

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1978

Part One

Jan. 1

The Stone

The Natural and Changed Heart

Now, boys and girls, I have a stone, which because of its peculiar shape reminds me of the human heart. But if I take a pin and prick this stone it has no feeling whatever. If I take this pin and prick the back of my hand, I feel it immediately. It is very unpleasant. Indeed, I do not like to endure it, but this stone has no feeling. If I were to love this stone, the stone would never be conscious of it. I might bestow great gifts upon this stone, I might purchase fruit for it, and everything that you and I might love for food; the finest clothing also, the most costly lands and houses, or we might even bestow upon it very great honor, and yet this stone would know nothing of it. It would always be insensible of all that I might do for it.

So it is with our human hearts; if we do not really love God we will not know how to appreciate God's gifts to us. God loves us, He gives us our daily food, He clothes us, gives us many good things, and has provided mansions in the skies, and desires to give us everlasting salvation. He loves us so much that He gave His only begotten Son, Jesus

Christ, to die for us. We need to appreciate Jesus' sacrifice for us. God tells us in the Bible that He will take away, out of our flesh this heart of stone, and give us a heart of flesh, so that we may appreciate and love Him in return for all that He has done for us.

The heart is spoken of in the Bible as the seat of the affections, and therefore it is that God desires us to have a new heart, a changed heart that can love Him. The Bible says that each one is to keep his heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. We are told also that "the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked."

Many years ago in England there was a man by the name of John Bunyan. I suppose you have all heard of his wonderful book entitled the *Pilgrim's Progress*. I hope that many of you have read it. All of you should read it, if you have not yet done so. Get your mother or father to read it for you, if you cannot read it yourself.

This man Bunyan also wrote a book entitled the *Holy War*. In this book he represents the human soul or the human heart as a city, and calls it the "City of Mansoul." This city has

various gates, and at all these gates the enemy is trying to gain admission into the city, so that he may capture it. It is, indeed, a very apt illustration of the human heart. Do you know that your heart is like a city, and that Satan is trying to capture and to get possession of it? Indeed, he may already have possession of it. When God by His grace shall come and cast out Satan and all his evil companions, they will come back and try to get into the city again. They will come to the various gates of the city; for your heart has various avenues of approach, which may be called gates. There is eye-gate. Satan comes and he appeals to you and tries to get into your heart through the eye. Bad pictures that are posted upon the bulletin boards along our streets, and wicked things upon which you and I ought not to look upon, and in that way get evil thoughts into our minds and wicked purposes into our hearts, so that he can once more get possession of our hearts.

Then he come to ear-gate, and tries to get into our hearts through our ears. There are wicked songs, and bad stories, and wicked words that men pour into our ears, even when we walk along the streets. And so Satan tries to get into our hearts through ear-gate. He tempts our appetite, and would have us eat things which would injure us, or to drink that which would harm us. He tries to get boys and girls to smoke, to drink, if at first only beer, or something else, until at last Satan makes a drunkard of him. So Satan would get into the heart through mouth-gate. When he cannot get into the heart through mouth-gate, or any other way, he oftentimes approaches mouth-gate by way of nose-gate. By the smell of something that is pleasant he tempts the appetite, and thus would lead us astray.

Then he would also approach our hearts through the sense of feeling. There are many wicked things that Satan tempts people to do in order to give them pleasure, and so he seeks to get into their hearts, and to get entire control of them, and in that way to get God out of their hearts.

The best thing that you and I can do, is to accept God's invitation, when He says, "My son, give me thine heart." I trust that you will give your heart earnestly and fully to the Lord Jesus Christ. He will take away this heart of stone out of your flesh, and give you a heart of flesh. He will keep your heart securely for you, if you will only give it fully to Him.

—With the Children on Sundays
By S. Stall

"Create in me a clean heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit within me.
Psalms 51:10.

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LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

The fourth beast who was before the throne and was like a flying eagle, said to John, "Come and see." John saw a pale horse, which made him know that the horse was a symbol of an agent of a ghastly, terrible nature. The rider was called, "Death," or the Destroyer, and Hell followed him because of his terrible mission. We notice that power was given to this rider over "the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death," by the help of the beasts of the earth.

Let us look into history to see what this stands for. Last Sunday we studied about the false ministers and the power they were getting in the world. Church history makes us know that the Roman Catholic Church and the Pope, being the head of that church, represents the pale horse and rider (about 270 A.D.). They had such power that they ruled the rulers of the land or the "beasts of the earth." History says a quarrel took place between King Henry 4th of Germany, and Pope Gregory, because King Henry refused to accept some new rules. Pope

Gregory put him out of the church. People shunned the king and he nearly lost his kingdom. He was forced to seek pardon from the Pope to save himself. For three days he stood barefooted in the snow, clothed in sackcloth, waiting for permission to kneel at the Pontiff or Pope's feet and receive forgiveness. We see that the Catholic Church ruled the rulers, and through them they decreed thousands to be killed because they would not bow down to their belief. Many of the saints were martyred. (Sword could signify a literal destruction of life, or cutting off by the Pope and being an outcast. Hunger would be a destruction of spiritual life or literal starvation. This was accomplished by the Catholic Church and the government working together.)

The next scene is the opening of the fifth seal. There, John saw under the altar or "at the foot of the altar," souls who had been slain for the Word of God or for their testimony. They were calling for a stop of this terrible slaughter of those who loved God and stood against this false movement. "The world was now made the arena for the terrible cursings of the pale horseman, and the 'beasts of the earth' were let loose to fall with savage fury upon their helpless victims, until millions lost their lives to the apostate church of Rome." (Rev. Exp.) Later Protestantism took over and history tells us that in England during the three year reign (1555-1558) of Mary Tudor, whom the people sometimes called "Bloody Mary," 288 persons were burned alive. In 1560 in southern Italy, Pope Pius 4th commanded thousands to be slain.

Those under the altar were given "white robes," which are symbols of a heavenly inheritance and a righteous reward. We want to be true through all troubles so we, too, can wear a "white robe."

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 1, January 1, 1978
THE PALE HORSE AND THE
SOULS OF THE SLAIN

Rev. 6:7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.

8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

Memory Verse: Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. James 1:12.

QUESTIONS:

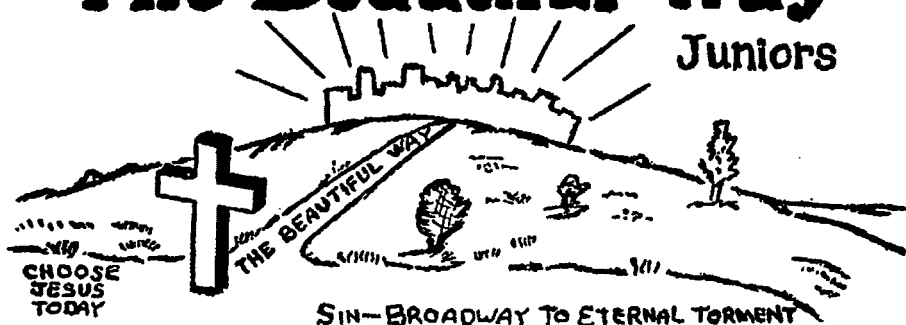
1. Relate again the throne scene that we are to keep in mind in studying our lessons.
2. What did the fourth beast look like, and what did he say to John, who was on the Isle of Patmos, and was seeing things in a vision?

3. What was the name of the rider on this pale horse?
4. What do the pale horse and the rider stand for?
5. We studied about the false ministers finally bringing the religious group under one head and he was called the Pope. What church was he the head of?
6. What does it mean when we read that the "beasts of the earth" helped the rider on the pale horse? Was it the rulers of the governments?
7. Relate the incident in our letter to "Dear Boys and Girls," about Pope Gregory and how he brought the king of Germany to his terms.
8. Do we understand then how the governments obeyed the Pope and would kill people who would not bow down to Roman Catholicism?
9. Can we read about this in our histories that we study in school?
10. After the twelve hundred and sixty years of Roman Catholicism killing and causing people to bow down to their church, Protestantism arose against them. The church of England was established. During Mary Tudor's reign in 1555-1558, how many were burned alive because they would not bow down to the Protestant church of England?
11. What did the souls of those who were "under the altar" and had been killed for Christ's sake, say with a loud voice? (People who are dead know things.)
12. What was the answer given to them?
13. Will there still be others killed for Christ's sake?
14. If we are true to Christ to the end what will we receive?

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Juniors



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Part Two

Jan. 8

ROPES

Habits and How They Become Strong

My dear boys and girls: Today I have a piece of rope, and also some different kinds of string. If I take this rope and try to break it, I find that it is impossible. I do not believe that any five or six ordinary men could pull with sufficient strength to break this rope. I am sure that no twenty boys and girls could pull hard enough to break it.

Here is a very strong string. Perhaps a couple of boys, possibly four boys, might be able to break it. But here is a thinner string. Possibly I may be able to break this. Yes, I can, but with great difficulty. It takes all the strength I have to break it.

Now, here is some that is still thinner. It is about as thick as heavy thread. I can break it very easily.

But now, when I take this heavy rope and cut off a piece, if I unwind different strands, I find that this rope is made by twisting smaller ropes together. If I untwist this smaller rope, which I have taken out of the larger rope, I find that it in like manner is also made of smaller ropes, or strings. If I take these smaller strings, and untwist them, I

find they are made of still smaller strings; if I take any of these smaller strings out of the rope, I can break them easily, but when I twist several of them together, I cannot break them.

I think that these smaller cords, out of which this rope is made, will very fittingly illustrate habits. It is a very dangerous thing to form bad habits. We should be very careful to form good ones, but bad ones are very dangerous. The boy who remains away from Sunday school but once, thinks little of it. The boy who remains away from church, or stays at home from school, or disobeys his parents, or spends the evenings on the streets instead of in the house reading good books, or does any one of many things, may think very little of it at the time; but do you know that when we go on repeating the same thing over and over again, the habit grows stronger and stronger until at last we are not able to break loose from that habit? There are men who think they can stop smoking. They began with only an occasional cigarette or a cigar, until the habit grew upon them, and now possibly they think they are able to stop, but when they undertake to break off smoking, they find that it

is a very difficult task, and very few smokers who undertake it succeed permanently. The old habit is likely to overcome them again and again.

So it is with swearing, and with telling falsehoods, and with being dishonest, and with drinking liquor, and everything else that people often do. These habits at last become very strong, until they are not able to break loose from them.

Now, if you take one of these strong habits from which a man is not able to break loose, and untwist it, you will find that it was made strong by a repetition of small habits. Habits are made strong by doing the same thing over and over again. It is just the same as when I take this spool of thread and wrap it around the feet of a boy. I can wrap it around and around, and while it would be easy for him to break the thread if it were wrapped once or twice, or three or four times around his feet; yet after I have succeeded in placing it ten or twelve, or twenty-five or fifty times around his feet, he is not able to walk at all.

I could tie his hands by wrapping this small thread around and around, just a few times. At first it could be broken, but after a little it becomes so strong that he is not able to break it at all. So it is with habits. When we do the same things again and again, the habit becomes stronger and stronger day by day, and year by year, until at last Satan has the poor victim bound hand and foot, and he is absolutely helpless. No one is able to come and snap the cords, and set this poor helpless prisoner free, until God in His grace comes and liberates him from the evil habits with which he has bound himself, or with which he has permitted Satan to bind him.

It is very important that in the very beginning of life, we should all form the

habit of doing those things which are right. The doing of the right may at first afford us but very little pleasure, yet we are to continue to do right, and after a while it will become pleasant for us to do right.

At first it may not be very pleasant for a boy to go to school. He prefers not to exert himself; not to put forth any mental effort. But after he becomes accustomed to going to school, and to putting forth mental effort, it becomes more and more natural to him, and finally he comes to love study. After he has completed his studies in grade school, he goes to junior high, and to high school, and possibly to college, and continues to be a student all his life.

So it is with going to church; those who begin when they are young and go regularly, Sunday after Sunday, become regular church attendants all their lives.

Habits are formed very much like the channel of a river. Gradually, year after year, the river wears its course deeper and deeper, until finally through the soft soil and the hard rock, through the pleasant meadow and the beautiful woodlands, it has worn out for itself a very deep channel in which it continues to flow to the ocean.

So the mind, by repeated action, marks out its course. Whether the mental effort or manual work be pleasant or difficult, we become so accustomed to it, that we go on day by day, and year by year doing the same thing.

The Bible gives very wise instruction to parents when it says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Prov. 22:6.) It has also been wisely said, "Sow an act and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character; sow a character and you reap a destiny."

Be careful, boys and girls, what you do, for by doing anything you are forming a habit. If you do wrong things you will form bad habits, but if you do right things you will form good habits, which are always the best.

—With the Children on Sundays
By S. Stall

The Man In The Boy

In the acorn is wrapped the forest;
In the little brook, the sea;
The twig that will sway with the sparrow
today
Is tomorrow's sturdy tree;
There is hope in a mother's joy,
Like a peach in its blossom furled;
And a noble boy, a gentle boy,
A manly boy, is king of the world.

The power that will never fail us
Is the soul of simple truth;
The oak that defies the stormiest skies
Was upright in its youth;
The beauty no time can destroy
In the pure young heart is furled;
And a worthy boy, a tender boy,
A faithful boy, is king of the world.

The cub of the royal lion
Is regal in his play;
The eaglet's pride is as fiery-eyed
As the old bird's, bald and gray;
The nerve that heroes employ
In the child's young arm is furled;
And a gallant boy, a truthful boy,
A brave, pure boy, is king of the world.

—Anonymous

A little girl was afraid of the dark,
afraid of silence, afraid of noise, and
afraid to be alone at night.

She told me not long ago that she was not afraid anymore. "My Sunday school teacher taught me to say, 'When I am afraid, I will put my trust in Thee,' and when I say that, I am not afraid anymore."

"Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High." Psa. 50:14.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

We want to have a review of our previous lessons and use the two verses in our printed portion. We want to remember that Jesus Christ set up the church on a rock. The gates of hell cannot destroy the church that Jesus built. Jesus chose those in the church while He was here on earth and when He left, 120 of them waited on the day of Pentecost to be filled with the Holy Spirit. They and others were ready to face the devil, who worked through men to destroy the church that Jesus founded. Down through the years the devil has tried to destroy the church, but God still has one today. Let us keep this in mind when we review our lesson.

—Aunt Marie

QUESTIONS:

1. In Rev. four we read about the throne. What did it look like?
2. How many elders were around the throne and how were they dressed?
3. How many lamps of fire were burning and what did they stand for? (Rev. 4:5).
4. How many beasts were before the

- throne and what did they look like?
5. What did the four beasts say to God who sat upon the throne?
 6. What did the 24 elders do and say?
 7. What did God have in His right hand and what did the angel proclaim with a loud voice? (Rev. 5:1,2).
 8. Did they find someone to open the book?
 9. Of what was the book a symbol?
 10. What did the four beasts and the 24 elders dressed in white do when Jesus (Lamb of God) came and took the book out of the hand of God who sat before the sea of glass?
 11. What did the golden vials that the 24 elders had, stand for? (verse 8).
 12. What did the 24 elders sing about Jesus Christ? (verses 9,10).
 13. What did the angels and every creature in heaven sing?
 14. In chapter six we are going to talk about the horses. There were four beasts and each of them had something to say when Jesus, the Lamb, opened each of the seals. What was the color of the first horse mentioned?
 15. Our printed Scripture lesson makes us know that Jesus built the Church of God. He chose 12 disciples and then others were saved and added to the church. Jesus gave those who loved Him power over those through whom the devil worked. So what does the rider with the bow stand for?
 16. The white horse and rider were the symbols of the ministers of God and others, and they went forth to conquer. Hell can't destroy the church. What color was the next horse?
 17. Red means danger. The rider had a great sword. Of what was this red horse and its rider a symbol?
 18. The pagan or anti-god people were stirred against Jesus' followers. They killed some who were followers of Jesus, also tried to get rid of the Apostle Paul. Did God still have a church through those terrible times?
 19. Did Jesus warn the disciples that they would be hated? What was He going to give them if they were faithful unto death?
 20. Time passed on and many believed on Jesus and became Christians. Even some rulers became Christians, so not many people were killed. Finally, the Pope was set up over the false church. This was called the Catholic Church. What did the black horse stand for?
 21. Next the pale horse came on the scene. What did it stand for?
 22. From the year of 270 A.D. to the middle 1500's there was a great move against anyone who would not join their man-made church. What happened to some of those who were in the Church of God and refused to bow to the Pope.
 23. Did God still have a church during these terrible times?
 24. Will God still have a church unto the end of the world?

Lesson 2, January 8, 1978

HELL CANNOT DESTROY THE CHURCH

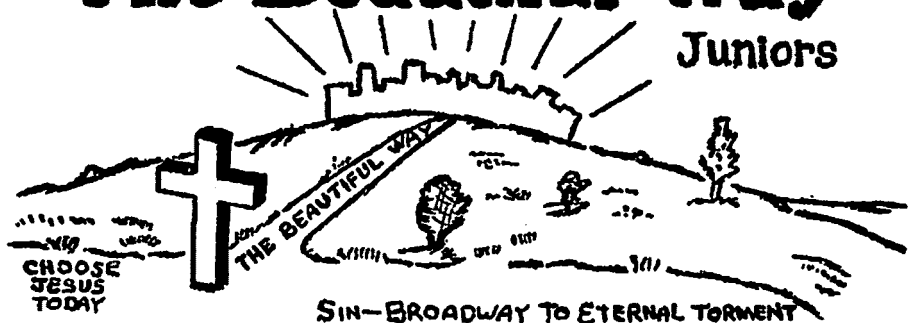
Matt. 16:18b [Jesus said] Upon this rock I will build my church [all born-again Christians]; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Memory Verse: And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. Mark 13:13.

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Part Three

Jan. 15

PLANS

Living with a Purpose



My dear little men and women: I have what the architect calls "plans," or drawings for a house. Unless the carpenter and builder had a copy of the plans to follow he would not be able to build successfully. He would not know what kind of material he would need. He would not know where to place the doors, or how large to make the windows, and whether to put the dining room on this side of the house or on the other side of the house; whether the living room was to be on the first floor or on the second floor. So when a man is going to build, the first thing to be done is to decide what kind of a house he wants, and then to get an architect who is able to draw the plans perfectly, so as to show the size of every door, window, and room, also the exact position and place of everything that is to enter into the building of the house. These plans cost a great deal of thought and oftentimes much delay in beginning, but in the end they save both time and expense, and secure the most desirable results.

Every boy and girl should have a plan, for we are all builders. We build day after day and week after week, and year after year. First of all, you should have some great purpose in life, and then all your other plans and purposes should be made to further and help the great main object which you have in life.

Once there were two boys who were best friends when they were young. They played together, and came to love each other very much. One was a boy who always had a plan. He had a plan for studying his lessons; he had a plan which showed what time he had resolved to get up in the morning; how many hours he would devote to study; what portions of the day he would give to play, and how much to work. Each and every day he had his plans. At the beginning of the year he had his plans for each month of the year.

The other boy never had any plans. Everything went along just as it happened. The boy who always had the plans had no money; his father was poor. But the boy who had no plans had plenty of money, for his father was rich. These two boys both became merchants, had stores in the same

square in a large city. The one who had the plans always knew what he purposed to do before the season began. He knew just when to purchase his goods for the spring trade; he knew when to sell them; everything was done methodically and with a plan. As the result of his thoughtful plans he soon began to accumulate wealth, obtained a place of confidence in the minds of business men, and eventually became one of the most honored and influential men in the city. With the other boy it was not so. He bought his goods whenever he chanced to see something that he fancied; often bought too much of one thing; had no method in business, and consequently in the course of a few years lost the money he had and died a poor man.

Let me hope that you will always have a plan for everything you do. God is the God of order, and we should also be orderly in all that we do.

These plans of the architect, when followed by the builders, will tell the stonemason, the bricklayer, the plumber, the carpenter, the plasterer, and the painter, just what each is to do, and all will be able to work in harmony, so as to secure a nice, comfortable, and desirable home when the work is completed.

Now, we are all laying foundations in this world, and the perfect character cannot be obtained until in eternity. When you come to plan for life, do not think your stay in this world is to be all there is of your life. Let your plans take in eternity. If they leave out eternity they leave out the greatest portion of your existence. If you leave out the idea of eternity you will be like the man who simply lays the foundation and then never builds a house on it, and there, year after year, the foundation stands as the monument of his folly.

You may desire to know where you can get the plans for a good and noble life—a plan that will include eternity. I will tell you: in the Bible. This is the best book in which to find the plans for a perfect and complete life. Just the same as the man who is going to build a house desires to go and examine other houses, so if you desire to be great and good, you should desire to read the biographies, the story of the lives of great men. I do not mean the fancied stories of lives which were never lived, which are so often told in some kinds of books, but I mean the lives of real men. When you see the difficulties which have been overcome by others; when you see how great and good other people have been, it will help you to be great and good. After you have studied the lives of all the greatest and best men who have ever lived, and then compare them with the life of Jesus Christ, you will eventually come to see very clearly, that after all there has never been but one perfect life lived on this earth, and that was the life of Jesus Christ. So you will readily see that if you desire to use a model which is perfect, you will have to take the life of Christ. You will find it fully portrayed in the Bible, especially in the first four books of the New Testament—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. This will give you the model of a perfect life and enable you to live so as to make your life glorious while upon the earth, and prepare you for an eternity of happiness and joy beyond this world. Have a plan and live to it, and let your plan include eternity. May God give you grace to live up to a high ideal, to be noble Christian men and women.

—*With the Children on Sundays*, by S. Stall

"My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise." *Psa.* 57:7.

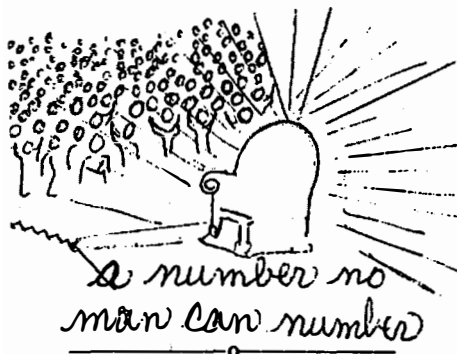
A DAILY PICTURE

We're getting our picture taken
Every day we live;
It may seem strange but it's quite true
So some advice I'll give;
An "impression" of just what we are
Upon each face will show
And that's the "picture" people see
As on through life we go.
O let's all try to be quite good
So on our "picture screen"
A pleasant face with lovely smile
May every day be seen. —Sel.

FRIENDS

Friends are splendid things to have;
To this we all agree;
And if you wish to have good friends—
A good friend you must be.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

I do trust you are using your imagination and can see these accounts like the Apostle John has written them. As you study history you will read about the things that took place in various centuries. Remember them and connect them to these accounts. History is connected to Revelation very closely, as in years past, the government was ruled

by false churches as we have pointed out.

Today we have an account of another vision. John saw a multitude of people that no man could number from all nations, kindreds, people, and tongues, standing before the throne and the Lamb. This multitude of people were all clothed in white, which means salvation, and in their hands they held palms of victory. Oh, what a wonderful vision! Dear boys and girls, I want to be in that number when time is no more, don't you? Notice these are the saved people from all nations. What a wonderful group! They were rejoicing and singing praises to the God of all creation; to the Saviour, Jesus Christ, who redeemed them from sin, and gave them robes of righteousness to wear. Even all the angels stood around the throne, the elders and the four beasts worshipped God.

Finally, one of the elders looked at the multitude dressed in white and asked the question, "Who are these dressed in white robes and where did they come from?" John said to the elder, "Sir, you know who they are." And the elder said to John, "These are they who came up through great tribulations and have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb." They were saved through Jesus shedding His innocent blood on the cross.

We have studied about those who had given their lives for Christ's sake. They would not bow down to the false teachers and deny that Jesus was their Saviour. They were killed by the sword, some starved to death, some thrown to the wild beasts, and some burned at the stake, but they stood true to Jesus. Now they are with the holy and the blessed before the throne. Oh, the joy that they know is beyond words in the English language! They would never thirst again, nor hunger, nor have any kind of

trouble. All is bliss and God wiped all their tears from their eyes.

Let us be true to God and go through the trials, tests, and troubles in this world, waving the palms of victory and we will be in that great number in the end of time.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, January 15, 1978 THE MULTITUDE WHICH NO MAN CAN NUMBER

Rev. 7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

11 And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,

12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes: and whence came they?

14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth

on the throne shall dwell among them.

16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

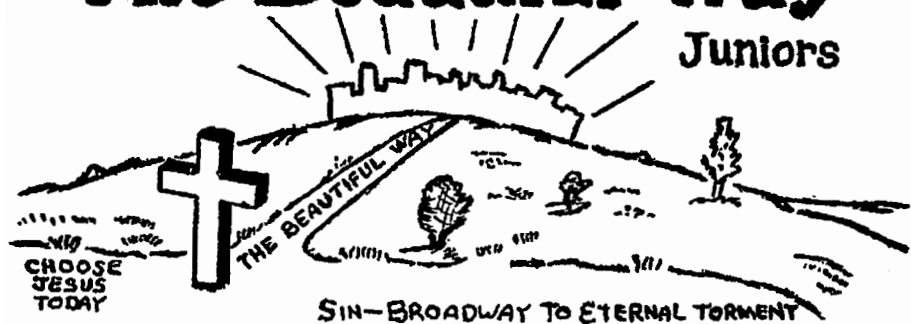
Memory Verse: And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Ephesians 4:30.

QUESTIONS:

1. How many people did John see in the vision. Was it just 144,000 people like some false prophets say today?
2. Were they just one race?
3. What were they dressed in and what did that mean?
4. What were they waving and what did that mean?
5. What were they crying with a loud voice?
6. Who else was standing before the throne?
7. What did one of the elders ask John?
8. What did John answer the elder?
9. What did he mean when he said that those who were dressed in white had "come up out of great tribulations"?
10. How long will they be before the throne and who would be among them?
11. Will they be hungry and thirsty?
12. Who was in the midst of the throne and who would feed them?
13. Where was he going to lead them?
14. Will they weep anymore?
15. Do you want to be among that multitude that no man can number?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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Part Four

Jan. 22

Plastic Face

Character in the Countenance

My dear boys and girls: Here is a soft plastic face; by squeezing it on the side I can make the face very long, and it looks very sober. If I place the face between my thumb and fingers and press upon the chin and forehead it makes the face short, and makes it have a very pleasant appearance. I can make it look as though it were laughing, or make it seem to be angry and cross.

Just so it is with our faces. When we feel pleasant our faces are short and drawn up; when we feel sober, or cross, or angry, they are lengthened and the character of the expression is entirely changed. You would scarcely know the face were you to see it radiant with smiles and pleasantness, and afterwards see the same face when the person is cross or angered. When you look at a person you can tell whether they are in good humor, or whether they are displeased or angry.

Do you know, boys and girls, that our character and our disposition are seen in our faces? It is impossible for us to conceal our real selves, even though we

might try. I will tell you how it is. If I were again and again to press this face only in this way, so as to make it look very long, after a time it would retain this expression. If I were to press it in this other way, so as to make it very short and give it a very pleasant expression, and were to hold it in that position for a very long time, it would assume that expression, and retain it constantly. It is just so with our faces. When a boy is angered again and again the deep lines of his face become more and more permanent, until after a time he comes to have a face which expresses anger. If a boy is kind, good, and generous, these feelings express themselves in his face, and if repeated over and over again, day after day and year after year, it becomes a permanent expression upon his face and the boy is known by all who meet him as a good-natured, pleasant, and agreeable boy.

