

**THE YOUTHFUL**  
*THOSE THAT SEEK ME EARLY SHALL FIND ME.*  
**INSTRUCTOR.**

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NO. 2.

**THE SABBATH SCHOOL.**

Little children, here they come!  
 Listen to their happy voices;  
 See them gathering one by one,  
 How my heart rejoices.

To the Sabbath School they come  
 With happy hearts and faces;  
 And with modest look they move  
 To their accustomed places.

Now their teachers dear they greet,  
 Their whole attention given,  
 While with voice and accent sweet,  
 They speak of God and Heaven.

'Tis thus the seed is early sown,  
 Like bread upon the waters cast.  
 'Twill after many days return  
 And bear a harvest rich, at last.

S. J. WAKELING.

Memphis, Mich.

**PRESENT TRUTH. NO. 5.**

**SIGNS OF THE COMING OF CHRIST.**

I HOPE you have considered well the scriptures quoted showing the importance of the doctrine of the Lord's second coming. But some of you have heard men say we cannot tell anything about the time of the second advent, and I promised to say something to you about the signs of that day.

The Saviour once was asked by his disciples what should be the sign of his coming, for they seemed to understand that he would not come without letting his people know about it. God never does any great work, or brings to pass any great event which concerns his people, without warning them and giving them a chance to prepare for it. Now open your Bible and read Amos iii, 7. Well, Jesus told them, "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from Heaven." Matt. xxiv, 29. "Those days" refer to the "time, times and a half," which we have before considered, in which the saints were given into the hand of the Papal power. Dan. vii, 25. "The tribulation" is that persecution in the same time, called wearing out the saints of the Most High. The days ended in 1798, though the tribulation, or wearing out ended sooner, and the sun was darkened in 1780. I have heard my father and mother speak of it as "the dark day." It caused a great deal of alarm, for many people thought the "day of judgment" had come. Many writers speak of it, but no one could imagine the cause of it. And the night following the moon did not give her light. It arose about six o'clock, about the time the sun set then, and was full, but it did not give any light till midnight. We certainly should be at a loss to account for these

things if the Lord had not told us that he would cause them to be as signs of his coming. He also said the stars should fall from heaven; this was wonderfully fulfilled in 1833. Never before had such a display been seen.

*But I heard Mr. S. say they were not stars at all; they were not large enough for stars.*

Yes, if we speak scientifically, we should make a distinction between stars and smaller lights in the heavens; and we should also never say the sun rises or sets. But in common speaking this distinction is not regarded; nor is it in the Bible. And I fear Mr. S. has not read his Bible very carefully or he would know this. Thus it was called a star that guided the wise men to Bethlehem and pointed out the house in which the child Jesus was. This must have been a very small light. And this shows us by what kind of heavenly bodies our Saviour's prophecy must be fulfilled. It always gives me pleasure to speak of this part of the Saviour's instruction, having seen the fulfillment of it myself. Words can never describe the beauty and sublimity of the scene. I cannot imagine what our Heavenly Father could display more grand and impressive than the signs given by our Saviour and fulfilled as I have told you. Now he said, "When ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors." They surely had no better evidence than this that his first coming was near.

*Why don't everybody believe it, then?*

Why did not everybody believe when he *did* come? Why did they not believe in his words and miracles? Why do not everybody become Christians? This is a question many have asked before, but they seem to forget how hard and rebellious the hearts of men are. With all this plain evidence, and the Saviour's *command to know*, he yet says it will come as a thief, and the world will not know till it is too late to prepare. And so Peter wrote also that "there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming?" Here you may see how opposition to the truth of God always is manifested in this wicked world. Before the time of Christ the Jews all professed faith in the scripture declarations of the coming of the Messiah; but as the scriptures were fulfilled, and he came as they had said, then they began to cavil and find fault, and soon lost their confidence in the very scriptures they had trusted in. So in past ages, all professed Christians believed in the second advent as a great Bible truth, and an event much to be desired by all who love the Lord; but as the day approaches, and the signs are plainly fulfilled, men begin to scoff at the doctrine, and the name "*Second Adventist*" is as much a term of reproach/in the churches now as the name *Christian* was among the Jews in the time of the apostles. But this fulfilled the word of prophecy, and gives still stronger assurance that the day is near.

Connected with the signs now noticed, there are many other things to direct our minds to this great and glorious event. A few we will notice.

The prophet says: "The chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of His preparation, and the fir-trees shall be terribly shaken. The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways; they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings." Nahum ii, 3, 4. All acknowledge this as a just description of the railroad cars; and thus the present time is pointed out as "the day of His preparation."

Our Saviour, speaking of his second coming, says false christs and false prophets shall arise and shall show great signs and wonders; but he warns us not to believe his coming is in that manner, but open and visible, in power and glory, as the lightning flashes across the heavens. Matt. xxiv, 24-27.

Paul, writing about the coming of Christ, further shows what is meant by these great signs and wonders; he says it is "after the working of Satan with power, and signs, and lying wonders." 2 Thess. ii, 9. This is fulfilled by the workings of Spiritualism, which is a very prominent sign of the last days.

