

Vol. 63, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 July 7, 2013

#### CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN THE ONLY WAY INTO "HOME, SWEET HOME"

And at last Sunday came. It was a wet, rainy night, the wind was high and stormy, and the little congregation in the mission-room was smaller than usual. But there was an earnest purpose in the faces of many who came, and the clergyman, as he looked round at the little company when he gave out his text, felt that many of them had not come from mere curiosity, but from an honest desire to hear the Word of God. And he lifted up his heart in very earnest prayer, that to many in that room the Word which he was about to speak might be a lasting blessing.

The mission-room was very still when the minister gave out his text. Little Christie's eyes were fixed intently on him, and he listened eagerly for every word.

The text was this: "The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin."

The clergyman first reminded them of his last Sunday's sermon, of the bright golden city where they all longed to be. He reminded them of the first verse of the hymn:—

"There is a city bright, Closed are its gates to sin."

And then he asked very gently and

tenderly, "Is there anyone in this room who has come here tonight longing to know of some way in which he, a sinner, can enter the city? Is there such an one here?"

"Ay," said little Christie under his breath; "there's me."

"I will try, by God's help, to show you the way," said the clergyman. "You and I have sinned. One sin is enough to shut us out of heaven, but we have sinned not only once, but hundreds of thousands of times; our souls are covered with sin stains. But there is one thing, and only one, by which the soul can be made white and clear and pure. My text tells us what it is,—"The blood of Jesus Christ.""

Then the clergyman went on to explain how it is that the blood of Jesus can wash out sin. He spoke of the death of Jesus on Calvary, of the fountain He opened there for sin and for uncleanness. He explained to them that Jesus was God's Son, and that therefore His blood which He shed on the cross is of infinite value. He told them that, since that day on Calvary, thousands had come to the fountain, and each one had come out of it whiter than snow, every spot of sin gone.

The clergyman told them, that when these washed ones reached the gates of pearl, they were thrown wide open to them, for there was no



#### FREEDOM!

#### John 3:16-17

16 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.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

#### John 8:32, 36

- **32** And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.
- **36** If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

#### Romans 6:16-18, 22; 8:1-2

- 16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
- 17 But God be thanked, that ye were theservants of sin, buyye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
- 18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.
- **22** Butnow being made free fromsin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
- 1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

**2** For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

#### Galatians 5:1

1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

#### **James 1:25**

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.

#### I Peter 5:8

**8** Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

The Message: We can not be truly free until we are free from sin. Only Jesus can give you such freedom.

#### **Questions:**

- 1. Who gave His only begotten Son?
- 2. Who will have everlasting life?
- 3. Why did God send His Son into the world?
- 4. "Ye shall know the \_\_\_\_and the \_\_\_shall make you free."
- 5. Who can make you free indeed?
- 6. How do we become servants of God?
- 7. What will we have in the end?
- 8. What law did Jesus free us from?
- 9. Who is your adversary and what is he like?

#### Verse to Memorize

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John 8:36



A few days ago, on July 4th, our nation celebrated its Independence Day. On July 4, 1776 the Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia. This announced to the rest of the world that the colonies were now free and independent from Great Britain. They were now free to set up their own government and make their own laws. The founding fathers called this new nation the United States of America. Since they had won their freedom from Great Britain they no longer had to obey British laws; Great Britain no longer had the power to tax and oppress the new nation.

It is wonderful to be free! Freedom allows us to make the decisions that are best for our situation; it gives us the power to reach our full potential. In other words, being free means we choose instead of having others dictate what we can or cannot do.

Residents of the United States tend to take freedom for granted. They have never lived under the tyranny of dictators who completely control their lives and choices. Those who come to the free world after living in such bondage have a true appreciation of their newfound liberty and the many advantages it gives them. Many are willing to even risk their lives to escape to a free country such as ours.

When a man becomes a slave he loses the power to govern himself; he cannot make his own choices but must do as his master tells him. Freedom is the deepest need of man's nature. The Bible explains that freedom from sin, through salvation, is one of the greatest privileges of the

child of God. Only after we are free from sin can we become all that God intended for us to be.

God created man in His own image—free from sin. But when Adam and Eve disobeyed God their sin separated them from God and satan took control. Because of their disobedience man's very nature became sinful.

Adam and Eve were driven out of the beautiful Garden of Eden. God could no longer come to talk with them in the cool of the evening. Now Adam had to work hard just to feed his family. Eve had sorrow and pain that she would never have known if she had not sinned. Cain, her oldest son killed his brother Abel because he was jealous of him. There was a dreadful change in their lives. They soon found out how awful it was to be a slave to satan!

Sin is an evil power. It rules over man and takes away his power to obey God's commandments. It makes him a slave of the devil.

It grieved God when sin came into man's heart. He was not willing to leave men in such bondage. John 3:16 tells us that He loved the world so much He gave His only begotten Son so that anyone who believed on Him would be made free; he would have everlasting life.

So, by the death of Christ we, as believers, are made entirely free from the devil's control. He has no more power over us! We might say then that the gospel is our Declaration of Independence! Through the good news of the gospel we are free to do what we, as God's children, would gladly do-serve God. Understanding this freedom reveals the power of the life that the grace of God has prepared for us.

Jesus brought us the good news that we can be free from the slavery of sin. Because of Him we can choose to live pure, holy lives.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

sin-mark on their souls, they were free from sin. And then he looked very earnestly indeed, and leaning forward he pleaded with his little congregation to come to the blood that they might be washed and cleansed. He begged them to use the second verse of the hymn, and to say from the bottom of their hearts:—

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

"There is one little word in my text," said the minister, "which is a great comfort to me. I mean the word all. All sin. That takes in every bad word, every bad thought, every bad action. That takes in the blackest blot, the darkest stain, the deepest spot. All sin, each sin, every sin. No sin too bad for the blood to reach, no sin too great for the blood to cover. And now," said the minister, "every soul in this room is either saved or unsaved, either washed or not washed.

"Let me ask you, my dear friends, a very solemn question: Is the sin or the blood on your soul? One or the other must be there. Which is it?"

The clergyman paused a moment when he had asked this question, and the room was so still that a falling pin might have been heard. There were deep searchings of heart in that little company. And Christie was saying deep down in his heart:—"Cleanse me and save me, Cleanse me and save me, Wash all my sins away."

The minister finished his sermon by entreating them all that very night to come to the fountain. Oh, how earnestly he pleaded with them to delay nolonger, but to say at once, "Saviour, I come to Thee." He begged them to go home, and in their own rooms to kneel down, feeling that Jesus was standing close beside them. "That is coming to Jesus," the minister said.

He told them to tell Jesus all, to turn all the sin over to Him, to ask Him to cover it all with His blood, so that that very night they might lie down to sleep whiter than snow.

"Will you do this?" asked the clergyman, anxiously; "will you?"

And little Christie said in his heart, "Yes, that I will."

As the congregation left, the clergyman stood at the door, and gave a friendly word to each one as they passed by. He looked very tired and anxious after his sermon. It had been preached with much prayer and with much feeling, and he was longing, oh, so earnestly, to know that it had been blessed to one soul.

There were some amongst the little congregation who passed by him with serious, thoughtful faces, and as each one went by he breathed an earnest prayer that the seed in that soul might spring up and bring forth fruit. But there were others again who had already begun to talk to their neighbors, and who seemed to have forgotten all they had heard. And these filled the young minister's heart with sorrow. "Is the seed lost, dear Lord?" he said, faithlessly. For he was very tired and weary; and when the body is weak, our faith is apt to grow weak also.

But there was something in Christie's face as he passed out of the room which made the clergyman call him back and speak to him. He had noticed the boy's attention during the sermon, and he longed to hear whether he had understood what he had heard.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. God 2. Those who believe on Jesus (the Son). 3. To save the world. 4. Truth, truth. 5. The Son (Jesus). 6. By being made free from sin. 7. Everlasting life. 8. The law of sin and death. 9. The devil; like a roaring lion.





Vol. 63, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 July 14, 2013

#### **CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN**

(Continued)

"My boy," said the minister kindly, laying his hand on Christie's shoulder, "can you tell me what my text was tonight?"

Christie repeated it very correctly, and the clergyman seemed pleased. He asked Christie several more questions about the sermon, and then he encouraged the boy to talk to him. Christie told him of old Treffy, who had only another month to live, and who was longing to know how he might go to "Home, sweet Home." The clergyman promised to come and see him, and wrote down the name of the court and the number of the house in his little brown pocket-book. And before Christie went home the clergyman knelt down with him in the empty mission-room, and prayed that that very night the dear Lord would wash Christie's soul in His most precious blood.

Christiewalked awayverythoughtfully, but still very gladly, for he had good news for old Treffy tonight. He quickened his steps as he drew near the court, and he ran up the stairs to the attic, eager to tell all to the poor old man.

"Oh, Master Treffy!" said Christie;
"I've had such a time! It was beautiful,
Master Treffy, and the clergyman's
been talking to me, and he's coming
to see you; he's coming here," said

Christie triumphantly.

But Treffy was longing for better news than this.

"What about 'Home, sweet Home,' Christie?" he asked.

"There is a way, Master Treffy," said Christie. "You and me can't get in with our sins, but 'The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth us from all sin.' That's in the Bible, Master Treffy, and it was the clergyman's text."

"Tell me all about it, Christie," Treffy said, in a tremulous voice.

"There's nothing but the blood of Jesus can wash away the sin, Master Treffy," said Christie, "and you and me have just got to go to Him and ask Him, and He'll do it for us tonight; the clergyman said so. I've learnt another verse of the hymn, Master Treffy," said Christie, kneeling down beside him and repeating it reverently:—

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

Treffy repeated the words after him in a trembling voice.

"I wish He'd wash me, Christie, boy," he said.

"So He will, Master Treffy," said Christie; "He never sends anybody away."

"Ay, but I'm an old man, Christie, and I've been a sinner all my life, and I've done some such bad things, Christie. I never knew it till this last



#### **OUR ETERNAL HOME**

#### Revelations 22:1-5

- 1 And he showed 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...
- 3 ... the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it...
- **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.

#### John 14:1-4, 6

- 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I willcome again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.
- **4** And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.
- **6** ...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

#### I John 1:4-10

4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

- 5 ...God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.
- **6** If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:
- 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.
- 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

The Message: Jesus wants us to live with Him forever! He has prepared a wonderful place for every one who will accept Him as their Savior.

#### Questions:

- 1. Where did the pure river of water of life proceed from?
- 2. Whose throne will be there?
- 3. Who will give them light?
- 4. Jesus said, "I go to \_\_\_\_\_ a place for you."
- 5. Jesus said, "I am the \_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_,
- 6. What is the only way that we can come to the Father?
- 7. Who is all light with no darkness at all?
- 8. What cleanses us from all sin?
- 9. What will God do if we confess our sins?

#### **Verse to Memorize**

"...the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." I John 1:7



Jesus' disciples left their homes and occupations when He called them to follow Him. He was their constant companion for over three years. Then one day Jesus told His disciples that He would be leaving them very soon. This time they would not be able to follow Him because He was going back to heaven to live with His Father. This made the disciples very sad. They could not imagine life without Jesus right there with them; they had hoped He would always be with them

Seeing their distress, Jesus said. "Don't let your heart be troubled, My Father's house has many mansions. I am going to prepare a place for you. Some day I will come back for you. Then you can be with me forever!"

Those words of comfort are true for every one of Jesus' followers. He is coming back again for all those who repent of their sins and accept Him as their Savior. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life." The only way to the Father and eternal life in heaven is through Jesus.

Heaven is God's home. In Revelations John tells about the visions he had of heaven. It is a beautiful place, so lovely and magnificent that we don't have adequate words to describe it.

John tells us that he saw a crystal clear river full of the water of life running out from under the great throne of God. The tree of life was growing thereby theriver. Although everything was light John noticed that it was not coming from the sun or any other natural source of light. The majestic presence of God shed brilliant light everywhere!

Those who are cleansed from all sin will go to heaven at the end of this life. There they will reign with Jesus for ever and ever!

Sin can never enter heaven. It was sin that caused Adam and Eve to lose their home in the beautiful Garden of Eden. It separated them from the presence and favor of God. We often hear that people who lived wicked, ungodly lives went to heaven when they died. But it can not be so. God is holy; He cannot tolerate evil. The place where He lives is free from sin and every evil work of the devil.

Jesus died on the cross because the only way that we could be freed from the curse of sin was through the shedding of His blood as a sacrifice for our sins. Through death He opened up a way for us to go to heaven. When we confess our sins and turn away from them, Jesus will save us and break the power of sin in our lives. Then, when we die, we will go to live with Him forever. Jesus was willing to pay the awful price that this could be so!

The disciples treasured Jesus' words. They were like a bright light leading them through life. Their greatest hope was to someday again be with Jesus. They ignored all the devil did to distract them. They faithfully followed Jesus' example. They endured great suffering for Jesus' sake. Most of the disciples were put to death because they loved Jesus more than their own lives. Their one goal was heaven; they would make any sacrifice to get there!

In II Corinthians 4:17 after a life filled with great trouble and suffering, Paul said, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;" Heaven will be worth whatever it costs to get there!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

week, but I know it now. It's not likely He'll ever wash my sins; they're ever such big ones. Christie."