Beneath a good and generous face you will find a good and generous heart. Beneath a bad face you will find a bad heart. If we are Christians we shall become more and more like Christ. We shall grow up into His likeness, and into His image, and into His stature. We are told that not only

will we become more and more like Him, but that at last, in the great Resurrection, we shall behold Him as He is, and we shall be like Him.

If I were to take some pictures and place them in a bottle they would shine out through the glass, and you could see them. So with the thoughts that are in your heart; they shine out through your face and give expressions to it. Even when the body is suffering pain the heart may be at rest. David, the Psalmist, said that God was "the health of his countenance." Even though his body was suffering pain his face might be pleasant, because God was with him, making him happy in his heart. There is an old adage that says, "handsome is, that handsome does." There are some young persons who may have a pretty face, and yet who may not be righteous and holy in their hearts; but as they grow older their character will shine out more and more, until at last their face shall be entirely changed, and all that is bad in their hearts will appear in their faces. If you want a good face you must have a good heart. Take Jesus into your heart, follow His teachings and imitate His example, and from year to year you will grow more and more like Him. Here is a very appropriate and beautiful poem, which was written by Miss Alice Carey.

TAKE CARE

"Little children, you must seek
Rather to be good than wise,
For the thoughts you do not speak
Shine out in your cheeks and eyes.

"If you think that you can be
Cross or cruel, and look fair,
Let me tell you how to see
You are quite mistaken there.

"Go and stand before the glass,
And some ugly thought contrive,

And my word will come to pass
Just as sure as you're alive!

"What you have and what you lack,
All the same as what you wear,
You will see reflected back;
So, my little folks, take care!

"And not only in the glass
Will your secrets come to view;
All beholders, as they pass,
Will perceive and know them, too.

"Out of sight, my boys and girls,
Every root of beauty starts;
So think less about your curls,
More about your minds and hearts.

"Cherish what is good, and drive
Evil thoughts and feelings far;
For, as sure as you're alive,
You will show for what you are."

—With the Children on Sunday

—By S. Stall

THE BOY WHO LAUGHS

I know a funny little boy,
The happiest ever born;
His face is like a beam of joy,
Although his clothes are torn.

I saw him tumble on his nose,
And waited for a groan—
But how he laughed! Do you suppose
He struck his funny bone?
There's sunshine in each word he speaks;
His laugh is something grand;
Its ripples overrun his cheeks
Like waves on snowy sand.

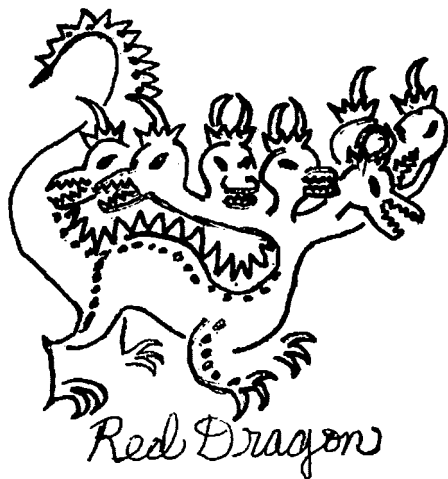
He laughs the moment he awakes,
And till the day is done;
The schoolroom for play he takes,
His lessons are but fun.

No matter how the day may go,
You cannot make him cry;
He's worth a dozen boys I know,
Who pout and mope and sigh.

—Wide Awake

If you want to be Mother's friend, you will have to obey her. If you want to be the Lord Jesus' friend, you will have to obey His Word. The happiest people in the world are those who obey God's Word, the Bible.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

We want to notice in Revelation that one theme is taken completely through and then the theme starts over again, under different symbols and goes straight through to the end. In our lesson today we will start over with the history of the church, beginning with the disciples after Christ's ascension. Let us get a picture of our lesson today, also remember the symbols. Our three principal objects of this vision are drawn from nature and human life. They are living objects so they represent living people.

First, we see a woman with the brightest luminaries of heaven gathered around her. So we know that she is a symbol of the Church of God, which is composed of living, intelligent persons,

This woman is the true church, and not like another place in Rev., where the false church is pictured by a vile woman. The moon shines only with a borrowed light, so the moon would be the old law covenant under Moses. The sun would be the new covenant which Jesus brought. The stars would be a symbol of Christian ministers (Rev. 1:19), or the twelve apostles in the beginning of the church.

There was a dragon standing before this beautiful woman. This dragon was a beast which comes from the natural world, so it would be a symbol of a government that was ready to kill the true Church of God and her converts. This red dragon had seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. This dragon stands for the pagan government that ruled when Jesus was here. They were idol worshippers and we have studied before how they tried to keep the disciples, also Paul, from teaching about Jesus Christ.

The church, or the woman, brought forth a man child. The huge ugly dragon was right there to kill or devour the man child. The man child represents the new converts who were saved in the early church. Read the prophecy of this in Isa. 66:7,8; Heb. 12:22,23. Then we read in Acts 2:41 where there were 3000 saved in one day. This dragon was angry because the woman had a man child. Thus, we read in history that the idol worshippers were enraged because the church had a large increase. We read that the rulers in the government agreed to have many of them killed. "Herod the king stretched forth his hand to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. Because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also." Acts 12:1-3.

The church was represented as fleeing into the wilderness and at the same time as being "caught up unto God and to his throne." Those who lived were the part of the church who went into hiding or continued to work for God. Those who were killed were taken up to heaven. Thus, the two-fold phases of the church were represented. I trust you will get this clearly in your mind so you can understand the symbols of Revelation.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 4, January 22, 1978

THE WOMAN AND THE MAN CHILD

Rev. 12:1 And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:

2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and, seven crowns upon his heads.

4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.

6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

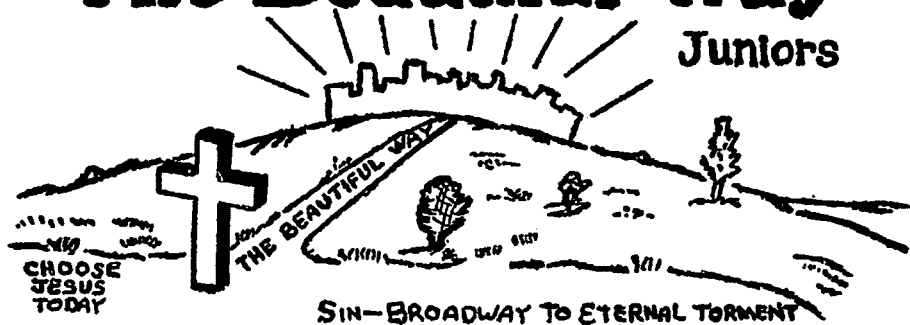
Memory Verse: We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not. I John 5:18.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did John see that appeared in the church heavens?
2. What is the woman a symbol of, also, the moon and the sun with which she was clothed?
3. What did the twelve stars stand for?
4. When was the Church of God started and did Jesus come to fulfil the law of Moses?
5. As John looked, what was the next wonder that appeared in the church heavens?
6. Since this dragon was taken from nature, what did it stand for?
7. What did this dragon do?
8. What does the man child stand for?
9. When the church gets under a heavy burden, fasts, and prays, what happens? Are there more people saved?
10. How many were saved in one day in the early church? (Acts 2:41).
11. Those who did not believe in Jesus were glad He was crucified, but did they get rid of the teachings of salvation that He had taught?
12. Did the dragon or the idol worshippers, or pagan people kill many of the "born again" Christians?
13. What does it mean that some of the church were "caught up unto God, and to his throne"?
14. What did Jesus tell the one on the cross who was saved? Luke 23:43.
15. What are God's "born-again" children who were not killed, symbolized as doing?

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Part Five

Jan. 29

Fish In Aquarium

The All-Seeing Eye of God

My dear young friends: I have an aquarium with a few very pretty gold-fishes in it. As they swim from side to side they look very beautiful. When they see me coming nearer to the aquarium, or moving my hand upon this side or the other, they dart very quickly to the opposite side of the aquarium. They try to get out of sight, but it makes no difference whether they are upon this side or upon the other side of the aquarium, I can see them just as well. I can look right through the aquarium; I can see through the glass, and I can see through the water. Wherever the fish are in this aquarium, I can see them. It is impossible for them to hide away, or to get out of my sight.

The Bible tells us that "the eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." (Prov. 15:3). We are very clearly taught in the Bible, that it makes no difference where we are, God can see us just as well in one place as in another. He can see us in the night just as well as in the daytime, for "the darkness and the light are alike unto Him." David said, "He that

keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep." (Psa. 121:4). It makes no difference whether you are in the house or outside, whether it is day or whether it is night, God can see right through the house, just as you and I can look through this aquarium and through the water, so God can see right through the thick walls of a house, or even through a great mountain. If you were in the valley beyond the mountain, God could see right through the mountain; that would make no difference. He can even see through the earth, from this side through to China. It makes no difference to God, for He can see just as well through material substances, through which you and I cannot look, as we can see through the air; indeed much better, for distance limits the possibility of our seeing distinctly, while God's power to see is not limited.

Once there was a very good woman, who had a very nice and conscientious little boy. The mother was poor and had to go out from day to day to earn her living. The little boy was very lonely, and each night would watch very patiently for his mother to return home. When he saw her coming, he would always run to the door to meet

her, and throw his arms about her neck. One evening when she returned, she noticed that little Willie was not at the door to meet her. She could not understand why; when she came into the house he seemed to be afraid of her. He tried to avoid her. After a time the mother called Willie to her and threw her arms around his neck and kissed him very tenderly. This was too much for the little boy's heart. He looked up into his mother's face, and said, "Mamma, can God see through a crack in the door?" His mother said, "Yes, God can see everywhere." He said, "Mamma, can God see in the cupboard if it is dark in there?" "Yes, Willie, God can see in the dark as well as in the light." Willie looked up into his mother's face and said, "Then I might as well tell you. Today I was very hungry, and although you told me that I should not take the cake which you had put in the closet, yet I went to the closet, and when I had closed the door, and it was all dark, I felt around until I got a piece of cake, and I ate it. I did not know that God could see in the dark. I am very sorry that I have been so very wicked and naughty." Little Willie threw his arms around his mamma's neck and laid his head upon her shoulder and wept very bitterly.

Once a man went to steal corn from his neighbor's field. He took his little boy with him to hold the bag open, while he should pull the corn and put it in the bag. After they had reached the cornfield the father looked this way and that way, and looked about him in every direction, and when he had given the little boy the bag to hold open, the little boy looked at his father and said, "Father, there is one direction that you have not looked yet." The father was quite frightened and supposed that his son had seen someone coming. The son said, "You have not looked up. There is

someone in that direction I am sure who sees us." The father was so much impressed that he turned away from his sinful purpose, and returned home, never again to steal from anyone.

Whenever Satan tempts you to do wrong, remember that you cannot escape from the eyes of One who sees you constantly, and although no human being might know of your wickedness, yet God sees you, and God knows it all, for "His eyes behold, his eyelids try the children of men." (Psa. 11:4).

—With the Children on Sundays
By S. Stall

We Are Little Travelers

We are little trav'lers,
On our journey home;
To our Father's dwelling
We at last shall come,
If we trust the promise
Of the precious word
Spoken to His own by Christ, our
Lord.

When the skies are bending
Blue and fair above,
And the flow'rs are blooming
Sweet in field and grove,
In the glowing sunshine
We can see His smile,
And our glad hearts praise Him all
the while.

So thro' cloud and sunshine
We will travel on,
Tow'rd the shining mansions
Where our Lord has gone;
Following our Savior,
Where He leads the way,
Till at last we enter Heav'n's bright
day. —C. H. Gabriel

Did you tell Mother that you love her?
Remember, she does so many things for
you every day.

"The sunbeams smile for Jesus,
Then can I sullen be?
Oh, no! I must be cheerful,
For Jesus loveth me."

Dear Boys and Girls:

In our lesson today we again go back to the history of the church in the beginning and bring it up through the pagan persecutions. Remember, boys and girls, in Revelation different symbols are used to cover the same period of church history.

One thing we don't want you to forget, is the fact that the dragon in our lesson today is called the Devil and Satan. Notice it says, "called" and it does not mean it is the Prince of darkness himself. Also we want to know that the word, Satan means an opposer. The word "Satan" can be used in ways that would not just mean the Prince of darkness. Heaven is also used three ways in the Bible. Aerial heavens, heaven where God is, and the church heavens in this world. The dragon "called the Devil and Satan" was cast out of his exalted place in the world (church heavens), not the heaven where God is.

In our lesson we find that the dragon would be a beast from the natural world so it would represent a civil empire. He is accompanied by his angels so that would be his evil spirits defending his cause. We find it a combination of a political and religious system. This is the Roman system, combined with idol worshippers and law keepers of that day, that persecuted the saints.

"Michael (Jesus Christ—Jude 9; I Thess. 4:16; John 5:28) and his followers appeared on the scene, and a fierce battle for supremacy ensued, resulting in the final victory of the hosts of Michael." (Rev. Exp.) What weapons did they use to overcome? It

was through their testimony and the blood of the Lamb. The devil was defeated "for the accuser of our brethren is cast down." Many saints lost their lives but they overcame idol worship and Judaism, or those who stayed with Moses' law and refused to accept Jesus as Christ.

The dragon was cast down from his high place but he pursued the woman, or the church. She was given wings and fled into the wilderness, or hiding. To count time with the symbol "a time, and times, and half a times," it comes to 1260 years.

Even after idol worship was cast down there was a second rise of it. This would be the flood that was sent after the woman. History says that a pagan succeeded to the imperial throne and for ten years he killed many of the Christians. He even tried to destroy the Bible but he could not accomplish that as it was in too many hands. Diocletian, the pagan, gave up his throne and died of a loathsome disease. Constantine became emperor of Rome and he took up for the Christians and soon became a Christian himself. He crushed all rivals and they had rest in A.D. 313. So the dragon in verse 17 made war with the remnant or individuals of the church.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 5, January 29, 1978

FLIGHT OF THE SUN-CLOTHED WOMAN

Rev. 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth,

and his angels were cast out with him.

10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.

14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Memory Verse: And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and

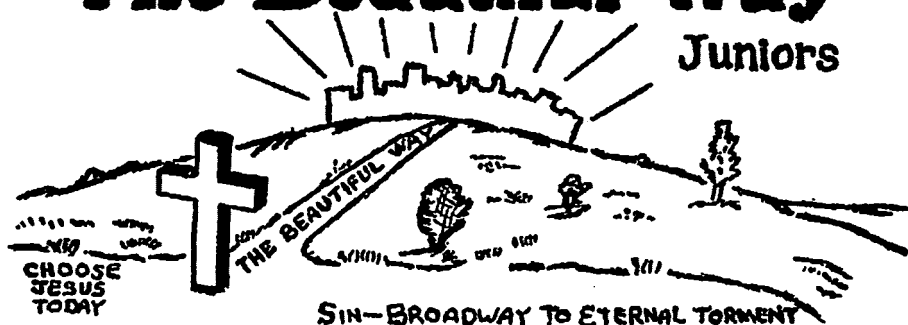
they loved not their lives unto the death. Rev. 12:11.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Michael and what heaven was this scene in?
2. Was the dragon, the idol worshippers or the pagan religion?
3. Was the dragon the Devil (Satan), or was he just called the Devil (Satan)?
4. Who won in this fight between the dragon (who was called the Devil or Satan) and Michael (Jesus Christ) with his angels that took place in the church heavens?
5. What did the loud voice say when the dragon and his angels were cast down?
6. Is the "accuser of the brethren" cast down today through Christ?
7. How did they overcome this dragon (idol worshippers or pagan religion)?
8. What did the dragon do when he saw that he was cast down into the earth?
9. When the woman, or the church, was persecuted what did she do?
10. How long did she stay there?
11. Now that "old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan," was mad so what did he send out of his mouth after the woman, or church, who fled into the wilderness?
12. What did this mean in church history? What man ruled for ten years in the Roman empire and what did he do?
13. The earth helped the woman, or church. Did Constantine, who became ruler in A.D. 313 become a Christian and help the Christians?
14. What did the dragon do then? He was enraged and against whom did he want to make war?

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Part Six

Feb. 5

White and Charred Sticks

Good and Bad Company

All boys and girls like to have companions, someone to play with, and therefore it is very wise that I should talk to you today about good and bad company.

First of all let me read some passages from the Bible. "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." (Psalms 1:1.) "Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding." (Proverbs 9:6.) But here is a passage of Scripture which is exactly suited to my purpose today: "He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed." (Proverbs 13:20.)

When you go into a large library to select books you will always find that they are classified. Some of the shelves have books of history, others have books of poetry, and so on throughout the entire library. In this way God has classified different people in this text. One class is called wise, and the others are called foolish. A companion of wise

men shall be wise, but a companion of fools shall be destroyed. In the same way there are good boys and bad boys, good girls and bad girls; and when you choose your companions it is important that you should choose them among the good, and not among the bad.

I think you will better understand the teaching of the text, when I show you this one stick that has been burned black, or charred, as we say. Now here are several clean sticks which have not been burned, which are white and not tarnished. Let this black stick represent the boys who smoke, chew, swear, lie, or deceive their parents; boys or girls who do not go to Sunday school, who do not obey their parents, and who do not love God. These clean sticks will represent good boys and girls. Now suppose the good boys and girls choose the bad boys and girls as their companions and playmates; what do you think would be the result? I will mix these sticks together. I am sure that nobody would expect that the white sticks would transfer their purity and cleanness to this black stick. When I mix them, or rub them together, the black sticks get no whiter, but all the white sticks get blacker.

The text teaches us that we should avoid such foolish boys and foolish girls; boys and girls who do not obey God or reverence the Bible, who do not listen to their consciences, nor do that which is right. Such should be avoided at all times, and in choosing our companions, we should always prefer those who will have an influence for good upon us socially, intellectually, and morally.

The influence of bad companions will tend to destroy all our best interests physically, by leading to every kind of vice and evil; destroy us financially, by causing us to be inattentive to our work, causing us to prefer idleness and pleasure to labor and usefulness; destroy us morally, by making light of the teachings of the Bible, the importance of the Sunday school and worship services, the authority of father and mother and the wisdom of what they teach and require of us.

But in addition to all this, we should remember that those who are our companions upon earth, will be our companions in the world to come. If we go with the wicked and the profane here, we shall dwell with them forever in the world to come. If we desire to go to heaven and to be forever with those who are good and righteous, pure and holy; if we desire to be happy for ever and ever in the world to come, we must choose as our companions here, those who are living not for this present fleeting life, but who are living for the glory of God and who are trusting sincerely in Jesus Christ for everlasting salvation.

Let us all pray for God to help us to be wise and to walk with the wise, and not to be foolish and choose fools as our companions, both for time and eternity.

That is the way it always is with the boys who keep bad company. Instead of

exerting a good influence, so as to reform and purify, and make good boys of the bad boys, the bad boys make bad boys of the good boys. At first the good boys are horrified at what they hear and see the bad boys say and do. After awhile it ceases to be unpleasant to them. A little later they may possibly laugh at the bad boys, but after awhile they will come to like the bad boys, and finally they will do as the bad boys do and become like them in conduct and in character. When a good boy goes with bad boys, his character becomes tarnished and blackened. He not only gets a bad character but a bad reputation as well, both of which are very difficult to cleanse or to get rid of.

Now, here I have a glass of water and a bottle of ink. If I take and pour a half a teaspoonful of this water into the ink, it makes no particular difference in its color. But if I take only two or three drops of ink and mix them with the water, it discolours the entire glass of water at once. One or two good boys or girls in the midst of many bad ones are likely to be influenced in a bad direction. This is especially true if the good boys have sought the bad boys as companions. Even one or two bad boys, placed in the midst of several good boys, may exert a very bad influence over them. I suppose you have all seen this illustrated in the school room. You may have had a set of good boys, or a set of good girls in your classroom, but one day a bad boy came to the school, or a bad girl joined the class and they were frivolous, laughed, talked, were disorderly, disobeyed their teacher, played hookey, and did all kinds of naughtiness when in school, and it had its bad effect upon the entire class, and sometimes even upon the entire school.

—With the Children on Sundays
By S. Stall

INASMUCH

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matthew 25:40).

We cherish forever in heart and mind
This message the Saviour taught;
A privilege daily for we who serve
Is carried within the thought.

For all that we do in Jesus' name,
Whenever a need we see,
We hear Him say in words so clear,
"Ye do it as unto me."

We'll follow the Saviour from day to day
And count it a privilege true
That as we serve in His blessed name
'Tis service for Him we do.

—Sel.

Dear Boys and Girls:

In our lesson today we see another beast and he arose out of the sea. This beast was vested with great powers, having crowns on his ten horns and "a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies." He was a terrible looking creature, but since he spoke, that would be a symbol of human characteristics and the animal parts would be a symbol of political government. So this creature was a combination of religious and political power. We find that this beast was the Roman government and the Catholic religion. But there is one thing, boys and girls, that I do want you to notice in our lesson. It says the dragon gave this beast "his power, his seat, and great authority." Remember, the dragon was a symbol of anti-God or idol worship. Do you remember how the disciples and Paul went forth preaching Christ? The whole world was upset. They tried to crush the gospel, but the gospel prevailed, and soon, most of the then known world accepted Christianity. Constantine, ruler of the Roman empire, and the then known world, turned to Christi-

anity. We studied about how there was a great decline in the gospel truths taught by Christ and the disciples. Men began to bring man-rule and many wrong things into the then so-called church. They set up bishops to rule and finally they set up one man. He was called the Pope. (II Thess. 2:3,4). When you read that the dragon gave the beast his power, seat, and authority, it means the Catholic Church took over and began to force people to become Catholics, even to the point of killing them if they dared to resist. Remember that the Catholic religion is a combination of idol worship and the Christian religion. They worship saints, the pope, and the virgin Mary. They make images of Mary, the disciples, and Jesus for people to pray to and bow down before. I was told that one image in a certain Catholic place had been kissed so much on the foot, that it shows great wear. Yet they claim to worship God and call Jesus Christ the Saviour. They combine dragon worship with Christian worship. Don't forget this and you can understand what the beast means when you hear people talk about it.

This beast made war against the true saints and their true worship of God. The Pope set himself up as God and that is blasphemy. He says he can forgive sins as God can. This beast was to rule for forty and two months, counting 30 days to each month and taking 42 times 30 makes 1260 days or years. In history you will read that Catholicism ruled for 1260 years. So this is a prophetic time.

When you sing the song "Biblical Trace of the Church" on page 20 in the *Evening Light Songs* book, you will understand what the song means. Millions were killed whose names were written in the book of life and who would not worship the beast nor bow down to the Roman Catholics. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 6, February, 5, 1978

THE BEAST ARISES

Rev. 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

9 If any man have an ear, let him hear.

10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with

the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

Memory Verse: For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Eph. 2:8.

1. What did the beast look like that arose up out of the sea?
2. What was on his ten horns and what name was written upon his heads?
3. Who gave the beast his power, seat, and authority?
4. Why did all the world wonder after the beast?
5. Explain how the Catholics combined idol worship with Christian religion.
6. The beast is a symbol of the Catholic religion and the Roman government. How did the dragon give his power to the beast after the then known world turned to Christianity?
7. Did all the world, at that time, turn to the beast? (verse 3)
8. How could the world worship the beast and the dragon that gave the beast power, too?
9. Did people feel that the Roman Catholic rule in the then known world could be made war with?
10. The beast had a mouth and what was he speaking?
11. For how long was this beast given power and how do you change the time in our lesson to 1260 years?
12. Did the beast make war with the saints and does history tell us that they killed thousands of the saints?
13. Who were the only ones on the earth that did not worship the beast?
14. What is the patience of the saints?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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Jan., Feb., Mar., 1978

Part Seven

Feb. 12

KEYS

How to Unlock the Human Heart

My dear Boys and Girls: Today I have quite a variety of locks. Here are also quite a variety of keys. You will notice there are several more keys than there are locks. Now, I suppose that we would have no very great difficulty in selecting the keys that would be most likely to turn backward and forward the bolts in these different locks. We would naturally expect these larger keys would fit these larger locks and the smaller keys would be adapted to lock and unlock the smaller ones.

Here is a large lock; I suppose it is very possible this large key may be suited to lock and unlock it. Yes, it just fits. You see how it turns the bolt in and out as I turn the key.

Now, here is another lock; let us see if we can find a key that will fit it. This key seems about the size, but after passing it into the lock it seems to strike something that prevents it from turning, and consequently is of no service. Let us try another. That seems to work much better, and turns the bolt backward and forward.

Here is still another lock; let us try this key with this lock. That seems to work very well. Possibly we might be able to lock and unlock this other also. Let us try it. Yes, this key fits both these locks. This key is what the locksmith calls a skeleton key. It is so made that it avoids the obstacles which are placed in the different locks to prevent them from being opened by all varieties of keys. Here is a still smaller lock. This lock has a very peculiar keyhole, and I know at once there is no need of trying to unlock it with most of the keys which I have spread out here. I recognize it at once as what is called a "Yale lock." The key is thin, is bent in various ways, and along the edge has several notches. Let us try a couple of these keys. This one seems to fit very well to the grooves. It passes into the lock, but I cannot turn the bolt. Let us try another. Yes, this seems to be the one that was made by the locksmith to fasten and unfasten this lock.

A key then is simply something which unlocks the door or the gate, so you may open it and pass inside. Now, there are a great many kinds of keys. Sometimes a book is called a key to business. Other books may be called the

keys to plumbing, mechanics, or carpentry; still another may be the key to becoming a good homemaker. There are a great many kinds of books which are called keys. When properly used or studied they open the way for a clear understanding of any given vocation. When you indicate to me the kind of difficulty that you have to overcome, it would be reasonably easy to indicate the kind of book you need in order successfully to meet that difficulty.

God wants to get into the human heart, and I find that God has a key with which to unlock it. I do not think you would be long in guessing what book God has made the key with which to unlock the human heart. I think every boy and girl would at once say that it is the Bible. Yes it is the Bible. It fits exactly into all the wards and chambers, and winding passages which characterize each and every need of the human heart. The moment I bring this wonderful key of divine truth to the human heart, I find that the lock and the key were both made by the same infinite Creator. Some locks are very complicated and intricate, and the keys are also very peculiar. They are made especially for that particular lock, and no other key in all the world will unlock it. The moment I get that particular key and turn it around in the lock I know at once that both the lock and the key were made by the same person, and that lock was made to be opened by no other key. So God has created the human heart and made it very difficult to be opened, and there is no key in all the world that can open it except the Bible.

As a robber or a burglar may try to get into a house by the use of a skeleton key, or by "picking the lock," so men have often tried to gain admission into the human heart by the use of various substitutes for the genuine and the real

key. They have tried amusement, and wealth, and sinful pleasure, and very, very many things; but they never succeed in getting into the inner sacredness of the human heart. Unless the heart is opened by God's Word, and the Holy Spirit is admitted so that God can take possession, there is always a sense of loneliness, a sense of dissatisfaction, a desire for something that the person does not possess; he is at unrest, he is restless and dissatisfied, like a boy or girl who is away from home, and has a homesick longing to return to that home.