Again, the Saviour said of the same time, "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold." Matt. xxiv, 12. This is fulfilled in the want of fervent piety and true godliness in all the churches of these days.

And the apostle, speaking also of the last days, shows what will be the condition of professors of religion—of those having the form of godliness, but denying the power thereof, saying, among other things, they will be proud, high-minded, and lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God. What a description for the professed children of God; proud, haughty pleasure-seekers!

But what concerns you most, perhaps, is this: he says they will be "disobedient to parents." Remember, he does not merely speak of all the wicked children in the world, but of those having the form of godliness—of the youth who profess religion. Oh! what a sight! Young professors of religion disobeying their parents, dishonoring their fathers and mothers! Sins do not stand singly and alone. It is only because they are proud, and haughty, and love their own pleasure, that they so disregard God's commandment as to disobey their parents. Children, if you are described here, you cannot say you did not know your duty and your danger. Beside God's word so plainly speaking on this subject, our good paper, the Instructor, often speaks to its readers on this commandment, and the duty of children to parents. No child can prosper and enjoy the favor of the Lord while they set their own will and pleasure above that of their parents. Now I want you all to promise me this: that you will read again with care the first article in the Instructor for December last, headed, "A few words with children." But I must notice one other scripture view of the last days.

There are many texts showing that God's people will be looking for Jesus when he comes, which they would not if there was no reason to believe he was coming. And therefore this promise: "And unto them that look for Him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Heb. ix, 28.

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief." 1 Thess. v, 4. They will not be in darkness, because they will believe what the Scriptures say about that day.

"Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the

land tremble; for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand." Joel ii, 1. This shows that the servants of God will know when the day of the Lord is at hand, and their duty is to warn the people that they may get ready to meet the Lord.

And now, dear children, let us all offer thanks to God for providing a Saviour for us, and for the promise that he will come again and receive us to himself; and let us all take heed to the sure word of prophecy, which is as a light that shineth in a dark place. 2 Pet. i, 19.

UNCLE HARVEY.

### BE ALWAYS READY.

I AM thinking of a family in the State of New York, in the county where I formerly resided. The parents were church-members, and desired their children, in early youth, to give their hearts to God. During special efforts of the church at a certain time for the revival of the work of the Lord, a son in this family, also a number of other young people, made a start in the Christian life.

Time passed on, and this young man was sent some distance away from home to attend school. In a few months word came that his father was very sick. With a sad heart he turned his steps homeward, where, to his deep sorrow, he learned that his father was not expected to live. Christian friends called to converse with, and pray for, the sick man, as prudence would allow. The young man of whom we speak had not been at home long before his father asked him to pray. As the young man afterward related, feelings like these came to his mind the moment the request was made: "I cannot pray, neither can I decline my dying father's request. I have neglected to fulfill the vows I made to the Lord a few months since—with my worldly associates, I have been where a disciple of the Lord should not be found, and I am a sinner in the sight of God." And again the thought, "If I decline father's request, the recollections of the sad event about to happen, will, in after life, be associated with keen remorse which I cannot bear."

The Spirit of the Lord moved upon his heart, and like the returning prodigal he knelt and prayed fervently for the forgiveness of his own sins, and as he received the evidence that the Lord looked upon him with pity in that time of need, and was willing to accept him while a great way off, he began to pray that the arm of the Lord might sustain his loved parent as he should pass the dark valley. Father and son were blessed, and the one fell asleep in hope, and the other, with a chastened spirit, lived to profit by this experience—feeling the importance of living near to the Lord every day of his life.

And here is a good lesson for the readers of our dear little paper. Be always ready to call upon the name of the Lord whom you profess to serve. Be always ready to ask for heavenly wisdom in whatever you engage, and engage in nothing upon which you cannot ask his blessing. Be always ready to yield to the influence of the Spirit of God—ready by your good works to show others that you are taking lessons of Jesus—ready to do your duty at all times in the fear of God, and by cheerful obedience may you at last be ready to enter in to the city of God and enjoy eternal life.

A. P. VAN HORN.

Health Institute.

"MEEKNESS," some one has well said, "leads us to give smooth answers to rough questions."

## Reading for Very Small Children.

"FEED MY LAMBS."

## HONOR YOUR PARENTS.

Let children that would fear the Lord,  
Hear what their teachers say;  
With reverence hear their parents' word,  
And with delight obey.

Have we not heard what dreadful plagues  
Are threatened by the Lord,  
To him who breaks his father's law,  
Or mocks his mother's word?

## THE LITTLE LEAFLET; A LESSON.

ONE day, in early spring, as I was going along a road where there was much ice, in one place I observed a deep indenture in its solid surface. On examination I found at the bottom of the aperture a little leaf. How, thought I, can so light and frail a thing make so great an impression on a substance so cold and unlike itself? Just then the sun peered from behind a silvery cloud and supplied an answer. Its genial rays warmed the heart of the little leaf, and it in turn melted away the cold surroundings.