"Oh! but He will," said Christie, eagerly; "that's just what the clergyman said; there's a word in the text for you, Master Treffy: 'The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin.' All sin, all sin, Master Treffy; won't that do?"

"All sin," murmured old Treffy; "all sin! Yes, Christie, I think that will do."

There was a pause after this. Christie sat still, looking into the fire. Then he said suddenly,—

"Master Treffy, let's go right away now and ask Him."

"Ask who?" said old Treffy, "the

clergyman?"

"No," said Christie, "the Lord Jesus. He's in the room,—the minister saidHe was. Let's ask Him towash you and me, just now, Master Treffy."

"Ay!" said old Treffy, "let's ask Him, Christie." So the old man and the boy knelt down, and, with a strong realization of the Lord's near presence, little Christie prayed:—

"O Lord Jesus, we come to Thee, me and Master Treffy: we've got lots of sins to be washed, but the minister said you wouldn't send us away, and the text says all sin. We think it means us, Lord Jesus, me and Master Treffy. Please wash us white; we want to go to 'Home, sweet Home:' please wash us in the blood tonight. Amen."

Then old Treffytook up the words, and in a trembling voice added,—

"Amen, Lord; wash us both, me and Christie, wash us white. Please do. Amen."

And then they got up from their knees, and Christie said,—

"We may go to bed now, Master Treffy, for I'm sure He's done it for us."

Thus the man at the gate had received both the trembling old man and the little child, and as they had entered in they had heard a gracious voice very deep down in their hearts, saying to each of them again and again, "Be of good cheer, thy sins are forgiven thee."

#### CHAPTER VII LITTLE MABEL'S SNOW-DROPS

The next morning Christie woke with a happy heart, for heremembered his last night's prayer, and in his simple faith he had taken the Lord at His word, and had believed that the blood of Jesus Christ had cleansed him from all sin.

But old Treffy's doubts and fears came back again. He began to look within, and the remembrance of his sin returned upon him. What if, after all, there was sin on his soul? What if the gates were still closed against him?

"Christie, boy, I don't feel it's all right with me yet," he said anxiously. "Why not, Master Treffy?" asked

Christie.

"Why, I've been so bad, Christie; it doesn't seem likely He'd do it for me so soon as that; there's such a deal of sin on my soul."

"But you asked Him to wash you, Master Treffy; didn't you?"

"Ay, I asked Him, Christie," said Treffy, in a despairing tone.

"And He said He would if you asked Him, Master Treffy; didn't He?"

"Ay, Christie, I believe He did," said Treffy.

"Then of course He has done it," said Christie.

"I don't know, Christie, boy; I can't feel it, "said old Treffy pitifully. "I don't seem to see it as I ought."

So, whilst Christie was walking in the sunshine, Old Treffy was still groping on in the shadow, sometimes hoping, sometimes fearing, but never trusting.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2. The throne of God and of the Lamb. 3. The Lord God. 4. Prepare. 5. Way, truth, life. 6. By Jesus Christ. 7. God. 8. The blood of Jesus Christ. 9. He will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.





Vol. 63, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 July 21, 2013

#### CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN

(Continued)

Christie paid another visit to the suburban road that week. Little Mabel and her mother were coming out of the house when Christie reached the gate. The little girl ran eagerly forward when she caught sight of the organ and begged her mamma to stay whilst she turned the handle just six times!

The lady spoke very kindly to Christie; she asked him several questions, and he told her about old Treffy, how ill he was, and how he had not another month to live. The tears were in the lady's eyes, and she asked Christie where he lived, and wrote it down on a white tablet which she carried in her pocket.

"Mamma," saidlittle Mabel, "I want to whisper something to you."

The lady bent down her head to listen, and then said kindly,—

"Yes, if you like."

Mabel darted into the house, and returned with a large bunch of single white snowdrops, prettily arranged with sprigs of dark myrtle leaves. Very white, and pure, and lovely they looked.

"Here, organ-boy," said Mabel, as she put them into his hands, "these are my own dear snowdrops; Aunt Helen gave me them, and you must take them to Master Treffy, he'll like them, won't he?" she said.

"Ay! that he will, missie," said Christie, warmly.

"Mabel," said her mother, "you must teach Christie the little prayer I told you always to say when you looked at the snowdrops."

"Yes," said Mabel, "I will. This is it, Christie: 'Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

Christie looked up brightly.

"Will you say that prayer, Christie?" asked the lady, kindly.

"Yes, ma'am," said Christie; "it's just like what me and Master Treffy said last night:—

'Cleanse me and save me, Cleanse me and save me, Wash all my sins away.'"

The lady smiled when Christie said this, and seemed very pleased.

"I am so glad you know of the only way to be washed white," said the lady. "These snowdrops always make me think of the souls washed white in the blood of Jesus."

Then the lady and little Mabel passed on, and Christie looked down very tenderly on the flowers. How he would love them now! He turned his steps homewards at once, for he did not want the snowdrops to fade before they reached old Treffy. How fair, and clean, and pure they looked! So different to the smoke and dirt of the noisy



#### A HANDFUL OF MEAL

#### I KINGS 17:10-16

10 So he (Elijah) arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

12 And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

13 And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

14 For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.

15 And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

16 And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah.

#### John 6:9-13

9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes:...

10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down...So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.

11 And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.

13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

#### The Message: Unbelief is the only thing that limits what God can do!

#### **Questions:**

- 1. Where did Elijah go?
- 2. What was the widow woman doing?
- 3. What did Elijah ask her to bring him?
- 4. What else did he ask for?
- 5. How much meal was in the barrel?
- 6. How long did the Lord say the meal and oil would last?
- 7. How many loaves of bread did the disciples have?
- 8. How much was left over?
- 9. How many had eaten?

#### **Verse to Memorize**

"For with God nothing shall be impossible."

Luke 1:37



In our lesson the widow Elijah met was suffering because there had been no rain for a long time. Crops would not grow; she was down to her last handful of meal and just enough oil to make one more loaf for herself and her son. After this they would have no more food to keep them alive!

God had told Elijah to go to Zarephath. He even told him that a widow there would give him food. So Elijah obediently went to Zarephath. Just as he got to the gate of the city he saw a woman gathering sticks. He could tell she was poor by the clothes she wore. He thought, "Maybe this is the widow the Lord told me about."

So Elijah called to the woman and asked her to bring him a drink. She had just turned to do as he asked when he added, "And bring me some bread to eat too!"

At that the widow stopped and looked at Elijah. "I have no bread to give you," she told him. "I only have a handful of meal and a little oil at home. I am gathering sticks to make a fire. Then I will bake the last bit of meal for my son and myself before we die of hunger."

"Don't be afraid," Elijah told her.
"Do as you said but first make me a cake. Then bake cakes for you and your son. The Lord God of Israel has told me that your barrel of meal and your bottle of oil will not be empty until there is rain and the famine is over!"

The widow took courage from Elijah's words. She rushed home and did as he had told her. When she reached into the barrel she found enough meal for three cakes instead of two. Every day after that she found another handful of meal and enough oil to make the cakes! There was always just enough to feed the three of them. Elijah stayed with the widow for several months until God sent rain again.

Just as God provided food in our lesson, He supplied food for a multitude of people who had come to hear Jesus teach in the desert. They had been eagerly listening to all He had to tell them and almost before they realized it the day was just about over. They had seemed to forget that they could not find food or shelter for the night here in the desert!

The disciples told Jesus He must send the people away while they could still buy food in the towns and villages on their way home. Instead Jesus turned to Philip and asked, "Where will we find bread to feed all these people?"

Looking out over the people Philip shook his head. "If we bought two hundred pennyworth of bread," he answered, "there would not be enough for every one to have even a small piece!"

"There is a boy here who has five loaves of barley bread and two small fish." Andrew told Jesus.

"Bring them to me." Jesus answered. Then, turning to the disciples he said, "Make the people sit down in groups of fifty and a hundred." Jesus then took the loaves and fish and, after He had given thanks, He broke the food into small pieces. He filled a basket for each disciple to pass to the hungry people.

When the crowd had eaten all they wanted, Jesus had the disciples gather up all the food that was left. There were twelve baskets full!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

court. Christie was almost afraid lest the thick air might soil them as he carried them through it. Some of the children ran after him and begged for a flower, but he guarded his treasures very carefully till he reached the attic

And when Christie opened the door, who should be there but the clergyman, sitting beside old Treffy, and talking to him very earnestly! He stopped to give Christie a kind word, and then he went on with what he was saying. He was telling Treffy about the death of Jesus, and how it is that the blood of Jesus can wash away all sin.

"I can't see that it's all right with me," said Treffy, in a trembling voice; "it seems dark and dim to me yet. I don't feel that I've got it; I can't feel happy."

"Treffy," said the clergyman, suddenly, "do you think I would tell you a lie?"

"No, sir," said old Treffy; "I'm sure you wouldn't; I could see it in your face, sir, if nowhere else. No, sir, I'd trust you anywhere."

"Now, Treffy," said the clergyman, taking a half-crown from his pocket, "I've brought this for you. You cannot work now, and you need many things you cannot get; I will give you this money to buy them with."

"Thank you, sir," said old Treffy, the tears running down his cheeks; "I can never thank you enough. We are very badly off just now, Christie and me."

"Stop, Treffy," said the clergyman, "it isn't yours yet, you must take it."

Treffy put out his trembling old hand, and took the half-crown, with another murmur of thanks.

"Do you feel that you've got it, Treffy?" said the clergyman.

"Yes, sir, it's here," said old Treffy.

"Areyou sure you've got it, Treffy?" said the clergyman again.

"Yes, sir," said Treffy, in a bewildered voice, "I know I have; I don't know what you mean, sir."

"I will tell you what I mean," said the clergyman. "The dear Lord Jesus has come into this room just as I have, Treffy. He has brought a gift for you, just as I did. His gift has cost Him far more than mine cost me; it has cost Him His life. He has come close to you, as I came, and He says to you, as I said: 'Old Treffy, can you trust Me? do you think I would tell you a lie?' And then He holds out His gift, as I did, Treffy, and He says, 'Take it; it is for you.' Now, Treffy, what have you to do with this gift? Just exactly what you did with mine. You have not to work for it, or wait for it. You have just to put out your hand and take it. Do you know what the gift is?"

Treffy did not answer, so the clergyman went on:—

"It is the forgiveness of your sin, Treffy; it is the clean heart, for which you are longing; it is the right to enter into 'Home, sweet Home,' for which you have been praying, Treffy; will you take the gift?"

"I want to take it," said old Treffy, "but I don't know how."

"Did you stop to think how you were to take my gift, Treffy?"

"No," said the old man, "I just took it."

"Yes," saidtheclergyman, "exactly; and that is what you must do with the Lord's gift; you must just take it."

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. To Zarephath. 2. Gathering sticks. 3. A drink of water. 4. A piece of bread. 5. A handful. 6. Until the Lord sent rain. 7. Seven. 8. Seven baskets. 9. Four thousand.





Vol. 63, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 July 28, 2013

#### CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN

(Continued)

"Would it have pleased me, Treffy," said the clergyman, "if you had pulled your hand back and said, 'Oh, no, sir! I don't deserve the money; I don't believe you would ever give it to me; I can't take it yet?"

"No," said Treffy, "I don't suppose it would."

"Yet this is just what you are doing to the Lord Jesus, Treffy. He is holding out His gift to you, and He wants you to take it at once, yet you hold back and say, 'No, Lord, I can't believe what you say, I can't trust Thy word, I can't believe the gift is for me, I can't take it yet.'

"Treffy," said the clergyman, earnestly, "if you can trust me, oh, why can't you trust the Lord Jesus?"

The tears were running down the old man's face, and he could not speak.

"I am going to ask you another question, Treffy," said the clergyman. "Will you trust the Lord Jesus now?"

"Yes, sir," said Treffy, through his tears; "I don't think I can help trusting Him now."

"Now, Treffy, remember Jesus is in this attic, close to you, close to me, very, verynear, Treffy. When we speak to Him, He will hear every word we say; He will listen to every sigh; He will read every wish.

"But, before you speak to Him, Treffy, listen to what He says to you," said the clergyman, taking His Bible from his pocket. "These are His own words, 'Come, now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord, though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool,' for 'The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin.' Treffy, will you trust the Lord Jesus? Do you think He would tell you a lie?"

"No," said old Treffy; "I'm sure He wouldn't."

"Very well, Treffy, then we will tell Him so."

The clergyman knelt down by Treffy's side, and Christie knelt down too, and old Treffy clasped his trembling hands whilst the clergyman prayed.

It was a very simple prayer; it was just taking the Lord at His word. Old Treffy repeated the words after the clergyman with the deepest earnestness, and when he had finished the old man still clasped his hands and said, "Lord Jesus, I do trust Thee, I do take the gift, I do believe Thy word."

Then the clergyman rose from his knees and said, "Treffy, when you had taken my gift, what did you do next?"

"I thanked you for it, sir," said Treffy.

"Yes," said the clergyman, "and



#### GOD'S LITTLE ONES

#### Exodus 2:2-8, 10

- 2 ...and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.
- **3** And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid *it* in the flags by the river's brink.
- **4** And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.
- **5** And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash *herself* at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.
- **6** And when she had opened *it*, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This *is one* of the Hebrews' children.
- 7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?
- 8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.
- 10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And

she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

#### Mark 10:13-16

- 13 And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them...
- 14 ...Jesus...said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.
- 15 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.
- 16 And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

The Message: Little children are especially precious in God's sight.