You never will be able to understand the hidden mystery of your own spiritual life and spiritual being until you use the Word of God to help you to solve the mystery. The Word of God is not only designed to unlock the human heart, so that God and the Holy Spirit may gain admission, but this key is also designed to lock the door against Satan and sin and keep them out of our hearts. Unless we daily use our Bibles to lock our hearts against evil thoughts, wicked purposes, and sinful desires, we will find that they will steal into our hearts; and like the evil spirit that had been driven out and afterward returned and brought seven other spirits more wicked than himself, so sin and Satan will again take possession of our hearts and lock them against God and all that is good. —*With the Children on Sundays*

By S. Stall

I can only do the small things,
For I'm very young and weak,
But I know He hears me singing,
And I know He hears me speak.

Jesus hears me when I pray,
He will never turn away;
He will listen to my call,
For He loves the children all.

—K. U.

I'm little, and I'm weak, I know,
But Jesus is so strong,
And when I trust Him I am safe
All night and all day long.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Last week we talked about a beast which we know is Catholicism. It ruled the governments, and killed thousands and thousands of people. Today, John saw another beast rise out of the earth and this beast had two horns like a lamb. This beast spake, so we know that it is part human. We know by the symbols that it is a political and a religious system. This beast arose at the end of the 1260 years, which was the end of Catholic rule. History explains that at the time King Victor Emmanuel entered Rome in Sept. 1870, the Pope lost his power over the government. He lost control over Rome and some have said that he is "the prisoner of the Vatican." Many rose up against the Catholic religion. Remember that the beast in last Sunday's lesson had ten horns. Today, this beast had two horns. It was predicted in Rev. 17:16 that the ten horns, or kingdoms, after supporting the Papacy or Catholic religion, would turn against her. The first two nations to turn against her were England and Germany. So doubtless, they symbolize the two horns. They protested against the Catholic Church so they were called Protestants. They brought in more freedom to worship God and taught a lot of the Bible truths. You can read about Martin Luther who rose up against the Catholic Church. Later the Church of England was established. They broke away from the Catholic Church and no longer did Catholicism rule the whole world. Protestantism was the beast that rose from the earth in today's lesson.

We want you to remember that in Revelation a theme is taken through to

its completion. Sometimes it is started over again and brought through different symbols.

Notice that the "he" in our lesson is referring to the beast with two horns or Protestantism. Let us notice that the two-horned beast exercised all the power of the first beast. The great fight by Protestants against the Catholics followed. Luther had a following when he broke away from the Catholic Church and the Pope cut him off. Then Luther renounced Calvin and Calvin started another group. Protestants in England fought against those who would not belong to the established Church of England and many started their own groups. Thus we have many groups today. But all come under the head of Protestants. Fighting for religious freedom from Catholicism was in a sense a blessing to the world. It finally did separate the church and state. That is the way it is here in the United States. Protestants began to start their groups here and there. They had man-rule like the Catholics, only on a different basis. This is how they made an image of the beast.

We notice in verse 14 and also 15 that the two-horned beast did miracles and also brought fire down from heaven. We read in I Kings 18:38, that Elijah proved that God was with him by God sending down fire from heaven and burning up his sacrifice. The fire mentioned in our lesson makes us know that God was being honored in some of the work among the Protestants when they first started out. Many were saved from their sins and were living to all they knew. Fire stands for some of the spiritual work that was done among them. But it became a deception as there were many false prophets among them. It was truth among false prophets. Today, if you say anything against a person's church, he is against you. That is how the Protestants make an image to the beast. Later,

we will study how God called the honest ones out from among the Protestants.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 7, February 12, 1978

THE TWO-HORNED BEAST

Rev. 13:11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

Memory Verse: Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? Matthew 7:22.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where did the second beast that John saw come up from? (The first beast came up from the sea which means the heart of the empire which

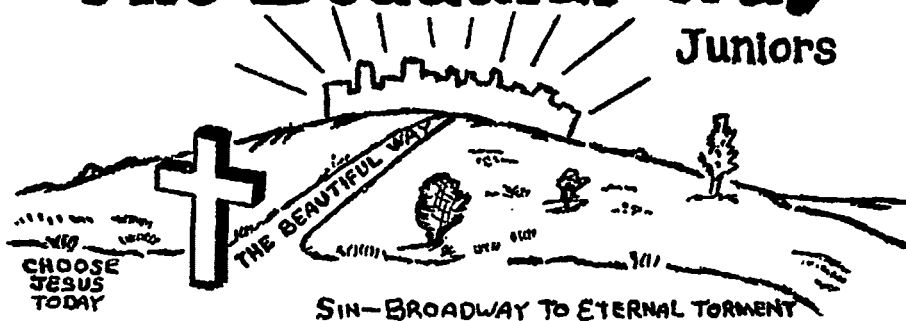
was agitated, but the second beast came from the earth which means that it was comparatively quiet. Fierce wars followed later.)

2. How many horns did this beast have and what were they like? (The first beast had ten horns which meant ten kingdoms.)
3. Did it mean that this second beast came up from the same territory occupied by the first beast (Catholicism or Papacy) when we read in our lesson that this beast "exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him?"
4. What two kingdoms in the world pulled away from the Catholic rule first? (History says that E _____ and G _____ were first.)
5. In history we read about Martin Luther. What did he do? Did he have followers?
6. What did Calvin do? Did he have followers?
7. History tells us that they started a church in England. Did they belong to the Catholics?
8. What were all of those new groups called?
9. What does *Protestant* mean?
10. We read in I Kings 18:38 about fire coming down from heaven. What did it mean?
11. In our lesson, does it mean there was some spiritual work going on among the Protestants?
12. What did the fire among them and the miracles cause people to become? Did it cause them to be deceived?
13. What is an image? Does it mean that it is a likeness or copy of something else?
14. How were the Protestants an image or copy of the Catholics?

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Part Eight

Feb. 19

DOGS

The Dogs of St. Bernard

Dear Children: I want to talk to you today about dogs. The dog is called a domestic animal, and wherever you find civilized men and women, you will find dogs of some kind. Dogs are not only loved because they are companionable, but because they are also, oftentimes, very serviceable.

In Switzerland there are some very high mountains, and some years ago, when there were no tunnels yet dug under the mountains, as there are today, travelers had to cross over the tops of these mountains. The snow was always deep and the journey was always dangerous, particularly in the winter.

On the top of each of these mountain passes, there is built what is called a hospice, which means hospitality, the same word from which we get our word hospital. These buildings are erected for the entertainment of poor travelers, who are compelled to cross the mountain passes. The monks have some large dogs, which are known as the dogs of St. Bernard. In the winter when it is snowing, and travelers are likely to be

exhausted by their efforts to ascend the mountain, and are liable to be lost in the snowstorms which prevail almost every day, these dogs are sent out by the monks with a supply of food and wine suspended from their necks, and they go all over the mountain, barking and making a great noise. When they discover a poor traveler who is perishing in the snow, they allow him to take the food and the wine in order that he may be stimulated and revived, and then these faithful and intelligent dogs lead the way to the place of safety and security.

Oftentimes they find men who have become nearly frozen, who have fallen down in the snow in an unconscious state and are ready to die. If left for a time these men would soon freeze to death beneath the snow that falls very rapidly upon them. These dogs are very intelligent, and immediately they will begin to scrape the snow off the traveler, lick his hands, and if he does not give any indications of life they will then lie down upon his body, that the warmth from their own body may quicken him again into consciousness, that he may drink the wine and eat the food and be stimulated enough to do

something toward getting himself on to the place of safety. If the man is not too heavy, the dog might even be able to carry him.

At the hospice on the St. Bernard pass they once had a faithful dog which had been successful in thus rescuing sixty-eight persons from freezing to death upon the mountains. The dog was very keen-minded, and seemed to know exactly what to do when he found a poor traveler dying in the snow. One day he found a man who had evidently been lying for some time in the snow, which had already quite buried him. The man was entirely unconscious, and when the dog found him he began immediately to scrape away the snow and then lay down upon this dying man, that the warmth of his own body might quicken him again into consciousness. When the man began to revive, and discovered there was something warm lying upon him, he thought it was a wolf or some wild animal which possibly designed to take his life. He reached into his belt and drew a dagger, which he thrust into the body of the faithful dog that had come to rescue him from freezing to death. The poor dog was fatally wounded. He started back home, but in a short time after reaching it bled to death. The monks had this dog's skin stuffed and placed in the hospice, and now he seems constantly to teach an object lesson to all travelers who cross the Alps and stop at the hospice.

The story of this faithful dog and his sad death reminds us of our loving Saviour, who came from heaven to this world, to seek and to save those who were lost. Although He came to redeem and rescue us from death, yet wicked men in this world crucified Him by nailing Him to a cross upon Calvary, and this is what every person is doing today who rejects the Lord Jesus

Christ. He comes to you and to me, desiring to save us from our sins and from everlasting death; to save not only our bodies, but our souls for all eternity. If we reject Him we are told in the Bible that "we crucify Him afresh, and put Him to an open shame." I am sure no thoughtful boy or girl would be guilty of willfully stabbing any kind dog that would come to their rescue if they were perishing in the snow, and I trust none of you will ever reject Jesus and thrust Him away from you, and thus crucify Him for yourself and put Him to an open shame before the world.

This faithful dog should also teach you and me another lesson. If a dog can make himself so useful as to save the lives of sixty-eight people, you and I should ask ourselves the question whether we are doing as much for the blessing and the salvation of men as this faithful dog did on the mountains of Switzerland? You can do a great deal more than this dog. He could only save the lives of people, but God can use you to save their souls as well, by the influence of a noble Christian life, by what you say and do, by your contributions to missions, and in various other ways you may help to save the souls of many who must otherwise perish.

This faithful dog teaches us a lesson of constant, daily duty. It was no easy thing for this dog to go out in the fierce cold through the deep snow and run about all day to hunt for lost travelers, but it was by keeping constantly at it and working faithfully day after day that he accomplished this grand result. He did not save sixty-eight people all at one time, but saved one at a time, and sometimes worked for days and weeks without finding a single traveler whom he could help. In the same way, if you desire to be useful in this world, you must use every little opportunity which

comes to you daily. You must be willing to work hard and keep at it, and even though you cannot succeed in doing any great thing at any one time, remember that you must keep doing little things all the while. I trust God may inspire each of you to desire to accomplish grand results in your lives by the constant doing of both little and great things for God and man.

—With the Children on Sundays
By S. Stall

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

V	5	F	0
I	1	I	1
C	100	L	50
A	0	I	1
R	0	I	1
I	1	D	500
U	5	E	0
S	0	I	1
			<hr/>
			666

the number of his name

A LESSON TRUE

We look around us everywhere
And find a lesson true
That tells of sharing—and I'm sure
It is the thing to do;
The great sun sends the sunbeams;
The garden shares its flowers
And birds send out their happy songs
Through all the summer hours;
We'll take this lesson for our own—
For each and every day;
I'm sure that sharing brings a joy
Not found in any other way.

Dear Boys and Girls:

We only have a few verses in our lesson but there are a lot of things you need to learn from these verses.

First we want to talk about the "mark of the beast." This beast is the Roman Catholic Church or the Papacy. The image of the beast is the Protestants, or sectism. Each of the sects are marked by the false spirit that is in them. You cannot be a Methodist or a Baptist, or an Episcopalian, or a Lutheran unless you promise to obey their teachings and believe their doctrines. The Catholics have a head in Rome which is the Pope. All of the above organizations have headquarters. (The Church of God has its headquarters in heaven.) This is the mark which they have received from the beast or Catholics. Many of the Protestant doctrines were taken from the beast or Catholicism which marks them.

One person wasn't doing well in a new job so he joined the church that his boss belonged to and a lodge that most of the men belonged to. He kept his job as he became one of them and they could not harm to their brother in the church or the lodge. So you see how they could "buy and sell" by having the "mark."

The "name of the beast" was received from Papacy. The Catholic priest claims to forgive sins which is blasphemy. They name their organization the "Holy Catholic Church." Thus, the Protestants have a name to each of their organizations. You must accept their name to become one of them.

"The Number of His Name," or the number of the head of the Catholic Church is the number of the Pope. The Catholic Church is the first beast. The Pope is the "man of sin" who sets himself up in the temple "shewing himself that he is God."

Let us talk about numbers. "The letters of the alphabet were used to denote numbers, each letter having the power

of a number as well as sound." The Roman letter I, V, X, L, C, D, and M each have the power of expressing a number. Our lesson says the number of the beast is the number of a man. "The Pope of Rome wears upon his miter the following blasphemous inscription: Vicarius Filii Dei — Vicar of the Son of God. Taking out of this name all the letters that the Latins used as numerals, we have just six hundred and sixty-six. U and V were both formerly used to denote five." (See lesson illustration.) A, R, S, F, and E don't have a "power of a number." Can anything be plainer than God's Word concerning the name of the man or that the Pope is the head of a false movement? —Aunt Marie

Lesson 8, February 19, 1978

THE MARK, NAME, AND NUMBER OF THE BEAST

Rev. 13:16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

II Thess. 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in

the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Memory Verse: Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition. II Thess. 2:3.

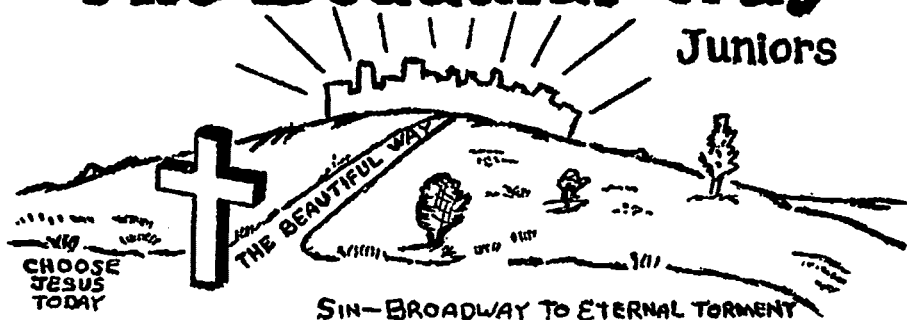
QUESTIONS:

1. What is the "mark of the beast" that the Protestants have?
2. Do you know where the headquarters are for the Catholic church and some of the other denominations?
3. Where is the headquarters of the Church of God (the true church)?
4. The Protestants took the "name of the beast." What is the name of the beast? Name some of the Protestants.
5. Who is the head of the Catholic Church?
6. What does our lesson call him?
7. Does he call himself God and does he sit in a temple?
8. What is written on the miter or cap that he wears? If you cannot pronounce the word, tell what it means. (They are Latin words.)
9. You had to learn Roman numerals in school. What does a V stand for?
10. Be sure and have some paper to write down all of these Latin words and count them up by taking what each stands for in numerals.
11. After counting them up do you have 666? Whose name is that supposed to be?
12. Is the Pope called by the word of God the "man of sin" or the number of the beast, the Catholic Church?
13. Do you want to be a part of the beast or the image of the beast?

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Juniors



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Part Nine

Feb. 26

Running a Race

"Bill, are you practicing for the race next Saturday?"

"Yes, Jim, I am. Also Mark, Gus, and Bobby are working hard for the prize. We surely have strong competition. If Jack hadn't sprained his ankle, he would have run, too. You know he goes out in the pasture and races with the horses. I'm sure he would have been the winners."

"But Bill, last Sunday our Sunday school teacher was telling us that in school teacher was telling us that in running the Christian race we can all win."

"Oh, how's that Jim? I guess I don't know anything about that."

"Well, you go with me next Sunday. She is going to tell us some of the rules and the rewards. I already know about some of the rules—and I want to get the list of the rewards she will give us. She gets them out of the Bible."

"I guess you have been taught in Physical Ed, how we can't expect to win in our race if we eat and drink things we ought not. Well, it's the same way in the Christian race. We have to do some things and quit doing some

things—things that are right and wrong. Well, you will learn all about it if you'll come to Sunday school every Sunday. The teacher makes it so interesting."

"You mean about running races?"

Jim answered, "Well, yes, but she really takes in more than that. I'm anxious to get the list of rewards."

"If you win the race Saturday I'll still be your friend, and if I win I hope you will still count me as a friend. That is good sportsmanship, you know."

"I surely will, Jim, and I'll be right over to go with you Sunday. I'm glad you invited me."

The next week Bill and Jim were together as much as possible. They each had a list of rewards for those who run in the Christian race. Bill had decided he wanted to become a Christian and run the race with Jim, and they could both win the prizes.

At Sunday school the teacher read to the class from I Cor. 9:24, "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain." "Boys, the writer is talking about those of you who run in a school race or something of that kind who will receive a reward of money or

something that doesn't last long. But the rewards for Christian races are spiritual rewards that last forever, and are for all who run the race successfully and have overcome all the evil temptations of Satan like Jesus did." Then she gave the boys the list of rewards and told them there were a lot of good things to learn in connection with the list that told why some won and some did not win.

The list of rewards is found in the book of Revelation.

1. "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God." Rev. 2:7b.

2. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Rev. 2:10b.

3. "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it." Rev. 2:17b.

4. "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations." Rev. 2:26.

5. "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels." Rev. 3:5.

6. "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God." Rev. 3:12a.

7. "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." Rev. 3:21.

—Aunt Vera (Forbes)

Love your enemies.

God Sees Everything

A boy once went to have his picture taken. The photographer took his picture and was developing it when he noticed there were spots on his face. He could not understand it until his mother informed the photographer that the boy had come down the next day with the smallpox. The natural eye had not been able to see it but the camera had. Let us be careful that our hearts are spotless before Jesus. For His eye, like the camera, sees things others do not see.

—W. S.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

As I mentioned before we must remember that in Revelation we study about the Church of God and those who were false, who tried to fight against the true church. Revelation is written in symbols. Also remember that at various times the symbols begin with the morning church and bring it up through its fight against the dragon, the beast and the image of the beast. Today we start with the company of people brought into view in our lesson, the 144,000 which stands for a complete number, or spiritual Israel, or the true Church of God. Our first verse mentions about this group standing

on Mount Zion with the Lamb or Jesus Christ, having the Father's Name written in their foreheads. They were a group named after God so they are the Church of God. Here is a contrast of the true church with the false churches. These are not wandering after the beast or his image. They are on the mountain and not in the wilderness of darkness. They do not have the "mark of the beast." They are virgins, pure and clean in their hearts and not defiled like the beast and his image. (Catholics and Protestants). They sing the new song of redemption. They have been forgiven of their sins and no one but the redeemed can sing this song. They followed the Lamb wherever He went, and were the "firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb." How wonderful! In their mouth they had no guile and were without fault before God. Boys and girls, that is the way God wants us to live today. This is the same church in the last reformation that was in the beginning. We are in this last reformation and are standing separate from the beast and his image. (Catholicism and Protestantism.)

In the sixth verse a messenger delivered an important message which was the "everlasting gospel," to all people. It's not a new gospel but the "everlasting gospel." The same gospel delivered in the beginning of time and now in the end of time. Before the end of time Jesus said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matt. 24:14. This has been done, and must be continued until the end of time.

The next messenger declared that Babylon had fallen. Babylon contains the three parts of the false movements that fought against the true church: the dragon (heathenism), the beast (Catholicism), and the false prophet, or image to the beast, which is Protestantism.

Protestantism had some spiritual people in it but they had become deceived and had fallen. Paganism was a false religion and Catholicism was always a corrupt one. Protestantism had reigned for 350 years but God had called his people out of it. In 1880 D. S. Warner and others brought out the truths of God's Word in their entirety, teaching the unity of God's people. A great revival began and the spiritual ones came out of sectism or Protestantism. They did not want to worship the beast or his image, nor have his mark, as the third angel declared. If they stayed in Babylon they would drink of the wine of the wrath of God. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 9, February 26, 1978

THE LAMB ON MOUNT ZION

Rev. 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

2 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:

3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

5 And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.

6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting

gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

8 And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice. If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

Memory Verse: And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in

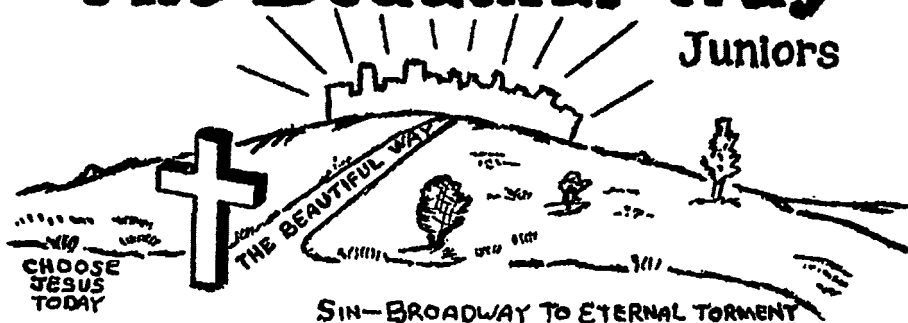
the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. Rev. 14:13.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who stood on the mountain and what did the 144,000 around him have on their foreheads?
2. What does the 144,000 stand for? Were they a symbol of the Church of God since they had God's Name written in their foreheads?
3. What kind of a song did they sing and why couldn't others learn it?
4. Were those in this group virgins (which means they were pure in heart) and whom did they follow?
5. Did they have guile or evil, or faults in their lives? Before whom did they stand?
6. What did the angel, that appeared in the midst of heaven have? Whom was he to preach to?
7. Whom were the people, that heard the "everlasting gospel," to worship? Were they to worship the beast and his image?
8. What did the next angel say?
9. Babylon was the false city and not the city of God. How did the beast and the image make nations drink of their evil way?
10. What did the third angel declare?
11. If they worshipped the beast and his image and received his mark, or evil spirit, what would happen to them?
12. Does it pay us to stay with God's Word and not take up with some false ways?
13. What is the patience of saints?
14. How are the dead blessed in God's sight and how can their works follow them?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1978

Part Ten

March 5

SEEDS

*Thoughts, Words, Deeds—
Their Life and Perpetuity*

My young friends: Today I have quite a variety of seeds. Some of them are very small, and some, as you see, are quite large. The seeds of each class have in them a principle of life, which makes them differ from sand, or small stones of similar size, because if I plant these seeds in the ground they will grow.

When you take different kinds of seeds, there is one thing that is very interesting about them. It is the different kinds of coverings in which they grow. For instance, if you take a chestnut, it grows in a burr with sharp thorny points; others are folded as though rolled up very tightly in leaves, as you will find in the hazel nut or filbert. Some seeds grow in rows, like beans and peas in a pod. Some grow in a very soft bed, like cotton seeds. Some grow imbedded in a downy substance which blows all around, carrying the seed with it, like the thistle, and the light fuzz of the dandelion. Sometimes the seed is buried in the inside of fruit, as in the case of apples, pears, peaches,

plums, and various other kinds of fruit. Sometimes it is buried beneath the beautiful leaves of the flower. So you see there is great variety.

Now, these seeds may represent words. There are a great many varieties of words. All words have the principle of life in them, because they express thought; and these thoughts when received into our minds develop into action. Therefore we say that words have a principle of life in them, and it is important that we should be careful not to permit bad words to have a place in our minds. Very often you will see boys and girls reading worthless papers which they think will do them no injury. But the fact is, that these boys and girls are influenced in all their living by that which they read in these papers. It might be very light and trifling, but it tends to corrupt the mind, to give boys and girls false ideas of life, and it gives them such opinions as are not real, and therefore very injurious to anyone. It is much better that a boy and girl's valuable time should be spent in reading good books and papers, and securing such information as will be of value and assistance to them all through life. For the life

of every boy and of every girl is a very great struggle, and no boy or girl can afford to waste time in the beginning. If they are ever to amount to anything in this world, it is important that they should begin very early in life.

I want to call your attention to another characteristic of these seeds. When a single seed is planted, it grows up and produces a very great number of other seeds. If you plant a seed of wheat, it will produce 30, 60, or sometimes 100 other seeds. If you plant one sunflower seed it might produce as many as 4,000 seeds. If you plant one single thistle seed, it has been known to produce as high as 24,000 seeds in a single summer. If you were to plant only one grain of corn and let to grow until it is ripe, and then plant the seeds again which grew on these few ears of corn, and thus continue to replant again and again, we are told by those who have calculated it very carefully, that in only five short years the amount of corn that could be grown as the result of the planting of the one single seed would be sufficient to plant a hill of corn, with three grains in every square yard of all the dry land on all the earth. In ten years the product would be sufficient to plant not only this entire world, both land and sea, but all the planets, or worlds which circle around our sun, and some of them are even a thousand times larger than our own globe. So you see there is wonderful multiplying power in the different kinds of grain which you plant.

So it is with the thoughts and the words which we have in our minds. Good thoughts enter into good acts, and these acts influence others just as though the same thought was sown into their minds, and then it springs up into their lives and influences them. Just so when we have read a book, whether the book

is good or bad, its influence goes on reproducing itself, over and over again in our lives, every time in a multiplied form. Suppose with your money you send some Bibles to the heathen, and as a result a single person is converted. Immediately that person would influence other heathen people whom he would meet, and so, one after the other, these heathen would be influenced as the result of what you have done. This good influence would go on repeating itself over and over again, as long as the world shall stand, and only in eternity would the wonderful results of what you have done be fully known. So it is with all that we say and all that we do; it goes on repeating and multiplying itself over and over again.

You may sometimes be discouraged because the kind words which you speak and the kind deeds which you do seem to fail of a good result. But you can be assured that even though you grow to old age and your body were to be laid away in the grave, yet sometime in the lives of those who come after you, the good you have done will surely bear its fruitage of blessing.

—With the Children on Sundays
By S. Stall

JESUS' LITTLE ONES

Jesus' little ones are we,
From all sin we would be free;
More like Him would daily be,
For He loves us so.

In the straight and narrow way
He will lead us day by day,
Seek us when we go astray,
For He loves us so.

Tho' these little hands are frail,
And their strength cannot avail,
Jesus' love will never fail,
For He loves us so.

—C. H. Gabriel

Be Strong

"Why are you crying?"

Mother asked little May.

"No time for sighing—
Just run out and play."

"Faye doesn't like me,
'Cause for Jesus' sake.
His ways she can't see,
Kindness she won't take."

"Oh, be strong, my dear,
God will help you out.
Now dry every tear,
And never, never doubt."
—Marie Miles

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



*Seven angels with
vials of God's wrath*

Dear Boys and Girls:

What attracted John's attention in our lesson where seven angels having the seven vials of the last plagues. The vials were filled up with the wrath of God. These are the divine judgments of God against the persecutors of the church. God's people are not to avenge themselves but God has said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." Romans 12:19.

In the second verse, the scene changes. There is a short history of God's redeemed saints. We are to know there are

those who are God's saints who have gotten the victory over their persecutors. They stand upon the "sea of glass, having the harps of God." They are singing a song of praise and the song of Moses and the Lamb. This song was sung by the Israelites when they had escaped to the further side of the Red Sea, thus securing perfect deliverance from their enemies. This great host was mentioned before in Revelation who were singing the song of the redeemed. But the host in today's lesson had gotten victory over the beast, over his image, over his mark and the number of his name. Two Sundays ago we studied about the number and mark of the beast.

