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We are positive it will benefit every old person who will give it a trial. If it don't we will refund their money. THE BODDIE-PERRY DRUG CO.

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## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL,

Lesson VIII.-First Quarter, For Feb. 21, 1909.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Acts vi, 8-15; vii, 54, to viii, 3-Memory Verses vii, 55, 56-Golden Text, Acts vii, 59-Commentary by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

[Copyright, 1908, by American Press Association.] We have in this book of the Acts the history of the beginning of the church, the body of Christ, gathered from Jews and gentiles by the Spirit through the apostles and others who were used as well as the apostles, such as Stephen and Philip, men who were chosen and set apart to oversee the ministration of funds to the poor, but who, being filled with the Holy Spirit, were used mightily in preaching the word. Our Lord Jesus said concerning His church, "The gates (wisdom, power) of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt. xvi, 18), but He did not say that hell would not fight against it, but just the contrary. So He instructed the prophets centuries before (Jer. i, 19; Ezek. ii, 6). There are always enemies without, but sometimes the trouble gets within the church, as in the case of Ananias and Sapphira. Now it is a case or many cases of dissatisfaction on the part of some being ministered to from the common fund. The twelve therefore called the disciples together and appointed seven men full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom to see to these matters, Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost being what we would call chairman of the committee. The apostles gave themselves to the ord and prayer, and the disciples multiplied greatly, and many of the priests followed. So, whether it was prayer and preaching or serving tables, the Spirit wrought and God glorifled in them.

We must be Spirit filled for every kind of service, even the lowliest, if we would truly serve the Lord. Happy are those who can look up into His face and say, "For any manner of service wholly at Thy commandment" (I Chron. xxviii, 21). To accept meekly and cheerfully whatever He appoints us and hear it or do it "unto the Lord" and "before the Lord" is all He asks of us and to continue thereis till He calls to something else. Stephen, having accepted the lowly and difficult service, is soon found working miracles and so speaking that those who heard were unable to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake. Such manifestation of the power of the risen Christ so stirs the adversary that Stephen is arrested and brought before the council, and false witnesses lay to his charge things that he was wholly innocent of. While he was being thus treated like His Lord the Lord must have been smiling upon him, for the reflection was seen in his face, which seemed to the council like the face of an angel.

Being permitted to speak for himself, he rehearsed the national history from Abraham, through Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Meses, and on to David and Solomon and the temple, and then to the immortal Son of David, the true temple. He enlarged upon the ill treatment of Joseph by his brethren and of Moses by the people whom he was sent to deliver and then accused them to their face of being the murderers of Jesus, as their fathers had been of the prophets. These to whom Peter preached were pricked in their hearts and asked what they should do, and thousands repented and received Jesus as their Saviour and Lord (ii, 36, 37). but these were cut to the heart and gnashed their teeth, stopped their ears, cast Stephen out and stoned him to J. B. OWEN, Pres. death. Spirit filled Peter got 3,000 souls, but Spirit filled Stephen got stones enough to kill him, and in each ease God was glorified. Although the young man at whose feet the witnesses who stoned Stephen laid down their clothes continued his murderous eareer a little longer, perhaps when we have clearer light on the connection Peter. The ways of the Lord are often to us a great deep, but we are sure that "as for God His way is perfect" (Ps. xviii, 30). Spirit filled Stephen looked up steadfastly into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus and was able to pray for his murderers, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge." If we look up into heaven as he did and see Jesus there for us, we will not see our persecutors nor feel much the stones that are thrown at us. We may so see Jesus and hear His voice that

we shall be blind and deaf to all else. This seventh chapter may be said to begin and end with "the God of glory" (verse 2) and "the glory of God" (verse 55). We shall not be apt to "walk worthy of God, who hath called us to His kingdom and glory" (I Thess. ii, 12), unless that kingdom and glory are as real to us as the risen Christ was to Stephen. This is one of the seven places in Scripture where we find the phrase "heaven opened" (verse 56). the others being in Ezek. i. Matt. iii. John I, Acts z, Rev. iv and z, and each time it is to show us something of Jesus or His redeemed. A risen, living Christ, true man and true God, at the Father's right hand, having all power m heaven and on earth, using us now to gather the rest of the church. His body: receiving us to Himself at His coming to the air for us, bringing us with Him when He comes in glory to fulfill all things of which the prophets have spoken—such is He whom Stephen saw and for whom He died.

Thousands of ladies suffer agonies every month. If you do, stop and think. Is it retural? Emphatically and positively-NO! Then make up your mind to prevent or cure this needless suffering!

It Will Help You

"I suffered 9 years" writes Mrs. Sarah J. Hoskins, of Cary, Ky. "I had female trouble and would nearly cramp to death. My back and side would nearly kill me with pain. I tried everything to get relief, but failed, and at last began to take Cardui. Now I can do my housework with ease and I give Cardui the praise for the health I enjoy."

AT ALL DRUG STORES

### Watch This Space

NEXT WEEK

## John W. King,

Louisburg, N. C.

HENDERSON NORTH CAROLINA November 27th, 1908.

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REMEMBER this bank has One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars of its own Capital and Surplus to guarantee your deposits, and in addition to this, the stockholders are liable for an additional \$100, 000.00. All our officers are bonded. We are fully insured against burglary and daylight hold up. Deposit your money with the Citizens Bank. IT WILL BE SAFE.

Wm. A. HUNT, Cashier.

## The Franklin Perpetual between Stephen's death and Saul's conversion we may see that Stephen, through Saul, won more souls than Building and Loan Association

F. B. McKINNE, President, WM. H. RUFFIN, Sec. and Treas.

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This home institution offers a safe investment to all who desire to invest small or large sums weekly; and a fair return on the investment can be promised under conservative management and energetic extension of the business. Its future cannot be fairly judged by its past, will both because of the expenses incidental to organization and lack of funds to loan until accumulated, and because like all business undertakings its beginning is necessarily small; but its profits must increase from year to year. As

### A Saving Institution

it invests the weekly installment of the investor in real estate mert-

gage security, assuring in any event a safe return of capital. To those who desire to build homes and pay for them in weekly installments it is the best plan which has been devised. It is the greatest factor in the upbuilding of a community; and this association can point with pride to several handsome and desirable homes, as well as those of humbler construction but none the less desirable, built with its funds in the first two years of its existence.

Join the Association, and take stock whether you desire to berrow or inv st and build up your community.

For further information as to plan of operation, assets, etc., apply to the President, Secretary and Treasurer, or any other member of the Association.

## When You Have a Photograph Made Do You Want a Likeness?

Something That When Your Friends See They Will Recognize? That is The Kind I Make. Respectfully,

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