#### Questions:

- 1. How long did Moses' mother hide him?
- 2. What did she put the baby in when she could no longer hide him?
- 3. Where did she place him?
- 4. Who stood watching?
- 5. Who came to wash herself?
- 6. When she opened the ark what was the baby doing?
- 7. Who became the baby's nurse?
- 8. Why did she name him Moses?
- 9. What did Jesus do to the little children who were brought to Him?

#### Verse to Memorize

"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 18:10



It is wonderful to know that God loves little children. He gives special love and attention to those who are helpless and dependent.

God also blesses those who help the needy children. Faith Stewart built a home for children who had no place to live and no one to care for them. When there were needs she taught the children to pray. God answered their prayers and proved to the children that He was their heavenly Father. They learned that they could tell Him all their problems. Faith gave them something more valuable than a place to live and food to eat—she taught the children to trust this heavenly Father who would always be with them and defend them.

Psalms 27:10 says, "When my father and my mother forsake me. then the LORD will take me up." The following story proves this truth: The Stowaway

An English steamer left from Liverpool headed for New York. The ship had been out to sea four days when a little ragged boy, aged nine years, was discovered-obviously a stowaway! The first mate had dealt with many such cases so the boy was taken to him.

His first question was who had brought him on board. The boy's face was the very mirror of honesty as he explained that his stepfather did it because he could not afford to keep him, nor did he have money to pay his fare. He was sending him to Halifax, to an aunt who was well off. Hopefully she would offer him a home.

The mate did not believe his story. He had seen too much of stowaways.

This one would not easily deceive him! He believed that the boy had been brought on board and provided with food by one of the sailors.

The little fellow was treated very roughly. Daybydayhewas questioned and re-questioned, but his story was always the same. He did not know a sailor on board. His father alone had secretly put him on board and given him the food that he ate.

At last the mate grew weary of the boy's persistence in the same story. So one day he grabbed the boy by the collar, and dragging him to the fore, told him that unless he told the truth in ten minutes from that time he would hang from the yardarm. He then made him sit down under it on the deck.

The passengers and sailors stood around waiting to see what would happen to the young stowaway. The stern mate stood before him holding his watch. It was a touching sight to see the pale, brave face of the noble boy as he listened to the minutes ticking away. He held his head erect, tears glistening in his eyes.

When eight minutes had passed, the mate told him he had only two minutes left to live. He advised him to speak the truth and save his life. With the utmost simplicity and sincerity the boy asked the mate if he might pray. The mate said nothing, but nodded his head in permission.

The stern first mate became as pale as a ghost as the boy knelt to pray. All eyes turned toward the brave and noble fellow—this poor boy that had no one to care for him—as he knelt with clasped hands and eyes turned toward heaven. Suddenly the hard-hearted mate burst into sobs. He rushed to the boy, hugging and kissing him. He told him he now sincerely believed his story. He blessed him for being brave enough to face death and willing to sacrifice his life for the truth of his word.

Adapted from -Touching Incidents

would you not like to thank the Lord Jesus for His gift of forgiveness?"

"Oh!" said old Treffy, with tears in his eyes, "I should indeed, sir."

So they all knelt down again, and in a few words the clergyman thanked the dear Lord for His great love and goodness to old Treffy, in giving him pardon for his sin.

And again old Treffy took up the words and added:—

"Thank you, Lord Jesus, very much for the gift; it cost Thee Thy life; oh! I do thank Thee with all my heart."

"Now, Treffy," said the clergyman, as he rose to go, "if satan comes to you tomorrow and says, 'Old Treffy, do you feel you've got forgiveness? perhaps after all it's a mistake,' what shall you say to him?"

"Ithink I shall tell him my text," said old Treffy, "The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin."

"That will do, Treffy," said the clergyman; "he can't answer that. And remember, the Lord wishes you to know you are forgiven, not to feel you are forgiven. There is a difference between feeling and knowing. You knew you had taken my gift, and you did not know what I meant when I asked you if you felt I had given it to you. It is the same with the Lord's gift, Treffy. Your feelings have nothing to do with your safety, but your faith has a great deal to do with it. Have you taken the Lord at His word? Have you trusted Him? That is the question."

"Yes, sir," said Treffy, "I have."

"Then you know you are forgiven," said the clergyman, with a smile.

"Yes, sir," said Treffy, brightly, "I can trust Him now."

Then Christie walked up to Treffy, and put the bunch of white snowdrops in his hand.

"Miss Mabel gave me them," he said, "and she said I was to say a little prayer whenever I looked at them: "Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

"Whiter than snow," repeated the clergyman; "whiter than snow; Treffy! that is a sweet word; is it not?"

"Yes," said old Treffy, earnestly, as he looked at the flowers, "whiter than snow, washed white in the blood of Jesus."

Then the clergyman took his leave, but, as he was crossing the court, he heard Christie running after him. He had a few of the lovely snowdrops and a sprig of the dark myrtle in his hand.

"Please, sir," said Christie, "would you like a few of them?"

"Thank you, my boy," said the clergyman, "I should indeed."

He carried the snowdrops carefully home, and they taught him a lesson of faith. The seed he had sown in the mission-room had not been lost. Already two poor sin-stained souls had come to the fountain, and had been washed whiter than snow. The old man and the little boy had taken the Lord at His word, and had found the only way into the bright city, into "Home, sweet Home." God had been very good to him in letting him know this. Surely, he would trust in the future.

### CHAPTER VIII MADE MEET FOR HOME

How different everything seemed to Treffy after his doubts and fears had been removed! The very attic seemed full of sunshine, and old Treffy's heart was full of brightness. He was forgiven, and he knew it. And, as a forgiven child, he could look up into his Father's face with a smile.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Three months. 2. An ark. 3. Bytheriver. 4. Moses' sister. 5. Pharaoh's daughter. 6. Crying. 7. His mother. 8. Because she had drawn him out of the water. 9. He took them in His arms, put His hands on them and blessed them.





Vol. 63, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 August 4, 2013

#### CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN

(Continued)

A great load was taken off little Christie's heart, his old master was so happy and contented now; never impatient at his long absence when he was out with the organ, or fretful and anxious about their daily support. Old Treffy had laid upon Jesus his load of sin. and it was not hard to lay upon Him also his load of care. The Lord who had borne the greater burden would surely bear the less. Treffy could not have put this feeling of trust into words, but he acted upon it. There were no murmurings from old Treffy now, no forebodings. He had always a bright smile and a cheerful word for Christie when the boy returned tired at night. And whilst Christie was out he would lie very still and peaceful, talking softly to himself or thanking the dear Lord for His great gift to him.

And old Treffy's trust was not disappointed. "Nonethattrust in Him shall be desolate."

The clergyman's gift was not the only one they received that week. Christie had come home in the middle of the day, to see how his old master was, and was just preparing to start again on his rounds when they heard a gentle rustling of silk on the stairs, and a low knock at the door. Christie

opened it quickly, and in walked little Mabel, and little Mabel's mamma. They had brought with them many little comforts for old Treffy, which Mabel had great pleasure in opening out. But they brought with them also what money cannot buy,—sweet, gentle words, and bright smiles, which cheered old Treffy's heart.

The lady sat down beside Treffy, and they talked together of Jesus. The old man loved to talk of Jesus now, for he was able to say, "He loved me, and gave Himself for me."

And the lady took a little blue Testament from her pocket, and read a chapter to Treffy. She had a sweet, clear voice, and she read so distinctly that he could understand every word.

Little Mabel sat quite still whilst her mamma was reading, then she got up, and ran across the attic.

"Here are my snowdrops," she said, with a cry of joy, as she caught sight of them in the window-sill. "Do you like them, Master Treffy?"

"Ay! little missie," said the old man,
"I do indeed, and me and Christie
always think of the little prayer when
we look at them."

"Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow," repeated Mabel reverently. "Has He washed you, Master Treffy?"

"Yes, missie," said Treffy, "I believe He has."



#### JESUS HEALS ELEVEN LEPERS

#### Mark 1:40-42

- **40** And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.
- 41 And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.
- **42** And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.

#### Luke 17:11-19

- 11 And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.
- 12 And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:
- 13 And they lifted up *their* voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.
- 14 And when he saw *them*, he said unto them, Go show yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.
- 15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,
- 16 And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

- 17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where *are* the nine?
- 18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.
- 19 And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

#### Leviticus 13:46

46 All the days wherein the plague shall be in him he shall be defiled; he is unclean: he shall dwell alone; without the campshall his habitation he

The Message: Jesus shows loving compassion to everyone who comes to Him. We should always be thankful for His great mercy to us and extend that love to others.

#### **Questions:**

- 1. What was wrong with the man who begged Jesus to make him clean?
- 2. What feelings didJesus have toward the leper?
- 3. What happened as soon as Jesus said, "I will; be thou clean"?
- 4. How many lepers met Jesus as He went into the village?
- 5. What did they say to Jesus?
- 6. What happened as they went to show themselves to the priests?
- 7. Which of the ten came back to thank Jesus?
- 8. Where did lepers have to live?

#### Verse to Memorize

"Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:" I Peter 3:8



Leprosy was a most horrible disease. It was so highly contagious it could be transmitted to others through clothing or anything the leper touched. It was considered to be incurable; God alone could remove the awful curse of leprosy.

The leper was considered to be a "walking tomb," or a "parable of death". He had to wear mourning clothes, leave his hair in disorder, keep his beard covered and cry "Unclean! Unclean!" so everyone could avoid him. As long as the disease lasted, he was to live in isolation away from other people. Gradually his body would decay; first the skin, then the bone, then all his flesh! The unfortunate victim might live in this pitiful condition for some time. The disease was generally hereditary.

Leprosy can be considered as an emblem of the corruption sin. Yet sin is much worse than leprosy. Sin causes us to be separated from God and, if not repented of, it will bring eternal death.

But as Jesus cured the leper, He is able and willing to save the sinner from eternal death. When a person is truly penitent and seeks God for for giveness with faith God will hear his prayer, like He did that of the leper. He will gladly cleanse him from his sins and all their deadly influences in his life.

Jesus portrayed a beautiful attitude toward the leper who knelt before Him. This poor man was cast out of his home and city. People would not come anywhere near him for fear of getting this dread sickness. Yet Jesus had reached out and actually touched

him! That warm human touch of love and compassion brought hope and healing to his heart as Jesus' omnipotent words brought health and cleansing to his body.

The second part of the lesson is a record of Jesus healing not one, but ten, lepers. The ten men were together. Living alone outside the protection of the city walls and its inhabitants was dangerous, besides being very lonely. Wild animals looking for a good meal were ever ready to attack. For their own protection and comfort lepers lived together and helped one another.

As Jesus was nearing the village, the ten men saw Him. Somewhere they had heard about Jesus' compassion and power. Perhaps they had heard it from the other leper that Jesus had healed. Together they cried out, "Master, have mercy on us!" Again Jesus responded to the cry for help.

"Go show your selves to the priests," He called to them. Immediately theten men started for the priests. In their hearts they must have believed that Jesus had made them well. The law required the priests to look at them and pronounce them clean before they could return to live again in the city. As theywere going, each realized that his leprosy was gone!

Nine of them hurried on to find the priests. They could hardly wait to get his approval so they could return to their homes, families and friends. Now they could live normal lives!

But one could go no further. He was so overwhelmed by Jesus' love, compassion and power in healing him he just had to go back and thank Him immediately. This man was a Samaritan. Yet this 'stranger', as Jesus called him, was the only one grateful enough to return and thank Jesus.

Jesus is our example. Let us seek Him to give us His humble, loving, fearless, compassionate attitude toward others.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"I'm so glad," said little Mabel, "then you will go to 'Home, sweet Home;' won't he, mamma?"

"Yes," said her mother, "Treffy and Christie have found the only road which leads home. And, oh!" she said, the color coming into her sweet face, "what a happy day it will be when we all meet at home! Wouldn't you like to see Jesus, Treffy?" asked the lady.

"Ay," said old Treffy, "it would be a good sight to see His blessed face. I could almost sing for joy when I think of it, and I haven't so very long to wait."

"No," said the lady, with a wistful expression in her eyes, "I could almost change places with you, Treffy, I could almost wish I were as near to 'Home, sweet Home.' But that would be selfish," she said brightly, as she rose to go.

But little Mabel had discovered the old organ, and was in no haste to depart. She must turn it "just a little bit." In former days, old Treffy would have been seriously agitated and distressed at the idea of the handle of his dear old organ being turned by a little girl of six years old. Even now he felt a small amount of anxiety when she proposed it. But his fears vanished when he saw the careful, deliberate way in which Mabel went to work. The old organ was perfectly safe in her hands. And, to Mabel's joy, the first tune which came was "Home. sweet Home." Verysweetly it sounded in old Treffy's ears. He was thinking of no earthly home, but of "the city bright," where he hoped soon to be. And the lady was thinking of it too.

When the tune was finished, they took their leave, and Christie looked out of the window, and watched them crossing the dirty court, and entering the carriage which was waiting for them in the street.