In verse five John saw "the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven." This is where the seven angels came from. This is a symbol of the most holy place of the sanctuary. We know that the testimony tablets were put under the wings of the cherubim, in the ark of the testimony, or God's covenant. So the angels came from the presence of God. This makes us know that the angels were spotless and came forth with justice to be administered. God never makes a mistake in His judgment. The four living creatures, who symbolize the redeemed sons of the earth, gave them these vials or goblets of wrath. God's people have cried for years, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?" Rev. 6:10. Now the time had come. As soon as they were delivered, the temple was full of smoke or the presence of the Lord accompanied them. We remember that Moses could not enter the tabernacle because of the cloud and glory of the Lord that filled it. (Ex. 40:34,35.)

We must stand upon the Word of God. We must not be forgetful hearers but doers of the Word of God.

—Aunt Marie

STANDING ON THE SEA OF GLASS

Rev. 15:1 And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.

2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.

5 And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened:

6 And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.

7 And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever.

8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

Jas. 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

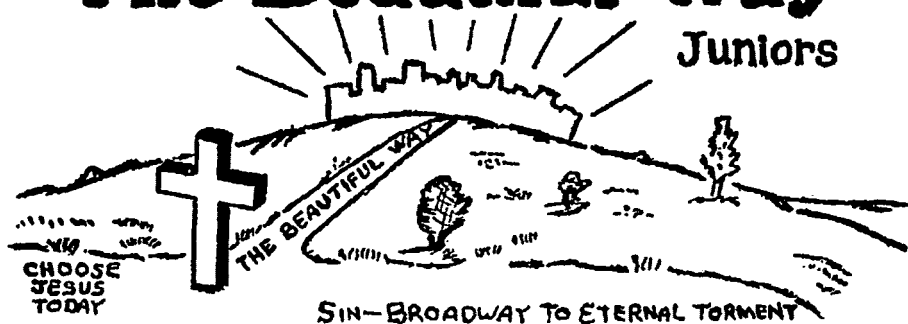
Memory Verse: For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did John see in the first part of our lesson?
2. Could we call these judgment angels?
3. What was the next scene John saw?
4. What did the sea of glass stand for?
5. Can you tell what the beast and his image stood for?
6. State what the mark of those who are in Catholicism and Protestantism means.
8. Answer the question in verse four of who shall fear him?
9. John saw a temple. Did Solomon build a temple to the Lord?
10. In Moses's tabernacle and Solomon's temple what was under the wings of the cherubims?
11. Were the seven angels pure who came out from that temple?
12. Does this make us know that the vengeance of God upon the wicked will be just and right?
13. Who gave the angels the vials?
14. What filled the temple?
15. Are we to be doers of the word as well as hearers?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1978

Part Eleven

March 12

SNOW

The Lessons Which It Teaches

My dear boys and girls: When God desired to set Job to thinking, among other questions He asked him: Canst thou enter into the treasures of the snow? (Job 38:22.) While coming to meeting today, I saw some children frolicking and glad in the midst of the snow, which was falling all about them. I wondered whether they had ever stopped to think much about the snow. So I thought I would ask you the question which God asked of Job many years ago: "Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow?"

We oftentimes think that God is seen in the fields and flowers in the spring and summer, but He is also seen in the beautiful snow of winter. If you will let some of the snow fall upon the sleeve of your coat and then examine it carefully, you will be surprised at its beauty. It is beautiful when examined without a microscope. Each flake is fashioned into stellar shape. It is formed and fashioned by the same hand which made the stars of the heavens and gave them their sparkle and beauty. Each

flake is a beautiful crystal. Each somewhat like the others, and yet no two exactly alike. There are hundreds of varieties, each beautiful and all glorious. These beautiful little snow stars are all formed with perfect geometrical accuracy. Some have three sides and angles, some six, others eight, and some have more. One resembles a sparkling cross, while others seem almost like the leaves of an open flower. Some are like single stars, others like double stars and clusters of stars; and although the ground in winter is covered with myriads of them, yet each one is formed with as much correctness and beauty as if God had made each one for special examination and as an exhibition of His infinite skill and divine perfection.

Like everything else that God has made, the snow is also useful. You may possibly have thought of it as affording excellent sport in sliding down hill, enabling you to enjoy a sleigh ride, affording opportunity for a snowball fight, or as furnishing the material for making snow men or snow houses. In all these ways the snow is a source of delight and pleasure to boys and girls, but after all, the snow has a special

mission in the world during the severe cold of the winter.

The severity of the cold is often greatly modified by the presence of snow. The snow forms a warm mantle to protect the grass and grain fields. It wraps its soft warm covering around the plants, and thus protects them from the frost. Many animals also take shelter in the banks of snow, and are thus kept from being frozen to death. The snow of winter is as important in securing our food and blessing as the rain of the summer. As intense heat and the absence of rain produce the great deserts of the earth, so intense cold and the absence of snow would produce barren tracts upon the earth.

Now, what are the lessons we may learn from what I have said? I think the first lesson that we may learn is that God does everything perfectly. God is not in a hurry, as boys and girls often are when they do not take time to learn their lessons thoroughly or to do their work carefully. Perfection is one of God's attributes. We are impatient and imperfect. But God wants us to be perfect. We should constantly strive after perfection. We are to seek after perfection here upon earth, and although we cannot hope to attain it fully in this world, yet we shall attain unto it in the world of blessedness beyond. Remember that whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well.

I think the second lesson that we may learn from what I have said, is that God does everything with some good purpose in view. God not only has a purpose in all that He does, but He has a purpose for good. Some boys and girls do things with a bad purpose. Now, God does not do anything with a bad purpose, and He would not have us do anything with a bad purpose. He has given us life and being upon the earth in order that we may accomplish

something grand and good. What is the purpose of your life? What have you resolved to make the object which you shall seek to attain in this life? Have some noble purpose, some high aim in life. Whatever it shall be, let it always have in view the blessing and good of others and the glory of God.

The last lesson from this study of the snow is that God has made it a symbol of purity. God is pure, and He wants us to be pure. Do you put tobacco in your mouth? Then your mouth is not pure. Do you use bad words? If so, your mouth is not pure. Do you use your eyes to read worthless story papers and books, or to look at evil pictures? Then your eyes and thoughts are not pure. Do you permit your ears to listen to improper talk? Then your ears and mind are not pure. Do you harbor bad thoughts in your heart? Then your heart is not pure. Do you defile your body by improper eating and drinking? If you do, then your body is not pure. If you and I desire to be pure, we must go to God and earnestly ask Him as David did when he cried unto God and said, "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me and I shall be whiter than snow."

Now let us sing this beautiful hymn:

"Wash me and I shall be whiter than the snow."

—With the Children on Sundays
By S. Stall

A BLESSED PLAN

"What will you be when you grow up?"
They are always asking me;
I haven't quite decided yet
So they'll have to wait and see.

But Mother says this Holy Book
Gives us a blessed plan
And if I try to follow Christ
I'll be a fine, good man.

Speak the Truth

Speak the truth;
Speak it boldly, never fear;
Speak it so that all may hear.
In the end it shall appear
Truth is the best in age and youth.
Speak the truth.

Speak the truth;
Truth is beautiful and brave,
Strong to bless and strong to save.
Falsehood is a coward knave;
From it turn thy steps in youth,
Follow truth.

"You remember when Jesus fed the multitudes, He taught us to not be wasteful, but to make use even of the fragments. When Mother or Daddy put good things to eat on your plate, you should try to eat everything and not be wasteful."

Dear Boys and Girls:

We want to remember that the word *Satan* here does not mean the wicked prince of the air as Jesus has said he was, but it means, as explained in Rev. 12:9 that it is the dragon, "that old serpent called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world." Notice it says the dragon, the idol worship or anti-God spirit was called Satan. The Satan in our lesson means that he will appear again in the last days. Boys and girls, we are living in the last days. Satan, or that anti-Christ spirit, is loose. People are being deceived and are turning away from God. They are filled with all kinds of evil ways. You have not lived in other years and don't know how much worse it is today than it has been, but those of us who are older know. Russia claims to be anti-God. They do not want any Christian faith there. Many here boldly declare they do not believe in God. Oh, how sad! That spirit is loose today. This is to happen in

the last days according to our lesson. This spirit will gather people from all over the world and they are working toward one thing and that is to get people to turn against God. But we will not be deceived. God's people will stand firm although the anti-God spirit will "compass the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city." God will take care of His own. When the time comes He will cause the world to come to an end and take His children home with Him. But notice in verse 10. We read here who will be cast into the lake of fire or who will go down first. The beast (Catholicism) and the false prophet (Protestantism) will be swallowed up the the anti-God spirit and then "the devil" (anti-God) will go down last and be "cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast, and the false prophet are." The last two will already be there.

The eleventh verse starts with the judgment scene. The small and great, or boys and girls, men and women, people from all walks in life, and all nations, stood before God, after the earth and heavens had fled away. (II Pet. 3:10). Time was no more and all had to give an account of the deeds done in the body. You will be there and I will be there in that great day. All of our lives will come before us and God. I am sure we will know within ourselves just where we will go. Heaven will be too pure for the unclean and those whose lives are filled with sin. What is God writing in His books about you? Oh, boys and girls, we can be ready to meet our God! Keep your hearts tender toward God. Keep such a fear and love upon your hearts that you will not want to do wrong and displease your great God.

Even the sea gave up its dead, all are there to be judged. But all who have their names written in the book of life will enter in to be with Jesus in eternity. Eternity never ends. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 11, March 12, 1978

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE

Rev. 20:7b Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Mem. Verse: And whosoever was not found written in the book of life

was cast into the lake of fire. Rev. 20:15.

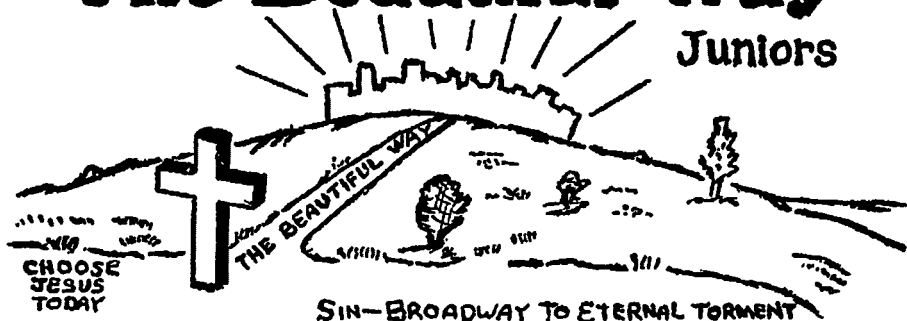
QUESTIONS:

1. Does the Satan in our lesson mean the one who tempts us to do wrong or does it stand for the dragon, or the anti-God spirit, which fought against Jesus and the disciples in the early church?
2. What will this anti-God spirit do and what is he doing today?
3. Will most everyone in the world finally turn against God?
4. What will they do to the camp of the saints?
5. When it gets too bad, what will God do?
6. Where will the beast and the false prophet be cast?
7. The "devil," or the anti-God spirit, that people let possess them, will be ruling most of the people in the world and then what will happen to them?
8. What did John see after time had ceased and the heavens and earth had fled away? (Read II Pet. 3:10).
9. Who stood before God? What books were opened?
10. Did the sea give up its dead? Will all arise from the graves to be at the judgment?
11. The first death of a soul is when they turn against God and choose sin. Ezek. 18:4. If they do not repent they will be cast into ———, which is the "second death."
12. Whose names are found in the book of life?
13. What will happen to them and what will happen to those whose names are not in the book of life?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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Part Twelve

March 19

Balances

How God Weighs People

Dear Boys and Girls: I suppose you have all stood on the scales and been weighed. I have here a pair of balances. This was doubtless one of the earliest kind of instruments with which people weighed different things, and it is the kind of scales which are still used when the greatest accuracy is desired. These are called a balance, because when I hold them by this string you will see that this end of the arm and that end of the arm are equal in length and equal in weight and they exactly balance each other. Now when I place anything in the pan on this end of the arm, and place a small weight in the pan on the opposite arm, and then lift the balance up, you will see how I can readily tell how much the piece of metal, or piece of wood, or whatever I have placed in the balances, weighs. In the drug stores they use this kind of scales to weigh medicines, and they can tell accurately the weight of a very small quantity. In the laboratory, or the place where medicines are made, they have this kind of scales that will weigh the smallest particle of dust; even

a small piece of a hair laid on the scales can be weighed accurately.

In the fifth chapter of the Book of Daniel we read about a king whose name was Belshazzar, who lived in the great city of Babylon, surrounded by a great wall three hundred feet high and eighty feet broad, and with a hundred gates of brass, twenty-five gates on each side of the city, and a street running from each of the gates upon the one side, straight across the city to each of the corresponding gates upon the opposite side, a distance of some twelve of fifteen miles; and then other streets crossing these first twenty-five streets, running between the gates which were upon the other two sides of the city. God had blessed this king of Babylon and given him great wealth and great power, but he became proud and defied God. One night he made a great feast and invited a thousand of his lords and the generals of his army, and sent for the golden vessels of the Temple, which Nebuchadnezzar had brought down from Jerusalem, and Belshazzar drank wine out of these sacred vessels of the Temple. And, like men and women when they drink liquor, they lost their reason, and they praised the gods of gold, and of

silver, and brass, and iron, and wood, and of stone, and thus dishonored God; and there appeared in the banqueting hall a form like a man's hand and wrote on the wall so that all might see and read it, and these were the words which were written before that wicked king: "Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting." (Daniel 5:27.)

Now you see that God weighs men and women, not for the purpose of telling how many pounds their bodies weigh, but He weighs their character, He weighs their conduct, He weighs their purposes, and He weighs their principles, and so He weighed Belshazzar, and He said of him and to him, "Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting." God weighed Belshazzar as though he were placed in this side of the balance, and on the other side of the balance were placed all his opportunities, privileges and his blessings, and all that God had done for him. When God thus weighed him against all these things Belshazzar was found so light that he did not weigh as much as the privileges and blessings which God had given him, and therefore, God said that he was weighed in the balances and was found wanting.

In just this same way God weighs you and me, in order that we may see whether or not we weigh enough. Suppose we turn to the twentieth chapter of Exodus and there find what God requires of us. You will find that God says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the chil-

dren unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments."

Now suppose I place this requirement in one side of the balance, and then ask you to place your obedience to this requirement in the other side of the balance. I am sure there are a great many grown men and women who could not be weighed against this requirement. If a man loves money, so that he sacrifices his obedience to God, or sacrifices his character, or gives too large an amount of time to money-making, and money-getting; if his love of money is very great, you see how he makes money a sort of a god—that is, he exalts his love of money above his love of God. In the same way a person can worship pleasure, ease, and fame in such a way as to exalt these above God. Now anyone who has done this, cannot be weighed against this requirement of God's law without being found wanting.

(to be continued)

HIS EXAMPLE

Jesus went to church while here
When He was just a little lad;
To follow His example dear
Should make us very glad.

Jesus also prayed, we read,
And asked for strength from God above;
His blest example we will heed
With happiness and love.

Jesus lived in service sweet,
Helping others day by day.
We'll try to do the tasks we meet
And walk in Jesus' way.

I am but a little worker
In the cause of Christ, my King,
Yet I know my Master loves me,
So His praise I gladly sing.

I'm Growing

I'm growing and learning
A little each day,
I'll try to be fair
With my neighbors at play.

Dear Boys and Girls:

One thing we want you to remember is that the Church of God on earth and in heaven are in one important sense the same, as they constitute one family. (Eph. 3:15). In a spiritual sense, God is dwelling in His church here on earth, but His actual throne and place of abode are in heaven. In our lesson we speak of a new heaven and a new earth which is the new Jerusalem. John saw the new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven which is the redemptive work of Christ in the world. When we are saved from sin, we are in the spiritual New Jerusalem. We do not belong to any earthly group but we belong to the heavenly group. When we die, we do not change into another group but we are still in the same group—only it's with the part that is in heaven.

John saw a beautiful view of the holy city. The most precious materials of this earth were used, in one sense, to try to portray to us the greatness and grandness of our heavenly abode. If the symbols are of such beauty and grandeur, just what will the reality be? It's beyond our imagination! Let us look closely at what John saw. It would be good to read the unprinted portion of our lesson which tells more about the Holy City.

No city on this earth can compare with the city of God. Who ever heard of a city that was one thousand and five hundred miles square? The ancient city of Babylon was fifteen miles square and was famous for its hanging gardens etc., but that is nothing in comparison to the Holy City. The Holy City had

walls that were two hundred and sixteen feet high. The streets and mansions were of gold. The three gates of solid pearls on each side represent the easy access to this wonderful city. Each gate had a guardian and a name, which was after each of the twelve tribes of Israel. The twelve foundations were named after the twelve apostles of the Lamb or Jesus Christ. This makes us know that it contains the church which was "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone." Eph. 2:20. "Just think about the wall of this holy city being nearly three hundred feet high and stretching around the city six thousand miles, all built of the purest" jasper! Boys and girls, this symbolizes the priceless worth of our eternal home. Jesus died on the cross that we might have access into it. "What is a man profited, if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life can be in that city. No one that is defiled with sin will be there. I want to go there, don't you? —Aunt Marie

Lesson 12, March 19, 1978

THE HOLY CITY

Rev. 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most pre-

cious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal,

12 And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

13 On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.

14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

26 And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Memory Verse: Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. Hebrews 13:13,14.

QUESTIONS:

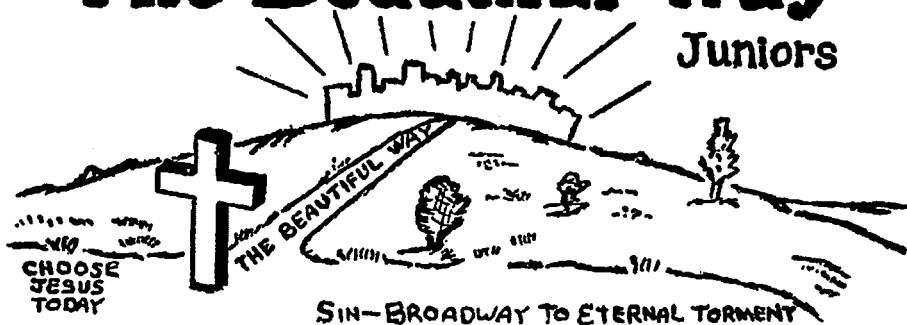
1. What did John see pass away and appear?

2. What did one of the seven angels say to John?
3. What is the old Jerusalem and what is the new Jerusalem or holy city that came down out of heaven?
4. What kind of light and glory did this holy city have that came down out of heaven?
5. The wall of the city was 216 feet high and of purest diamonds, and the 12 gates were of solid pearls. Whose names were written on the gates?
6. Where were the twelve gates placed and why?
7. The holy city was foursquare with 1500 miles on each of the four sides. The wall of the city had how many foundations and what were they named? (Also refer to Eph. 2:20).
8. Was there a temple like Solomon's temple, that was in the earthly Jerusalem, in the holy city and who was the temple?
9. The streets in this city were of pure gold. Did they need the sun or the moon to lighten it? Who gave the light?
10. Did the wicked nations walk in the light of the glory of God and the Lamb, Jesus Christ?
11. In the new Jerusalem or Church of God, is the door or gate shut or is it open to everyone who will come by the cross, through Jesus Christ?
12. What will happen to those who tell a lie or worketh abomination? See Rev. 21:8.
13. Who will be in that city?
14. Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins, so we could be in this magnificent city. What will it profit a man to lose his soul?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1978

Part Thirteen

March 26

Balances

How God Weighs People
(continued from last issue)

If we take the next Commandment, it reads, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." Now anybody who has ever sworn cannot be weighed against this commandment. A man who curses and swears is a very wicked man. I hope that none of you, boys or girls, will ever profane God's name and disgrace yourself by swearing.

Another commandment says: "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." If God were to come into this community and weigh the boys and girls against this commandment, how many do you think would be found to whom God would turn and say, as He did to Belshazzar: "Thou art weighed and art found wanting"? Any boy or girl who speaks of his father as "The old man," and of his mother as "The old woman"; any boy or girl who is disobedient; any girl who yesterday when mother asked her to dust the furniture, or any boy who

when mother asked him yesterday to run upon an errand, grew peevish, scowled, and scolded, perhaps went out of the room and slammed the door behind them, all such boys and girls would be found wanting. You see how, with one after another of these commandments, if God were to weigh us we would be found wanting.

If we take the other commandments, "Thou shalt not kill," anybody who has hated his brother in his heart; "Thou shalt not commit adultery," any one who has harbored lust in his heart; "Thou shalt not steal"; "Thou shalt not bear false witness"; "Thou shalt not covet"; think of each of these and see how many times in your life you have broken them, if not in letter, yet in spirit.

Now, if you cannot be weighed against these different requirements and you have come short of them in the past, how can you expect to stand in the great Day of Judgment, when God shall take into account every idle word that we have ever uttered, every wicked thought; when we shall be weighed in the just balances of an infinite God? When God shall place these requirements upon one side of the balance,

and you and I shall step in upon the other side of the balance, there is only one possible way in which we could then be heavy enough, and that is if we could have our Elder Brother, Jesus Christ, to step into the balance with us, as He is willing to do, and God should accept the obedience and holiness of His own Beloved Son, Jesus Christ in our stead. Unless you and I have Jesus Christ with us when we step into that balance, it will be said, "Thou art found wanting." Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your friend, and are you trying to serve Him? If you have not now made Him your friend, how can you hope to have His friendship then? May God help you to have Jesus as your friend in life, as well as in death; in this life as well as in the life to come, now while being tempted and tried in this world, as well as when being weighed in the next.

—With the Children on Sundays
By S. Stall

Don't Be Like Kid

"Kid, you better jump off that stove." Those were the words of Aunt Gracie.

Kid wasn't the name of a boy—but was a real kid goat. His mama was Nanny Goat. He was born in the winter, and it was too cold for him to live outdoors, so Aunt Gracie and Uncle Joe fixed him a nice little bed in the house. When he was hungry they would let Nanny come in the house to feed him. He began to grow and was soon out of his bed and running all over the house. He learned to jump up in chairs and sometimes on Aunt Gracie's bed. Then he got spanked and was told to stay off the bed.

When warm Spring days came, Kid would go outside with Aunt Gracie and run around, and when she would squat

down to pick up an armful of wood for the stove he would jump up on her back.

One day when she brought the wood in, she put the little pieces in the stove, then the bigger pieces, so it would soon make a hot fire to bake her cornbread for dinner. After she put the wood in the stove she struck a match to it and put the lids back on the stove. Just then Kid jumped up on the stove. He had never been up there before and the crackling noise of the burning wood was something new, and he was listening to it. He didn't pay any attention to Aunt Gracie's command to jump down. Soon the stove began to get hot. Aunt Gracie said again, "Kid, get off that stove, you'll burn your feet." But Kid didn't mind. Pretty soon his feet began to get hot and instead of jumping off he picked up one foot and spit on it, then another foot and spit on it—and around and around he went spitting on one foot and then another. Aunt Gracie saw it and was laughing at him. Finally, he got too hot and jumped down.

Children, you may think he was a very silly little kid, but that is just the way you so often do. You are told not to do this or that—but you do not pay attention. Sometimes Mama or Daddy punishes you, but you just go on doing things you ought not. It seems you think Mama or Daddy won't find out about some of the things you do. The devil tells you to lie about it or maybe you blame someone else for your bad deeds, but there is an all-seeing Eye watching you. He sees and knows everything you do and every lie you tell. Jesus said the devil is a liar and the father of it. There is no truth in him. The devil has a hotter place for all bad children and adults to go which is a lot hotter than from the stove Kid finally jumped off. There is absolutely no chance of jumping out of the devil's

hot place. Jesus called it a "furnace of fire"—also He called it "hell fire" and in one place He calls it "everlasting fire."

Dear children, be sorry for your sins, ask Jesus to forgive you, and make you His child so you can have everlasting LIFE and not be cast in the awful fire with the devil. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.—Aunt Vera (Forbes)

Little children, do not fear.
Jesus by your side, is near.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Our lesson continues a description of the New Jerusalem or Holy City. The "river of life" means full salvation. This mighty, flowing stream comes out from under "the throne of God and of the Lamb." Our lesson makes it known that all who will can come and take of the "water of life freely." When a person is thirsty they desire water more than anything else in this world. When a person sees they are lost in sin, cut off from God, and will be banished into hell or torment in eternity, they begin to seek after Christ or this "river of life." Oh, we know that no one wants to miss living in that beautiful city of God! There are not enough words in the English language to describe all that God has prepared for those who will love and serve Him. In this life we can have salvation and enter into this spiritual city, then after death we will realize its fullness. Here we have only a part, but over there we will be in an immortal body and can enjoy all the beauties of heaven.

The trees on either side grew upon the banks of this river. Also the tree of life was there. This reminds us of the tree in the Garden of Eden that Adam and Eve ate of and were put under a curse. But through Christ, this curse was lifted

and the tree of life is not guarded now. All who will repent of their sins can eat of this tree of life.

The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit abide in this city. God reveals Himself, not to a few chosen priests only, but to all of His servants. They shall see Him "face to face." There will not be the name of the beast nor of his image on their foreheads but the name of God and the Lamb. Praise God for His great plan!

Dog is a term applied to a person who is of great reproach. It is not used as much among us today as it was among the Jews of that day. It signified evil workers of every class. All mentioned in verse 15 will be cast into the lake of fire. It will be perfect misery and everything that is evil and bad. There is a little love here, along with trouble, but in hell there will never be one ray of love, care, or concern from anyone. Oh, it will be terrible!

The book of Revelation contains the history of God's church, also the history of its persecutors, and the final doom of them. The false church trampled down the true children of God here in this world and exalted themselves as being the true church. They have tried to corrupt all the early records of their wickedness. No wonder there is a warning for them not to take away from the words of Revelation and God's Word. All records will be opened at the judgment. We want to be clear in that day before God.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 13, March 26, 1978

THE RIVER OF LIFE AND THE FINAL WARNING

Rev. 22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

15 For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the

holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

Memory Verse: And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. Rev. 22:12.

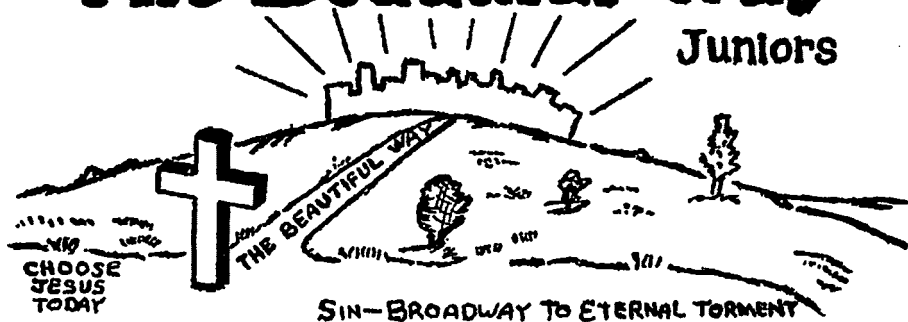
QUESTIONS:

1. Where did the pure river of life come from? What does it mean?
2. What was in the midst of this city of God and on either side of the river of life?
3. What guarded the tree of life in the Garden of Eden, after Adam and Eve's fall? Is the tree of life in the New Jerusalem or Holy City guarded?
4. What does the phrase, "no more curse" mean?
5. What will be in the New Jerusalem and who will serve?
6. Will the name of the beast or the image to the beast be on those in the holy city? Whose name will be in their foreheads?
7. What about the light in this city?
8. Who are blessed and what rights do they have?
9. What will be without the city?
10. Who sent the angel to testify to the churches of all these things?
11. What does the Spirit and the bride, or the church say today?
12. What will be added to anyone who adds words to this book?
13. What will happen if a man takes away from this book?
14. Who will come quickly one of these days and time will be no more?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2

April, May, June, 1978

Part One

April 2

The Dangers of Ben-onies

Gen. 35:18: "She called his name Ben-oni; but his father called him Benjamin."

