari'ah, and Meshul'am.

5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people ; (for he was above all the people ;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up :

6 And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God. And all the people answered, A'men, A'men, with lifting up their hands : and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

7 Also Jesh'ua, and Ba'ni, and Sherebi'ah, Ja'min, Ak'kub, Shab'bethai, Hodi'jah, Masei'ah, Keli'ta, Azari'ah, Jo'zabad, Ha'nan, Pelai'ah, and the Le'vites, caused the people to understand the law ; and the people stood in their place.

8 So they read in the book in the law of God dis-

tinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.

9 And Nehemi'ah, which is the Tir'shatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Le'vites that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the Lord your God ; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.

10 Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared : for this day is holy unto our Lord : neither be ye sorry ; for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

11 So the Le'vites stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for the day is holy ; neither be ye grieved.

12 And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Many, many years before the Lesson, when the children of Israel were traveling in the wilderness, the Lord had appointed the first day of the seventh month to be set apart as a feast day, and because only the beautiful silver trumpets of the temple were blown by the priests at that time, to call the people to worship, it was called the Feast of Trumpets.

So now, after Nehemiah had finished building the wall of Jerusalem, the first day of the seventh month having come, the people met together to worship as the Lord commanded. And they asked Ezra the priest to bring out of the temple the book of the law which God had given to Moses. And Ezra brought out the book, and stood on a pulpit of wood, far up above the crowd, where all might see and hear him. And he opened the book before them, and read out of it to the men, the women and the children, from

morning until noon, and the priests and the Levites explained what was read.

When the people heard once more the words of God's law, and remembered how often they had disobeyed it, they were troubled, and wept. But Ezra and Nehemiah and the Levites said to them, "Do not weep, for this is a day for a feast to the Lord, when you are to be glad and to thank Him. Go, therefore, to your homes, and eat and drink of the good things which He has given to you, and send some to the poor, who have none of their own."

So all the people went away to eat and drink and send gifts to the poor, and to be glad and rejoice because the Lord had been kind to them and because they had understood the words that were read to them out of His law.

The next day the people came again to

Ezra, that he might teach them still more. And Ezra read out of the book, that God had commanded them to keep also the Feast of Tabernacles that month. So the people cut branches from trees and made them into booths or tents, on the tops of their houses, in their gardens and on the streets of Jerusalem, and they lived in these tents for the seven days of the feast. And there was great joy and gladness among them, for no such feast had been kept in Jerusalem for hundreds of years.

But the people, even in their joy, did not forget that they had often sinned against God; so, on the twenty-fourth day of the month, they met together again to fast and confess their sins to God and beg for His forgiveness.

Questions on the Lesson

1. When was the Feast of Trumpets first kept? 2. Why was it so named? 3. What work had Nehemiah completed? 4. Who was Ezra? 5. What was he asked to do? 6. Where did Ezra stand to read? 7. Who explained what was read? 8. Why did many people weep? 9. Why did Ezra tell them not to weep? 10. What were they to do when they reached home? 11. What did the people do next day? 12. What did Ezra remind them of then? 13. How was the Feast of Tabernacles kept? 14. Why was there so much joy among the people? 15. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Story

"I won't forgive Will—ever", was Patty's angry outburst. "He hid my doll this morning, and this afternoon I found him trying to tie a tin can to Fluff's tail, and just now he wanted me to sew his new ball for him. Well, I just won't, and I told him I wouldn't forgive him in a hurry."

"Did my little girl forget a tiny sentence in the prayer she said this morning?" asked mother gently,— "something about forgiveness?" Patty stood still and thought. "'Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors',—was that it?" she asked slowly. "Yes", said mother, "that is part of God's law. If we do not forgive each other, we cannot ask Him to forgive us." "I'm sorry, mother—I forgot. I'll go and make up with Will and mend that ball of his. I do want to keep all God's laws."

Lesson Hymn

Tell me the old, old story,
Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory,
Of Jesus and His love.
Tell me the story simply,
As to a little child,
For I am weak and weary,
And helpless and defiled. Amen.
—Hymn 555, Book of Praise

I Have Learned To-day

THAT I SHOULD LOVE GOD'S WORD

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—63. What does following Jesus Christ mean? To follow Jesus Christ is to trust and obey Him.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Review Questions 39-81.

The Question on Missions

12. What is meant by educational and medical work? A few children in the hospitals and mission houses and attending public schools are supported by the Society; and a class of Galician students at Manitoba College, Winnipeg, are partially supported. The medical work includes the upkeep of five hospitals and two mission houses.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

Color the drawing, and try with all your heart to obey God's perfect law day by day.

THE LAW OF THE LORD IS PERFECT

Lesson XIII. **MALACHI REBUKING AND ENCOURAGING JUDAH** - December 24, 1911

Malachi 3 : 7-18. Study Malachi 3 : 1 to 4 : 3—Memory Verses, 3 : 16, 17.