It had been a very bright week for

Christie and for old Treffy.

And then Sunday came, and another service in the little mission room. Christie was there in good time, and the clergyman gave him a pleasant smile as he came into the room.

It was the third verse of the hymn on which the clergyman was to preach tonight. They sang the whole hymn through before the sermon, and then they sang the third verse again, that all of them might remember it whilst he was preaching.

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

And the clergyman's text was in Colossians 1:12, "Meet to be partakers of the inheritance." He repeated it very slowly, and Christie whispered softly to himself, that he might be able to teach it to old Treffy.

"Meet to be partakers of the inheritance.' What is the inheritance?" asked the clergyman. "My dear friends, our inheritance is that city bright of which we have been speaking so much, 'Home, sweet Home,' our Father's home. We are not there vet, but for all Christ's washed ones there is a bright home above. Jesus is preparing it for us; it is our inheritance. Oh," said the clergyman, very earnestly, "I wonder how many in this room have a home up there. You may have a wretched, uncomfortable home on earth; is it your only home? Is there no home for you in the bright city; no home in heaven?"

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. He was a leper. 2. He was moved with compassion. 3. He was healed immediately. 4. Ten. 5. "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us". 6. They were healed. 7. A Samaritan. 8. Alone, outside of the camp (city).

THE



Vol. 63, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 August 11, 2013

#### CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN

(Continued)

"Oh," said the clergyman, very earnestly, "I wonder how many in this room have a home up there. You may have a wretched, uncomfortable home on earth; is it your only home? Is there no home for you in the bright city; no home in heaven?

"You might all have a home there," said the clergyman, "if you would only come to the fountain, if you would only say from the bottom of your heart, 'Lord, wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

And Christie smiled when the clergyman said his little prayer, for he thought of the snowdrops. And the clergyman thought of them, too.

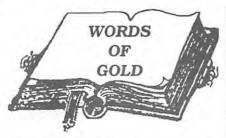
Then Mr. Wilton went on to say that he wished tonight to speak to those who had come to Jesus; who had taken their sin to Him, and who had been washed in His blood.

"That's me and old Treffy," said Christie to himself.

"My dear friends," said the clergyman, "all of you have an inheritance; you are the sons of a King; there is a place in the kingdom waiting for you. Jesus is getting that place ready for you, and I want to show you tonight that you must be made ready for it, meet or fit for the inheritance. One day, the Prince of Wales will be the King of England. This kingdom is his inheritance. As soon as he was born, he had a right to it. But he has been educated and trained with great care, that he may be meet for the inheritance, that he may be fit to enjoy it, and able to use it. If he had had no education, if he had been brought up in one of these dismal black courts, though he might have a perfect right to be king, still he would not be able to enjoy it; he would feel strange, uncomfortable, out of place.

"Just so," said the clergyman, "is it with our inheritance. As soon as we are born again we have a right to it, we become sons and daughters of the King of Kings. But we need to be prepared and made meet for the inheritance. We must be made holy within; we must be trained and taught to hate sin and to love all that is pure and holy. And this is the work of God's Holy Spirit.

"Oh!myfriends, willyou not ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit to renew your heart? It will not be all done in a day. You came to Jesus to be washed from the stain of sin. He did that at once; He gave you at once the right to the inheritance. Then little by little, hour by hour, day by day, the Holy Spirit will make you more and more ready for



#### CONSIDER THE RAVENS

Luke 12:24, 27-31

24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?

27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O

ye of little faith?

29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

30 ...your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

#### Numbers 11:21-24, 31-32

21 And Moses said, The people, among whom I am, are six hundred thousand footmen; and thou hast said, I will give them flesh, that they may eat a whole month.

22 Shall the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to suffice them? or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to suffice them?

23 And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD's hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.

24 And Moses went out, and told the people the words of he Lord, and gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people, and set them round about the tabernacle.

31 And there went forth a wind from the LORD, and brought quails from the sea, and let them fall by the camp, as it were a day's journey on this side, and as it were a day's journey on the other side, round about the camp, and as it were two cubits high upon the face of the earth.

**32** And the people stood up all that day, and all that night, and all the next day, and they gathered the quails: he that gathered least gathered ten homers: and they spread them all abroad for themselves round about the camp.

# The Message: God is well able to provide for all our needs!

#### **Questions:**

- 1. Who provides food for the ravens?
- 2. What are more beautiful than Solomon even with his gorgeous robes?
- 3. Who 'clothes' the grass with beauty?
- 4. What does God promise if we seek His kingdom?
- 5. How many footmen were among the Israelites Moses led?
- 6. How much flesh (meat) had God promised to send?
- 7. What kind of meat did God send?
- 8. How were they brought to the camp of the Israelites?

#### Verse to Memorize

"The people asked, and he brought quails, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven." Psalms 105:40



"Do you believe in miracles?" Edward turned toward John in perplexity.

John looked up from his work. "Why the question?" he asked. "Do you?"

With a sigh, Edward dropped his hammer. "Iwish I knew," he answered. "I'd hate to doubt those Bible stories but—well—take that one about Elijah being fed by the ravens. I never saw a bird with sense enough to bring food to a man."

"Would you like to meet a man who saw a miracle as great as that of Elijah's being fed by the ravens?"

"Would I?" Edward gasped. "Where is he?"

John smiled. "Not very far away," he answered.

Edward wondered whom John could be talking about. He was surprised when he took him to Mr. Lawton's house. They took the offered chairs then John told Mr. Lawton, "I told Edward you had seen a miracle as great as the feeding of Elijah by the ravens," he explained, "and he would like to hear about it."

"Certainly," Mr. Lawton said. "It was a long time ago, and I don't know that it was really any greater miracle than the crops we have every year which feed the multitudes. God performs a miracle every day before our very eyes, but we are too blind to see.

"That's what I told Edward," said John kindly, "but he wanted to hear of a specific instance."

"Ofcourse, ofcourse!" Mr. Lawton agreed. "Well this happened many years ago in Kansas. The grasshoppers had eaten almost everything.

The fields were reduced to sticks, and even the men's coats, if left out overnight, were eaten beyond repair. Every one was discouraged, some to the point of desperation. Finally it was decided that the entire community would have to move on, hoping they could find a place where food could be obtained. The women and children, being weaker than many of the men, were scarcely able to travel but plans were made to start soon and move as rapidly as possible.

"I shall never forget the looks of that place, or the depressed spirits of the people. There wasn't a blade of grass or a green leaf in sight. Food was so scarce it was portioned out and no one allowed to eat anywhere near enough to satisfy the natural appetite. The animals were suffering from hunger, and the prospects were anything but promising. It was hard to tell how many would survive to reach new territory, if any good place could

"When it was almost night of the day before we were to start, the whole community was aroused by a man rushing down the road, yelling at the top of his lungs, flinging his cap in the air and acting like a mad man. Every one wondered what calamity was about to overtake them. At last he came near enough so we could distinguish his words. He was crying, 'Abuffalo! Abuffalo!' The men followed his lead to a spot outside the village where, sure enough, a buffalo had strayed. A single shot killed him, and it did not take long to have the savory meat cooking. There is no question in my mind but what that buffalo saved our lives as truly as the ravens saved Elijah, and I consider it as great a miracle."

-The Youth's Comrade

be found.

Never forget that God is your Father. He faithfully provides for the birds and He says we are much more valuable than they are. Be like the little birds and trust your Maker, then your life will be as cheerful as theirs.

the inheritance. You will become more and more like Jesus. You will hate sin more; you will love Jesus more; you will become more holy. But, oh! let no one think," said the clergyman, "that being good will ever give you a right to the inheritance. If I were to be ever so well educated, if I were to be taught a hundred times better than the Prince of Wales has been, it would never give me a right to be King of England. No, my friends, the only way into 'Home, sweet Home,' the only way to obtain a right to the inheritance, is by the blood of Jesus. There is no other way, no other right.

"But, after the dear Lord has given us the right to the kingdom, He always prepares us for it. A forgiven soul will always lead a holy life. A soul that has been washed white will always long to keep clear of sin. Is it not so with you? Just think of what Jesus has done for you! He has washed you in His blood; He has taken your sins away at the cost of His life. Will you do the very things that grieve Him? Will you be so ungrateful as to do that? Will you?

"Oh! surely not; surely you will say, in the words of the third verse of our hymn,—

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

And surely you will ask Him very, very earnestly, to give you that Holy Spirit who alone can make you holy. And when the work is done," said the clergyman, "when you are made meet, made fit for the inheritance, the Lord will take you there. He will not keep you waiting. Some are made ready very quickly. Others have to wait long, weary years of discipline. But all the King's sons shall be ready at last, all

shall be taken home, and shall enter upon the inheritance. Will you be there?"

And with that question the clergyman ended his sermon, and the little congregation broke up very quietly, and went home with thoughtful faces.

Christie lingered near the door till the clergyman came out. He asked very kindly of old Treffy, and then he put a few questions to Christie about the sermon; for he had been afraid whilst he had been preaching that he had not made it so clear that a child might understand. But he was cheered to find that the leading truth of the sermon was impressed on little Christie's mind, and that he would be able to carry to old Treffy something, at least, of what he had heard.

For Christie was taught of God, and into hearts prepared by the Holy Spirit the seed is sure to sink. The Lord has prepared them for the word, and prepared the word for them, and the sower has only to put his hand into his basket and scatter the seed prayerfully over the softened soil. It will sink in, spring up, and bring forth fruit.

The clergyman felt the truth of this as he walked home. And he remembered where it was written, "The preparation of the heart is from the Lord." "That is a word for me, as well as for my hearers," he said to himself. "Lord, ever let Thy preparation go before my preaching."

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. God. 2. The lilies. 3. God. 4. To supply all our needs. 5. Six hundred thousand. 6. Enough to eat for a whole month. 7. Quails. 8. A wind blew them in.





Vol. 63, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 August 18, 2013

#### CHAPTER IX TREFFY ENTERS THE CITY

(Continued)

"Christie, boy," said Treffy, that night, when Christie had told him all he could remember of the sermon, and had repeated to him the third verse of the hymn, "Christie, boy, the Lord will have to get me ready very fast, very fast indeed."

"Oh, maybe not, Master Treffy," said Christie, uneasily, "maybe not so fast as you think."

"The month's nearly up, Christie," said old Treffy; "and I think I'm getting very near the city, very near to 'Home, sweet Home.' I can almost see the letters over the gate sometimes, Christie."

But Christie could not answer. His face was buried in his hands, and his head sank lower and lower as he sat beside the fire. And, at length, though he tried to keep it in, there came a great sob, which reached old Treffy's heart. He put his hand lovingly on Christie's head, and for some time neither of them spoke. But when the heart is very sore, silence often does more to comfort than words can do, only it must be silence which comes from a full heart, not from an empty one. Treffy's old heart was very full of loving, yearning pity for poor little Christie.

"Christie, boy," he said, at

length, "you wouldn't keep me outside the gate; would you?"

"No, no, Master Treffy," said Christie, "not for the world I wouldn't; but I do wish I was going in too."

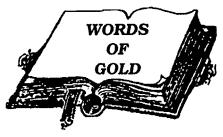
"It seems to me, Christie, boy, the Lord has got some work for thee to do for Him first. I'm a poor, useless old man, Christie, very tottering and feeble, so He's going to take me home; but you have all your life before you, Christie, boy, haven't you?"

"Yes," said Christie, with a sigh, for he was thinking what a long, long time it would be before he was as old as Master Treffy, and before the golden gates would be opened to him.

"Wouldn't you like to do something for Him, Christie, boy," said old Treffy, "just to show you love Him?"

"Ay, Master Treffy, I should," said Christie, in a whisper.

"Christie, boy," said oldTreffy, suddenly raising himself in bed, "I would give all I have; yes, all, Christie, even my old organ, and you know how I've loved her, Christie, butI'd give herup, her and everything else, to have one year of my life back again—one year—to show Him that I love Him. Just to think," he said regretfully, "that He gave His life for me, and died ever such a dreadful death for me, and I've only got a poor little miserable week left to show that I love Him. Oh, Christie, boy! oh, Christie, boy! it seems so ungrateful; I can't bear to think of it."



#### **OUR COMFORTER**

John 14:23-26, 16:7

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.

26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

#### Luke 11:9, 11, 13

9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

13 If ye then, being evil, know how

to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

#### Acts 1:4-5, 8

4 ...wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

The Message: Jesus returned to His Father in Heaven. But now He comes to live right in our heart when we accept Him as our Savior!

#### **Questions:**

- 1. What will we do if we love Jesus?
- 2. Who will then come and abide in us?
- 3. Who is the Comforter?
- 4. What does the Comforter do?
- 5. Why was it expedient (best) for Jesus to go away?
- 6. How willing is God to give us His Holy Spirit?
- 7. Ye shall be baptized with the
- 8. What would they receive after the Holy Ghost came upon them?
- 9. What is the duty of every person who is baptized with the Holy Spirit?

#### Verse to Memorize

"For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."

Acts 1:5



The disciples were shocked when Jesus was arrested and crucified. He had been with them every day for the past few years. But now He was dead! Those three days Jesus lay in the tomb were dark, dismal, hopeless days for the disciples.