These words were spoken of Rachel, Jacob's wife. Her youngest child had just been born: she was very sick, and was going to die. The little child was lying by her. She called to see it; she kissed it, and called his name Ben-oni. Ben-oni means "the son of my sorrow." This child was about to occasion the death of his mother, and therefore she gave him this name. She was sorry to leave her husband, her family, and her friends; and this feeling of sorrow led her to call his name Ben-oni.

"But his father called him Benjamin." Benjamin means, "The son of a right hand." Our right hand is a great comfort and blessing to us. What could we do without a right hand?

Now, every child that is born into this world will be either a Ben-oni or a Benjamin. There is not much difference between these two names, but there is a great deal of difference between the natures which they represent. All these children, here assembled, are either Ben-onies, or Benjamins. These names refer to girls as well as to boys. You will all be

children of sorrow, or children of help and comfort to your parents.

Now, the great question, for us to consider is, what are the marks of a Ben-oni, or of a Benjamin?

We shall mention four things which may always be considered as the marks of a Ben-oni; and the opposite of these, of course, will be the marks of a Benjamin.

ILL-TEMPER

The first mark of a Ben-oni—"a child of sorrow"—is ill-temper.

Suppose you had to walk four or five miles with a pebble in your shoe; or suppose you had to wear a coat or dress with a pin sticking in it; or suppose you had to lie all night in bed with a porcupine by your side, sticking you with his sharp-pointed quills: what an uncomfortable thing it would be! But none of these things are so uncomfortable as to be connected with an ill-temper. An ill-temper is the most uncomfortable thing in the world. We can protect ourselves against many uncomfortable things. Thus, we put roofs on our houses to keep the rain off, which would be uncomfortable; we put doors and windows in our houses to

keep the cold and wind out, which would be uncomfortable but how are we to keep bad tempers out of our houses? All peevish, cross, ill-natured children are Ben-onies—children of sorrow to their parents, and the families where they dwell.

There were two little boys in a Southern city whose names were Augustus and Eugene. They were playing top, and had but one between them, which they spun alternately. At first they played very pleasantly, but soon became very angry and began to speak unkindly. Eugene said, "It's my turn to spin the top now."

"No, it's not; it's mine!" said Augustus. Then they grew very angry about it. Augustus then said to Eugene, "You lie!"

Then Eugene struck him, and Augustus struck him back again. They seized each other in great rage, and in the scuffle, Eugene took a long sharp knife from his pocket and stabbed Augustus, so that he died in a few moments. Augustus lost his life, and Eugene became a murderer, merely to decide whose turn it was to spin a top. There was ill-temper; and what a Ben-oni that ill-temper made him to his parents, and to the family to which he belonged!

(to be continued)

Eva Grant

Most of you boys and girls have read the book, *Trials and Triumphs of Eva Grant*. Maybe it would be of interest to you to know that I knew her when I was a teen-ager.

One time she went with us in a Model T Ford car to campmeeting at West Frankfort, Ill. It was a summer day and we had the whole top folded back. At that time the road was just wide enough for one car. Mary, the wife of the couple with whom we went, wanted

to drive. She was just learning, so after she took the wheel she started to pull back on the one-way slab of pavement. The tires being small, and she not knowing how to handle the car, turned it over. All four of us got out and set the car up again. We drove on down the road, singing songs and praising God that no one was hurt. We soon arrived at the campmeeting rejoicing in the Saviour's love and protection.

Soon each of us had a mattress cover, or as we called it, a straw tick, and were at the straw stack filling it full of straw. This was our bed to sleep on during those hot summer nights, and of course there was no fan to keep us cool.

Sis. Eva Grant was a young minister and she preached at this meeting. She was so frail from going through many hard things, that after telling some of her experiences, the people would just flock to the altar. —Edith Wall

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Early Christian Martyrs

Dear Boys and Girls:

I trust that last Sunday you remembered about the resurrection of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. We wanted to finish up our lessons in Revelation and start another series of lessons for this quarter, but it is

important to know that Jesus is sitting on the right hand of God today, interceding for us and is not a dead Christ. He did not stay in the tomb as many other leaders have, but arose.

In this quarter we are going to study about the life of the Apostle Paul. We know that in our first record of him in Acts, he was called Saul but after his conversion his name was changed to Paul. Saul and Paul are the same person. Today's lesson brings out his background and what kind of a man he was before he was saved from sin and became a follower of Jesus Christ.

Paul was a decedent of Benjamin, the son of Jacob, who was called Israel. In his youth he was trained in the laws of Moses and prided himself in strictly keeping and defending them. He was a native of Tarsus, in Cilicia. There he learned Greek and he also knew the Hebrew language. At an early time in his life his family moved to Jerusalem. There he was taught by the famous teacher, Gamaliel, who belonged to the school of Hillel, and apparently had great influence in the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was the supreme council of the Jewish people. Paul was a Pharisee by descent and by training, also by conviction. He truly believed that he was supposed to kill those who believed in Jesus Christ and tried to stop the spreading of the gospel. He caused people to be arrested, regardless of age or sex, and had them brought and thrown into prison. He had the Sanhedrin behind him, also the high priest and others in authority. They condoned his bloodthirsty ferocious, murderous spirit. He had an intense devotion to the Law and was sincere in his actions in defending it.

Boys and girls, let us take note that even though Paul was sincere in his evil works, they were wrong. He acknowledged his guilt, as he says in our lesson that even though he did evil he

"obtained mercy." He was obeying his conscience at that time, yet he was wrong. Some boys and girls might say they don't feel bad if they do something that the Bible says is wrong. By this, they think it's all right, but conscience will never be a right guide. If the Bible says a thing is wrong, it is wrong even though you feel it is all right.

One man was very sincere in thinking that he saw a log lying across a creek on a moonlight night. He stepped on it and fell into the water. He found that it was only a shadow of a tree instead of a log. He was sincere in his actions and thoughts, but they were wrong. Boys and girls, guide your life by what God says and you will be ready for heaven. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 1, April 2, 1978

PAUL'S BACKGROUND

Acts 22:3 [And Paul said] I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city [Jerusalem] at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.

25b Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman, and undemanded?

26 When the centurion heard that, he went and told the chief captain, saying, Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman.

27 Then the chief captain came, and said unto him, Tell me, art thou a Roman? He said, Yea.

28 And the chief captain answered, With a great sum obtained I this freedom. And Paul said, But I was free born.

Gal. 1:13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews'

religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

14 And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

Phil. 3:4b If any man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

Acts 23:1 And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.

Acts 26:9 I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

I Tim. 1:12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

Memory Verse: This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. I Timothy 1:15.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where was Paul born and who taught him the law of Moses?
2. Who reminded those who were going to scourge Paul that he was a

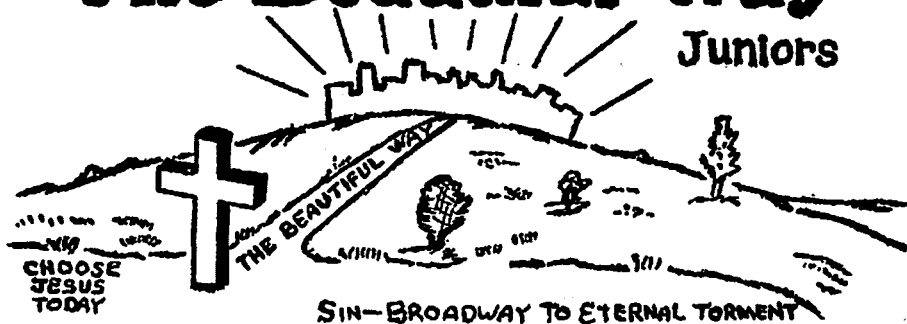
Roman because he was born in Tarsus? (This was after Paul was saved from the mob and asked if he could talk to the crowd from the top of the castle stairs.)

3. What did the centurion do?
4. What did the chief captain ask Paul?
5. Did the centurion have to pay a sum for Paul's freedom?
6. Paul refers to his conduct in writing to the Galatians. What did he say that he did to the Church of God? (Discuss who are in the Church of God.)
7. Did Paul mean that he was a greater persecutor or defended the Mosaic law more than others, when he said he "profited above many my equals in mine own nation"?
8. Would our being willing to die for a wrong religion or wrong ideas, cause us to be ready for heaven? What are we to base our life by to be ready for heaven?
9. In Paul's letter to the Philippians, what tribe of Israel and what sect did he say he belonged to?
10. What did Paul say about his zeal? (Zeal means that which a man loves so earnestly he is careful to see that it is honored, and is grieved when it is dishonored.)
11. Was Paul's zeal wrong and how was it wrong? What is a good zeal?
12. What did Paul tell the council in Acts 23:1 and also in Acts 26:9?
13. In writing to Timothy, what did Paul say he was like before he was put in the ministry?
14. Even though he did wrong in persecuting the Church of God and injuring many, he said he "obtained mercy." Why?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2

April, May, June, 1978

Part Two

April 9

The Dangers of Ben-onies

ILL-TEMPER

(continued from last issue)

There was a rich nobleman, in England, who had a little daughter, named Anne. They were very fond of her; for she was a fine little creature, very lively, merry, affectionate, and exceedingly beautiful. But she had a very ill-temper. When anything vexed her, she would fly into a rage, and turn and strike anyone who provoked her. After every fit of anger she would be ashamed and sorry, and resolve never to do so again. The next time she was provoked it was all forgotten, and she was as angry as ever. When she was between four and five years of age, her mother had a little son—a sweet little tender baby. Anne's nurse, who was thoughtless and wicked, loved to tease her, because she was so easily irritated; and so she told her that her father and mother would not care for her now, because all their love and pleasure would be in this little brother, and they wouldn't notice her. Poor Anne burst into a flood of tears, and cried bitterly, saying, "You are a naughty woman to say so! Mamma will always love me; I

know she will, and I'll go this very moment and ask her." She ran out of the nursery and hastened to her mother's room. The servant called after her:— "Come, miss, you needn't go to your mother's room; she won't see you now." Anne burst open the door, but was instantly caught hold of by a strange woman, she had never seen before. "My dear," said this woman, "you cannot see your mother just now"; and she was going on to tell that it was because she was very sick, and could not be disturbed. But she was too angry to listen; and she screamed and kicked at the woman, who was obliged to take her by force and carry her back to the nursery. When she put her down she gave the servant a charge not to let her go to her mother's room. This added to her rage. The thoughtless, wicked servant, instead of trying to soothe and quiet her, burst out into a laugh, and said, "I told you that, miss. You see your mamma does not love you now." Then the poor child became mad with fury. She seized a smoothing-iron, and darting forward, threw it upon the baby's head, as it lay in the cradle. The child gave one struggle, and breathed no more.

Anne's mother died that night of grief. Anne grew up in the possession of great riches. She had every outward comfort about her, that money could procure; but she was a very unhappy and miserable woman. She was never known to smile. The thought of the terrible consequences of that one outburst of passion pressed upon her like a heavy burden all her days. Ah! what a Ben-oni this girl became! She was a child of sorrow to her parents. Her ill-temper made her so. If you give way to such tempers, my dear young friends, you will certainly be Ben-onies; but if you strive and pray against such feelings and try to be gentle, kind, and pleasant to those around you, then you will be Benjamins—children of the right hand to your parents. See, now, how differently such children will act.

A gentleman was walking on the Battery in the city of New York, one day, and, as he passed a little girl, who was cheerfully rolling her hoop, he said to her, "You are a nice little girl"; to which she replied, patting her little brother on the head, "And Bobbie is a nice little brother, too." Here was a good temper, which would make this dear child "a child of the right hand" to her parents, and cause her to be loved by all who were about her.

A mother who was in the habit of asking her children, before they retired at night, what they had done to make others happy, found her young twin daughters silent.

She spoke tenderly of habits and dispositions founded on the Golden Rule—"Do unto others as you would have them do to you." Still, these bright little faces were bowed in silence. The question was repeated. "I cannot remember anything good all this day, dear Mother," said one of the little girls; "only one of my classmates was happy, because she had gained the head of the class, and I smiled on her, and ran to

kiss her. She said I was good. That is all, dear Mother."

The other spoke still more tenderly: "A little girl who sat with me on the bench at school, lost a little brother; and I saw that, while she studied her lesson, she hid her face in the book and wept. I felt sorry, and laid my face on the same book, and wept with her. Then she looked up, and was comforted, and put her arms around my neck; but I do not know why she said I had done her good."

These were children of good tempers—children whose pleasant dispositions would make them children of the right hand to their parents—real Benjamins indeed.

(to be continued)

Don't Lose Your Temper

"Say, David, my mother told me that my temper is very valuable," said Joe.

"How does she figure that," wondered David. "I don't know," replied Joe, "But she said that it was so valuable that I should never lose it. She said that if I did I would get in trouble." —W. M.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



The Stoning of Stephen

A good character is the best tombstone; those who will love you and were helped by you will remember you when forget-me-nots are withered. Carve your name on hearts and not on marble.

Dear Boys and Girls:

First, we want to notice in our lesson that Paul is called Saul. He had two names and *Paul* in Latin means "little," thus letting us know that Paul must have been a small child. We will call him Saul until in Acts 13:9, where we read that they changed his name to Paul.

The background of our lesson is a sermon by Stephen to the Sanhedrin. That was, the governing body of the Jews with seventy-one members. Stephen started his sermon with the call of Abraham and ended it with Christ, whom the Jews had killed. This indeed stirred up the Jews and they were ready to kill him for implying that Jesus was the "Just One" who was to come as the Messiah to the Jewish people. Saul was about thirty-five years of age at this time and went back and forth at different times from Tarsus to Jerusalem.

The early church had grown and many were believing upon Jesus. There were about 1500 saints and this angered the Jewish religious leaders. They wanted to stop this growth. They had false witnesses come against Stephen who brought him to trial before the Sanhedrin. Some think that Saul may have been a member of the Sanhedrin at that time but after they dragged Stephen out of the city to stone him, their garments were laid down at the feet of Saul. Boys and girls, there was a seed of truth planted in the heart of Saul by what he saw and witnessed, that bore fruit later.

Let us think about Stephen. Notice that it says he was "full of the Holy Ghost." Boys and girls, we can be

overcomers in the severest times of trouble, if we will keep full of the Holy Ghost. God has power for us to be an overcomer. We notice that Stephen "looked stedfastly into heaven." He looked away from those who hated him and didn't try to dodge the stones, but "looked stedfastly into heaven." He knew from where his help would come. If he had dodged them, it only meant a little longer time of trouble. He knew they were going to kill him. He only thought about God and his need, so "he looked stedfastly into heaven." The heavens opened. What did he see? Oh, the Lord never fails! He saw something wonderful! He saw Jesus standing up looking down at him. We read where Jesus is sitting at the right hand of God, but he could not sit down and watch Stephen being stoned for His sake, but stood up. Oh, how He loved him! Through those opened "heavens," there poured down all the grace, love, forgiveness, forbearance, calmness, peace, etc. that Stephen needed at that time. Stephen was so moved that he knelt down in reverence before Jesus. As the stones fell upon him, he prayed that the Lord would not lay the sin to the charge of those who were stoning him. And then, through those "opened heavens" the spirit of Stephen passed to forever be safe from any trouble, and from his enemies. How precious! We too can be ready to die.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 2, April 9, 1978

SAUL CONSENTING

Acts 7:50 Hath not my hand made all these things?

51 Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.

52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have

slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:

53 Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.

54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.

2 And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.

3 As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering into every house, and

haling men and women committed them to prison.

4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

Memory Verse: But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Luke 12:5

QUESTIONS:

1. Who made all things in the world?
2. To whom was Stephen talking and how had they resisted the Holy Spirit?
3. Can you think of some of the older prophets who were mistreated for doing right and keeping God's laws?
4. Who was the "Just One" they had murdered?
5. Had the Jews kept the law as it read, or did they keep only the parts they wanted to keep?
6. When the Jewish council or the Sanhedrin heard all that Stephen had said, what did they do?
7. Of what was Stephen full?
8. Where did he look, and what did he see?
9. Where should we look when we are in trouble and what will we receive from those "opened heavens"?
10. Did Stephen tell those who stoned him what he saw?
11. At whose feet were Stephen's garments laid?
12. Did Stephen's death bear fruit?
13. What prayer did Stephen pray as he knelt and the stones hit his body?
14. Was the church scattered through the persecutions?
15. What did Saul continue to do at this time?

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Part Three

April 16

The Dangers of Ben-onies

(continued from last issue)

IDLENESS

The second mark of a Ben-oni is idleness.

Idle children love to lie in bed in the morning; they love to do nothing all day, if they can help it, but play.

It is a great trouble to get them to study, to read, or to work. Now, idle children always make idle men; for the habits which children form while they are children will surely remain with them, when they grow up to be men and women.

John Alsop was about fifteen years of age when his father, who had just moved into a new settlement, was clearing land. One day the father and a neighbor were engaged in building a log fence, which was made of trunks of trees that were cleared of the lands. First, they laid the fence one log high, with the ends of each length passing a little way by each other. Notches were cut in the ends, and a block was laid cross-wise, where the ends lapped, and then another tier was laid on the cross-pieces, until the fence was high enough. To roll up the top logs they would lay

long poles, called skids, one end on the top of the logs, and the other on the ground, and roll up the logs on these. But, as the logs were very heavy, they were obliged to stop several times to rest, or to get a new hold; and it was John's business, when they stopped, to put a block under the log, to keep it from rolling back. Having given a hard lift, and tugging with all his might, the father called out, "There, Johnny! put under your block!—quick!" Johnny started nimbly, and snatched up his block, when suddenly the chirp of a little squirrel struck his ear. Instantly, down went his block, and away he ran after the squirrel, leaving his father, and the other man, to hold the log until he came back. He was an idle boy. He had no fondness for work; he was not willing to follow any one object, or pursuit, long enough to accomplish anything. Thirty years after this, a gentleman, who had known him in his youthful days, inquired about him, of one of his neighbors, who related this anecdote, and added, "He has been running after squirrels ever since." He never was steady and persevering in the pursuit of anything. When he was a young man, he never could make up his mind

decidedly what employment to follow. He had no industry; he would try one thing a little while, get tired of it, and then take up another; but followed no business long enough to get well acquainted with it. He has always been hunting the squirrel.

Now, we are to remember, dear children, that God is busy at all times, and almost everything that God has made is busy. Look at the sun; it is always at work, shining and shining and shining from one year's end to the other. In the daytime it is shining in our part of the world, and when it is night to us, it is shining in the opposite part of the world. And so it is with the moon—always shining, in one part of the world or the other. So it is with the sea; its waves are rising, and falling, and rolling, and flowing, continually. So it is with the rivers; they are continually running from the fountains where they spring, on to the ocean. And so it is with the little birds, and little fishes, and the bees, and the ants: none of these are idle.

Idleness always leads to ignorance and poverty and uselessness, dear children, and idle persons never do anything good, to themselves or to others. They never succeed in business; they never get on in life.

A gentleman in England had an estate which was worth about a thousand dollars a year. For awhile he kept his farm in his own hands, but at length, found himself so much in debt that he was obliged to sell one-half of his place to pay up. The rest he let out to a farmer, for several years. Towards the end of that time, the farmer, on coming to pay his rent, asked him whether he would sell his farm. The gentleman was surprised that the farmer should be able to make him an offer for his place. "Pray, tell me," said he, "how it happens that, while I could

not live upon twice as much land, for which I paid no rent, you are regularly paying me five hundred dollars a year for the farm, and able in a few years to purchase it?" "The reason is plain," answered the farmer; "it lies in the difference between 'go' and 'come.' " "I do not understand you," said the gentleman. "I mean," said the farmer, "that you sat still and said, 'Go'; I get up and say, 'Come.' You lie in bed, and enjoy your ease; I rise early in the morning, and attend to my business." In other words, this was an industrious man; there was no love of idleness about him, and this led to his success in life.

(to be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



The Conversion of Saul

"The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing."

Psalms 92:12-14.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Saul was still "breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord." He decided that he would go to some foreign cities where some of the scattered disciples had gone. The Jews could not have authority over those who lived in Damascus but the Sanhedrin could control the synagogue in the farthest city. Damascus was about one hundred and fifty miles away. He went on his way with letters, which gave him power to bring "any of this way, . . . men or women, . . . bound unto Jerusalem." His journey, if made on foot, would take about six days. He could not travel on the Sabbath or Saturday because of the Jewish religion. Maybe he had time to think, as he traveled on the dusty road or lay down upon his pallet at night. Surely God caused him to think about Stephen and maybe his angelic face would appear before him. I wonder if he thought about the prayer that Stephen prayed and the solid faith Stephen had in Christ as he died. Surely Stephen's lack of fear and the perfect trust showed Saul that he had something that was not in his own heart. As the stars shown down and the night was still, he may have heard the sounds of suffering men and women whom he had dragged before the council and noted their triumphant death. Questions arose in his mind no doubt, and again and again he wondered about the Christ whom they loved, yet he would brush those thoughts away in his firm belief that he must stop this new

religion which was destroying the Jewish religion. I wonder what the men said who traveled with him? Did they wonder and speak of Jesus, that maybe He could be the coming Messiah?

I wonder if Saul repeated some of his thoughts he expressed in Romans 7th chapter while traveling on that road? In verse 15 he said, "What I hate, that I do." "I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin, which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Verse 23,24.

Suddenly a light came from heaven and Saul fell to the ground. He heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" Saul asked, "Who art thou, Lord?" Jesus answered, "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks" of your conscience. That inner guilt, that he had often crowded out of his mind, and tried to crowd out of his life by working hard at defending his religion, at last was brought to his attention by Jesus.

Saul hit the ground a sinner but after his conversation with Jesus, and his soul was bared before the great Judge, he saw himself lost and cut off. He saw himself a sinner and in need of a Saviour. He submitted himself to the Christ and sought forgiveness from his wretched state and when he arose he was a saved man, willing to obey any command from the Lord. He obeyed and went into the city as Jesus told him to do. Obedience brings peace and comfort to the soul.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, April 16, 1978

SAUL'S CONVERSION

Acts 9:1 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the

disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

Rom. 7:15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I

myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

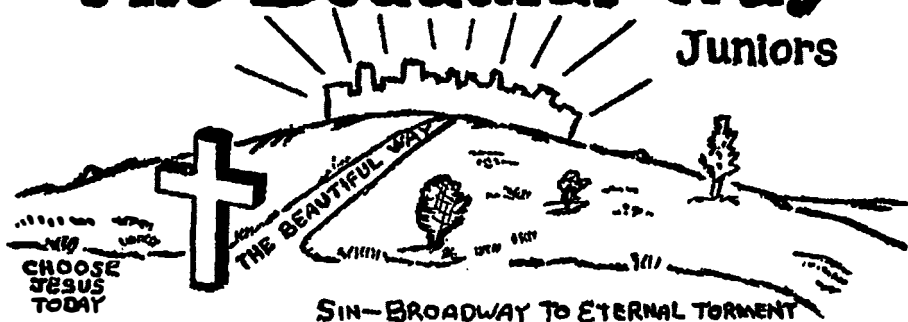
Memory Verse: The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God. Romans 8:16.

QUESTIONS:

1. How far had the saints scattered after the persecutions in Jerusalem and where did Saul go with letters to bring them to Jerusalem?
2. What did our lesson mean when it said that Saul was bringing in men and women of "this way"?
3. As Saul traveled that 150 miles, which took about six days, what do you think he was thinking about?
4. What happened as he neared Damascus?
5. As he fell to the ground, what did a voice say to him?
6. What did Jesus mean when he asked Saul why he was persecuting Him?
7. When you do wrong, what pricks you?
8. What did Saul ask Jesus?
9. What did Jesus tell him to do?
10. Did Saul arise to obey the Lord, a changed man or did he continue to the city to bring the saints bound to Jerusalem?
11. How did the men who traveled with him react?
12. Could Saul find the way alone to the city of Damascus?
13. How long did he go without eating or drinking?
14. When Saul was in sin could he do the right, or was there a law within him that warred against the law of righteousness?
15. What did he declare that he was?
16. Through whom was he changed?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2

April, May, June, 1978

Part Four

April 23

The Dangers of Ben-onies IDLENESS

(continued from last issue)

I remember another anecdote, which plainly shows the advantages of industry.

There was once a young man who was commencing life as a clerk. One day his employer said to him, "Now, tomorrow, that cargo of cotton must be got out, and weighed and we must have a regular account of it." He was an industrious young man—a man of great energy. This was the first time he had been intrusted with the superintendence of work like this. He made his arrangements the night before, spoke to the men about their carts and horses, and resolved to begin very early the next day. He instructed the laborers to be there at half-past four o'clock in the morning. They set to work, and the thing was done; and about ten or eleven o'clock the master came in and saw the young man sitting in the counting house, and looked very black at him, supposing his commands had not been executed. "I thought," said he, "you were instructed to get out that cargo this

morning!" "It is all done, sir," said the young man, "and here is the account of it." This one act made that young man's fortune. It fixed his character. It gave his employer a confidence in him that was never shaken. He found him to be a man of industry, a man of promptness, and he very soon found that he was one that could not be spared; he was necessary to the concerns of that establishment and became one of the partners. He was a religious man, and went through a life of great benevolence, and at his death bed was able to leave his children an ample fortune. His industry made him a Benjamin indeed.

Just, as idle boys will grow up to be idle men, so will idle girls grow up to be idle women. They will be of no use to themselves, and of no use to anybody else. But those who form early habits of industry will certainly rise to honor, usefulness, and happiness.

Miss Rachel Cowe was the daughter of a wealthy man, engaged in an extensive business. He lived in Aberdeen, Scotland. But, in that country, the females of many families in the higher ranks of life, as well as those in middling circumstances, were in-

structed in some branch of business suited to their strength and capacity. An excellent custom; for whatever may be our circumstances today, we know not what they may be tomorrow; riches are no sure dependence, for they often "take to themselves wings and fly away."

