

LEFT ON HER DOORSTEP FOR THIS MOTHER

Mrs. A. G. Tuson, of Livermore, Cal., writes: "I picked up from my doorstep one day a little book in which I soon became very much interested. My little girl of five years of age had been troubled for a long time with loss of appetite, extreme nervousness and undue fatigue. She was all run-down and in a very delicate condition. This little book was very comprehensively written, and told of the new method of extracting the medicinal elements of the cod's liver from the oil, eliminating the obnoxious oil which is so hard for children to take. "Just the thing," said I, "for my little daughter," and I immediately went for a bottle of Vinol. It helped her wonderfully. She has gained rapidly in flesh and strength, and she does not take cold half so easily. "I am extremely grateful for the good it has done her, and I hope other mothers who have weak, delicate or ailing children will be benefited by my experience and just give Vinol a trial." THE BODDIE-PERRY DRUG CO.

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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson VII.—First Quarter, For Feb. 14, 1909.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Acts v, 17-42. Memory Verses, 19, 20—Golden Text, Matt. v, 10—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

[Copyright, 1908, by American Press Association.] Verses 12 to 16 of our lesson chapter, which tell of the healing of all the sick people who were brought to the apostles, are a manifest fulfillment of the last words in Matthew's Gospel, "Lo, I am with you always." "The Lord working with them and confirming the word with signs following." Such manifestations of the power of the risen Christ are too much for the devil, who is still the spiritual adviser of all who are not controlled by the Holy Spirit, and so the religious rulers are filled with indignation by the evil one, and the apostles are cast into prison that they may thus do no more harm to the enemy's property by robbing him of people whom he had hitherto controlled. But, as usual, the enemies of the Lord imagine a vain thing, and the Lord has them in derision (Ps. ii, 1-4). Storm and tempest, fiery furnace or lions' den, prison gates and walls, are no hindrance to the Lord nor to His angels, who excel in strength and who delight to do His bidding (Ps. ciii, 20). The apostles, being still in mortal bodies, need to have doors opened for them, but even that proves no hindrance to an angel. So He who never slumbers nor sleeps sent His messenger by night to liberate His servants that they might go to the temple and speak to the people the words of life, and this they did. The next morning, when the high priest and his council and senate were assembled, they sent to the prison to bring the apostles, but while the prison was secure, as usual, and the keepers on duty there were no apostles within.

How it makes one's heart laugh to see God laughing at his enemies! There is nothing too wonderful for the Creator of heaven and earth (Jer. xxxii, 17). We do not wonder that they doubted "whereunto this would grow." We know that it will grow, in spite of all that the adversary can do, until every proud and haughty thing shall be laid low and "the Lord alone shall be exalted" (Isa. ii, 11, 17). Having learned that the prisoners were free men and teaching in the temple, they sent for them, brought them without violence and set them before the council, accusing them of bringing the blood of Jesus on the rulers and demanding of them why they continued teaching in this name after being forbidden to do so. They seemed to forget that they had cried, "His blood be on us and on our children" (Matt. xxvii, 25). Peter boldly replied that God must be obeyed rather than men and then once more to their face accused them of slaying Jesus, asserting that God had raised Him from the dead and exalted Him to His own right hand as a Prince and a Saviour to give repentance and forgiveness even to them and that they, the apostles, were His witnesses by the power of the Holy Ghost. That settled the fate of the apostles in the minds of the council, and so they took counsel to kill them. The great murderer would fain accomplish some more of his devilish work and dispose of them as he had of their Master. They were quite ready for such a result, for they had been told to expect it (John xvi, 1-4). They were the same generation of vipers, or seed of the serpent (these Jews), as those to whom Jesus had said that they would do these very things. They were, as He said, of their father the devil (Matt. xxiii, 33, 34; John viii, 44). There are in this world only two classes, the righteous and the unrighteous, the children of God and the children of the wicked one, and there are in the future just two destinations, the kingdom and the glory and the place of torment. God is not willing that any should perish and has provided in His Son a redemption sufficient for all, but if people prefer the blindness and darkness of the god of this world (II Cor. iv, 4); if they still say, "Not this man, but Barabbas; we will not have this man to reign over us; we have no king but Caesar," then it must be understood that they declare themselves enemies of God, for "the friendship of this world is enmity with God" (Jas. iv, 4). "The free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. vi, 23, R. V.), but if men deliberately choose the wages of sin in preference who is to blame?

The counsel of Gamaliel in verses 38, 39, was in accord with Isa. vii, 9, 10; xiv, 24; xli, 12; xliii, 13; liv, 17, and other good words of the prophets, and to him they agreed, but they deemed it necessary to give the apostles a beating and to forbid them to make further mention of the name of Jesus (verse 40). Thus they declared themselves decidedly against Jesus Christ and that they would blot out His name if possible. They would not believe that God had highly exalted Him and given Him a name which is above every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come, and that all shall yet bow to Him either in glad submission or to hear Him say, "Depart from me, ye cursed" (Phil. ii, 9, 10; Eph. i, 21).

In contrast to these proud religious children of the evil one see these two rejoicing men, happy because they had been counted worthy to suffer.

Announcement !

The undersigned having purchased the interest of J. S. Hall in the White-Hall Furniture Company, in Louisburg, desires to say that he will continue the business at the same stand. I wish to say that I will settle all accounts due by or to the old firm, and therefore it becomes necessary for all old accounts to be settled within a Limited Time. All those indebted to the White-Hall Furniture Company will therefore please come forward and arrange the same at once, as under the contract the old business must be settled up.

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Total, \$651,737.95		

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