Then, bright and early the first day of the week, the women came saying that the tomb was empty—Jesus was not there! The angel at the tomb sent them to tell Peter and the other disciples to go to Galilee where Jesus would meet them. Then Mary Magdalene further surprised them by saying she had not only seen Jesus but He had spoken to her!

For forty days after His resurrection Jesus often talked with His disciples about the kingdom of God. It was hard for them to understand that this kingdom was not an earthly one; Jesus must leave them and return to Heaven. There He would be at God's right hand, making intercession for them. But He promised to send the Holy Spirit to be with them always. He instructed them to wait in Jerusalem until they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Ten days after Jesus ascended to heaven the Jews celebrated the feast of the harvest, called Pentecost. Strangers from all over the world filled Jerusalem. People of many different languages gathered at the temple to thank God for their good harvests.

Instead of going to the temple to observe the feast, Jesus' followers were gathered in an upper room. One hundred and twenty of them watched and prayed while waiting for the promised Comforter to come. Then suddenly they heard a sound like a mighty rushing wind. They saw little tongues of fire on the head of each person. This was the baptism of the Holy Spirit!

At once they began to praise God. They had new boldness and courage and a desire to tell everyone that Jesus really was Christ, the Savior of the world. Every trace of fear was gone; they wanted everyone to know they were Jesus' followers.

The one hundred twenty left the upper room and went into the street below. They had to tell others about their wonderful Savior! Crowds of foreigners stopped to listen. Then they realized each of them was hearing the message in their own language! They marveled, knowing the disciples were men of Galilee who could only speak their native language. This was just the beginning of the many signs and wonders that were done by the power of the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem.

Jesus is just as anxious to give us the Holy Spirit. When we repent and are saved, all our committed sins are washed away by the precious blood of Jesus. They are forgiven and forever forgotten. But there is still a sinful nature within us that we inherited from Adam. It takes the baptism of the Holy Spirit to completely destroy this evil, inherited nature. As our lesson says, God and Jesus come by the Holy Spirit and actually live in our hearts giving us power to deny ourselves and conquer sin.

And, best of all, this gift of the Holy Spirit is for everyone! He will come into the heart of anyone who has been saved from their sins, young or old and all in between. Then we, too, have power over all evil and boldness to witness for Jesus.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

It was Christie's turn now to be the comforter.

"Master Treffy," he said, "just you tell the Lord that; I'm sure He'll understand."

Treffy clasped his hands at once, and said earnestly,—

"Lord Jesus, I do love Thee; I wish I could do something for Thee, but I've only another week to live,—only another week; but, oh! I do thank Thee, I would give anything to have some of my life back again, to show my love to Thee; please understand what I mean. Amen."

Then old Treffy turned over and fell asleep. Christie sat for some time longer by the fire. He had tried to forget the last day or two how short a time he had with his old master, but it had all come back to him now. And his heart felt very sad and desolate. It is a very dreadful thing to lose the only friend you have in the world. And it is a very dreadful thing to see before you a thick, dark cloud, and to feel that it hangs over your pathway, and that you must pass through it. Poor Christie was very full of sorrow, for he "feared as he entered into the cloud." But Treffy's words came back to his mind, and he said, with a full heart.-

"Lord Jesus, do help me to give my life to Thee. Oh! please help me to spare old Treffy. Amen."

Then, rather comforted, he went to bed.

The next morning he looked anxiously at old Treffy. He seemed weaker than usual, and Christie did not like to leave him. But they had very little money left, and Treffy seemed to wish him to go; so Christie went on his rounds with a heavy heart. He determined to go to the suburban road, that he might tell little Mabel and her mother how much worse his dear old master was. It is such a comfort to speak of our sorrow to those who will care to hear.

Thus Christie stopped before the house with the pretty garden in front of it. The snowdrops were over now, but the primroses had taken their place, and the garden looked very gay and cheerful. But Christie had no heart to look at it; he was gazing up anxiously at the nursery window for little Mabel's face. But she was not to be seen, so he turned the handle of his organ and played "Home, sweet Home," her favorite tune, to attract her attention. A minute after he began to play he saw little Mabel coming quickly out of the house and running towards him. She did not smile at him as usual, and she looked as if she had been crying, Christie thought.

"Oh, organ-boy," she said, "don't play today. Mamma is ill in bed, and it makes her head ache."

Christie stopped at once; he was just in the midst of the chorus of "Home, sweet Home," and the organ gave a melancholy wail as he suddenly brought it to a conclusion.

"I am so sorry, missie," he said.
Mabel stood before him in silence
for a minute or two, and Christie
looked down upon her very pitifully
and tenderly.

"Is she very bad, missie?" he said.

"Yes," said little Mabel, "I think she must be, papalooks so grave, and nurse won't let us play; and I heard her tell cook mother would never be any better," she added, with a little sob, which came from the bottom of her tiny heart.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Keep Hiswords. 2. God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. 3. The Holy Ghost (Spirit). 4. He teaches us and brings Jesus' words to our remembrance. 5. So the Comforter would come. 6. More willing than a good parent is to give good gifts to his child. 7. Holy Ghost. 8. Power. 9. To be witnesses for Jesus.





Vol. 63, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 August 25, 2013

#### CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN

(Continued)

"Oh, organ-boy," little Mabel said, "don't playtoday. Mamma is ill in bed, and it makes her head ache."

Christie stopped at once; he was just in the midst of the chorus of "Home, sweet Home," and the organ gave a melancholywail as he suddenly brought it to a conclusion.

"I am so sorry, missie," he said.

Mabel stood before him in silence for a minute or two, and Christie looked down upon her very pitifully and tenderly.

"Is she very bad, missie?" he said.

"Yes," said little Mabel, "I think she must be, papa looks so grave, and nurse won't let us play; and I heard her tell cook mother would never be any better," she added, with a little sob, which came from the bottom of her tiny heart.

"Poor little missie!" said Christie, sorrowfully; "poor little missie, don't fret so; oh, don't fret so!"

And as Christie stood looking down on the little girl a great tear rolled down his cheek and fell on her little arm.

Mabel looked up suddenly.

"Christie," she said, "I think mother must be going to Home, sweet Home,' and I want to go too."

"SodoI," said Christie, with a sigh,

"but the gates won't open to me for a long, long time."

Then the nurse called Mabel in, and Christiewalked sorrowfully away. The world seemed very full of trouble to him. Even the sky was overcast, and a cutting east wind chilled Christie through and through. The springflowerswere nipped by it, and the budding branches were sent backwards and forwards by each fresh gust of the wind, and Christie felt almost glad that it was so cheerless. He was very sad and unhappy, very restless and miserable. He had begun to wonder if God had forgotten him; the world seemed to him so wide and desolate. His old master was dying, his little friend Mabel was in trouble, there seemed to be sorrow everywhere. There seemed to be no comfort for poor Christie.

Wearily and drearily he went homewards, and dragged himself up the steep staircase to the attic. He heard a voice within, a low, gentle voice, the sound of which soothed Christie's ruffled soul. It was the clergyman, and he was reading to old Treffy.

Treffy was sitting up in bed, with a sweet smile on his face, eagerly listening to every word. And, as Christic came in, the clergyman was reading this verse: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not



#### **OUR SHEPHERD**

Psalms 23:1-2; 25:9; 48:14; 73:23-25

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.
- **14** For this God *ts* our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide *even* unto death.
- 23 Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand.
- **24** Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.
- 25 Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.

#### Isaiah 30:21: 42:16: 48:17-18

- 21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying. This is the way, walkye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.
- 16 And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I willmakedarknesslight before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.
- 17 Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

18 O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:

#### Luke 1:76-79

**76** And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

77 To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

78 Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

**79** To give light to them that sit in darkness and *in* the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The Message: We are not capable of making it safely to heaven without God's help!

#### Questions:

- 1. Who did David say was his shepherd?
- 2. In what kind of pastures did he lie down?
- 3. What kind of waters did he lead him by?
- 4. Who will He guide in judgment and teach His way?
- 5. How long will God be our God?
- 6. How long will God be our guide?
- 7. Who promised to lead us in the way that we should go?
- 8. What would have been like a river if they had followed His commandments?

#### Verse to Memorize

"Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies."

Psalms 27:11



David, who wrote several of the verses in our lesson, was a shepherd boy. All day he led his father's sheep over the hillsides finding the greenest pastures for them. He loved every sheep and watched over each one carefully.

One day a hungry lion roared into the flock of sheep and seized a lamb in his giant jaws. David was on the lion in a flash striking it with all his might. The lion dropped the lamb but turned on David snarling fiercely. David grabbed the lion by his beard with one hand while knocking it senseless with the other. Then he attacked the lion with all his might until finally the beast lay at his feet dead. David carefully scooped the lamb up in his strong arms and carried it back to safety where he nursed it back to health.

While he watched the sheep David realized that people are like the simple defenseless sheep. The devil is like a roaringlion looking for anyone he can devour. (I Peter 5:8) We are no more a match for the devil than that little lamb that David rescued was for the lion. We must have a good Shepherd to protect us.

David's sheep would become so intent on looking for the most enticing and tender grass that theywould soon be in great danger without knowing it was near. But David was watching and would quickly herd the wanderer back to safety. This is a good illustration of the way the Lord watches over us. We are not able to see the

dangers all around us. God sees every trap and will keep us out of harm if we keep our eyes on Him and follow Him carefully.

What do you think would happen if a sheep would say, "Now wait a minute. I am tired of this nonsense of getting pulled back everytime I see greener grass! I'm going to get out on my own and find my own pasture.

"Just look at that stretch of green grass over there—I'm sure it will taste much better than this scraggly stuff I'm eating. I can do better than this! I'll just slip off and the shepherd won't know anything about it. I won't be gone very long—I'll just try that pasture out a little bit and then I'll sneak back before it gets too dark. He'll never miss me!"

Of course we know what would happen. Without the shepherd's guidance and protection the wayward sheep would soon be dinner for a lion or whatever hungry beast that lurked out of sight just waiting for the sheep to get off by itself.

Like the sheep we soon wander into trouble and danger without the guidance of our good Shepherd. We fall an easy prey to the snares and traps of the devil because he knows how to entice us. The way he offers looks so much better, like the greener pasture does to the wayward sheep. But the devil doesn't let us see the awful pit of sin we will fall in to or his own savage treatment of those who follow him.

This is why it is important to learn to follow the Lordwhile you are young. As soon as you realize that you have done wrong, this is the time for you to come to Jesus asking forgiveness and accepting Him as your Savior and Shepherd. Then you will have Him to guide and protect you all through your life. He alone can safely lead you to heaven!

—Uncle Dale

your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

"That's a sweet verse for you, Treffy," said the clergyman.

"Ay," said Treffy, brightening, "and for poor Christie too; he's very cast down, is Christie, sir."

"Christie," said the minister, laying his hand on his shoulder, "why is your heart troubled?"

But Christie could not answer. He turned suddenly away from the minister, and, throwing himself on old Treffy's bed, he sobbed bitterly.

The clergyman's heartwas very full of sympathy for poor Christie. He knelt down beside him, and putting his arm round him, with almost a mother's tenderness, he said gently,—

"Christie, shall we go together to the Lord Jesus, and tell him of your sorrow?"

And then, in very plain, simple words, which Christie's heart could understand, the clergyman asked the dear Lord to look on the poor lonely child, to comfort him and to bless him, and to make him feel that he had one Friend who would never go away. And long after the clergyman had gone, when the attic was quite still and Treffy was asleep, Christie heard, as it were, a voice in his heart, saying to him, "Let not your heart be troubled." Then he fell asleep in peace.

He was wakened by his old master's voice: "Christie," said Treffy; "Christie, boy!"

"Yes, Master Treffy," said Christie, jumping up hastily.

"Where's the old organ, Christie?" asked Treffy.

"She's here, Master Treffy," said Christie, "all right and safe."

"Turn her, Christie," said Treffy, "play 'Home, sweet Home."

"It's the middle of the night, Master Treffy," said Christie; "folks will wonder what's the matter."

But Treffy made no answer, and Christie crept to his side with a light,

and looked at his face. It was very altered and strange. Treffy's eyes were shut, and there was that in his face which Christie had never seen there before. He did not know what to do. He walked to the window and looked out. The sky was quite dark, but one bright star was shining through it and looking in at the attic window. "Let not your heart be troubled," it seemed to say to him. And Christie answered aloud, "Lord, dear Lord, help me."

As he turned from the window, Treffy spoke again, and Christie caught the words, "Play, Christie, boy, play."

He hesitated no longer. Taking the organ from its place, he turned the handle, and slowly and sadly the notes of "Home, sweet Home," were sounded forth in the dark attic. The old man opened his eyes as Christie played, and, when the tune was over, he called the boy to him; and, drawing him down very close to him, he whispered,—

"Christie, boy, the gates are opening now. I'm going in. Play again, Christie, boy."

It was hardwork playing the three other tunes, they seemed so out of place in the room of death.

But Treffy did not seem to hear them. He was murmuring softly to himself the words of the prayer, "Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow; whiter than snow, whiter than snow."

And, as Christie was playing "Home, sweet Home," for the second time, old Treffy's weary feet passed within the gates. He was at home at last, in "Home, sweet Home."

And little Christie was left outside.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. The Lord. 2. Green. 3. Still waters. 4. The meek. 5. For ever and ever. 6. Unto death. 7. The Lord. 8. Their peace.