How like a little child, thought I, is this tiny leaf. Jesus the Son of righteousness has said, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of Heaven."

When the love of Jesus abides in the heart of a child it will often melt into tenderness and deep contrition an infidel father, a worldly, fashion-seeking mother, or a heedless, thoughtless brother or sister. My little readers have, no doubt, read the story about the little Hebrew servant girl who persuaded her master, Naaman, captain of the Syrian hosts, to go into the land of Israel to be healed of his leprosy. Please read the story again in the fifth chapter of Second Kings. That little girl exerted a great influence. She was, no doubt, the instrument in the hands of God of introducing to that heathen land the worship of the true God.

Let no little boy or girl say, I have no influence, —I am too young to do good. If you love Jesus with all your heart, you may do more good than those much older than yourselves, whose hearts are not warmed by the love of God. You have an influence over your associates that your parents and others can never have. This, then, is the talent that God has given you. I entreat you, young friends, to use it to his glory. A crown of glory is laid up for those who faithfully do their duty till the end; but those who are stubborn and wicked will never be saved, but will for their sin suffer death with wicked men and evil spirits.

Shall we ever rise to dwell  
Where immortal praises swell?  
And can children ever go  
Where eternal Sabbaths glow?

Yes, that bliss our own may be,  
All the good shall Jesus see;  
For the good a rest remains,  
Where the glorious Saviour reigns.

ADOLPHUS SMITH.

Blendon, Ottawa Co., Mich.

A FEW WORDS TO BOYS.—If you would lay the foundation for a gentlemanly character, boys, you will heed the following advice:—"You are to be kind, generous and magnanimous," says Horace Mann. "If there is a boy in school who has a club-

foot, don't let him know you ever saw it. If there is a boy with ragged clothes, don't talk about rags in his hearing. If there is a lame boy, assign him some part of the game which does not require much running. If there is a dull one, help him to get his lesson."

## THE BOY WHO COULD NOT LIE.

A FEW years ago a little orphan boy was taken from an asylum in Milwaukee, Wis., to the State of Michigan, and placed in a family. He had been there but a few weeks when his step-mother became guilty of a criminal act, I know not what the crime was which she committed, but the little boy knew, and deemed it duty to inform his foster-father, who was ignorant of what his wife had done. Thereupon the boy made the disclosure; but the crime was of such magnitude that the father could not believe it. He told his wife what the boy had said, but she stoutly denied it, saying that the boy had told a willful lie, and requested the father to punish the child until he should confess it. The father did so; but the boy, every time his father told him to confess it, made this noble reply: "Father, I cannot lie." At last, when the blood was streaming from his limbs and shoulders, he threw himself into the arms of his father, and said, "Father, I'm so cold, but I cannot tell a lie," and then he sank down and died,—died, because he would not tell a lie!

Noble boy! Who among us would have died for the truth? Let us always speak the truth, and God will love and bless us. The wise man says, "The lip of truth shall be established forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment." We hope to meet this dear boy at the resurrection of the just.

P. A. FOSTER.

Whitehall, N. Y.

## THE LITTLE BOY ON THE TRACK.

THE other day, I heard a mother ask her little son to do something. "In a minute," he said. She spoke again. But it was one, two, three, four, five minutes before he minded her.

It made me think of the switch-tender's boy. What if he had waited a minute before minding his father? A switch-tender in Prussia was just going to move the rail, in order to put a coming train of cars on a side track, when he caught sight of his little son playing on the track. The engine was in sight, and he had not a moment to spare. He might jump and save his child; but he could not do that and turn the switch in time; and if it were not done, the on-coming train would meet another train, and a terrible crash and smash take place. The safety of hundreds of lives depended upon his fidelity. What could he do? What did he do? "Lie down! lie down!" he called with a loud, quick voice to the child; and seizing the switch, the train passed safely on its proper track.

Did the heavy train run over the little boy? Was he killed? Was he crushed to pieces? No, for he did just as his father told him, and did it instantly. He fell flat between the rails, and the cars went high over his head; and when the poor father sprang to the spot, there he was alive and well; not a hair was touched. It was his quick obedience, you see, that saved his life. He did not stop a minute. Even a moment would have been too late.

This is the obedience which is right; this is the obedience which pleases God.—*Child's Paper.*

BEAUTIFUL WORDS.—"Suffer little children to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of Heaven."

## Youth's Instructor.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., FEBRUARY, 1868.

### THE REASON WHY.

YOUNG READER: Do you ever wonder why the Instructor is so grave and solemn in all its instructions,—why it is that there are no fun and witching stories, as in most other juvenile papers? Well, I will tell you by asking you a question.

Supposing you were on your death-bed, expecting soon to breathe your last, how would you expect your friends to talk who came in to pay you their last act of respect? Would you want them to tell funny stories, and try to get you to laugh and joke a little? Ah, no; you would not feel like that. You would want them to tell you about Jesus, and to talk of Heaven and eternal things.