Golden Text—Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts.—Malachi 3 : 7.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The Jews had now built again the temple in Jerusalem. But after it was finished they grew careless. They lost their interest in God's house, they did not attend its services regularly, and they kept back the gifts and the offerings which they should have given to the Lord. Everything they possessed God had given them, and He had asked back again only a small part.

In His laws given many years before, God had told them that each person must set aside for the work of the Lord and the keeping up of the temple one-tenth of all the produce that he grew and the cattle that he possessed.

But the people had neglected this ; so God sent word to them that He was very angry with them. He sent this message by His servant Malachi the prophet. So Malachi

came to the Jews. "The Lord", he said, "is sending you now, as He has done so often, a warning. But some day He will stop sending you warnings, and will send you instead a Judge. This Judge shall come suddenly to the earth, and then what shall you people who have sinned against God, do? Just as silver is cleansed till it is pure and beautiful, so this Judge, who will be Lord of all the earth (for by this Judge was meant the Lord Jesus), will purify and cleanse His people. He will destroy all that is wicked and impure amongst them, and only that will remain which is good and pure. Then the offerings of the people of Judah and Jerusalem will be given cheerfully and gladly, as they were long years ago.

"Still, God wishes His people to turn to Him now. 'Leave off evil and come back to Me', He says, 'and I will come back to you.' But you say, 'How can we come back, when we have never left God?' and, 'No man has robbed God.' But you have robbed God. When you did not give Him the tenth of what you possess and brought no offerings to the temple, you robbed Him. And when you committed sin, you left God, for He can have nothing to do with evil.

"But now God has sent you this further message. He says, 'If you repent, even now, and give to My work the offerings which you should give, I will take away My curse from you and give you My blessing instead—such a great blessing that your land will not be able to hold it. No insects shall destroy your crops, no blight shall spoil the fruit of your vines, your land shall be prosperous and beautiful and the other nations of the earth shall call you blessed. All this shall come to you', saith the Lord, 'if you serve Me and obey My commandments.'"

Questions on the Lesson

1. How did the Jews behave after the temple was finished? 2. What did they keep back? 3. Why was it wrong to do this? 4. By whom did God send a message to His people? 5. What did God say He would now send instead of a warning? 6. Who was the Judge? 7. In what manner would this Judge come? 8. What would



He do to His people ? 9. What effect would this have ? 10. What did God now bid the people to do ? 11. How had the people robbed God ? 12. How had they left Him ? 13. What did God promise if they repented ? 14. What is the Golden Text ?

Lesson Hymn

When He cometh, when He cometh,
To make up His jewels,
All His jewels, precious jewels,
His loved and His own.

—Hymn 591, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—64. Can a little child be a Christian? Yes. Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God."

SHORTER CATECHISM—Review Questions 82-107.

The Question on Missions

13. What is meant by the benevolent work ? Supplying furnishings for hospitals, such as cots, bedding, general household provisions, surgical instruments, etc., and clothing for the poor,—sweaters, toques, shoes and stockings, especially all sorts of good warm garments for the children.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

Jesus! name of wondrous love!
Name all other names above!
Unto which must every knee
Bow in deep humility.

Learn by heart this verse, and ask Jesus to be your own Saviour day by day.

**I Have Learned Today
THAT JESUS IS MY SAVIOUR**

CHRISTMAS LESSON

AN ALTERNATIVE LESSON
Matthew 2 : 1-12.

When the little Baby Jesus was born in a stable in the town of Bethlehem, there came to Him from a far Eastern country three Wise

Men. In their own land they had seen a wonderful new star in the sky, and they had read in their wise books that, when that star should appear, a new king of the Jews would be born ; so now they came to Jerusalem searching for the baby King.

But when Herod, king of the Jews, heard their story, he was troubled. He was afraid, if this were true, that the Child would one day be king of Judea instead of himself. So he gathered his wise men together and asked them where Jesus was to be born. And the wise men answered, that the prophets said, in the little town of Bethlehem. So Herod told the three wise men this, and said, "When you find the Child, bring me word, that I may go and worship Him too." But Herod really meant to put Jesus to death.

So the wise men went to Bethlehem, following the star, which led them all the way till it stopped over the stable where Jesus lay with Mary His mother. Then the wise men went in and fell on their knees before the little Lord Jesus, and worshiped Him. Afterwards they took out of their bags the gold and sweet perfumes that they had brought, and gave these treasures to Jesus. Then, filled with happiness, they rode straight away again to their own land, because they were warned in a dream by God not to go back to Herod.

Christmas Story

"Wish I'd got a white teddy bear, 'stead of another brown—that's three now", grumbled Rosemary on Christmas afternoon. "And I wanted paints, and I only got two boxes of plasticine."

"What if you hadn't got any presents", said mother reproachfully, "as I've just heard happened to a little girl that moved into the house round the corner, last week?"

"No presents!" gasped Rosemary. She looked round the room. Why, she had heaps and heaps. What would it be like to have not even one? "Oh! mother", she cried, "let me give her some of mine; granny and the aunties won't mind." "Well, one of your brown bears, then", said mother smiling, "and a box of plasticine,—and—." Oh! it was a splendid basketful they carried to the little girl that had had no Christmas.

Lesson XIV.

REVIEW

December 31, 1911

Golden Text—If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.—1 John 1 : 9.

REPEAT—Golden Texts for the Quarter. BIBLE WORK. SCRIPTURE MEMORY PASSAGES. PRIMARY CATECHISM—Questions 48-64. SHORTER CATECHISM—Questions 1-107. SUPPLEMENTAL HYMN—535, Book of Praise. THE QUESTION ON MISSIONS FOR THE QUARTER.

A Review by Pictures

We shall review Lessons XI., XII. and XIII. of last Quarter and the Lessons of this Quarter, by looking at the pictures and seeing what they help us to remember of the Lessons.

Lesson XI. (Last Quarter). Here are four boys. Who are they? What are they doing?

Lesson XII. In this picture we see a king pointing to a burning furnace. Who is the king? Who were cast into the furnace? Why? Whom did the king see walking beside them?

Lesson XIII. Tell the story of this man whom we see in a den of lions.

Lesson I. (Present Quarter.) Who is this man with a staff in his hand? To whom is he speaking? Who sent him with a message to these people?

Lesson II. There are two men in this picture. Who is the man in the water? And who is the one on the bank?

Lesson III. See this great crowd of people, some on camels, some on horses and some walking! Who are they? Whither are they going? Who is their leader?

Lesson IV. What building are people working at in the picture for this Lesson? Who were their leaders in this work?

Lesson V. Give the name of the instrument on which a man is playing in this picture. Who else are in the picture? For what did the Jews who had come back to Jerusalem praise God?

Lesson VI. Here is a king seated on his throne and holding out his sceptre to a woman kneeling in front of him. Who is the king? Who is the woman? What did she obtain from the king?

Lesson VII. In this picture we see a banquet, and the feasters are looking at some strange handwriting on the wall. Tell the story of the picture.

Lesson VIII. Look at this great company on camels! Whither are they going? And who is their leader?

Lesson IX. Who is the man praying? And for what is he asking God?

Lesson X. What a busy scene is in this picture! What city walls are these being built?

Lesson XI. What was in the letter which we here see a man reading? Who is the reader? Why was the letter sent? What answer did Nehemiah return?

Lesson XII. Tell the name of the man on the platform reading from a roll. What are those beside him doing? Who are the crowds about the platform?

Lesson XIII. Here is a prophet speaking to God's people. What is he saying to them?

Lesson Hymn

Saviour, I come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I pray—
Cleanse me and save me,
Cleanse me and save me,
Wash all my sins away.

Lord, make me, from this hour,
Thy loving child to be,
Kept by Thy power,
Kept by Thy power
From all that grieveth Thee. Amen.

—Hymn 587, Book of Praise

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY

That I should confess my sins

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

Write in the spaces below (or get some one to do so for you) some one thing that you have learned from each Lesson.

<p>LESSON XI. (Last Quarter). Daniel and His Companions.</p>	<p>LESSON VI. Esther Pleading for Her People.</p>
<p>LESSON XII. Daniel's Companions in the Fiery Furnace.</p>	<p>LESSON VII. Belshazzar's Feast and Fate—World's Temperance Sunday.</p>
<p>LESSON XIII. Daniel in the Lions' Den.</p>	<p>LESSON VIII. Ezra's Journey to Jerusalem.</p>
<p>LESSON I. (Present Quarter). The Prophet Ezekiel a Watchman.</p>	<p>LESSON IX. Nehemiah's Prayer.</p>
<p>LESSON II. The Life-Giving Stream.</p>	<p>LESSON X. Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall of Jerusalem.</p>
<p>LESSON III. The Return from the Captivity.</p>	<p>LESSON XI. Nehemiah and His Enemies.</p>
<p>LESSON IV. The Foundation of the Second Temple Laid.</p>	<p>LESSON XII. Ezra Teaches the Law.</p>
<p>LESSON V. A Psalm of Deliverance.</p>	<p>LESSON XIII. Malachi Rebuking and Encouraging Judah.</p>

SABBATH SCHOOL AND CHURCH RECORD

[Many of the little ones will be pleased to mark down their attendance at church and Sabbath School with the number of verses learned, etc.; and so here is a place to do it in. The record will be very interesting, by the end of the Quarter. Mothers will help the tinier tots who cannot read, or manage a pencil very well.]

Name..... Address.....

Name of Sabbath School..... Teacher's Name.....

DATE 1911	OCTOBER					NOVEMBER				DECEMBER					TOTAL FOR QUAR.
	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	
Present at S. School..															
No. of Verses learned															
No. Cat'm. Ques. l'ned															
Amt. of Contribution															
Present at Church, Sab. morning, or pre- vious Sab. evening. .															

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