Vol. 63, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 September 1, 2013

#### CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN

(Continued)

## CHAPTER X "NO PLACE LIKE HOME"

The next morning, some of the lodgers in the great room below remembered having heard sounds in the stillness of the night, which had awakened them from their dreams and disturbed their slumbers. Some maintained it was only the wind howling in the chimney, but others felt sure it was music, and said that the old man in the attic must have been amusing himself with the organ at midnight.

"Not he," said the landlady, when she heard of it; "he'll never play it again, he's a dying man, by what the doctor says."

"Just you go and ask him if he wasn't turning his old organ in the middle of last night," said a man from the far corner of the room. "I'll bet you a shilling he was."

The landlady went upstairs to satisfy his curiosity, and rapped at the attic door. No one answered, so she opened it and went in. Christie was fast asleep, stretched upon the bed where his old master's body lay. The tears had dried on his cheeks, and he was resting his head on one of old Treffy's cold, withered hands.

The landlady's face grew grave, and she instinctively shuddered in the presence of death.

Christie woke with a start, and looked up in her face with a bewildered expression. He could not remember at first what had happened. But in a moment it all came back to him, and he turned over and moaned.

The landlady was touched by the boy's sorrow, but she was a rough woman, and knew little of the way of showing sympathy; and Christie was not sorry when she went downstairs and left him to himself. As soon as the house was quiet, he brought a neighbor to attend to old Treffy's body, and then crept out to tell the clergyman.

Mr. Wilton felt very deeply for the desolate child. Once again he committed him to his loving Father, to the Friend who would never leave him nor forsake him. And when Christie was gone he again knelt down, and thanked God with a very full heart for having allowed him to be the poor weak instrument in bringing this soul to Himself. There would be one at least at the beautiful gates of "Home, sweet Home," watching for his homegoing steps. Old Treffy would be waiting for him there. Oh, how good God had been to him! It was with a thankful heart that he sat down to prepare his sermon for the next day, on the last



#### GOD PREPARES US

#### Hebrews 11:7

7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

#### Genesis 6:13, 17; 7:1, 4-5, 7, 12, 21

- 13 And God said unto Noah. The end of all flesh is come before me: for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.
- 17 And, behold, I...bring aflood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh...and every thing that is in the earth shall die.
- 7:1 And the LORD said unto Noah. Come...into the ark:...
- 4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights...
- 5 And Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him.
- 7 And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.
- 12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.
- 21 And all flesh died that moved upon the earth,...

#### I Kings 19:5-8

And as he (Elijah) lay and slept

under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat.

And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again.

And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee.

And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.

The Message: God often prepares us by warning us of impending danger.

#### Questions:

- 1. Who did God warn?
- 2. Why did God purpose to destroy every living thing upon the earth?
- 3. What would He bring upon the earth to destroy every living thing?
- 4. Howlongbeforetheflood didNoah and the others go into the ark?
- 5. How long did it rain?
- 6. What happened to every living thing outside the ark?
- 7. Who touched Elijah while he slept?
- 8. How many times did he tell him to get up and eat?
- 9. Howlongdid he go on the strength of that food?

#### Verse to Memorize

"...the Spirit of truth...will guide you into all truth:... and he will show you things to come.'

John 16:13



There was so much violence and wickedness that finally God decided the only way to get rid of sin in the world was to destroy it and start all over. Then God remembered Noah. Even with all the evil around him Noah did his best to please and obey God. He taught his sons to do right also. This pleased God.

Sometimes God talked to Noah. One day He told him about His plan to destroy the world. He promised Noah and his family that they would not be destroyed and told them how to escape the coming disaster.

"Build an ark," God told Noah.
"When it is finished you and your family may go into the ark and live there safely until the flood is over."

It took Noah a long time to build the ark just as God instructed him. It had to be big enough so a pair of each kind of living thing could live in it during the flood! This huge boat was three stories high and must have looked ridiculous sitting on dry ground with no water for it to float in.

While Noah worked he did his best to warn others that there would soon be a great flood. He wanted others to be saved too. No one believed him; no one changed from their wicked ways.

When everything was ready God told Noah that it was time for him and his family to get into the ark. The animals God purposed to save went into the ark. Then God shut the door.

After a few days the rain began to fall. It poured down until soon the rivers were overflowing their banks.

People ran to higher ground hoping to be saved but the water continued to rise until all the earth was covered by water! Now the people knew why Noah had warned them; but it was too late!

Another person God was watching over was Elijah. He was running for his life. The wicked queen, Jezebel, had threatened to kill him because he had killed the prophets of Baal. Exhausted, he stopped to rest under a juniper tree. He was so discouraged he threw himself on the ground and begged to die. Soon he was fast asleep.

Suddenly he felt someone touch him. When he opened his eyes he saw an angel standing over him who said, "Get up and eat." Elijah ate but he was so tired he lay down and went to sleep again.

The angel woke him up again. This time he warned him, "Get up and eat; you have a long way to go!"

Elijah obeyed. This gave him strength for what he faced. The strength from that food lasted him forty days and nights!

I have heard the statement, "Every anxiety is a call to prayer." This is a wise motto to follow. When something troubles you it is always safe to pray. Whether it is actually impending danger or just the enemy trying to depress you, prayer is the solution.

The Lord is a good shepherd. He knows beforehand what we will meet. He knows just how to prepare us and take us through safely and victoriously.

We might not always know or find out why we were burdened to pray. Many times when we were saved from a serious accident it was no doubt because someone was praying. And how many times the Lord protects us from dangers we never see! How wonderful it is to serve God. He is "a verypresent help in trouble"! (Psalms 46:1)

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

verse of the hymn. And what he had just heard of old Treffy helped him much in the realization of the bright city of which he was to speak.

Mr. Wilton looked anxiously for Christie, when he entered the crowded mission-room on Sunday evening. Yes, Christie was there, sitting as usual on the front bench, with a very pale and sorrowful face, and with heavy downcast eves. And when the hymn was being sung, the clergyman noticed that the tears were running down the boy's cheeks, though he rubbed them away with his sleeve as fast as they came. But Christie looked up almost with a smile when the clergyman gave out his text. It was from Revelation 7:14-15: "... These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God...."

"Tonight," said the clergyman, "I am to speak of 'Home, sweet Home,' and of those that dwell there, the great multitude of the redeemed. It is a very holy place, there is no speck on the golden pavement, no evil to be found within the city. The tempter can never enter there, sin is unknown; all is very, very holy. And on the white robes of those who dwell there is no stain; pure and clean and spotless, bright and fair as light, are those robes of theirs. Nothing to soil them, nothing to spoil their beauty, they are made white for ever in the blood of the Lamb: therefore are they before the throne of God.

"Oh!" said the clergyman, "never forget that this is the only way to stand before that throne. Being good will never take you there, not being as bad as others will avail you nothing; if you are ever to enter heaven, you

must be washed white in the blood of the Lamb.

"St. John was allowed to look into heaven, and he saw a great company of these redeemed ones, and theywere singing a new song, to the praise of Him who had redeemed them. And sinceSt. John's time." said the clergyman, "oh! how many have joined their number. Every day, every hour, almost every moment, some soul stands before the city gates. And to every soul washed in the blood of Jesus those gates of pearl are thrown open; they are all dressed one by one in a robe of white, and as they walk through the golden streets, and stand before the throne of glory, they join in that song which never grows old:—'Amen. Blessing and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power. and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

"And, my friends," said the clergyman, "as the holy God looks on these souls He sees in them no trace of sin, the blood has taken it all away; even in His sight they are all fair, there is no spot in them. They are faultless and stainless, perfectly pure and holy.

"Oh! my friends, will you ever join their number? This is a dark, dismal, dying world; will you be content to have your all here? Will you be content never to enter 'Home, sweet Home'? Oh! will you delay coming to the fountain, and then wake up, and find you are shut out of the city bright, and that for ever?

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Noah. 2. The earth was filled with violence. 3. A flood. 4. Seven days. 5. Forty days and forty nights. 6. They died. 7. An angel. 8. Two times. 9. Forty days and nights.





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(Continued)

"One old man," said the clergyman, "to whom I was talking last week is now spending his first Sunday in that city bright."

A stillness passed over the room when the clergyman said this, and Christie whispered to himself, "He means Master Treffy, I know he does."

"He was a poor sin-stained old man," the clergyman went on, "but he took Jesus at His word, he came to the blood of Christ to be washed, and even here he was made whiter than snow. And two nights ago the dear Lord sent for the old man, and took him home. There was no sin-mark found on his soul, so the gates were opened to him; and now in the snowy dress of Christ's redeemed he stands, faultless and stainless, faultless and stainless, safe in that happy home.'

"If I were to hear next Sunday," said the clergyman, "that any one of you was dead, could I say the same of you? Whilst we are meeting here, would you be in 'Home, sweet Home'? Are you indeed washed in the precious blood of Christ? Have you indeed been forgiven? Have you indeed come to Jesus?

"Oh! do answer this question in your own heart," said Mr. Wilton, in a very earnest voice, "I do want to

meet every one of you in 'Home, sweet Home.' I think that when God takes me there I shall be looking out for all of you, and oh! how I trust we shall all meet there,—all meet at home!

"I cannot say more tonight," said the minister, "but my heart is very full. God grant that each of you may now be washed in the blood of Jesus, and even in this life be made whiter than snow, and then say with a grateful heart, 'Lord, I will work for Thee, love Thee, serve Thee, all I can:'—

"Till in the snowy dress Of Thy redeemed I stand, Faultless and stainless, Faultless and stainless, Safe in the happy land."

And then the service was over, and the congregation went away. But Christie never moved from the bench on which he was sitting. His face was buried in his hands, and he never looked up, even when the clergyman laid his hand kindly on his shoulder.

"Oh!" he sobbed at last, "I want to go home; my mother's gone, and old Treffy's gone, and I want to go too."

The clergyman took Christie's little brown hand in both of his, and said, "Christie, poor little Christie, the Lord does not like to keep you outside the gate; but He has work for you to do a little longer, and then the gates will be opened, and home will be all the sweeter after the dark time down here." And with other gentle and



# SUFFERING FOR THE GOSPEL

Acts 4:3, 5-8, 10, 13, 15-16, 22, 18-19, 21

- 3 And they laid hands on them, and put *them* in hold (prison) unto the next day: for it was now eventide.
- 5 And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes.
- **6** ...and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.
- **7** And when they had set them in the midst, they asked. By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?
- 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,
- 10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom yecrucified, whom God raised from the dead, *even* by him doth this man stand here before you whole.
- 13 Nowwhen they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.
- 15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,
- **16** Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable

miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.

- **22** For the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was showed.
- 18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.
- 19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.
- 21 Sowhentheyhad further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all men glorified God for that which was done.

The Message: God has often allowed His servants to suffer imprisonment.

## **Questions:**

- 1. Where did Peter and John spend the night after healing the lame man?
- 2. What did the rulers ask?
- 3. Who filled Peter and gave him boldness to answer?
- 4. By whose name was the lame man healed?
- 5. What did the rulers notice about Peter and John?
- 6. Who were ignorant and unlearned men?
- 7. How old was the lame man that was healed?
- 8. What did the rulers command Peter and John?

## Verse to Memorize

"And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name." Acts 5:41



The priests and rulers were furious when they heard Peter and John preaching that Jesus had been resurrected from the dead. They arrested them and took them to prison where they spent the night. The next morning they stood before the same priests and rulers who had tried Jesus. Their crime, like that of Jesus, was obeying God.

John Bunyan spent twelve years in prison in England. Though he, like Peter and John, was 'ignorant and unlearned' he used his time in prison to write his famous book "Pilgrim's Progress".

Madame Guyon, one of the greatest Christian leaders of all time, lived in the 1600's. She was often persecuted for teaching that everyone should live holy and that each should know God personally. When she died she left behind about sixty volumes of her writings. Her most helpful books and sweetest poems were written in prison.

Corrie ten Boom and Betsie, her sister, were arrested for helping Jews escape death. When they arrived at the Barracks to which they had been assigned it was in the wee hours of morning. Each day things grew harder. There was too much misery, too much suffering.

But as the rest of the world grew stranger, one thing became increasingly clear. And that was the reason why they were there. They did not know why others had to suffer such misery. As for them, from morning until light-out, whenever theywere not in ranks for roll call, their Bible was the center of an ever-widening circle ofhelp and hope. Like waifs clustered around a blazing fire, they gathered about it, holding out their hearts to its warmth and light. The blacker the night around them grew the brighter and truer and more beautiful burned the word of God.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." (Romans 8:35, 37).

Corrie looked around as Betsie read. She saw the light leap from face to face. More than conquerors—it was not a wish: it was a fact! They were experiencing it minute by minute. Although they were poor, hated, hungry. vet they were more than conquerors. The observable, external prison life grew more horrible every day. The other, the life they lived with God grew daily better and brighter. Corrie let God make these experiences a blessing to her own life. Years later many people were blessed as she related how God had helped them even though their enemies intended to destroy them.

We often do not understand at the time why such trouble attacks us right when we are trying to work for God. The Holy Spirit inspired Paul to write, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28) We can trust Him towork it out for His glory and our good!

loving words he comforted the child, and then once more he prayed with him, and Christie went away with a lighter heart. But he could not help thinking of the last Sunday evening, when he had hastened home to tell Treffy about the third verse of the hymn.