Or, if the house was on fire in which you dwelt, you would not want to hear the people laughing and making sport; you would think those loved you most who made an effort to subdue the flames and protect your life and save the goods.

So it is now. Your editor never feels funny when he sits down to write for the Instructor. Time is so short, and there is such a strong probability that very many of the dear youth now living will not be saved,—but will be lost,—that he does not have much of the mirth-making spirit. True, we all may be cheerful, but the family of young commandment-keepers will not have much of that spirit which would lead them to laugh, and joke, and make sport, if they realize how near the great and terrible day of the Lord is.

This is the reason why the Instructor is so sober a paper.

### WHICH IS THE BEST?

DEAR CHILDREN: Which is the best, to do wrong or to do right? This may easily be decided by each of you, if you will only learn what the result of each course will be. We will first see what will be the result if you do wrong. To do wrong, is to do that which will not please the Lord. This would make you wicked. Now we will learn what the Lord says he will do with the wicked, and then you will see whether you would like to be among them or not.

We read in the Bible that, "The Lord preserveth all them that love him; but all the wicked will he destroy." Psa. cxlv, 20. Again: "For behold the day cometh that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubbe; and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch." Mal. iv, 1. In the New Testament we read: "And to you who are troubled, rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from Heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire, taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power." 2 Thess. i, 7-9. "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life, was cast into the lake of fire." Rev. xx, 15.

Now what do you think of this? I think I see you all shudder at the thought. Oh! how dreadful to perish in the manner described in the above texts! I think you will all say that this is a very bad result. Truly it is, and if you want to escape such a fate, you must not be wicked, nor do anything wrong. Come to Jesus and let him take all the evil out of your heart, and then try to love and obey him, and he will help you to overcome everything that is wrong.

Now let us learn what will be the result of doing right. To do right, is to do what is pleasing to the Lord. Those that do right, keep all the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. All that do so become righteous; for we learn that all his commandments are righteousness. We will now see what the Lord has promised to the righteous.

They will receive immortality and eternal life. For God has said, he will render "to them who by patient continuance in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life." Rom. ii, 7. They will not only have eternal life, but they will have a glorious kingdom given to them. Thus Jesus says, "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory. Then shall the King say unto those on his right hand, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Matt. xxv, 31, 34. This is what David means when he says, "The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell therein forever." Psa. xxxvii, 29.

Now, dear children, don't you think this is ten thousand times better than to perish with the wicked? I know you do. It is worth all you can do to obtain such a reward as this. You want to read the Bible all you can, and learn how to do right. You ought to read a little in it every day. You also want to go into your closet every day, and pray to the Lord to help you do right. If you will do this with a sincere and honest heart, the Lord will hear you, and will send his angels to guide you in the right way. May the Lord help you to do right, that you may share in the eternal reward of the saints.

I. D. VAN HORN.

Bowersville, O., Dec. 23, 1867.

### "WHO SHALL STAND?"

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart." Psa. xxiv, 3, 4.

"Who shall stand in His holy place?" How many of the readers of the Instructor have candidly considered this question? We know that the time is soon coming, when all will be rewarded according to their works;—when some will be able to stand, and alas, when some will fall,—fall to rise no more.

Dear young friends, how important, then, that we strive to understand our relation to God and his law,—the rule of life. Let us each at this time prayerfully ask the question, "Who shall stand?" And let us ponder well the answer, by inspiration given: "He that hath clean hands and a pure heart." By considering other portions of the word, we shall see that the absence of physical impurity upon our persons, is not what is required to enable us to stand. In Is. i, 16-18, we read, "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings," &c. In 2 Cor. vii, 1, "Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord."

Then to have clean hands, in the sense in which

the Psalmist uses the language, implies something more than the washing off impurities from the surface of our bodies. It is to be cleansed from iniquity,—from filthiness not only of the flesh but of the spirit.

When thus cleansed, we not only have clean hands but a pure heart. We walk in the light as he (God) is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 1 Jno. 1, 7.

Dear reader, have you examined yourself in the light of truth? Have you the enlightening influence of the Holy Spirit to enable you to see yourself as the Lord sees you? Have you thus seen your danger and the necessity of ceasing to do evil and learning to do well? The dear Saviour has instructed us to "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness;"—and the Psalmist in answering the question, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?" says, "By taking heed thereto according to thy word." Our Heavenly Father in his compassion has graciously given us his word as a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. May He who is the light of the world, help us to walk in the light.

We have life and death placed before us. To stand in his holy place, is life. If we have clean hands and a pure heart, we shall be able to stand there. On the other hand, if we lack this, if we have not "purified our souls in obeying the truth," 1 Peter i. 22, when the separating line shall be drawn, and a part find their place at the right hand of the Son of man, and the rest upon his left hand, we must fall. And oh, what a fall! If it were an earthly inheritance that we lost, we might perhaps regain it. But it is the heavenly inheritance that is at stake,—an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away."