Rachel Cowe was early put to learn a branch of the millinery business. This she industriously acquired, though she knew not that she should ever need it. After awhile, her father's business began to decline, and at length he failed. He gave up to his creditors every thing but their wearing apparel, and a few books. Both her parents were left with no means of support, in their old age. There was no one now but herself, on whom they could depend. When Rachel saw the decline of her father's business, she obtained his consent to set up her own. She had a small sum of money, and she borrowed a little more, from a friend, to begin with. She began her business, praying that God would prosper it, and keep her from the new temptations to which she would be exposed. She was successful. In a few months she was able to pay what she had borrowed, and to furnish a house for herself. When her father's business completely failed, and her parents were thrown upon the world, destitute of the means of support, she was prepared to receive them into her own house. She supported them by her labors, she nursed them, with the utmost tenderness, in their illness, she attended them in their last sickness, and saw them die in the hope of glory. What a child of comfort was this industrious girl to her parents! This is not all. While they lived, she would listen to no proposals of marriage; but after their death, she became the wife of preacher Milne, and accompanied him on his mission to

China, where she was a great solace and comfort to him, and a helper to him in his labors. Thus, the industrious girl became the industrious woman; and I would have you all, my dear girls, to follow her example.

Yes; idleness is the second mark of a Ben-oni.

(to be continued)

Correcting A Lie

When Evodna, my little girl, was small I had a teen-age girl taking care of her in my home. She was living with us while she was in high school.

One day I gave Evodna and her some graham crackers. Later when I went into the kitchen I asked what had become of all the crackers. The girl answered me, "Evodna ate all of them."

About forty years later I received a letter from her asking my forgiveness for telling me a lie in saying that Evodna had eaten all the crackers when she, the girl, had eaten them.

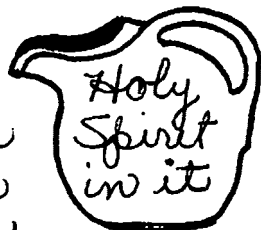
Boys and girls, the Bible says, "All liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone." Rev. 21:8.

Even though time may pass, never forget to repent of all lies you may have told and correct them. The Lord is faithful to bring all things to our minds so we can repent of them when we are in a condition so He can talk to us.

—Edith Wall

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Paul
was a
chosen
vessel



Dear Boys and Girls:

Historians tell us that Damascus was indeed a beautiful place. Some who lived in that city thought that it was the place where the Garden of Eden had been.

God looked down upon the saints in that city and He knew all about their needs. He saw Saul on his way to bring them bound into Jerusalem. The Lord stopped the devil's plan and I am sure that if the saints had not been living very cautiously they would have heard about it sooner. Saul could not see and had been without food and water for three days. God knew that Saul needed someone to pray for him and instruct him in the ways of Christian living. Ananias, a servant of God lived in this city of Damascus and God called to him in a vision. As little Samuel of old, he said, "Behold, I am here, Lord." He was ready to listen. The Lord told Ananias to go to the street called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for Saul of Tarsus. "You will find him there, praying." What a shock this was to Ananias! "Why, this is the man who has done a lot of evil in Jerusalem and he is here with letters of authority from the chief priest to bind all who call upon Thy name and are Christians!" No doubt, Ananias was in hiding at that time and did not even dare go out on the streets. Now the Lord was wanting him to go right down to the house where Saul was. Ananias had to know more about this man. It seemed that at first he didn't understand that the Lord had already told him that Saul was praying, so the Lord told him more. He told Ananias that Saul was a "chosen vessel" and that he would bear Jesus' name before the Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. Then the Lord added, "For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake." This made a lot of difference to Ananias.

He no longer was fearful nor timid. He knew that God had spoken and that Saul was a changed man. He bravely went out on the street and went to Judas' house, as he had been directed. There he found Saul. He walked right in and met the man whom all of the Christians had feared. Why be afraid of a man who was praying? He called him "Brother Saul." He knew he was a child of God and his brother in the Lord. He laid hands upon him, prayed, and Saul received his sight. Then we are sure that Ananias preached him a sermon on his need of being baptized and also of being filled with the Holy Spirit. Ananias knew that Saul was to face the Sanhedrin and also other officials. He would need power from God to stand true. Saul was ready to get all that God had for him. The experience of salvation was indeed wonderful. After he was full of the Holy Ghost, and had been baptized, it was all too wonderful to keep. Now we see the persecutor out preaching Christ in the synagogues. He wanted others to know the joy of having salvation. Many of the Jews tried to resist his teaching, but we read that he proved to many that Jesus was truly the Christ, or Messiah, that was to come which had been foretold by the prophets in the Old Bible.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 4, April 23, 1978

THE PERSECUTOR TURNED PREACHER

Acts 9:10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews

which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

Memory Verse: For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. Acts 9:16.

QUESTIONS:

1. What disciple at Damascus did the Lord appear to in a vision after Saul entered the city blind?
2. Who in the old Bible said, "Here am I," when called of the Lord?
3. What was the name of the street and at whose house did Saul abide?
4. What was Saul doing there besides not eating and drinking?
5. Did the Lord tell Saul that Ananias was coming, would put his hands upon him, and say unto him to receive his sight?
6. What did Ananias first think about going to see Saul and for what did he tell the Lord that Saul had come?
7. What did the Lord tell Ananias about Saul and what his future work would be?
8. If we want to be a "child of the king" what will we have to be willing to do?
9. What did Ananias do after the Lord told him what His plans were for Saul?
10. After a person has been saved from their sins, what else do they need from the Lord?
11. Did Saul wait a long time to be baptized or filled with the Holy Spirit?
12. After Saul ate meat, whom did he visit?
13. Where did he first preach?
14. Were the people amazed in the synagogues and what did he try to prove to them?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2

April, May, June, 1978

Part Five

April 30

The Dangers of Ben-onies

(continued from last issue)

PRIDE

The third mark of a Ben-oni is pride.

Some children are proud of their clothes. This is very silly indeed; for the butterflies have much more beautiful clothes than we, and yet they are never proud of their dress. Some children are proud of their families. This, also, is very silly, for we have all sprung, at first, from one father. Some children are proud about their houses. This, too, is very silly, for by and by they will all crumble into the dust from which they have been taken, while the grave is the one house to which our bodies must all come to at last to await the judgment.

Proud children feel and think themselves better than others, and are often unwilling to engage in honest and honorable employments.

Listen to what I am going to tell you.

Chief-Justice Marshall was a great man; but great men are never proud. He was not too proud to wait upon himself. He was in the habit of going to market himself and carrying home his purchases. Often he would be seen returning, at sunrise, with poultry in one

hand, vegetables in the other. On one of these occasions, a fashionable young man from the North who had moved to Richmond was swearing violently, because he could find no one to carry home his turkey. Judge Marshall stepped up, and asked him where he lived. When he heard, he said, "That is on my way, and I will take your turkey home for you." When they came to the house the young man inquired, "What shall I pay you?" "Oh, nothing," said the Judge; "you are welcome; it was all on the way, and it was no trouble to me." "Who is that polite old gentleman who brought home my turkey for me?" asked the young man of a by-stander. "Oh," said he, "That was Judge Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States." "Why did he bring home my turkey?" "He did it," said the by-stander, "to give you a rebuke, and teach you to attend to your own business."

True greatness, never feels above doing anything that is useful; but especially the truly great man will never feel above helping himself; his own independence of character depends upon his being able to help himself. The great Dr. Franklin, when he first established himself in business, in Philadelphia,

wheeled home the paper, which he purchased for his printing office, upon a wheelbarrow with his own hands.

Pride, then, bear in mind, children, is the third mark of a Ben-oni.

(to be continued)

A Wrong Made Right

As a teen-ager I had a girlfriend whose father had a player piano in his place of business. A person could put a coin in this piano and it would play a desired song.

One day my girl friend and I wanted to go down to the ice cream parlor and get us an ice cream soda.

We didn't have money to buy any and we wondered what we were going to do. All of a sudden my girl friend said, "Oh, I know where we can get some money! How about us getting some money out of my dad's player piano?"

The player piano was in the parlor of the hotel. We peaked in and there was no one in the parlor, so we slipped over to the piano and took off the bottom part of it and found the box that held the money. She reached her hand into the box and took out a number of coins. We quickly put the bottom part back on the piano and hurried out the door. Down the streets we went, and did we have fun buying and eating our ice cream sodas! But boys and girls, the Bible says, "Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell." Proverbs 9:17,18. Even though you might enjoy the wrong that you do, always remember the Scripture said the end is hell.

In later years, God brought this to my mind and I wrote the girl's mother and sent her much more money than we had taken. I asked her forgiveness. I

already had asked God's forgiveness. She sent the money back to me and let me know that I was freely forgiven and told me to give it to my church. I sent it to Faith Publishing House to help get the printed gospel out to others so they can know the great plan of salvation.

—Sis. Edith Wall

A Bag of Tools

Isn't it strange
That princes and kings,
And clowns that caper
In sawdust rings,
And common people
Like you and me
Are builders for eternity?

Each is given a bag of tools,
A shapeless mass,
A book of rules;
And each must make—
Ere life is flown—
A stumbling block
Or a stepping stone.

—R. L. Sharpe

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Shortly after Saul's conversion at Damascus he went into Arabia. How long he remained there we cannot be certain. It was there that the Lord

taught him the doctrines that He wanted Saul to teach. We note that God worked the same way with Moses. He spent forty years in the wilderness tending sheep. No doubt God taught him many things during that time. We do not hear much about Jesus until He was thirty years of age. God wants His workers to have a message to give to the people when they go forth. It must come from God.

Saul returned to Damascus from Arabia and preached Christ in the synagogues. After many days the Jews became angry with his teachings and sought to kill him. Saul really was in trouble now. The Sanhedrin and the high priest wondered what had happened to Saul and the letters he had carried with him to Damascus to bring the saints there bound to Jerusalem. In those days when walking was the main means of transportation, news traveled slow. Today we may hear of the events on the other side of the world within minutes of their occurrence, but in those days, months could pass and no word of events. Finally, after many days, the Jews got together and plotted to kill Saul. Now Saul experienced what the saints had faced. He was being hunted to be killed. Was he afraid? Did he boldly face them? No, he hid from them. Sometimes the Lord will tell a person to face their enemies, and at other times He will tell them to run. It seems that at this time the Lord felt it best to let Saul run. He couldn't run through the gates as they were being watched daily. The governor, under King Aretas, kept the city with a garrison (II Cor. 11:32,33). Since the city was surrounded with a high wall the only thing he could do was to go over the wall. A search was made for a basket big enough to hold Saul. Finally when it was found, they fixed it with ropes and watched for their chance to let Saul down at night through a window down over the side of the wall.

Oh, I am sure that Saul had many anxious moments as he prayed and asked for protection from his enemies. God took care of him. Although he was reaping what he had sown, he now had the God of heaven to help him do that reaping. I am sure he ran for his life after getting out of that big basket.

Saul then went to Jerusalem to seek out Peter. When he tried to join himself to the disciples they were afraid of him but Barnabas took him to the apostles, (Peter and James, the Lord's brother), with whom he abode fifteen days. He wanted to become acquainted with him and learn about Jesus Christ from someone who had walked with him. Don't you know that Peter was happy to tell Saul all about how Jesus arose from the grave and ascended into the heavens and that now He was alive, sitting at the right hand of God. Oh, what a wonderful message that is to us and I am sure it was to Saul. I am sure that Peter told Saul all about the miracles that Jesus performed and about the unfair trial that He was given, but that it was all planned of God and all came to pass just as the old prophets had foretold. Maybe you can tell other things that Peter would have told Saul about Jesus.

At Jerusalem Saul only saw Peter and James, the brother of the Lord Jesus Christ, but he didn't see any of the other apostles. Then he went to Syria and Cilicia. I am sure he was busy preaching Christ to all he met. It was told from person to person in Jerusalem that the one who persecuted them at one time was now preaching Christ.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 5, April 30, 1978

LET DOWN IN A BASKET

Gal. 1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,

16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

17 Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus.

Acts 9:22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

24 But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him. (II Cor. 11:32,33).

25 Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket.

Gal. 1:18 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days.

Acts 9:26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him [Saul], and believed not that he was a disciple.

27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

Gal. 1:19 But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother.

20 Now the things which I write unto you, behold, before God, I lie not.

21 Afterwards I came into the regions of Syria and Cilicia;

22 And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judea which were in Christ:

23 But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed

24 And they glorified God in me.

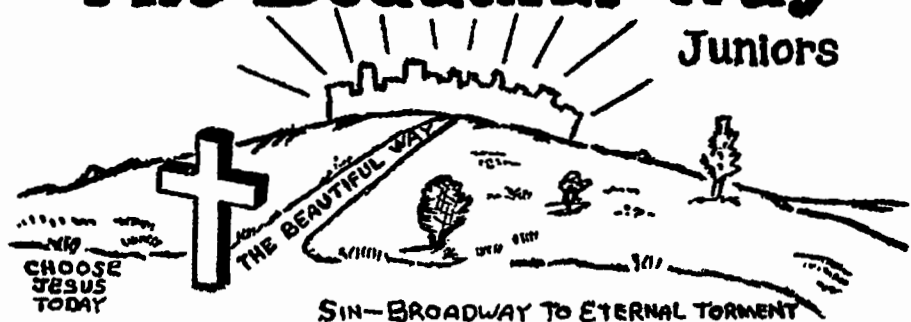
Memory Verse: And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. Matt. 16:17.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Saul prove to the Jews who dwelt in Damascus?
2. What did the Jews decide to do with Saul?
3. Did Saul hear about it? Did he slip through the gates of Damascus?
4. At what time did Saul escape and how?
5. Does the Lord sometimes tell us to run and other times tell us to face the enemy?
6. Did Daniel run when they told him he would be put in the lions den if he continued to pray?
7. What did God call Saul to do?
8. When Saul was called to preach did he confer or go up to Jerusalem and ask the disciples if he should preach and what to preach?
9. Where did he go from Damascus? How long did he stay there?
10. Who did Saul see in Jerusalem?
11. Can you tell something that Peter would have told Saul about Jesus?
12. Who else did he see at Jerusalem and where did he go from there?
13. What did the churches in Judea know about Saul?
14. What did they do when they heard that Saul had changed?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2

April, May, June, 1978

Part Six

May 7

The Dangers of Ben-onies

(continued from last issue)

DISOBEDIENCE

The fourth and only other mark that we shall speak of is disobedience.

There is nothing on which the comfort and happiness of parents and families depend more, than on the obedience of children.

My dear children, if you want to plant thorns on the pillows of your parents and plunge daggers into their bosoms, be disobedient. If you want to make them as uncomfortable as they possibly can be in this world, then be disobedient. This is the chief mark of a Ben-oni.

I remember reading, not long ago, of a gentleman in England who had two sons. He was a kind, excellent, pious man, and did everything for the comfort of his children, that he thought it right to do. Sometimes the boys were anxious to do things which their parents were not willing that they should do. One Sunday, the oldest boy went to his father and asked permission to take the carriage and go riding in the afternoon, instead of going to Church.

His father told him he could not. The boy was very much displeased because his father would not let him go riding, as some of the boys in the neighborhood had been allowed by their parents to do. He was so wicked about this that he determined no longer to stay at home because his father would not let him do just what he wanted. So, the next day, he persuaded his brother to go with him, and they went down to Portsmouth, a town by the seaside, intending to go to sea.

Before going, however, they called on the Mr. Griffin, to assist them to get a situation, on board a man-of-war. This good man perceiving that they were not accustomed to the mode of life in which they were about to enter, inquired of them their object in going to sea. The eldest boy frankly told him they were going in order to spite their parents! Then he told him the story of what had taken place at home—of his father's unwillingness to allow him to ride on Sunday instead of going to church, and said he was going to sea in order to make his father feel sorry for refusing to gratify him. The good clergyman tried to show them the guilt, and folly of the course they were about to pursue, and to

set before them the unavoidable consequences that would result from it. The younger son was impressed by the counsels, and advice of the clergyman and went home, but the older son resolved to go on in his evil course.

Some twelve or fifteen years after this had taken place, the same clergyman was called to the prison in the town of Portsmouth, to see a sailor who was condemned to be executed, and, who was going to be hanged in a few days.

When he entered the cell of the prison he saw a wretched, miserable, squalid-looking creature, sitting by a table in the cell. The prisoner looked up to him as he entered, and said, "Do you not remember me, sir?" "No," said the clergyman; "I do not recollect that I ever saw you before." Then the poor man recalled to him the story of the boy who went from home in order to spite his parents. "And are you the miserable man," asked the clergyman, "who did this?" "Yes," said the poor culprit; "I followed out my own plan; I went on the course which I had chosen, contrary to your advice, and to my own convictions; I plunged into all sorts of wickedness, and sin, and finally became involved in a robbery, and murder, for which I am now about to suffer the penalty. All this, in consequence of my disobedience to my parents!" The clergyman wrote to the father of this unhappy man, who came to visit his son in his last hours, and who had the unspeakable anguish of standing by and seeing him suffer the penalty of the law, and reap the bitter fruits of his disobedience.

What a Ben-oni that son was to his father!

(to be continued)

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip." Heb. 2:1.

Being Honest Pays

Jim kept his heart tender toward the Lord all through college, even though he did have some persecutions. God brought him through. Jim has become a successful business man. He had worked for different oil companies in Canada as well as in the United States as a mechanical engineer. He has now been out of college over twenty years and is the head of the engineering department of a Libian government owned oil company in Tripoli, Libya, N. Africa.

He has kept saved and today all of his children are saved.

Boys and girls, even though you suffer for Christ's sake and are persecuted, you can still be successful in what you want to do in life to make a living. Jim has been honest and upright in all of his dealings and we know that in the world honest people are hard to find and are appreciated.

—Edith Wall

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

It seems that Saul had gone to Tarsus in Cilicia, his home town, and was not

heard of for some time; but I am sure he was busy for the Lord. Sometime during this time of Saul's absence from Jerusalem, Barnabas went to minister to the church at Antioch and many people were saved. Barnabas then left Antioch to seek out Saul in Tarsus. They both returned together to Antioch where they stayed with the church for a whole year. Next we see them going down to Jerusalem. When they had fulfilled their mission in Jerusalem they returned again to Antioch taking with them Barnabas's cousin, John Mark. This is where the Scripture portion of our lesson starts for today.

Different ones were mentioned who were prophets and teachers. Simeon was called Niger to distinguish him from Simon Peter, the Apostle, and also Simon the Canaanite. Lucius of Cyrene is supposed by some to be the writer of Luke and the book of Acts where our lesson is found. It is also supposed by some that he was a cousin of Paul. Then we have Manaen mentioned and no doubt his mother was the nurse of Herod the tetrarch and he was brought up with him. Barnabas was a native of Cyprus. He was held in high esteem at Jerusalem and had lately come to Antioch on a mission for the church. Many of the saints had gone there because of the persecutions of the church and they were scattered abroad.

God had called and qualified Barnabas and Saul to go as missionaries to the Gentiles. As the church fasted and prayed the Holy Ghost also revealed this same knowledge to them. Therefore, they had the backing of the church through the ordination of laying on hands and prayer.

Saul and Barnabas sailed from Seleucia which was sixteen miles from Antioch to the port of Salamis on the island of Cyprus. They preached the Word of God there and then went

across the island to the city of Paphos which was about one hundred miles on the west coast of Cyprus. Paphos was the city where the goddess Venus was worshipped and many evil things were done in that place.

Paul was filled with the Holy Ghost and he was able to know what spirit was working in others. When the deputy called for him to come and was wanting to know the doctrines, we find that the sorcerer Elymas was there. No doubt he had been hindering the work of God and Paul had warned him about it, but he did not heed the warning. The Apostle Paul called him a child of the devil who was full of all subtlety and mischief, and an enemy of all righteousness. He pretended to work through supernatural powers but he only used a "sleight of hand" means to deceive the people. Paul pronounced a judgment upon him right in the deputy's presence. He said that a mist would come upon his eyes and he would be blind for a while. We see God showing mercy in his judgment. The deputy saw the work of God and he believed upon Jesus Christ as his Saviour.

Many times God will send judgment upon people to awaken them to their need of God. This is the great mercy of God, not wanting any to perish but wanting all to come to repentance. Sad to say, not too many will heed the warnings.

—Aunt Marie

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Lesson 6, May 7, 1978

PAUL AND BARNABAS BECOME MISSIONARIES

Acts 12:25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem, when they had fulfilled their ministry, and took with them John, whose surname was Mark.

13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets

and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetarch, and Saul.

2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

5 And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.

6 And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Barjesus:

7 Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.

8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

9 Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him,

10 And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a

mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

12 Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.

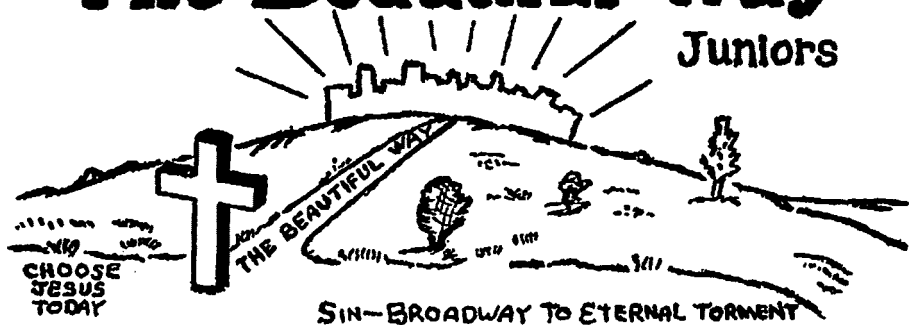
Memory Verse: And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark. 16:15.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where was Saul's home town?
2. How long did Paul and Barnabas stay at the church in Antioch before going to Jerusalem?
3. Where did they go after fulfilling their mission in Jerusalem? Who did they take with them?
4. What were the names of the teachers and prophets at Antioch?
5. What did the Holy Ghost say to the prophets and teachers as they ministered to the Lord?
6. Were Saul and Barnabas already called of God to go as missionaries to the Gentiles or did they go because the church had sent them?
7. Where did they go?
8. When they arrived at Paphos who did they first meet? (Verse 6).
9. Was he a servant of the Lord and what nationality was he?
10. What was the name of the deputy of the country?
11. Why did he call Barnabas and Saul to come and see him?
12. Who stood by to withstand Saul and turn the deputy away from God?
13. What did Saul say that Elymas was?
14. What judgment fell upon Elymas?
15. What mercy was given to Elymas?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2

April, May, June, 1978

Part Seven

May 14

The Dangers of Ben-onies DISOBEDIENCE

(continued from last issue)

I have another story to tell you, of a disobedient son, in order to illustrate the point of which we are now speaking.

The youth, of whom I am about to speak, was the son of a sea-captain. His father had been absent from home on a long voyage. During his absence his child had grown, from being an infant, into a rough and careless boy. He was becoming restive, under his mother's control; her gentle voice no longer restrained him. He was often willful, and sometimes disobedient. He thought it showed a manly superiority, to be independent of a mother's influence.

About this time his father came home; and it was very fortunate that he did return. He soon perceived the spirit of disobedience that was stirring in his son. The boy saw that it displeased his father, although for a few days he said nothing about it.

One afternoon, in October, a bright, golden day, the father told his son to get his hat and take a walk with him. They turned down an open field, a favorite playground for the children in the

neighborhood. After talking cheerfully on different topics for awhile (said the boy, who gives this history himself), my father asked me if I observed that great shadow thrown by a huge mass of rock that stood in the middle of the field. I replied that I did. "My father owned that land," said he; "it was my playground when a boy. The rock stood there then; to me it is a beacon, and, whenever I look at it, I recall a dark spot in my life—an event so painful to dwell upon, that, were it not as a warning to you, I should not speak of it. Listen, then, my dear boy, and learn wisdom from your father's experience.

"My father died when I was a mere child. I was the only son. My mother was a gentle, loving woman, devoted to her children, and beloved by everybody.

"I remember her pale, beautiful face, her sweet, affectionate smile, her kind and gentle voice. In my childhood I loved her sincerely. I was never happy apart from her; and she, fearing that I was becoming too much of a child, sent me to a high school in the village.

"After associating for a time with rude, rough boys, I lost, in a measure, my fondness for home, and my reverence for my mother; and it became more

and more difficult for her to restrain my impetuous nature. I thought it indicated a want of manliness to yield to her control, or to appear penitent, although I knew that my conduct pained her.

"The epithet I most feared was girl-boy. I could not bear to hear it said, by my playmates, that I was 'tied to my mother's apron strings.'

"From a quiet, home-loving child, I became a wild, boisterous boy.

"My mother was very anxious to induce me to seek happiness within the precincts of home. She exerted herself to make our fireside attractive; and my sister, following her self-sacrificing example, sought to entice me, by planning games, and diversions, for my amusement and entertainment. I saw all this, but did not heed it, until it was too late.

"It was on an afternoon like this, as I was about leaving the dining table to spend the intermission between morning and evening school, in the street as usual; my mother laid her hand on my shoulder and said, mildly but firmly, 'My son, I wish you to come with me.'

"She put on her bonnet and said to me, 'We will take a little walk together.' I followed her in silence, and, as I was passing out of the door, I observed one of my rude companions, skulking about the house, and I knew he was waiting for me. He sneered as I passed by him. My pride was wounded to the quick. He was a very bad boy, and, being some years older than myself, he exercised a great influence over me.

"I followed my mother, sulkily, until we reached the spot where we now stand, beneath the shadow of this huge rock.

"Oh, my boy, could that hour be blotted from my memory, which has cast a dark shadow over my whole life, gladly would I exchange all that the world can offer me for the quiet peace

of mind I should enjoy! But no! Like this huge, unsightly pile, stands the monument of my guilt forever.

"My mother, being in feeble health, sat down, and beckoned me to sit down beside her. Her look, so full of tender sorrow, is present to me now.

"I would not sit, but still continued standing beside her.

" 'Alfred, my dear son,' she said, 'have you lost all your love for your mother?'

I did not reply.

(to be continued)

The Selfish Birds

One day I saw two birds that fussed
About a piece of string—

Each held one end fast in his bill
And pulled like everything:

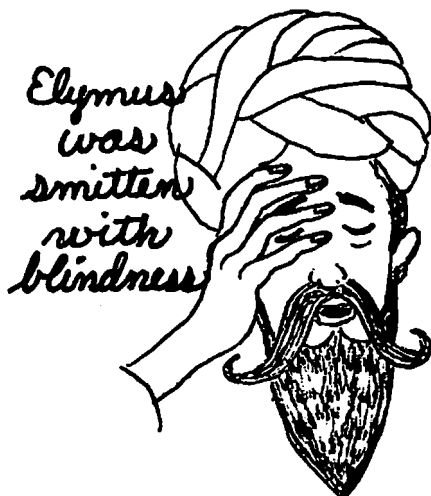
And Grandma said, "Just watch those
birds!

Because I'm sure you'll see
How impolite it is

To act so selfishly.

—Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



"Do you know how 'a little maid' became known all over the world? She just told of her Lord and what He could do. Her story and the good results can be found in the 5th chapter of II Kings, if you are interested in it."

Dear Boys and Girls:

We have not heard much about John Mark but he left Paul and Barnabas after they had set sail across the Mediterranean Sea over to Perga from Paphos. Maybe the hardships and also the chance of facing robbers discouraged him. His act was not honorable in the eyes of Paul but Mark was young and had much to learn.

Paul and Barnabas pushed on over the mountains from Perga to Antioch in Pisidia. The 120 miles of the long, tedious climb with yawning chasms and robber-infested mountains tested their courage and burden for the Gentiles. Far beyond them was a city of 500,000 people who were steeped in a corrupt, sinful religion. They desperately needed to hear that Jesus truly saves from sin.