There was no one tonight to whom Christie could tell what he had heard. He waited a minute outside the attic door, as if he was almost afraid to go in, but it was only for a minute, and when he walked in all fear passed away.

The sun was setting, and some rays of glory were falling on old Treffy's face as he lay on the bed. They seemed to Christie as if they came straight from the golden city, there was something so bright and so unearthly about them. And Christie fancied that Treffy smiled as he lay on the bed. It might be fancy, but he liked to think it was so.

And then he went to the attic window and looked out. He almost saw the golden city, far away amongst those wondrous, bright clouds. It was a strange, glad thought, to think that Treffy was there. What a change for him from the dark attic! Oh, how bright heaven would seem to his old master!

Christie would have given any thing just to see for one minute what Treffy was doing. "I wonder if he will tell Jesus about me, and how I want to come home," said Christie to himself.

And as the sunset faded away and the light grew less and less, Christie knelt down in the twilight, and said from the bottom of his heart,—

"O Lord, please make me patient, and please some day take me to live with Thee and old Treffy, in 'Home, sweet Home."

# CHAPTER XI ALONE IN THE WORLD.

Little Christie was the only mourner who followed old Treffy to the grave. It was a poor parish funeral. Treffy's body was put into a parish coffin, and carried to the grave in a parish hearse. But, oh! it did not matter, for Treffy was at home in "Home, sweet Home;" all his sorrows and troubles were over, his poverty was at an end, and in "the Father's house" he was being well cared for.

But the man who drove the hearse was not inclined to lose time upon the road, and Christie had to walk very quickly, and sometimes almost to run, to keep up with him; and on their way they passed another and a very different funeral. It was going very slowly indeed. There was a large hearse in front, and six funeral carriages filled with people followed. And as Christie passed close by them in the middle of the road he could see that the mourners within looked very sorrowful, and as if they had been crying very much. But in one carriage he saw something which he never forgot. With her head resting on her papa's shoulder, and her little white sorrowful face pressed close to the window, was his little friend Mabel.

"So her mother is dead!" said Christie to himself, "and this is her funeral! Oh, dear! what a very sad world this is!"

He was not sure whether Mabel had seen him, but the little girl's sorrowhad sunk very deep into Christie's soul, and it was with a heavier heart than before that he hastened forward to overtake the hearse which was carrying his old master's body to the grave.

## (To be continued)

Answers: 1. In prison. 2. "By what power have you done this?"
3. The Holy Ghost. 4. Jesus Christ. 5. Their boldness. 6. Peter and John. 7. More than forty years old. 8. Not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.





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So the two funeral processionsthat of the poor old man, and that of the fair young mother—passed on to the cemetery, and over both bodies were pronounced the words, "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust." But all this time their happy souls were in "Home, sweet Home," far, far away from the scene of sorrow. For a few days before, just at the same hour, two souls had left this world of woe, and had met together before the gates of pearl. And as they were both clean and white, both washed in the blood of the Lamb, the gates had been opened wide, and old Treffy and little Mabel's mother had entered the city together. And now they had both seen Jesus, the dear Lord whom they loved well, and in His presence they were even now enjoying fulness of joy.

Christie was obliged to give up the little attic after Treffy's death, for the landlady wished to let it for a higher rent. However, she gave the boy leave to sleep in the great lodging-room below, whilst she took possession of all old Treffy's small stock of furniture, in payment for the rent which he owed her.

But the organ was Christie's prop-

erty; his old master had given it to him most solemnly about a week before he died. He had called Christie to his side, and told him to bring the organ with him. Then he had committed it to Christie's care.

"You'll take care of her, Christie," he had said, "and you'll never part with her, for my sake. And when you play 'Home, sweet Home,' Christie, boy, you must think of me and your mother, and how we've both got there."

It was hard work for Christie, the first day that he took out his organ after old Treffy's funeral; he did not so much mind playing "Rule Britannia," or the "Old Hundredth." or "Poor Mary Ann." but when he came for the first time to "Home, sweet Home," such a rush of feeling came over him that he stopped short in the middle and moved onwithoutfinishingit. The passers-by were surprised at the sudden pause in the tune, and still more so at the tears which were running down Christie's cheeks. They little thought that the last time he had played that tune had been in the room of death, and that whilst he was playing it his dearest friend on earth had passed away into the true "Home, sweet Home." But Christie knew, and the notes of the tune brought back the recollection of that midnight hour. And he could not



# THE BLIND SEE

## Numbers 22:23-28: 31

23 And the ass saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way,...

24 But the angel of the LORD stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall being on this side, and a wall on that side.

25 And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she thrust herselfunto the wall, and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall:...
26 And the angel of the LORD went further, and stood in a nar-

row place,...

27 And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff.

28 And the LORD opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times?

31 Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face.

## John 9:1, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11

1 And as *Jesus* passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

6 ...he spat on the ground, and

made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

8 Theneighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

10 Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.

The Message: God can make the seeing eyes blind and He can make the blind eyes see!

# Questions:

- 1. What did the ass see?
- 2. What was in his hand?
- 3. How was Balaam's foot crushed?
- 4. What did the ass do when she saw the angel standing in a narrow place?
- 5. How did Balaam finally see the angel?
- 6. How long had the man been blind?
- 7. What did Jesus put on his eyes?
- 8. Where did He send him?
- 9. What happened after he had washed?

### **Verse to Memorize**

"...with God all things are possible." Mark 10:27



Just ahead was the Yugoslav border. For the first time in his life Bro. Andrew was about to enter a Communist country on his own. He stopped the little VW on the outskirts of a tiny Austrian village and thought about his predicament.

The Yugoslav government in 1957 permitted visitors to bring in only articles for their personal use. Printed material especially was liable to be confiscated at the border as it was regarded as foreign propaganda. Now here he was with car and luggage literally bulging with tracts, Bibles and portions of Bibles. How was he to get them past the border guard? And so, for the first of many times, he said the Prayer of God's Smuggler:

"Lord, in my luggage I have Scripture that I want to take to Your children across this border. When You were on earth, You made blind eyes see. Now, I pray, make seeing eyes blind. Do not let the guards see those things You do not want them to see."

And so, armed with this prayer, he started the motor and drove up to the barrier. The two guards appeared both startled and pleased to see him. From the way they stared at his passport, it might have been the first Dutch one they had ever seen. There were just a few formalities to attend to, they assured him in German, and he could be on his way.

One of the guards began poking around in his camping gear. In the corners and folds of his sleeping bag and tent were boxes of tracts. He again breathed the prayer, "Lord, make those seeing eyes blind!"

"Do you have anything to declare?"

"Well, I have my money and a wristwatch and a camera..."

The other guard was looking inside the VW. He asked Andrew to take out a suitcase. He knew that there were tracts scattered through his clothing.

"Of course, sir," he said, pulling the front seat forward and dragging the suitcase out. He placed it on the ground and opened the lid. The guard lifted the shirts that lay on top. Beneath them, and now in plain sight, was a pile of tracts in two different Yugoslavian languages. How was God going to handle this situation?

"It seems dry for this time of year," Andrew said to the other guard and without looking at the fellow who was inspecting the suitcase, he fell into a conversation about the weather. He told him about his own homeland. Finally, when he could stand the suspense no longer, he looked behind him. The first guard wasn't even glancing at the suitcase. He was listening to the conversation. When Andrew turned around he caught himself and looked up.

"Well then, do you have anything else to declare?"

"Only 'small' things," he said. The tracts were small after all.

"We won't bother with them," said the guard. He nodded to him that he could close the suitcase, and with a little salute handed him back his passport.

-Taken from God's Smuggler by Brother Andrew

God healed the blind man in our lesson. At other times He kept men from seeing what was right before their eyes. An angel stood to block his way but Balaam could not see him.

We growstrong in faith by trusting God to work out every little problem for us. Then when we face a true crisis we know that He can and will work it out just right.

make up his mind to go on playing till he had looked up into the blue sky and asked for help to rejoice in old Treffy's joy. And then the chorus came very sweetly to him, "Home, sweet home; there's no place like home; there's no place like home." "And old Treffy's there at last," said Christie to himself as he finished playing.

One day, about a week after Treffy's funeral, Christie went up the suburban road, in the hopes of seeing poor little Miss Mabel once more. He had never forgotten her sorrowful little face at the window of the funeral coach. And when we are in sorrow ourselves, it does us good to see and sympathize with those who are in sorrow also. Christie felt it would be a great comfort to him to see the little girl. He wanted to hear all about her mother, and when it was that she had gone to "Home, sweet Home."

But when Christie reached the house he stood still in astonishment. The pretty garden was there just as usual, a bed of heartseases was blooming in the sunshine, and the stocks and forget-me-nots were in full flower. But the house looked very deserted and strange; the shutters of the lower rooms were up, and the bedrooms had no blinds in the windows and looked empty and forlorn. And in the nursery window, instead of little Mabel and Charlie's merry faces, there was a cross-looking old woman with her head bent down over her knitting.

What could be the matter? Where were the children gone? Surely no one else was lying dead in the house. Christie felt that he could not go home without finding out; he must ask the oldwoman. So he stood at the gardengate, and turned the handle of the organ, hoping that she would look out and speak to him. But, beyond a passing glance, she gave no sign

that she even heard it, but went on diligently with her work.

At length Christie could wait no longer; so stopping suddenly in the middle of "Poor Mary Ann," he walked up the gravel path and rang the bell. Then the old woman put her head out of the window and asked what he wanted. Christie did not quite know what to say, so he came out at once with the great fear which was haunting him.

"Please, ma'am, is any one dead?" he asked.

"Dead? No!" said the old woman, quickly. "What do you want to know for?"

"Please, could I speak to little Miss Mabel?" asked Christie, timidly.

"No, bless you," said the old woman, "not unless you'd like a walk across the sea; she's in France by now."

"In France!" repeated Christie, with a bewildered air.

"Yes," saidthe oldwoman, "they've all gone abroad for the summer;" and then she shut the window in a decided manner, as much as to say, "And that's all I shall tell you about it."

Christie stood for a few minutes in the pretty garden before he moved away. He was very disappointed; he had so hoped to have seen his little friends, andnow they were gone. They were far away in France. That was a long way off, Christie felt sure, and perhaps he would never see them again.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. An angel. 2. A sword. 3. The ass threw herself against the wall. 4. She fell down under Balaam. 5. The Lord opened his eyes. 6. Since his birth. 7. Clay made with spittle. 8. To the pool of Siloam. 9. He received his sight.



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(Continued)

Christie walked slowly down the dusty road. He felt very lonely this afternoon, very lonely and forsaken. His mother was gone; old Treffy was gone! the lady was gone! and now the children were gone also! He had no one to cheer him or to comfort him; so he dragged the old organ wearily down the hot streets. He had not heart enough to play, he was very tired and worn out; yet he knew not where to go to rest. He had not even the old attic to call his home. But the pavement was so hot to his feet, and the sun was so scorching, that Christie determined to return to the dismal court, and to try to find a quiet corner in the great lodging-room.

But when he opened the door he was greeted by a cloud of dust; and the landlady called out to him to take himself off, she could not do with him loitering about at that time of day. So Christie turned out again, very heart-sore and disconsolate; and, goinginto a quiet street, he sheltered for some time from the hot sun under a high wall which made a little shadow across the pavement.

Christie was almost too hot and tired even to be unhappy, and yet every now and then he shivered, and

crept into the sunshine to be warmed again. He had a strange, sharp pain in his head, which made him feel very bewildered and uncomfortable. He did not know what was the matter with him, and sometimes he got up and tried to play for a little time, but he was so sick and dizzy that he was obliged to give it up, and to lie quite still under the wall, with the organ beside him, till the sun began to set. Thenhedraggedhimself and his organ back to the large lodging-room. The landlady had finished her cleaning, and was preparing the supper for her lodgers. She threw Christie a crust of bread as he came in, but he was not able to eat it. He crawled to a bench in the far corner of the room, and putting his old organ against the wall beside him, he fell asleep.

When he awoke, the room was full of men; they were eating their supper, and talking and laughing noisily. They took little notice of Christie, as he lay very still in the corner of the room. He could not sleep again, for the noise in the place was so great, and now and again he shuddered at the wicked words and coarse jests which fell on his ear almost every minute.

Christie's head was aching terribly, and he felt very, very ill; he had never been so ill in his life before. What would he not have given for a quiet



# ALL BECAUSE ACHAN STOLE

Joshua 7:10-12, 19-26

**10** And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up;...

11 Israel hath sinned,...and have also stolen,...

12 Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies,...

19 And Joshua said unto Achan, My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession unto him; and tell me now what thou hast done; hide it not from me.

20 And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done:

21 When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.

22 So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran unto the tent; and, behold, it was hid in his tent, and the silver under it.

23 And they took them out of the midst of the tent, and brought them unto Joshua, and unto all the children of Israel, and laid them out before the LORD.

24 And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor.

25 And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones.

**26** And they raised over him a great heap of stones unto this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of his anger....

The Message: Because of one man's sin the entire camp of Israel was in trouble.