Once lost, it is lost forever. Oh! what a solemn thought. The joys of Heaven, the presence of God and the dear Saviour, the society of angels, of the good of all ages—those who have had "clean hands and pure hearts;" the glories of the heavenly inheritance—the earth made new, the tree of life with its ambrosial fruit, the river of the water of life,—lost, forever lost! Who of us does not want to enjoy all these?

Young friends, will you not strive with me to have clean hands and pure hearts, that we may "ascend into the hill of the Lord?" May he help you and me so to strive, that we may finally "stand in his holy place." N. ORCUTT.

West Enosbury, Vt.

### IN HEALTH PREPARE TO DIE.

DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS: This thought was very forcibly suggested to my mind as I looked upon one whom death would in a few hours claim as his own. Suddenly disease had fastened itself upon this youth, and ere the week had closed he died. As the physician pronounced his recovery hopeless, the mother bore the tidings to her boy that he must die. Said this child, "Oh! I cannot die; I am such a sinner; if I may but live, I will be so faithful in prayer and in duty."

How these words thrilled through my soul. Thought I, what a warning to the careless one in sin! Ought not these words to arrest the steps of some wanderer, and should not the young be reminded of the importance of improving the moments of health in preparing for the closing hours of life? Impressive was the scene to my mind as in contrast I thought of the faithful child of God, dying triumphing in

a Saviour's love, and in firm hope of a part in the first resurrection.

Are you not, then, called upon, if you are without hope, to haste to secure an interest in that arm that will support you if called to pass through the valley of death; or if you think you have a hope, to examine well the grounds upon which it rests?

"Sweet is the scene when virtue dies,  
When sinks a youthful saint to rest;  
How mildly beams the closing eyes,  
How gentle heaves the expiring breast."

L. C. CANRIGHT.

Norridgewock, Me.

### BIBLE LESSONS FOR LITTLE CHILDREN.

BY THE EDITOR.

#### LESSON FIVE.

#### THE ANGELS.

*Teacher.* Our lesson to-day is about the angels of God;—will you tell me who these angels are?

*Child.* They are holy beings who dwell in Heaven.

*T.* How many kinds of angels are there?

*C.* Two. God's angels and Satan's angels.

*T.* You are right; there are two kinds of angels; one kind are very wicked, and the other are holy; but our lesson this time will be about the good angels;—what do the holy angels do in Heaven?

*C.* They worship God and play on golden harps.

*T.* Do the holy angels ever leave Heaven?

*C.* Yes; the Lord sometimes sends them to this earth.

*T.* What do they come down here for?

*C.* To watch over good people and keep them from sin.

*T.* How do the angels feel when people do wrong?

*C.* They are grieved, and do not sing.

*T.* I hope my class will always remember this, and try to live so as not to grieve the holy angels;—but how do the angels feel when people repent?

*C.* There is joy in Heaven among the angels of God.

*T.* You told me just now that the angels come to this earth to watch over good people;—what are such angels called?

*C.* Guardian angels.

*T.* They are called *guardian* angels because they guard, or keep people;—but do not wicked people have guardian angels?

*C.* No; there are no angels about wicked people, but wicked angels.

*T.* What did the angels say to the shepherds when Jesus was born?

*C.* Peace on earth and good will to men.

*T.* Can you tell me of any one who ever saw an angel?

*C.* Holy men and women in the Bible have seen angels.

*T.* Will the angels ever come to this earth?

*C.* Yes; when the Saviour comes.

*T.* You may repeat a verse of scripture which says so.

*C.* "The Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him."

*T.* When Christ comes, then the good angels will fly in every direction, and gather the people of God, and bring them to the Saviour, who will take them to Heaven;—do my class want to go to Heaven to live with the angels? You may now repeat your verse:

There is a happy land,  
Far, far away,  
Where saints in glory stand,  
Bright, bright as day;  
Oh, how they sweetly sing,  
Worthy is the Saviour—King,  
Loud let his praises ring,  
Praise, praise for aye.

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**LESSON SIX.**

**THE CREATION.**

*Teacher.* When you look abroad upon this beautiful world and see the trees, and the grass, and the flowers; the beasts, and birds, and fishes; and then look up in the sky and see the sun shining there, and with his gentle heat causing things to grow, do you ever think who made all these things? Our lesson to-day is about creation, and the class may tell who created all things.

*Child.* God.

*T.* What does the word *create* mean?

*C.* To make out of nothing.

*T.* Yes, God made this great world, and every living thing in it, out of nothing;—but how many days was God in creating this world?

*C.* Just six.

*T.* And what did he do on the seventh day?

*C.* He rested.

*T.* Could not the great God have made the world sooner than six days, if he had wished it?

*C.* I think he could.

*T.* That is true; God could have made the world in a moment, just as well; but in his wisdom he employed six days, and then rested the seventh, that we by his example might be led to work six days and then to rest on the seventh-day or Sabbath;—but in what way did God create world?

*C.* He only spoke, and it was done.

*T.* That is as the Bible says: "He spoke, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast;—but was God alone when the world was created?"

*C.* No; the Saviour and the angels were there.

*T.* As the angels saw God creating what did they do?

*C.* They shouted for joy.

*T.* When God made the world what did he say of it?

*C.* He called it good.

*T.* He called it good because there was nothing bad in it, or evil about it;—but did it always stay so?

*C.* No; sin soon entered, and then the whole world became wicked.

*T.* Is there no one in the world now who never sinned?

*C.* The Bible says there is not one.

*T.* But will this world always remain in its present sinful state?

*C.* When Jesus comes all things will be made new.

*T.* Yes, that is a blessed thought, and if we are only ready we shall be glad to see the Saviour come. In our next lessons we will speak of what God made on each of the six days. Here is some poetry which you may repeat.

Come sound His praise abroad,  
And hymns of glory sing,  
Jehovah is the sovereign God,  
The universal king.

\*\*\*  
**LESSON SEVEN.**

**THE CREATION.—CONTINUED.**

*Teacher.* Our lesson to-day again is about this world which God made;—what did the Lord do on the first-day?

*Child.* He made the light.

*T.* What does the Bible say of this?

*C.* "And God said, Let there be light; and there was light."

*T.* How good the great God was to make the light so that we can see. If there was no light this world would be a most gloomy place;—but what did the Lord create on the second-day?

*C.* He made the air.

*T.* You may repeat what the Bible says about that?

*C.* "And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters."

*T.* The word "firmament," means the great space where the clouds sail, and where the birds fly. If God had made no air we could not live, for there would be no air to breathe, and all my little scholars have to breathe about twenty times every minute;—but what did God do on the third day?

*C.* He made the ground.

*T.* What else did he do on the third day?

*C.* He made everything which we now see growing out of the ground.

*T.* Yes, God on the third day made all the lofty trees, and the pretty bushes, and the sweet-smelling flowers, and the tall grass, and the clover, and every thing that grows. He then made all the nuts, and flowers, and fruits,—more than I could tell you of in a whole day. He made all these things because he loves his creatures;—but what did God do on the fourth day?

*C.* He made the sun, and moon, and stars.

*T.* You see that God made something new each day. The sun is like a great clock in the sky, and he gives out heat which causes things to grow for the good of man; and the light of the sun is very pleasant to all. The moon and stars shine in the night, and give a gentle light so that we can see to walk abroad;—but what did the Lord do on the fifth day?

*C.* He made the fishes and the birds.

*T.* Yes, God made all the fishes in the lakes and creeks, from the great whale which is larger than a house, to the shining minnow which you could catch on a pin-hook. He also made on the fifth day all the birds, as the ostrich, which can carry a man on his back; the eagle, the dove, the canary, and the beautiful humming-bird—God made them all—thousands of kinds. How many blessings the Lord has bestowed on his creatures;—what should we, in return, do for all this?

*C.* We should love God, and serve him every day.

*T.* I hope my class will do this; hereafter we will learn what God did on the sixth day of the week,—but our lesson is already long enough for to-day. Here are some verses of poetry about God which you may recite:

When I look up to yonder sky,  
So pure, so bright, so wondrous high,  
I think of One I cannot see,  
But One who sees and cares for me.

His name is GOD! He gave me birth;  
And every living thing on earth,  
And every tree and plant that grows,  
To the same hand its being owes.

\*\*\*  
**LESSON EIGHT.**

**THE CREATION.—CONCLUDED.**

*Teacher.* We are again assembled in school to learn from the word of the Lord. Our last lesson was about what God created on the first five days of the week. To-day we will talk about what was done on the sixth day;—will my class tell me what God did on the sixth day?

Class. He created man and beast.

T. Correct. But what was the name of the man God made?

C. Adam.

T. You are right. Adam was the first man, and Eve was the first woman;—but what did God say to Adam after he was created?

C. He told him he should be ruler over all the beasts, and birds, and fishes of the earth.

T. And what did God say of the great world which he had made?

C. The Bible says: "And God saw everything that he had made; and behold it was very good."

T. How beautiful this world was when it was first made by God; there was no sin then, and all was peace and harmony. The animals did not prey on each other then as now,—the lion did not kill and eat the lamb, and the hawks and eagles catch the sparrows and doves, but all lived in peace;—will my class tell me what is the cause of all the trouble we see in the world now?

C. Sin.

T. Yes; that is it, and sin is a dreadful word, and we shall speak of it in nearly every lesson; but to-day we will talk about creation;—what did God do with Adam after he made him?

T. He placed him in a beautiful garden, and told him he might tend it.

T. What was the name of this garden?

C. Eden.

T. What grew in this garden?

C. "Every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food."

T. Yes; God made to grow there every tree, and plant, and vine, and bush, which would be for the comfort of man;—but what did the Lord tell Adam he might eat?

C. Of the fruits which grew out of the earth. [Here let the teacher read and explain to the class Gen. i, 29.]

T. And what did God permit the beasts and birds to have for food?

C. The fruits and grains which grow out of the earth. [The teacher may here read and explain Gen. i, 30.]

T. You may now tell me in the words of the Bible how God created man.

C. "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground; and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

T. We have now passed over the work of creation, and seen what God did on each day of the week; I hope my class will remember to love and obey this great God who is so mighty as to make a world;—but here is a verse of a hymn which you may all repeat together:

Look up, ye saints, direct your eyes  
To God who dwells above the skies;  
With your glad notes his praise rehearse,  
Who formed the mighty universe.

## Letter Department.

We have quite a bundle of correspondence for this month, which we trust will be usually interesting to our young readers.

ELLEN LATSHAW, of Victory, Wis., writes:

As a reader of the Instructor, I wish to write a few lines for its pages. I am nine years old, and have been a reader of the Instructor only for a few months. At first I did not like it, but my little sister, Jennie, who was but six years old, did, and tried to get me to by telling me it taught so many good things. Since then my little sister has died, and I now read it not only because she wished me to, but because I love it. She wanted me to be good, and meet her in Heaven. I am trying to keep all the commandments of God, that I may be prepared to meet her and all

the dear people of God. I love to read the letters written by the children, and want all the good to pray for me.

KATE LATSHAW, of Victory, Wis., writes:

I wish to improve this privilege by telling you how much I love our little paper, and will do all I can to get others to. I am twelve years old, and have been a reader of the Instructor since last May. At first I did not like it very well, not because it was not good, but because my heart was not right before God. My little sister Jennie, in whose name the paper came, and who has since died, was the first to interest me in it. She loved it because her heart was pure. I now love it because I think it teaches the way to life. I love all the commandments of God, and am trying to keep them, with my mother and sister Ella, that we may meet our little sister again.

HERBERT A. WHEELER, of Sullivan, Wis., says:

I am trying to overcome all my evil besetments, that I may have right to the tree of life, and enter in through the gates into the city. I feel that I need the grace of God to enable me to live in that way that my influence may tell on the side of truth. Pray for me.

N. A. PENNEY, of Caanaan, Me., writes:

I am trying to serve the Lord, to keep the commandments, so that when Jesus comes I shall have a right to the tree of life, and dwell with him forever. I have no mother, but Jesus has promised to take care of the motherless, and I believe he will. I am thirteen, but I am not too young to serve the Lord. Pray for me.

SHERMAN A. FOSTER, of Whitehall, N. Y., writes:

DEAR YOUTHFUL FRIENDS: I often read the cheering letters in our little paper, and how often I have come in from my work, all tired, and sometimes discouraged, and found the Instructor with its pages loaded with truth and encouragement for the children. Although I have arrived at man's estate, I love anything that instructs the youth. I love the holy Sabbath, and hail its approach with sacred joy. I am striving for a home in the kingdom.

ADDIE MUSSEY, Spring Brook, Mich., writes:

I am still trying to live the life Christ has marked out for me. I feel to praise God that I ever heard of the third angel's message. My heart's desire and prayer to God is that I may cast away all sin and foolishness, and run with patience the race that is set before me. I am derided, mocked, and called an Adventist; but I am proud of the name. Would to God I were a true Advent, from every sin set free. I am unworthy to be called one. May God help me to so live that when Christ comes he will own and bless me. What a blessed hope is ours, that our Redeemer is soon coming,—coming to take his way-worn and waiting pilgrims home, where we all can enjoy his presence eternally.

EMMA W. MERIKLE, Mapleton, Minn., says:

I am a little girl about eleven years old. For the first time I now write a few lines for the Instructor. I keep the Sabbath with my parents. I ask an interest in your prayers.

LUCY M. AUSTIN, Randolph, Wis., says:

I will once more write a few lines for our little paper. I love it very much. I think it teaches us precious truths. I am twelve years old. I keep the Sabbath, and try to live out the health reform with my parents. We have not the privilege of attending meetings and Sabbath School, but we can pray to God and do our duty at home. I want you to pray for me. I sometimes get almost discouraged, but I mean by the assisting grace of God to overcome and stand with you on Mount Zion.

ELLA A. MILLNE, Shabbona, Ill., writes:

I am rejoiced to hear that so many of you have enlisted in the army of the Lord, and I too have good news to tell you. I have found the blessed Saviour. I feel that he has forgiven all my sins. Oh! how good it is to serve the Lord. I thank the Lord for giving me a mother who has taught me to fear him. I want you all to pray for me, that I may be a perfect overcomer and meet you all on Mount Zion.

WALTER I. ERNST, Coldwater, Mich., says:

I love to read the Instructor just as well as the Review, although I am almost thirty years old. I love to read those pieces written in child-like simplicity for your instruction. The reading of such pieces as the sickness and death of "Jennie Latshaw," and "Who will be condemned?" often causes us to weep for joy, to know that Jesus is ready to hear the prayers of little children. God grant that all the children of the Instructor family may heed the Saviour's voice.

MARY J. CHURCH, of Elysian, says:

I do not have the privilege of attending meeting or Sabbath School, therefore the Instructor helps to cheer many lonely hours.

LILLIAN B. JONES, Battle Creek, Mich., says:

For the first time I write a few lines for our excellent little paper. I have been keeping the Sabbath about four years. I love the holy Sabbath of the Lord. I have just commenced to read my Bible through in 1868. I mean to try, by reading it, to be a better girl, that I may be saved when Jesus comes.

As you sow, so you will reap.

## INSTRUCTOR ITEMS.

Read carefully the article in this Number from the pen of Uncle Harvey. It will be of special service to those children who want to be able to give a reason of their hope. Uncle Harvey's articles alone are worth the price of the paper. Again we say, Let them be read carefully, yes—studied.

We are almost sorry to be compelled to occupy so much room with Sabbath School lessons; but being designated by the Conference to prepare lessons for the children, we cannot at present fulfill this obligation in any other way. We hope these exercises will be of especial service to those Sabbath School teachers who have the responsibility of teaching small children.

Scatter the Instructor among your friends and relatives. Without boasting, this is the best youth's paper in the world. What an amount of good, then, might be accomplished in extending its circulation. It should go far and near. We have plenty of specimen numbers on hand, and shall take pleasure in sending them as ordered. Let us hear from you, friends. Especially should every Sabbath-keeping child and youth have the Instructor. There is duty in this. Will our preaching brethren see to this matter in their various fields of labor? When the Instructor is circulated as it should be, then we will print it semi-monthly. Who wants the Instructor as often as that? Let all who do, go to work getting new subscribers. That is the only way it can be done. When shall we send it out semi-monthly?

"BIBLE READERS."—All the children and youth of the Battle Creek church have organized themselves into a society, which we will here christen, Bible Readers. The plan is to meet once a month, and be catechized on what they have read. Also miscellaneous questions are given out to the class. It is in the strictest sense a religious exercise, and withal highly interesting. They intend to go through the Bible in 1868. We recommend the same to the youth everywhere. Shall we not have a class of Bible Readers in every locality where young Sabbath-keepers are found?

Our friends will please accept thanks for their interest in furnishing excellent matter for this paper. Of course it will be appreciated by the readers.

## A LITTLE BOY MOVES A GREAT SHIP.

We have somewhere read that at an English dock-yard a great ship was to be launched; an immense multitude assembled to see it glide down the slides that were to carry it into the water. The blocks and wedges were knocked away, but the massive hull did not stir, and there was disappointment. Just then a little boy ran forward, and began to push the ship with all his might. The crowd broke out into a laugh of ridicule, but it so happened that the vessel was almost ready to move, the few pounds pushed by the lad were only needed to start it, and away it went into the water.

This teaches an important lesson to every boy and girl. You often think that the little you can do is of no account. You don't know that. A little word, a kind act, however small, may be, and often is, the turning in one's own history, and often of great importance in its influence upon others. A good deed, or the resistance of a temptation, may

start up good thoughts in the mind of a playmate, which may suggest other thoughts and deeds. The train of thought in one's mind is like a train of cars. The little frog or tongue on the track, no larger than your finger at its point, may direct the locomotive upon the right track, or, if wrongfully placed, it may turn the engine aside and hurl it down a steep bank to fearful destruction. So the smallest word may start the mind on a right or wrong track.

Dear young friends, your little words, little thoughts, and little works, are important. Strive earnestly to be right, noble, generous, at all times, in secret and in public. When, in the future, we come to see the great map of human action and influences spread out, it will then be found that you are daily and hourly exerting an influence that is telling upon the characters of your brothers, sisters, playmates, upon your parents, upon all you come in contact with. Give a good push at the ship, do a good deed, no matter how trifling, whenever and wherever you can, and trust to God for the result.—*American Agriculturist.*

## THE JEWELS.

A RICH nobleman was once showing a friend a great collection of precious stones, whose value was almost beyond counting. There were diamonds, and pearls, and rubies, and gems, from almost every country on the globe, which had been gathered by their possessor by the greatest labor and expense. "And yet," he remarked, "they yield me no income."

His friend replied, that he had two stones which cost him but ten florins each, yet they yielded him an income of two hundred florins a year.

In much surprise he desired to see the wonderful stones, when the man led him down to his mill, and pointed to the two toiling, gray mill-stones. They were laboriously crushing the grain into snowy flour, for hundreds who depended on this work for their daily bread. Those two homely stones did more good in the world, and yielded a larger income, than all the nobleman's jewels.

How many "polished" men and women there are who yield neither to God nor to the world any real income! How many homely ones who are perpetually blessing their race!

## PRECIOUSNESS OF THE BIBLE.

An old negro in the West Indies, residing at a considerable distance from the missionary, but exceedingly desirous of learning to read the Bible, came to him regularly for a lesson. He made but little progress, and his teacher, almost disheartened, intimated his fears that his labors would be lost, and asked him, "Had you not better give it over?" "No, massa, me die;" and pointing his finger to John iii, 16, "God so loved the world," &c., adding with touching emphasis, "It is worth all de labor, to be able to read dat one single verse."

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