When they arrived in Antioch in Pisidia (a different Antioch than the one they had just come from), they went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. Paul was asked to speak which was just what he was wanting. Since there were mostly Jews in the synagogue, Paul addressed them as "men of Israel, and ye that fear God." Paul started his sermon at the point when the children of Israel were in Egypt and brought out the way God had wonderfully delivered them from Pharaoh and brought them out to the wilderness. Then God brought the children of Israel into the land of Canaan after destroying seven nations and the land was divided between the tribes of Israel. God then gave them judges for about 450 years and then gave them Samuel, the prophet. Later he gave

them a king named Saul and then later David was their king. God told David that he would raise up from his family a Saviour whose name would be Jesus. Paul referred to John the Baptist who went before Jesus and preached to the children of Israel. Then Paul brought the fact directly to the Jews in the synagogue; that salvation had come to those who were the children of Abraham and feared God. He then told them about how Jesus was brought up before the rulers at Jerusalem and although they found no cause for His death they sought permission from Pilate that He be slain. It had been prophesied thousands of years before that Jesus would be taken down from a tree and put into a sepulcher or grave, and now it had been fulfilled. Paul declared that Jesus did not stay there but He arose from the grave and was seen by many, and that witnesses were still living to prove the fact. Paul declared to them that the promises to their fathers had been fulfilled. Jesus did not stay in the grave nor see corruption; but He arose from the grave and His body did not go back to dust. This was foretold by David who said, "Thou wilt not . . . suffer thine Holy One to see corruption." Psa. 16:10. Then Paul told them that through this Man they could have remission of their sins and be forgiven.

Today we are thankful that because Jesus arose we, too, will arise. Our bodies will go back to dust, but if we live for God we will arise with a new body.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 7, May 14, 1978

PAUL PREACHES AT ANTIOCH IN PISIDIA

Acts 13:13 Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia; and John

departing from them returned to Jerusalem.

14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.

15 And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogues sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.

16 Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience.

26 Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent.

32 And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers,

33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.

34 And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David.

35 Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

36 For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption:

37 But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.

38 Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:

39 And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

Memory Verse: I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Psalms 2:7.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why do you suppose John Mark left Paul and Barnabas?
2. Paphos was on the island of Cyprus. Where did Paul and Barnabas go from there?
3. What does history tell about the roads they traveled from Perga to the second Antioch which was in Pisidia?
4. Where did Paul and Barnabas go first?
5. How did Paul start his sermon after being asked to speak to the Jews and others?
6. What was brought to all who feared God?
7. What kind of glad tidings did Paul bring to them from the Jew's fathers?
8. Why is the fact that Jesus arose from the grave good news?
9. Where had it been written that Jesus was not to stay in the grave nor was His body to see corruption which meant that it would not go back to dust?
10. Did David's body see corruption or go back to dust?
11. Will our bodies go back to dust?
12. When will our bodies arise again? (I Thess. 4:16,17).
12. Through whom can we find redemption for our sins?
14. If we believe are we justified?

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Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2

April, May, June, 1978

Part Eight

May 21

The Dangers of Ben-onies

DISOBEDIENCE

(continued from last issue)

" 'I fear you have,' she continued; 'and may God help you to see your own heart, and me to do my duty!'

"She then talked to me of my misdeeds—of the dreadful consequences of the course I was pursuing. By tears, entreaties, and prayers, she tried to make an impression upon me. She placed before me the lives and examples of great and good men. She sought to stimulate my ambition.

"I was moved, but too proud to show it, and remained standing in dogged silence beside her. I thought, 'What will my companions say if, after all my boasting, I should yield at last, and submit to be led by a woman?'

"What agony was in my mother's face when she saw that all she had said, and suffered, failed to move me!

"She rose to go home, and I followed at a distance. She spoke no more to me until we reached our own door.

" 'It is school time now,' she said; 'go, my son, and once more let me beseech you to think upon what I have said.'

" 'I shan't go to school,' said I.

"She looked astonished at my boldness, but replied, firmly—

" 'Certainly you will go, Alfred; I command you.'

" 'I will not,' said I, with a tone of defiance.

" 'One of two things you must do, Alfred. Either go to school this moment, or I will lock you up in your room, and keep you there until you are ready to promise obedience to my wishes.'

" 'I dare you to do it,' said I; 'you can't get me upstairs.'

" 'Alfred, choose now,' said my mother, who laid her hand on my arm. She trembled violently, and was deadly pale.

" 'If you touch me, I will kick you!' said I, in a terrible rage.

" 'Will you go, Alfred?'

" 'No,' replied I, but quailed beneath her glance.

" 'Then follow me,' said she, as she grasped my arm firmly.

"I raised my foot—oh, my boy, hear me!—I raised my foot, and kicked her, my sainted mother!

"Oh, my head reels as the torrent of memory rushes over me! I kicked my mother, a feeble woman, my mother!

"She staggered back a few steps, and leaned against the wall. She did not look at me. I saw her heart beat against her breast.

" 'Oh, heavenly Father,' she cried, 'forgive him! he knows not what he does!'

"The gardener just then passing the door, and seeing my mother pale, and almost unable to support herself, he stopped. She beckoned him in.

" 'Take this boy upstairs, and lock him in his own room,' she said, and turned from me.

"Looking back as she was entering her own room, she gave me such a look!—it will forever follow me. It was a look of agony, mingled with the deepest love. It was the last unutterable pang from a heart that was broken.

"In a moment I found myself a prisoner, in my own room. I thought, for a moment, I would fling myself out of the window and dash my brains out; but I felt afraid to die. I was not penitent. At times my heart was subdued, but my stubborn pride rose in an instant and bade me not to yield. The pale face of my mother haunted me. I flung myself on my bed and fell asleep. I awoke at midnight, suffering with the damp night air, and terrified with frightful dreams. I would have sought my mother at that moment, for I trembled with fear; but my door was fast.

(to be continued)

A Boy In Prison

I had a good father and mother, although when I was but nine years of age my father died, and for two years afterwards I was sent to school. The third year I refused to go to school, and got in company with two bad boys who coaxed me to go with them to steal apples, and next to go at night and get some grapes,

and so on until one night they said they would open the window of a store if I would go in and get some candy and tobacco. I did so, and repeated the act two or three times. The store belonged to my uncle and he caught me at it and gave me a whipping.

Soon after this I broke into a store and post office and stole some things and left the place, went to Indianapolis and worked in a hotel, where I stole a watch and chain and left the city. Wandering about from place to place, I soon went to stay with a man who led me into all kinds of meanness for three years.

After leaving this place I stole a pair of shoes and started out with a country bummer for awhile, but things did not go well with me, and I left him and went from place to place, most always getting into trouble before leaving. After living with my guardian two years, I went to stealing, and broke into a store where I stole some money and left the country.

Thus my life was spent rambling from place to place until finally I broke into another store and stole some things. I covered my tracks, and for some time felt all was safe, but in some way it was

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



found out that I was the thief who did the stealing. I was arrested and taken to jail, and sentenced to a term of three years' hard labor in the penitentiary. I was not yet twenty-one years of age, but was behind the bars in the State's Prison in Indiana. Boys, do not follow the course I did.

—L. M.

—o—
"For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother . . ." Matt. 15:4.
—o—

Dear Boys and Girls:

Our lesson today starts out with more of the sermon that Paul was preaching to the Jews and others in the synagogue. He had already told them about Jesus who had come to this world to live, die, and rise again for our salvation and urged them to believe on Him. He continues in our first verse to refer to the prophets in the Old Bible. At that time they only had the Old Bible. The New Testament had not been written. Paul wanted them to know that the prophets of old time had foretold of the events that came to pass concerning Jesus. Paul said that unless they believed on Jesus they would fulfill what Habakkuk 1:5 had said. If they refused to believe even though it be declared unto them, Paul explained that God would then turn to the Gentiles. Because they would not believe they would perish. How sad that they would not believe even when it was pointed out to them. Today we find people doing the same. They will not believe even if the Bible tells them what to do, and they know that it comes from God.

Many of the Jews wanted to believe and they wanted to hear more the next Sabbath. Many of the Gentiles also were anxious to hear more. This pleased Paul and Barnabas and they encouraged them to continue in the "grace of God." The next Sabbath

nearly the "whole city" came out to hear the "word of God." When the Jews saw this they were moved with envy. They were not fully persuaded this teaching was right and didn't want the people to accept it. When they saw so many coming, they boldly spoke against Paul and his teachings and argued with him. Finally it came to the point of blaspheming. How sad. Paul boldly told them that they would turn to the Gentiles. He reminded them that God had chosen him as a light to the Gentiles that they should hear about Jesus and His plan to save them. Oh, this pleased the Gentiles and they rejoiced! How glad they were that they had been included in the plan of salvation. Many of them believed unto eternal life.

The Gentiles told others and the word of the Lord was published throughout all of that region. The devil was stirred. The men couldn't do enough to stop the teachings about Jesus and His power to save. The men asked the women to help them. They chose the devout and honorable women to help. They began to persecute Saul and Barnabas. Finally they put them off their coast. Paul and Barnabas shook off the dust of their feet against them. They departed and came to Iconium, but those who believed were filled with joy and with the Holy Ghost.

—Aunt Marie

—o—
Lesson 8, May 21, 1978

THE EFFECT OF PAUL'S SERMON AT ANTIOCH IN PISIDIA

Acts 13:40 Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets;

41 Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise

believe, though a man declare it unto you.

42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

43 Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.

44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

49 And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.

50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

51 But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto

Iconium.

52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

Memory Verse: For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16.

QUESTIONS:

1. The first verse in our lesson is a part of a sermon preached by who and to whom?
2. What does the word *beware* mean?
3. What did the prophet Habakkuk say in verse 41 to which Paul referred the Jews and others?
4. Habakkuk said, "I [or God] will work a work in your days." Is this referring to the time when God sent Jesus to the world to live, teach, die, and arise again?
5. Did Habakkuk say that God made him know that not many would believe on Jesus?
6. How did the Jews and the Gentiles take the sermon of Paul?
7. What did Paul tell the Jews and the religious proselytes who followed him?
8. How many came to the synagogue the next sabbath?
9. Did this make the Jews upset and were they moved to — — — ?
10. What did they do when Paul spoke to them this time?
11. What did Paul tell them in verse 46?
12. What did Paul tell them that they should be to the Gentiles and to others in the world?
13. How did the Gentiles take this and what did the Jews do about it?
14. What did Paul and Barnabas do before they left and went to Iconium?

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Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2

April, May, June, 1978

Part Nine

May 28

The Dangers of Ben-onies DISOBEDIENCE

(continued from last issue)

"With the daylight my terrors were dissipated, and I became bold in resisting all good impulses. The servant brought my meals, but I did not taste them. I thought the day would never end.

"Just at twilight I heard a light footstep approach my door. It was my sister, who called me by name.

"What may I tell Mother for you?" she asked.

"Nothing," I replied.

"Oh, Alfred, for my sake, and for all our sakes, say that you are sorry; she longs to forgive you."

"I won't be driven to school against my will," I replied.

"But you will go if Mother wishes it, dear Alfred?" my sister said, pleadingly.

"No, I won't," said I; "and you needn't say another word about it."

"Oh, brother, you will kill her! you will kill her! and then, you can never have a happy moment!"

"I made no reply to this. My feelings were touched, but I still resisted their influence. My sister called me, but I

would not answer. I heard her footsteps slowly retreating, and again I flung myself upon my bed, and passed another wretched and fearful night. Oh, God, how wretched—how fearful—I did not know.

"Another footstep, slower and feebler than my sister's disturbed me. A voice called my name. It was my mother's.

"Alfred, my son, shall I come in? Are you sorry for what you have done?" she asked.

"I cannot tell what influence, operating at that time, made me speak adverse to my feelings.

"The gentle voice of my mother, that thrilled through me melted the ice from my obdurate heart, and I longed to throw myself upon her neck; but I did not. No, my boy, I did not! But my words gave the lie to my heart, when I said I was not sorry.

"I heard her withdraw. I heard her groan. I longed to call her back, but I did not.

"I was awakened, from an uneasy slumber, by hearing my name called loudly, and my sister stood by my bedside.

"Get up, Alfred; oh, do not wait a moment! Get up and come with me;

mother is dying!"

"I thought I was dreaming, but I got up mechanically, and followed my sister.

"On the bed, pale and cold as marble, lay my mother. She had not undressed. She had thrown herself on the bed to rest. Rising to go again to me, she was seized with a palpitation of the heart, and borne senseless to her room.

"I cannot tell you my agony, as I looked upon her. My remorse was tenfold more bitter from the thought that she would never know it. I believed myself to be a murderer. I fell on the bed beside her. I could not weep. My heart burned in my bosom; my brain was all on fire. My sister threw her arms around me and wept in silence. Suddenly, we saw a slight motion of mother's hand. Her eyes unclosed. She had recovered consciousness, but not speech. She looked at me, and moved her lips; I could not understand her words.

"My mother," I shrieked, "say only that you forgive me!"

"She could not say it with her lips, but her hands pressed mine. She smiled upon me; and, lifting her thin white hands, clasped my own within them, and cast her eyes upward. She moved her lips in prayer and thus she died.

"I remained still kneeling before that dear form until my gentle sister removed me. She comforted me, for she knew the heavy load of sorrow at my heart—heavier than grief at the loss of a mother, for it was a load of sorrow for sin.

"The joy of youth had left me forever."

My father ceased speaking, and buried his face in his hands. He saw, and felt, the bearing of his narrative upon my character and conduct.

I have never forgotten it; and I would say to boys who spurn a mother's control, who are ashamed to own that

they are wrong, who think it manly to resist her authority, or not to yield to her influence: "Beware! Lay not up for yourselves bitter memories for your future years."

That was a Ben-oni indeed—a child of sorrow to his parents, to his sister, and to all around him. His disobedience made him such.

(to be continued)

Tell The Boys

George Adams was a boy of sixteen years of age. One day he was taken very ill. The doctor came every day only to find him growing worse.

"Do you think I will ever get well?" whispered George to the doctor as he sat by his bedside.

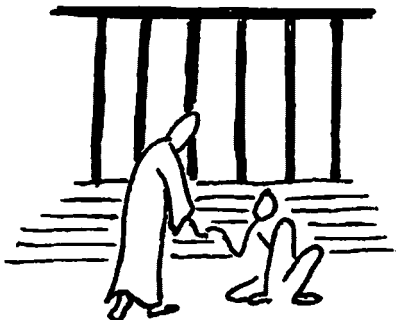
The doctor replied: "I am sorry to tell you, my boy, there is no hope for you. You cannot get well."

"Was it the cigarettes?" asked George.

"Yes," answered the doctor sadly.

When George could speak again he said, "Send for our pastor." The minister came. With his dying breath George

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



*Stand upright
on thy feet*

said: "Call in all the boys. Tell them how I died. Tell the boys not to smoke cigarettes. Have my Sunday school teacher tell the boys. Oh, tell the boys!"

Those were his last words. George was dead. Cigarettes killed him. Will you tell the boys not to smoke cigarettes?

—Selected

—○—
"Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord." Col. 3:20.

—○—
Dear Boys and Girls:

Today we notice in our lesson when Paul and Barnabas came to Iconium that the unbelieving Jews came too. They were very unhappy because a great many of the Jews there believed on the Saviour, Jesus Christ. A lot of the Greeks, who are Gentiles, believed on Jesus, also. The unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and told things about Barnabas and Paul that caused the Gentiles to turn against them. This is a terrible thing to do. Boys and girls, it is wrong for you to tell things just to get someone to hate or not like a certain person. If you can't say something nice about a person, don't say anything; but it is wonderful to be kind and say nice things about others. It will cause people to like you better. No one likes anyone who is always running down another boy or girl.

Paul and Barnabas didn't let what the unbelieving Jews said affect them. They continued to preach about Jesus and His power to save everyone from their sins who believed. Many signs and wonders were done by the Apostles. The city was divided; some believed and some did not believe. Some stood with the unbelieving Jews and some stood with Paul and Barnabas. Finally the unbelieving Jews and Gentiles went to the rulers and wanted them to stone

Paul and Barnabas and spitefully use them. When Paul and Barnabas heard about this, they fled from Iconium to Lystra and Derbe. These were cities of Lyconia. They preached there and at the other places around those cities.

While they were at Lystra, a man who had been a cripple from his birth was listening to the gospel. Boys and girls, it pays to listen to God's Word as it goes forth. You can be blessed in your soul. No doubt on this day Paul was preaching about Jesus and His plan to save and also how He had healed those who were crippled. (Can you tell of someone whom Jesus healed that was crippled?) The crippled man who had never walked was "stedfastly beholding" Paul. Hope sprang up in his heart. "Oh, can I be healed? Oh, yes, I can be healed! Jesus can heal me just like he healed others. Oh, I want to be healed!" About that time Paul looked at him. Paul saw the faith glowing on his face. Paul said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on thy feet." The man arose from the ground and he leaped and shouted, walking about. Oh, how wonderful! Faith brings results. We can be healed if we will only believe. Oh, it pays to listen to God's Word, doesn't it?

When the people saw this they were amazed. They worshipped idols and they thought that their gods, Jupiter and Mercurius had come down in the forms of men. They wanted to honor and worship them so they brought out garlands and oxen to do sacrifice to them. Next Sunday we will find out what happened.

—Aunt Marie

—○—

Lesson 9, May 28, 1978

PAUL PRAISED AND PAUL STONED

Part I

Acts 14:1 And it came to pass in I-co-ni-um, that they went both together

into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed.

2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles, and made their minds evil affected against the brethren.

3 Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

4 But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with the apostles.

5 And when there was an assault made both of the Gentiles, and also of the Jews with their rulers, to use them despitefully, and to stone them,

6 They were ware of it, and fled unto Lystra and Derbe, cities of Ly-ca-o-ni-a, and unto the region that lieth round about:

7 And there they preached the gospel.

8 And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked:

9 The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,

10 Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

12 And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker.

13 Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and

garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people.

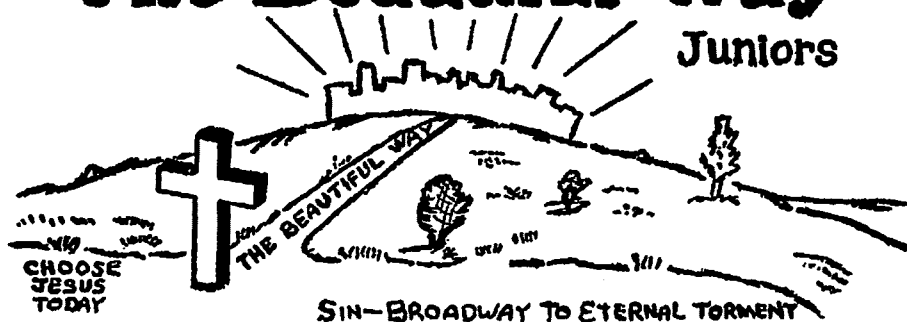
Memory Verse: For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. II Corinthians 1:5.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who believed when Paul and Barnabas went to Iconium and preached the gospel?
2. What did the unbelieving Jews do about so many believing on Jesus?
3. They boldly preached that Jesus had come to save from sin all who would believe. How long did they abide there?
4. Did God work any miracles and wonders there?
5. Did everyone in the city enjoy having the apostles there or just how was it?
6. What did the unbelieving Jews and Gentiles do about what Paul and Barnabas were doing?
7. When they found out about it what did they do?
8. Where did they preach the gospel?
8. Who was listening intently to Paul's sermon at Lystra?
10. What did Paul see in his face as the crippled man listened to Paul's message?
11. What did Paul tell the crippled man and what did he do?
12. Will we be blessed if we listen to God's Word when the minister is preaching?
13. What did the people do when they saw how God had healed the crippled man?
14. Who did they think Barnabas was?
15. Who did they think Paul was?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2

April, May, June, 1978

Part Ten

June 4

The Dangers of Ben-onies

(continued from last issue)

MARKS OF BENJAMIN

Let us look now, at one or two examples of an opposite character.

William Hale was an obedient son. He was spending some time with his mother at the Saratoga Springs, and had become acquainted with a number of boys of his own age there.

One day some half-dozen of the children were playing on the piazza, and one of them heard exclaiming—

"Oh, yes, that's capital! So we will; come on, now! Where's William Hale? Come on, Will! We are going to have a ride on the circular railroad. Come with us."

"Yes, if my mother is willing," said William. "I will run and ask her."

"Ah, ah! so you must run and ask your ma! great baby-boy!—run along to your ma! Ain't you ashamed?"

"I don't ask my mother," said one.

"Neither do I," said another.

"Neither do I," said a third.

"Be a man, Will, and come along," said the first boy, "if you don't wish to be called a coward as long as you live; don't you see we are all waiting?"

William was standing, with one foot advanced and his hand firmly clenched, in the midst of the group. His brow was flushed, his eye was flashing, his lip was compressed, his cheek was changing—all showing how the epithet, "coward," rankled in his bosom.

It was doubtful for a moment whether he would have the true bravery to be called a coward rather than to do wrong; but, with a voice trembling with emotion, he replied.

"I will not go without asking my mother; and I am no coward either. I promised her I would not go from the house without her permission; and I should be a base coward if I were to tell my mother a lie."

When William returned to his mother, to ask her permission to go, and told her of what had taken place, she threw her arms around his neck and exclaimed—

"God bless you, my dear child, and give you grace always to act in this way."

Ah, my dear children, he was a Benjamin, a child of comfort to his mother; and doubtless he grew up to be her support, and comfort all his days.

After the surrender of Cornwallis, and the victory achieved by the American

army, George Washington, when the war was over, returned in triumph to his mother's home. Everybody was honoring him, and praising him, as the saviour of his country and the greatest man of the age. When he reached the place of his mother's abode, a large concourse of the people had met, to greet him, and welcome him to his home. In the center of the assembled crowd stood his mother; and, pushing his way through the crowd around him, he hastened to pay her his respects; and, as she threw her arms around his neck, and kissed him, she said to some who were congratulating her upon having so noble a son, "George always was an obedient child."

He was indeed a Benjamin, a son of comfort, to his mother, and a blessing to the country, and to the world. The spirit of obedience, early learned, and early practiced, was that which went to make him what he was.

In conclusion, my dear children, let me ask you, which of these two, do you desire to be? Will you be Ben-onies—children of sorrow and grief—to your parents, or will you be Benjamins—children of joy, comfort, and blessing to them? If you would be the latter, Benjamins indeed, then you must watch, strive, and pray against all the evil of which we have been speaking. Watch against these four marks of a Ben-oni:—watch against ill-temper, watch against idleness, watch against pride, watch against disobedience; and pray God to enable you each to overcome all these evils—to erase these marks of a Ben-oni as they are beginning to fasten themselves on your character, and to earn for yourself the character of a Benjamin indeed.

—Richard Newton

The Fruit of the Spirit is
LOVE, JOY, PEACE . . .

Jim Did Not Change

When my son, Jim, became draft age, he was in college at Houston, Texas. He was saved and felt that he could not go into the U. S. Armed Forces and take up arms to kill his fellow man.

Jim's father was not saved and when I told him of Jim's decision he could not understand it and was deeply hurt. He said that Jim would be made fun of all his life.

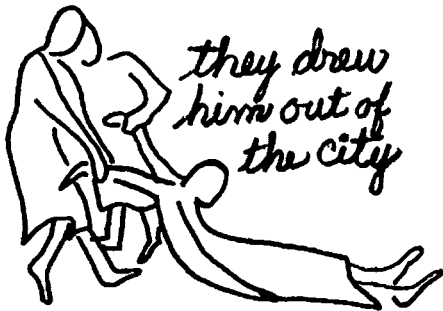
He wanted to go to the college and try to change Jim's mind. He wanted me to go with him as he was afraid that I would call Jim and coach him as to what to say. On the way, God gave me such victory over this that I sang most of the way down there.

While I stayed in the car, my husband went up to Jim's room to talk with him. Soon both returned to the car in a happy mood and we went out to eat. Later, we left Jim at his room. As we started back home, Jim's father said there was no need for him to try changing Jim's mind as he already had it made up to be a conscientious objector.

—Sis. Edith Wall

"The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good."
Proverbs 15:3.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Let All You Do be Done in Love.

Dear Boys and Girls,

In last week's lesson we closed with the priest of Jupiter in Lystra bringing oxen and garlands to sacrifice to Barnabas and Paul. The Apostles were preaching the gospel and a crippled man was healed. The people thought that Paul and Barnabas were Jupiter and Mercury (two of the Roman gods), who had come down in human flesh to them. Our lesson today begins with Paul and Barnabas giving their answer to the people for this. It is precious to think about what they said to them at this time. Those people worshipped the gods of Roman mythology and they seemed to be glad that what they worshipped had really come to pass before their eyes. Paul and Barnabas were true men of God and did not want to be praised by men. They could have accepted this and could have become great men in that city, but they would have lost their salvation, and God would have been very displeased with them. They only wanted to please God and not men.

Paul and Barnabas ran among them and rent their clothes, crying out, saying that they were only men, not gods. They told them that there is only one God. He is the living God who made the heavens, earth, sea, and all things that are in the world. He is the One who is to be worshipped. He has allowed men, women, boys, and girls to walk in their own ways and choose if they want to serve Him or not, but He left Himself a witness. In so many ways God has expressed Himself in showing goodness to all on the earth. He sends the rain and the sunshine upon the just and the unjust. He gives us fruitful seasons, so we can have food. He gives gladness to our hearts. Praise our God who is so very great and wonderful! I

love Him so much and I know that you do, too.

Finally Paul and Barnabas refrained the people from praising them. Notice how quickly the people changed. Jews from Antioch and Iconium who hated Paul and Barnabas, came to Lystra. They stirred up the people against them; they stoned Paul, and drew him outside the city, supposing that he were dead. How terrible! Poor Paul. No doubt he remembered Stephen as he was being stoned, and how he stood by the clothes of those who slew Stephen, thus consenting to his death. God in His mercy raised Paul up as the brethren prayed. He went back into the city and the next day he and Barnabas left, going through the cities where they preached the gospel. They ordained elders in every church, exhorting the saints that they should continue to serve the Lord and that through much tribulation they would enter into the kingdom of God. When they returned to their home church in Antioch they told the saints how the Lord had blessed and worked through them on the trip. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 10, June 4, 1978

PAUL PRAISED AND PAUL STONED Part II

Acts 14:14 Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out,

15 And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:

16 Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways.

17 Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

18 And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them.

19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.

20 Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

23 And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

24 And after they had passed throughout Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia.

25 And when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down into Attalia:

26 And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.

27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

28 And there they abode long time with the disciples.

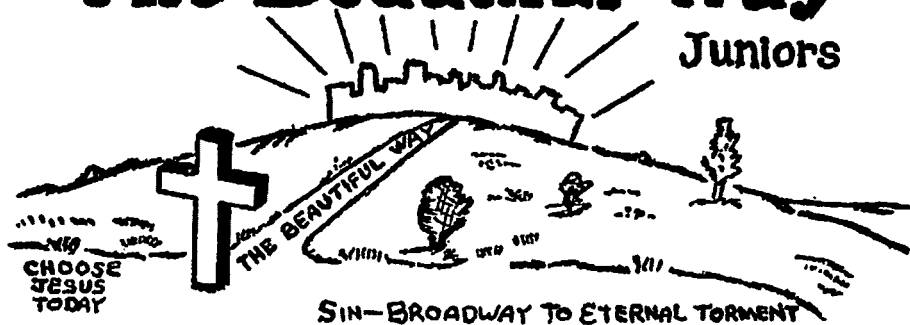
Memory Verse: For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake. Philippians 1:29.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Paul and Barnabas do when they knew that the people wanted to do sacrifice to them because they thought they were gods? thought they were gods?
2. Whom did they tell the people to worship instead of worshipping their Roman gods?
3. What did they say that our God had made?
4. Does God allow nations to "walk in their own ways"?
5. What kind of a witness has he left us, making us know that He is truly God?
6. Did they finally get the people to quit trying to make sacrifice to them?
7. Who came down from Antioch and Iconium, who hated Paul and Barnabas, and what did they do?
8. What did the people who were at one time wanting to honor Paul do to him now?
9. What happened to Paul when the disciples or his followers were standing around him outside the city?
10. Where did Paul and Barnabas go and what did they do in the three cities mentioned?
11. What did they do to the elders in the churches?
12. Name some of the other cities where Paul and Barnabas preached.
13. When they sailed to Antioch, their home church, what did they do there?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2 April, May, June, 1978 Part Eleven June 11

What Neglect Will Do

The boys were playing ball in a vacant lot next to their home. It was a nice place to play, and they were having a fine game. Several of their friends were playing with them. As Mrs. H. looked across from the porch, her heart was glad to see them so happy. How wonderful childhood was with its opportunities to be happy!

The little girls were busy playing with their dolls on the lawn. They were playing in rather a grown-up fashion, and Nellie was serving refreshments. "A story will not be necessary," thought Mrs. H. as she leaned back in her chair. "I will have a chance to rest and enjoy the beauty of the evening and to think." This was the burden of her thoughts: "O Lord, how easy it would be to become neglectful and careless of the precious lambs that Thou hast entrusted to my care! How easy it would be for me to fall asleep and not see the enemy when he comes to creep into my fold! Help me, Lord, to keep awake, and ever ready to protect my flock until they become old enough to realize the dangers that await them in the world. Help me to understand how to keep their interest and confidence, and

to make them feel that I care how they are getting along." Here her reverie was broken by the sweet voice of little Ethel beside her saying:

"Oh, Mama, can't you tell us all a story as you did the other night? Won't you, please?"

"A story for all my little girls? Well, yes, I guess I could," said Mother, drawing the little form closely to her and reaching with the other arm for Nellie. "I will tell you a story about some girls who were invited to a wedding party. There were ten of them, and each one of them was expected to be ready, with a lighted lamp in her hand, to go and meet the bridegroom. No one knew just the time when the bridegroom would come, but they were told to be ready, for he might come at any time.

"Five of these girls went to a store and bought some more oil; for they did not want to be without oil, and they might become sleepy and not waken in time to go later. But the other five neglected to get any oil. They thought; 'Oh, there is plenty of time. We will take a little nap, and then we can run to the store if it is necessary.' Little did they think that the bridegroom was going to delay his

coming and that the oil that was in their lamps would grow less and less.

"After awhile all the girls became weary. Slowly the eyelids drooped over their eyes, and at last unable to keep awake any longer, all ten of them slept. How long they slept I do not know, nor does it matter. They slept until the watchman cried with a loud voice. 'Behold the bridegroom cometh!' How that cry pierced the midnight air!

"When the maidens awoke, their first thought was of their lamps. It was not hard to see by the flickering lights that they were going out. As quickly as possible each girl began to trim her lamp, but only those lamps would burn which were supplied with more oil. 'Oh, give us some of your oil!' the foolish maidens cried; but the wise replied, 'We have none to spare. Go to the store and buy for yourselves.'

"Did they go," asked Nellie?

"Yes, they went," Mother replied; "but when they returned they were too late to meet the bridegroom. He had arrived at the home of the bride; he and those who were ready entered, and the door had been closed. Although the maidens outside rapped and begged to be admitted, they could not enter. The bridegroom said that he did not know them, that they could not enter. How much better it would have been had the foolish maidens not neglected to do their work at the proper time.

"There are many people and some little boys and girls, who neglect to do their work at the right time and sometimes get into trouble on account of it. Just now I remember a story that my grandma told me when I was a little girl. It was about herself. She once neglected to do her duty because she was sleepy and afterward was very sorry."

"Oh, tell us about it!" said Ethel eagerly.

"Well, girls, I will. But you had better sit down. You must be very tired," Mother said, releasing her arms from about them. They had been so interested in the story that they had remained standing beside their mother.

(to be continued)

A Child's Hymn

God, make my life a little light
Within the world to glow—
A little flame that burneth bright
Wherever I may go.

God, make my life a little flower
That giveth joy to all,
Content to bloom in native bower,
Although its place be small.

God, make my life a little song
That comforteth the sad—
That helpeth others to be strong
And makes the sinner glad.

God, make my life a little staff
Whereon the weak may rest,
That so what health and strength I have
May serve my neighbors best.

God, make my life a little hymn
Of tenderness and praise—
Of faith that never waxeth dim,
In all His wondrous ways. —Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and and thy faithfulness every night."

Dear Boys and Girls:

I am sure that you understand that there are two Antiochs spoken of in our lesson. The first Antioch was in Syria, from where Paul and Barnabas were sent out as missionaries. They also visited another town called Antioch which was in Pisidia. Now they had returned to Antioch in Syria and were there teaching and working for God. While there, some men came down from Judea and were boldly declaring that unless the Gentiles were circumcised they could not be saved. Circumcision was a certain thing that was done to each baby boy which marked him as a Jew. This was a commandment of the Jewish religion and of the Mosaic law. Paul and Barnabas declared that the Gentiles who were saved did not have to have this mark put upon them. A great discussion arose. It grew into a great problem that disturbed the peace of the church. Since they could not settle the question they decided to send Paul and Barnabas down to Jerusalem to have the apostles and elders settle the question.

On the way to Jerusalem Paul and Barnabas and others who were with them, stopped by the churches in Phenice and Samaria and told them how God was working among the Gentiles, saving many of them. There was great joy among the brethren. When they arrived in Jerusalem they were received by the church, apostles, and elders. They declared to them all the things that God had been doing among the Gentiles and what God had done for them. They also presented the problem about circumcision that had arisen in

the Antioch church. There rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees who declared that it was needful that each of the Gentiles be circumcised as they needed this mark upon them to be in accordance with the law of Moses. It was necessary for a meeting to be called for the apostles and elders to come together to consider this problem. After much discussion and disputing, Peter arose and told how God had chosen him to preach to the Gentiles some time in the past. You can read about this account in the 10th chapter of Acts. Peter had gone to the house of Cornelius, who was a devout man of God, a Gentile of the Italian band. While there he preached to the Gentiles and God wonderfully blessed. While he preached, the Holy Ghost fell upon them and all were filled with the Holy Ghost. At that time, those of the Jews who had been circumcised, were amazed that God had poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost upon those who were not circumcised or who were Gentiles.

Peter ended his discourse by saying that we should not "put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear." He told them that only through the grace of God are we to be saved. After Peter sat down the whole group kept silent and listened to Paul and Barnabas tell about the miracles and wonders that God had worked among the Gentiles on their missionary trip.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 11, June 11, 1978

Antioch Church Seeks Counsel

Acts 15:1 And certain men which came down from Judea [to Antioch] taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

2 When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation

with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

3 And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

4 And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

5 But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.

6 And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.

7 And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us;

9 And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

10 Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

12 Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and

wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

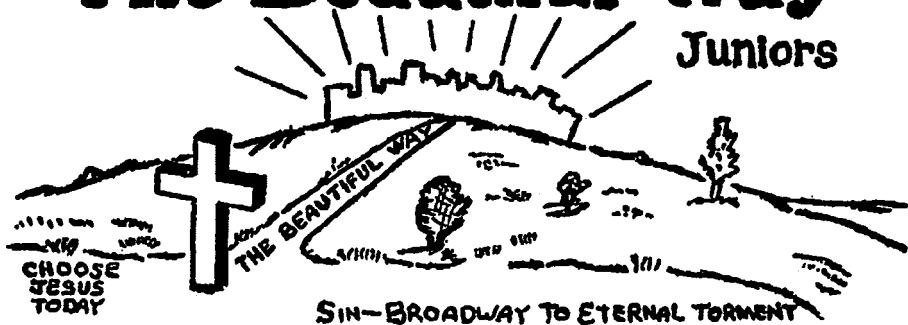
Memory Verse: In the multitude of counsellors there is safety. Prov. 24:6b.

QUESTIONS:

1. Paul and Barnabas were at Antioch when they first went forth on their missionary trip. Who came down to the church and said that all the Gentiles needed to be circumcised or go through this Jewish rite?
2. Paul and Barnabas did not agree with them nor did most of the church. What did the church decide to do about the problem?
3. Where did Paul and Barnabas stop on their way to Jerusalem and what did they tell the churches?
4. Were they received at the church in Jerusalem and what did they tell the elders, apostles, and the church?
5. Did the apostles and elders come together in a counsel to decide what to do about the problem in Antioch?
6. After much talking what did Peter stand up and tell them?
7. In what Gentile home was Peter preaching when the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the Word? (Acts 10:22,23).
8. When the Holy Ghost comes into the heart, what does our Scripture tell us happens? (Verse 8,9).
9. Did Peter think that the Gentiles should have to bear the "yoke" of circumcision which was hard even for the Jews to bear?
10. Verse 11 tells us that through whom and what shall we be saved?
11. Who arose to speak after Peter?
12. What did Paul and Barnabas tell them? Tell something that had happened to them on their missionary trip that they could have told?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 29, No. 2

April, May, June, 1978

Part Twelve

June 18

What Neglect Will Do

(continued from last issue)

"Grandmother lived in a country far over the sea. She was a little Scotch lassie, and when very young she went to live with her grandparents. The first work her grandmother taught her was knitting, and she soon learned to knit long stockings, socks, and mittens. Every day she had to knit, and she was soon able to do her work well by looking at it only now and then.

"When she was old enough she was sent to herd the cows in a distant pasture. So each morning, with her lunch, knitting, and old Shep, the dog, she would take the cows to their pasture for the day and spend the time in the open air. It was very pleasant work, and while the cows ate the soft, green grass, she would sit in some shady nook and knit.

"When the summer days came on and the weather grew warm and sultry, she would often get drowsy and sometimes would lie down and take a short nap. Little by little the nap was lengthened, for Shep was trusty and kept the cows from straying too far away. Then she found that by knitting all the way home

she could accomplish nearly as much as she had been doing through the days when she did not sleep. But Grandmother must not know about her naps. There was nothing that displeased that dear old lady more than idleness, or neglect. So the girl carefully concealed the fact from her. There is no harm in sleeping, she reasoned, and no one need know anything about it. Poor little girl! How little she knew that there is always One (God) who knows all that is done; that although she might succeed in hiding it for a while, her hiding it was doing her harm. "Be sure your sins will find you out."

"One morning when the huckleberries were ripe, a basket was given her and she was told to fill it with the berries during the day. The task was not a hard one, for the woods were full of the berries; the part that she dreaded was keeping awake when her sleepy time came on. I'll keep awake she thought, and not take my nap today. As she ran along after the cows, she swung the basket in her hand and laughed gaily as she thought of the praise she would receive when she returned with it full in the evening. With these thoughts still in her mind, she left the cows quietly feeding in the rich pasture lands below

and began picking the berries which grew in clumps all through the woods. She had not picked long, however, until she realized that the day was very warm and that she was getting sleepy. The more she tried to resist going to sleep the more drowsy she became. At last she thought, I'll lie down just a few minutes, and I shall still have plenty of time to fill my basket."

"Lying on the grass, the balmy air fanning her face, she found it easy to sleep. Now and then the inquisitive sun peeped at her through the openings in the branches of the trees, but she did not see his beaming face, so deeply was she sleeping. Shep, now and then growled at a provoking fly, or ran to change the cows from their notion of straying away; but on and on the little girl slept. Late in the afternoon, just as a fly settled itself upon the tip of her nose for a quiet rest, she frightened him away by opening her eyes and reaching for her knitting. Not until her fingers touched the basket beside her did she realize that her knitting was not there, and that she had been asleep for many hours.

"She was fully awake in an instant, and looking at her nearly empty basket she wondered what to do. The day was nearly gone. She must soon start home with the cows. What would her grandmother say? Suddenly the troubled look changed to a smile. Springing to her feet, she quickly filled her basket with leaves and covered them with her berries she had already gathered. The little joke might make her grandmother good-natured so that she would not think of punishing her for her neglect.

"With her basket on her arm the little girl, the cows, and Shep were soon wending their way toward home. I will tell Grandmother everything thought the little girl, but I'll wait until she empties my basket and finds the leaves. As they were turning into the barn lot her grand-

mother came out of the house and seeing the full basket upon the little girl's arm, she eagerly reached for the berries. With many tender remarks to her granddaughter she carried the basket into the house. Placing them carefully upon the table, she called in the other members of the family to look at them. As each praised the little girl for her work, her courage sank more and more. Oh! what was she going to do?"

(to be continued)

God Heals and Saves



When I was about 19 years of age I worked for a candy company. I had charge of ordering and shelving one counter. One day, all of a sudden, I became very sick and my heart began to skip beats. They took me home. During the night my heart seemed to just stop beating. I would have to shake myself to get it to start again. I was so frightened that I called for Mother to come. She prayed for me. The next morning she called the minister and others to pray for me.

I had always been very tender toward the Lord and if I had grieved Him I would ask His forgiveness right then. This day when the ministers and others came to pray for me I looked earnestly to the Lord, not only for healing but for any soul-need I had. When they prayed, I yielded to the Lord and just emptied out my heart and life before Him. He not only healed my body but blessed me especially in my soul. I felt so relaxed and peaceful that I just wanted to sleep and sleep. I never before in my life had such a wonderful experience.

The minister asked my parents if I could go home with them and go to the campmeeting at West Frankfort, Ill. They gave their permission. While I was there I was baptized.

At the baptism, a young man about my age, who was the son of the druggist made fun of me and ridiculed the baptism. This was a great trial to me, as a young Christian, but I was glad I was obeying the Lord. Boys and girls, it doesn't pay to make fun of God's people or His plan. This boy didn't live to be very old and as far as I know he never got right with God. —Edith Wall

“Study to shew Thyself approved unto God.” II Tim. 2:15.

Dear Boys and Girls:

We are not including the letter that was sent to the Antioch church, but someone can read it from the Bible.

You remember that last Sunday we studied about the question that was brought to Jerusalem which could not be settled in the Antioch church. Paul and Barnabas were settled on the subject, but others wanted more counseling from the elders and apostles in Jerusalem. The council came together. Last Sunday Paul had just finished telling about his and Barnabas' experiences with the Gentiles, and how God had saved and filled them with the Holy Spirit, just as he had the Jews. Our lesson today begins with the Apostle James rising to his feet and taking the floor. We note that all held their peace when he arose. First, he referred to what God had shown Peter, that He was no respecter of persons but that the Gentiles were to be saved as well as the Jews. This was a great revelation to the Jewish Christians, since in past centuries the Jews had no dealings with the Gentiles. It took God to break down this wall between them. He then went on to say that God wanted to take out of the Gentiles a people that would love and serve Him through Jesus Christ. We can just see James walking over to the big

scroll, which had the words of the Old Testament, turning to Amos 9:11 and also to Isaiah 54:1-5, and reading what was written. Boys and girls, it is important that we know what the Bible teaches. We need to use it for our guide and then we can be sure we are right.

After James read these Scriptures he said that he didn't think they should trouble the Gentiles about circumcision but that they be instructed not to eat meat offered to idols, which he called the pollutions of idols. Also not to drink blood or eat meat from animals that had been strangled and the blood had not been drained from it, nor to commit fornication. The heathen had ungodly practices during their idol worship. This was a stench in the nostrils of God. The heathen had become very corrupt but God definitely teaches cleanness in thought and actions. God has created our bodies for a sacred purpose, but many have misused them; and have become so vile that they will surely be punished. God is not pleased with this and those who partake in such practices will surely be punished. Boys and girls, keep clean thoughts in your mind.

After they came to a decision they wrote a letter. Paul, Barnabas, and others took it back and it was read at the Antioch church. They rejoiced to know that the Holy Spirit had revealed the truth to them and they accepted it. We notice in the letter written, that they had sent it after they had all come to “one accord”; they also said that the Holy Spirit had made this known to them. We need to be led by God's Spirit.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 12, June 18, 1978

GOD USES JAMES

Acts 15:13 And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

14 Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

15 And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,

16 After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:

17 That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

18 Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.

19 Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God:

20 But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.

21 For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day.

22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:

30 So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle:

31 Which when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation.

32 And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed them.

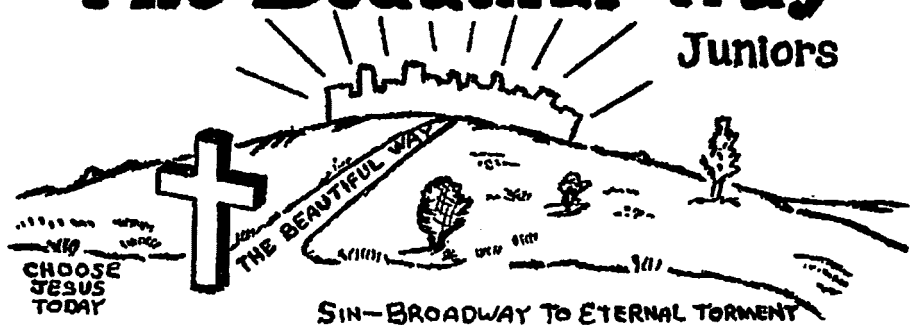
Memory Verse: For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things. Acts 15:28.

QUESTIONS:

1. The council met at Jerusalem. Paul and Barnabas had presented the question from the church in Antioch. Who arose to speak in the first of our lesson?
2. What did the people at the council do when James arose?
3. What did James tell the people was the reason that God had visited the Gentiles by His Spirit?
4. Can you tell something about Simon Peter's visit to the Gentiles through Cornelius?
5. To what did James refer to after he spoke about Simon Peter's visit to the Gentiles?
6. What two verses in our lesson were written in the scroll from which James read?
7. Did they have the New Testament to read in this council?
8. Was it foretold in the Old Bible that the Gentiles would be included in the plan of salvation?
9. What did James say after he had read from the Old Bible?
10. What four things in verse 20 did James feel should be required of the Gentiles?
11. Did this please the whole church?
12. Read the letter that was written to be sent to the church in Antioch. (Acts 15:23-29).
13. Did the church rejoice and were they pleased with the letter sent to them from the church in Jerusalem?
14. What did Judas and Silas, who had gone back to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas, do while there?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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Part Thirteen

June 25

What Neglect Will Do

(continued from last issue)

"Bedtime came at last, and still no one but the little girl knew what the basket contained. She went for a drink and as she passed her grandmother, she gave her an affectionate pat on the head. As she drew the water from the well, her conscience whispered, 'Now is a good time to confess'; but her grandfather was coming along so she hurried off to bed. She knelt beside her little bed, but her prayer was short. Getting up hurriedly she said to herself, 'I'll tell her the first thing in the morning.' During the night she dreamed about the berries and she was glad when it was time to get up.

"Dressing quickly she went down to the kitchen. There sat the basket. The berries seemed like tiny, dark eyes looking right into her very soul. Oh, how could she explain! Again she hastened past her grandmother, and took the path leading to the barn. 'Better go tell your grandmother,' sang the saucy rooster from his perch on the barnyard fence. 'Oh dear!' thought the little girl, 'Everything seems to know it! I wish Grandma knew.' At breakfast she did not engage in her usual merry chatter; she felt a longing to

hurry and get started away with the cows before the basket was emptied. Neglecting to tell her fault at once and take the consequences was making it harder for her all the time.

"Finally everything was ready for her to set out for the day, but just at the last minute one of the cows broke away from the rest. Darting past both Shep and the girl, the cow ran through the garden. A wild chase followed during which several tender vegetables were trodden down. When at last the unruly animal joined the others the little girl saw her grandmother coming with a stick in her hand. It was easy to imagine what was about to happen."

"Did she get a whipping?" asked Ethel.

"Yes," said Mother, "a hard one. Her grandmother whipped her not only for being neglectful and careless but also for deceiving her about the berries. It was a good lesson and one that was not soon forgotten. Her grandmother explained that some harm might have befallen the little girl while she slept, and the cows might have strayed away. Again the child was given an empty basket which was filled with good berries upon her return.

"When we have a duty to do we should always try to perform it as quickly as

possible, for we never know what is going to happen. Neglecting one's duty is nearly as bad as not doing it at all; for when we neglect it once we find it much easier to neglect it the next time. The first thing we know our time is gone and other duties claim our attention.

"Had the five foolish maidens (virgins) listened to their companions, and got oil and not neglected, they could have gone into the marriage feast with the others (Matt. 25:1:12). If the little girl had listened to her conscience and explained everything to her grandmother, instead of trying to deceive her, it would have been much better for her. Thus it is with us all. Our conscience is given to tell us what to do."

"What is the conscience?" Nellie asked thoughtfully.

"It is a gentle little voice within us that speaks when Satan tempts us to do wrong. It does not speak loud or long, but it warns of danger as long as anyone will listen to its voice. But as soon as its warnings are neglected it becomes fainter and after awhile ceases to speak at all.

"Neglect becomes a habit and in a very short time becomes a naughty, careless, willful habit; so be careful never to neglect your duty." —Sel.

The Truthful Boy

"Johnny, it is time for you to go to the pasture and drive home the cows," said a farmer to his little boy.

Johnny was playing ball with several of his young companions, and the pasture was a long way off; but he was always obedient to his parents, and so off he ran, without a word of objection.

Being in a hurry to get back to his play, he only half let down the bars, and then hurried the cattle through, when one fine cow, in trying to crowd over, stumbled and fell and broke her leg.

Johnny stood by the suffering creature and thought to himself: "Now what shall I do? That was the finest cow we had, and it will be a great loss to father. What shall I tell him about it?"

"Tell him," whispered the wicked tempter, "that you found the bars half down, and the cow lying there with her leg broken."

"No, I can't say that, for that would be a lie," said Johnny.

"Tell him that while you were driving the cows that big boy of Farmer Brown's threw stones and hurried the cows so that this one fell, and so injured herself," whispered the tempter again.

"No, no; I never told a lie, and I won't begin now. I will tell my father the truth. It is all my fault. I was in a hurry and I frightened the poor creature, and she fell over the bars that I ought to have taken down, and so broke her leg," said Johnny.

So, having taken this right and brave resolution, Johnny went straight to his father, and told him the whole truth, taking all the blame to himself alone. What did his father do? He laid his hand on Johnny's head, and said, "Thank God, my dear son, that He has led and enabled you to tell the truth. I would rather lose every cow that I own than that my boy should tell a falsehood. Always be truthful, in the fear of God, my child, and His blessing, and the blessing of your father will ever be with you." —Sel.

"A small lad had only two little fish and some small cakes; yet when they were given to the Lord, He so blessed them that over 5,000 hungry people (a big crowd) had all they could eat. Read about it. John 6:5-13."

"Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith." Proverbs 15:17.

"The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies." Psalms 25:9,10.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Our lesson begins by saying that those who came with Paul and Barnabas back to Antioch with the letter stayed there for awhile and then went back to Jerusalem, but Silas didn't go; he continued in Antioch.

As time went on, Paul and Barnabas talked again about taking a trip to encourage those who had become new converts on their first missionary trip.

John Mark was a nephew of Barnabas. He was the son of Barnabas' sister, Mary, at whose house the Church one time met to pray for Peter when he was in prison. (Acts 12:12). It is also generally thought that he was the one who wrote the Gospel of Mark, since he lived in Jerusalem. In an earlier lesson we studied about how John Mark had gone with Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey. On the Isle of Cyprus at Paphos they ran into a false prophet who gave them trouble. Upon reaching the seaport of Perga, we see John Mark departing from them and returning to his home in Jerusalem. (Acts 13:5,13). This act of departing from them had a great affect upon Paul. When embarking upon this second missionary trip to the same places they had gone before, Paul did not want to take Mark. We do understand why he felt this way. He surely had good cause in refusing to take him. Not knowing all the reasons, we can only wonder. It might have been that Mark had become homesick, the trip was too rigid, or that he was full of zeal and didn't want to tarry so long in some places, etc. Barnabas had tender feelings toward

Mark and wanted to take him along. Both were steadfast in their convictions or decisions. Barnabas wanted to take him but Paul didn't. How do you think Mark felt at this time? No doubt he didn't understand it at all, but he kept humble. He still held his love for God and for Paul through it all. He wasn't going to let this cause him to lose confidence in Paul but took it in the right manner. He endeavored "to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Boys and girls, a person needs to be willing not to go every time they want to. Then another thing, it is good to take corrections in the right manner. Because Mark took all of this in the right way, later we read in our lesson where Paul had some good things to say about Mark. This proves that he took what Paul had to say about him with humility. Boys and girls, if you are hurt about something, it is best to just pray and ask the Lord to help you. Keep a good feeling toward others and learn the lesson of humility. It will prove to be a blessing to you now and in later years.

Even though Paul and Barnabas separated, we find in I Cor. 9:6 that Paul refers to Barnabas as being a teacher worthy of the fullest confidence of the churches. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 13, June 25, 1978

PROBLEM WITH JOHN MARK, A YOUNG MINISTER

Acts 15:33 And after they [messengers who brought letter] had tarried there a space, they were let go in peace from the brethren unto the apostles [at Jerusalem].

34 Notwithstanding it pleased Silas to abide there still [at Antioch].

35 Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.

36 And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do.

37 And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark.

38 But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work.

39 And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus;

40 And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God.

41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

Eph. 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.

2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Col. 4:10 [Paul writes later] Aristarchus my fellowprisoner saluteth you, and Marcus [Mark], sister's son to Barnabas, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him).

11 And Jesus, which is called Justus, who are of the circumcision. These only are my fellowworkers unto the kingdom of God, which have been a comfort unto me.

II Tim. 4:11 [Paul says later] Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring

him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.

Memory Verse: Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. II Tim. 2:15.

QUESTIONS:

1. How long did the messengers stay at Antioch, and then where did they go?
2. Who stayed at Antioch?
3. What did Paul and Barnabas do at Antioch?
4. Where did Paul and Barnabas decide to go?
5. Who did Barnabas want to take along with them on the trip?
6. When did we hear of John Mark before? Tell something about him.
7. Did Paul give in and agree with Barnabas to take Mark?
8. Did Barnabas agree with Paul that it would not be good to take Mark?
9. Whom did Paul take with him on the trip?
10. Where did they go and what did they do?
11. In our lesson in Ephesians we read some instructions about how we should do when we have disagreements or problems arise. How are we to walk to keep saved?
12. What does it mean to be meek and have longsuffering with others?
13. How can we "forbear others in love"?
14. What did Paul write later about Mark when he wrote to the Colossians?
15. What did he write to Timothy about Mark?
16. Does it pay to be humble and take reproof or be humble when we are left out?