# Questions:

- 1. What did the Lord tell Joshua to do?
- 2. Who did the Lord say had sinned?
- 3. Because of this the children of Israel could not stand before their
- 4. Who told Achan to confess?
- 5. What three things did Achan steal?
- 6. Where did he hide these things?
- 7. What was Achan's punishment?
- 8. Who turned from the fierceness of His anger?

### Verse to Memorize

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."



God had worked great miracles for the children of Israel. When they came to the flooded waters of the Jordan River He stopped the river's flow so the people could pass over on dry land. Then God caused the walls of the great city, Jericho, to fall flat so they easily entered and conquered it.

After this victory at Jericho the Israelites felt they could conquer any enemy they met. They were anxious to move further into the land of Canaan that had been promised to them for an inheritance.

So Joshua sent spies to spy out the next city in their path. When they returned they told Joshua, "The whole army does not need to fight against this city, it is a small one. We will only need two or three thousand to go to take Ai."

Joshua did not ask for God's guidance. After conquering the great city, Jericho, Ai would be no problem to capture. So Joshua sent three thousand soldiers to Ai. But this time they did not win a great victory; instead they turned and ran with the men of Ai right behind them! Thirty-six Israelite soldiers were killed.

The Israelites were discouraged by this defeat. Joshua was so troubled he tore his clothes and fell on his face before the ark. He asked God, "O Lord God, why did this happen? Why did our men turn their backs on their enemies? What will people say about our God when they know we have been defeated?"

"It is because Israel has sinned,"
God answered. "They have disobeyed
my commandment to take nothing

from Jericho. I cannot fight for the Israelites when there is sin in the camp."

The next day Joshua discovered that it was Achan who was guilty of disobeying God's commandment. "My son, confess your wrong to the Lord and tell me what you have done. Do not hide it from me," Joshua told him

"Yes, I have sinned against the Lord," Achan confessed. "Isawa beautiful robe and much silver and gold in one of the houses of Jericho. I wanted them so much that I took them. They are buried under my tent."

Joshua sent men to look for the buried treasure in Achan's tent. They found them and brought them back to Joshua. Then Joshua commanded that Achan and all that belonged to him be brought to the valley outside the camp. There they stoned Achan and burned all his belongings and afterwards covered the ashes with a pile of stones. This was to remind the Israelites how God punished the man who disobeyed Him.

After this was done the Lord told Joshua to go fight against Ai again. He promised to give the city and everything in it to the Israelites. This time Joshua took thirty thousand brave men to fight the enemy. The Lord delivered the city into their hand and gave them a great victory that day because they obeyed Him.

Our actions affect many others. At one time God withheld money for food for the other children in an orphanage because one little girl had stolen candy; she and others had eaten it. God loved them too much to let them get by with this sin. The children must know that their sin had separated them from His presence and approval. Yet God was anxious to forgive them; as soon as they confessed God answered their prayers and brought the blessing they needed and had been praying for.

little corner, in which he might have lain, out of the reach of the oaths and wickedness of the men in the great lodging-room! And then his thoughts wandered to old Treffyin "Home, sweet Home." What a different place his dear old master was in!

"There's no place like home, no place like home," said Christie to himself. "Oh, what a long way I am from 'Home, sweet Home!"

# CHAPTER XII CHRISTIE WELL CARED FOR

"What's the matter with that little lad?" said one of the men to the landlady, as she was preparing their breakfast the next morning. "He's got a fever, or something of the sort. He's been talking about one thing or another all night. I've had toothache, and scarcely closed my eyes, and he's never ceased chatting the night through."

"What did he talk about?" asked another man.

"Oh! all sorts of rubbish," said the man with the toothache, "bright cities, and funerals, and snowdrops; and once he got up, and began to sing; I wonder you didn't hear him."

"It would have taken a great deal to make me hear him," said the other, "tired out as I was last night; what did he sing, though?"

"Oh! one of the tunes on his old organ. I expect he gets them in his head so that he can't get them out. I think it was 'Home, sweet Home,' he was trying at last night;" and the man went to his work.

"Well, Mrs. White," said another man, "if the boy's in a fever, the sooner you get him out of this the better; we don't want all of us to take it."

When the men were gone, the landlady went up to Christie to see if he were really ill. She tried to wake

him, but he looked wildly in her face, and did not seem to know her. So she lifted him by main force into a little dark room under the stairs, which was filled with boxes and rubbish. She was not an unkind woman; she would not turn the poor child into the street in his present condition; so she made him up a little bed on the floor, and giving him a drink of water, she left him, to continue her work. That evening she fetched the parish doctor to see him, and he told her that Christie was in a fever.

For many days little Christie hung between life and death. He was quite unconscious of all that went on; he never heard the landlady come into the room; he never sawher go out. She was the only person who came near him, and she could give him very little attention, for she had so much to do. But she used to wonder why Christie talkedso often of "Home, sweet Home;" through all his wanderings of mind this one idea seemed to run. Even in his delirium, little Christie was longing for "the city bright."

But, after a time, Christie began to recover; he regained his consciousness, and slowly, very slowly, the fever left him. But he was so weak that he could not even turn in bed; and he could scarcely speak above a whisper. Oh, how long and dreary the days were to him! Mrs. White had begun to grow tired of waiting on him, and so Christie was for many a long hour without seeing any one to whom he could speak.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Get up. 2. Israel. 3. Enemies. 4. Joshua. 5. A Babylonish garment, two hundred shekels of silver and a wedge of gold. 6. In his tent. 7. He was stoned. 8. The Lord.





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(Continued)

It was a very dark little chamber, only lighted from the passage, and Christie could not even see a bit of blue sky. He felt very much alone in the world. All day long there was no sound but the distant shouts of the children in the court, and in the evening he could hear the noise of the men in the great lodging-room. Often he was awake the greater part of the night, and lay listening to the ticking of the clock on the stairs, and counting the strokes hour after hour. And then he would watch the faint gray light creeping into the dark room, and listen to the footsteps of the men going out to their daily work.

No one came to see Christie. He wondered that Mr. Wilton did not ask after him, when he missed him from the mission-room. Oh, how glad Christie would have been to see him! But the days passed slowly by, and he never came, and Christie wondered more and more. Once he asked Mrs. White to fetch him to see him, but she said she could not trouble to go so far.

If little Christie had not had a friend in Jesus, his little heart would almost have broken, in the loneliness and desolation of those days of weakness. But though his faith was | you were never coming, and I felt such

sometimes feeble, and he was then very downcast in spirit, yet at other times little Christie would talk with Jesus, as with a dear friend, and in this way he was comforted. And the words which the clergyman had read to his old master were ever ringing in his ears, "Let not your heart be troubled."

Still, those weeks did seem very long and tedious. At last, he was able to sit up in bed, but he felt faint and dizzy whenever he moved. For he had had a very severe attack of fever, and he needed all manner of nourishing things to bring back his strength. But there was no one to attend to the wants of the poor motherless boy. No one, except the dear Lord; He had not forgotten him.

It was a close, tiring afternoon. Christie was lying upon his bed, panting with the heat, and longing for a breath of air. He was faint and weary, and felt very cast down and dispirited, "Please, dear Lord," he said aloud, "send some one to see me."

And even as he spoke the door opened, and the clergyman came in. It was too much for little Christie! He held out his arms to him in joy, and then burst into tears.

"Why, Christie," said the clergyman, "are you not glad to see me?"

"Oh," said little Christie, "I thought



## PROVING THE WILL OF GOD

## Judges 6:36-40

**36** And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said,

**37** Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said.

**38** And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water.

39 And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dryonly upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew.

**40** And God did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.

# II Kings 20:8-11

8 And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the LORD the third day?

**9** And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go

forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees?

10 And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

11 And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.

### Luke 2:11-12

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

**12** And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

The Message: Godwants us to know what His will is so we can follow Him confidently.

## Questions:

- 1. What had God told Gideon He would do?
- 2. What was Gideon going to put in the floor?
- 3. What sign did he ask of God?
- 4. How much water did he get out of the fleece?
- 5. What was the second sign he asked?
- 6. Why did Hezekiah want a sign?
- 7. What sign did he ask for?
- 8. Who did the angels say was born that day?
- 9. What sign did the angels give the shepherds?

### **Verse to Memorize**

"Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." Ephesians 5:17



The scriptures in our lesson tell about two men who asked for signs to assure them that what God told them would actually happen. Gideon knew he and all the armies of Israel were not strong enough to defeat the Midianites. He asked for two signs to be very sure God was really with him. Hezekiah, too, asked for a sign to confirm the good news that he would not die but live fifteen more years.

While Gideon threshed wheat an angel came and sat down under a nearby oak tree. Gideon was surprised when he looked up and saw the strange visitor!

The angel told Gideon that the Lord would use him to save Israel from their enemies, the Midianites. So Gideon sent messengers to call all the soldiers of Israel together. As they gathered Gideon felt he must know for sure that the Lord would help them drive the Midianites out of their land. That evening he put a piece of wool on the floor.

Gideon prayed to God, "If you will help me save Israel, let there be dew on this piece of wool and let the ground all around it be dry."

When morning came, the ground was dry all around, but the fleece was so full of dew Gideon was able to squeeze a whole bowl full of water out of it!

Gideon still could not believe that God could use him to overcome such a mighty enemy. He prayed again, "Do not be angry, O God, but let me prove your words by one more sign. This time let the fleece be dry and the ground all around it be wet."

God was merciful and again granted Gideon his request. The next morning Gideon found the fleece dry but the ground around it was wet. Now Gideon felt confident that God would give him victory over this great enemy.

While King Hezekiah was very sick Isaiah, the prophet came to tell him, "The Lord wants you to get your business taken care of because you are going to die!"

Hezekiah felt that his people still needed him. He had been a good king and had turned the people of Israel back from idolatry to serve the true God. When he heard Isaiah's words Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall and prayed, "O Lord, I have followed you with all my heart. I have always tried to do what was right and to please you." Just the thought of leaving his people made Hezekiah cry sorrowfully.

God was touched by Hezekiah's prayer. Before Isaiah could get far away God told him to go back and tell the king that he would add fifteen years to his life. In three days he would be strong enough to go to the temple to worship!

Hezekiah was very happy at such good news; but it seemed too good to be true. He wanted to see some sign that he was really going to get well. So Isaiah asked if he wanted the shadow on the sundial to go backward or forward ten degrees as this sign. Hezekiah chose to have it go backward and God granted his request. Now he knew he would live!

The angels appeared to proclaim the birth of Jesus, the Savior of the world. Many devout people were expecting the Savior. God graciously gave them a sign so they would know that Jesus really was the Christ, the promised Savior.

a long way from home! Oh, I am so glad to see you."

Then Mr. Wilton told Christie that he had been awayfromhome, and that another clergyman had been taking his duty. But the night before he had preached for the first time since his return in the little mission-room, and he had missed Christie from the front bench. He had asked the woman who cleaned the room about him, and she had told him that Christie had never been there since he went away. The clergyman had wondered what was the matter, and had come as soon as he could to hear.

"And now, Christie," he said, "tell me all about these long, weary weeks."

But Christie was so glad and so happy now, that the past seemed like a long, troubled dream. He had waked up now, and had forgotten his sorrow and his loneliness.

The clergyman and Christie had much pleasant talk together, and then Mr. Wilton said.—

"Christie, I have had a letter about vou. which I will read to vou."

The letter was from little Mabel's papa, who was a friend of the clergyman.

"My dear Mr. Wilton.—There is a poor boy of the name of Christie (what his surname is I do not know) living in a lodging-house in Ivy Court, Percy Street. He lived formerly with an old organ-grinder, but I believe the old man was thought to be dying some weeks ago. My dear wife took a great fancy to the boy, and my little Mabel frequently talks of him. I imagine he must be left in a very destitute condition; and I should be much obliged if you could find him out and provide for him some comfortable home with any respectable person who will act as a mother to him.

"I enclose a check which will pay his expenses for the present. I should like him to go to school for a year or two and then I intend, if the boy desires to serve Christ, to bring him up to work as a Scripture-reader amongst the lowest class of the people in your neighborhood.

"I think I could not perpetuate my dear wife's memory in any better way than by carrying out what I know were her wishes with regard to little Christie. No money or pains will I spare to do for him what she herself would have done, had her life been spared.

"Kindly excuse me for troubling you with this matter; but I do not wish to defer it until our return, lest I lose sight of the boy. The dismal attic where Christie and his old master lived was the last place my dear wife visited before her illness; and I feel that the charge of this boy is a sacred duty which I must perform for her dear sake, and also for the sake of Him who has said, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.'

"Believe me, dear Mr. Wilton,
"Yours very sincerely,
"Gerald Lindesay."

"Christie," said the clergyman, "the dear Lord has been very good to you."

"Yes," said little Christie, "old Treffy was right; wasn't he, sir?"

"What did old Treffy say?" asked the clergyman.

"He said the Lord had some work for me to do for Him," said Christie, "and I didn't think there was any thing I could do; but He's going to let me, after all."

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Save Israel by Gideon's hand. 2. A fleece. 3. That the fleece be wet with dew but the ground dry. 4. A bowl full. 5. That the fleece be dry but the ground wet. 6. To prove that the Lord would heal him. 7. The shadow to go backward ten degrees. 8. The Savior. 9. A babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger.