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# BIBLE LESSONS.

Sunday, April 29th, 1866.

JOHN xii. 20-36: Testimony to Christ's Divinity I Krngs xi. 26-43: Selomon's death. Recite-Isaiah ix. 6.

Sunday, May 6th, 1866. John xii. \$7-50: Christ declares His authority. I KINGS xii. 1-24: Rehoboam's accession.

### Scripture Enigma

HO cowardly a prince did kill? 2. Who built a city on a hill? Whose son profane, his life did lose What Persian queen preserved the

> 5. What Jewish King a leper died? 6. Whose wicked mother "Treason

The initial letters joined a right. A famous Jew will bring to light. D. W. A.

For the Christian Messenger

## The day of your birth.

Most people know the day of the month on which they were born. But the day of the week on which that deeply interesting event occurred, is seldom recorded and seldom known. As you seem, Mr. Editor, willing to furnish a little profitable amusement to your youthful readers, permit me to give them a clue by which when the day of the month and year are known, they may ascertain exactly the day of the week on on which they or any of their friends, were born, whether old or young.

For instance I was born in May 17, 1810. I have two cousins living, (and half a score more for ought I know.) who were born the same month. One of these was born on the 4th, the the other on the 22ad. We shall therefore all be fitty-six years old, should we reach our next birthday. And this year our respective birth days, will fall on the same day of the week on which we were born. This conclusion I reach, not by consulting an old Almanack, but by the following calculations. First, I notice that there have been fourteen leap years during the fiftysix years of my life. Now as all know our birth such a solemn step. days come one day later in the week every ordinary year, and two days later every leap year, I substract these fourteen days from fifty-aix, and they leave just forty-two days, an even number of weeks. Now any even number of weeks from a given day must fall exactly on the same day of the week as that from which you begin. May 1st, this year will be Tuesday -the 4th, 17th, and 18th, will therefore be Friday, Thursday, and Friday, the days of the week on which we three were born.

The same result is reached by reckoning the time back, shifting one day for every ordinary year, and two after each leap year. We may for instance commence with May 1st, of the present year which falls on Tuesday, and go of me? back in the following manner:

1866. May 1st, Tuesday. Monday. 1865. Leap year. 1864. Sunday.

1863 Friday. and so on until in 1810, May 1st, is on Tues-

You may extend this table as far back as you please. The day of the week on which May he is opposed to religion, and thinks its pro-1st, fell on any year, being known, it is easy to compute that of any other month. Thus in the year 1800, May 1st, fell on Thursday. Jan. 1st, therefore, of that year was on Tuesday.

It may be interesting to some of your readers to be informed that with equal precision all the phases of the Moon, and all the eclipses of the sun and moon that have occurred for thousands light of life shut up in your own soul, and leave of years, can be calculated. Important results in settling the chronology of events, and confirming the truth of the Bible are thus obtained MAY FLOWER.

# How to act.

Without seeing the Saviour, act as you would influences, and render his salvation hopeless." if you did see him before you; attend to his ... My dear young friend, duties are ours, but the restaurant where we eat our dinner, the cutwestten words just as you would if you heard issues belong to God. Your proposed course is glass decenters of fiery poison face us like bathim speak them. " Blessed are they who have a most dangerous one, and a scheme upon teries posted for our destruction; in the social not seen and yer believe." Without seeing the which you cannot ask that divine blessing which gathering, the mixture of alcohol and log wood, white throne before which you must certainly alone would give succe a. Your duty to con- which bears the high-sounding name of some stand in judgment, act as you will wish you had fess Christ is plainly a present duty ; do it; and celebrated wine, is thrust upon as under the when you see it. Without seeing the bright trust bim with the consequences. Tell your guise of hospitality and good cheer; at the wedatmosphere, where are thrown together "the more." whoremongers, and all liars, act so as to avoid mand. Then she opened her heart to her ab.

If, by abstaining, you can prevent one friend of the United States is three and a half pounds their company, and their eternity.

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#### A spoiled boy.

Who was he? He was Adonijah, one of David's sons. How was he spoiled? By hav. pledged him the love and duty of a Christain ing his own way, and not being corrected by his father when he did wrong. The record is-his father displeased him not at any time in saying, "Why hast thou done so?" How do you know that he was spoiled? His conduct shows it: he was pulled up with vanity and pride-was headstrong, disobedient, and profligate. He aspired after the throne; said "I will be king;" and prepared him chariots and horsemen, and fitty men to run before him, and treated his royal parent with contempt. To what end did he come? To no good end Such self-conceited, arrogant, wicked boys never come to any good end. He died the ignominious death of a traitor. He was executed. Matthew Henry commenting upon the course of this spoiled boy, says: " He in return made a fool of his father. Because he was old and confined to his bed, he thou ht no notice was to be taken of him, and therefore exalted himself, and said I will be king. Children that are indulged learn to be proud and ambitious, and that is the ruin of a great many young people."

#### **Duties and Issues**,

When the late Rev. Dr. Nettleton was laboring in revivals in Connecticut, he once revisited a parish where, more than a year betore, a revival bad occurred under his preaching. "How do the converts hold out?" he asked of the pastor. "Very well, generally," was the reply; "a few however decline to make a profession of their faith. One of these Jane Manning, you will remember, I am sure."

"Yes; she was very intelligent and clear in her experience, I thought, and gave good evidence of a genuine change of heart. Does she hold back from a profession? and for what reason, pray?" "I can hardly make out her real objection. She assigns no excuse, except her teeling that it is best to defer it a while." will talk with her," said Mr. Nettleton.

Jane was glad to see Mr. Nettleton, and showed a hearty interest in recalling with him the incidents connected with his labors. To his more personal application of the subject, she did not hesitate to reply as to the work of grace in her own soul. She still loved the Saviour; his word, his Sabbath, the duties of praise and prayer were precious. But when he began to speak of the duty of confessing Christ before men, she evidently shrank from the conversation. Though she still listened respectfully, she became silent and reserved. To his direct question with regard to her omission of so palpable an obligation, she offered no other reason than that reported by her pastor, that she wished to wait a little longer before taking

"Is it that you feel doubtful of your own conversion," said Mr. Nettleton.

"No, sir, I cannot distrust the reality of a divine work in my heart. The change is too great for that: it is from darkness to light; from the supreme love of self and sin to the love of God and holiness. I feel sure that I can say,

Whereas I was once blind, now I see." "And you acknowledge the duty of public consecration to Christ; of remembering him in the Lord's supper, and covenanting with his people?" "I do; my heart longs for it as a privilege." " And have you ever thought that Jesus longs thus to welcome you to his table and his fold; that this delay is a denial of his claims? And for what is this delay? for your own pleasure or convenience? Is it possible you can prefer these to the pleading voice of your loving Saviour, 'Do this in remembrance

A flood of tears showed the force of this appeal; and when he added solemnly, "Your thus grieve and disobey bim?" "I will tell you," she said; " I will tell you all, although it includes a fact not known here. I am soon to be married. My promised busband, living at the far West, to whom I was pledged before my conversion, is not a Christian. More than this, fessors self-righteous or hypocrites. When he stinence from strong drink! heard of the revival here, he wrote charging ruin our happiness. So I have not dared to tell

up my religion or deny my Saviour." "What then do you propose? to keep the him more of a gentleman. side to perdition?"

him, by a careful, consistent life, the real strong drick which has been prescribed as a gated and indescribable scourge, and embarrassworth of religion, and then to avow my own medicine. Young man, you do not so continue es the friends of all good enterprises. change, and persuade him to join me in a pub- the use of epsom salts, castor oil, or mustard lic consecration to God and his church; but if plasters, after recovery from sickness. I were to make a profession first, it might and

ces of unchanging affection to himself, she in vain wile, and besought him to join her in the ser-

to duty. The Holy Spirit blessed that frank true, because of his beastly appetite; but that and faithful letter to the conversion of the appetite has been goaded on by the seller of proud opposer, and Jane Manning had a pious strong drink, and the seller of strong drink has companion for life. - American Massenger.

## Unconscious Influence.

by officers and laborers in the Tract building the spirit of our Master. Many scenes of thrilling interest have occurred, and many souls have been converted to God in connection with this perhaps earliest daily come a mighty power in the land. No outrage prayer-meeting of the city.

ing for the lawyer the voice of praise was heard on the destroyer of their happiness in the room have, and in an instant he was The slave trade was bad. The slave auctions to all around, our, absorbed in a view of his own admission into decent society. sins, Christ's ondrous long-suffering, and the need of pardon if there was any hope of heaven bartering of a man's soul across a bar-counter, for him. At length recovering sufficiently to for glass after glass of mean whiskey, is fully as transact his business, he retired to his closet, and rile as to sell his body by auction. As the slaveceased not to plead until peace and joy filled dealer was held accursed, so let society frown his soul; and he went forth to proclaim how on the maker and the seller, wholesale or retail, God had used the sound of praise in an adjoin- by the hogshead or by the small, of distilled ing room as the instrument of waking him perdition, until every vender of the poison shall, from his indifference, and bringing him to the by force of public opinion, it not of law, be cross. How little Christians know the power driven out of a life of crime and dishonesty into with which God may clothe their humblest acts some decent business, on which he can consist-

"MY MASTER IS ALWAYS IN."-" Johnnie," said a man, winking slyly to a dry goods clerk of his acquaintance, " you must give me good measure. Your master is not in."

Johnnie looked solemnly into the man's face, and replied:

My Master is always in."

Johnnie's master was the all-seeing God. Let every tempted child, ay, and adult too, adopt Johnnie's motto: " My Master is always in." It will save him from falling into many sins.

# Temperance.

# ADDRESS

Of the Executive Committee of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States.

The Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations, which met in Philadelphia last summer, instructed its permanent Executive Committee to prepare and publish a paper on intemperance, addressed to the young men of the country. It is now published: Young Men!

There is a great work for us to do,—a special do it. work, which must be done now,-a work in which every young man can do something,—a work which can never be done better than it can be done now.

Lord asks you, through me his servant, why you fought and conquered. The power of the STRONG DRINK interest must be broken. The spread of drunkenness must be stopped, or we are lost.

The putting down of drunkenness, and the reforming of drunkards, is a work worthy of Him whose name we bear.

How can we help on with the work? 1. Let every young man set an examp'e of ab-

There is no occasion for a healthy man to use me not to become a victim to it, as it would liquor at all. It does not strengthen the arm it does not clear the head; it does not brighten ability to procure innocent pleasures. him of my new hopes and joys; neither have the eye; it does not make the foot-step firmer; I thought it best to unite with the church; it does not make the man who uses it more inthough I do not mean, indeed I do not, to give dustrious, more useful, more levely, or a more worthy member of society. It does not make drunkard.

Even when sick, strong drink is better avoid panions. your companion to walk in darkness by your ed, or used sparingly, under positive medical prescription. Many men make drunkards of sibe suffering upon innocent parties. "Oh no; it is my hope and purpose to show themselves by continuing to use, as a beverage,

To drink liquor is dangerous. To abstain grieve and anger him as to repel him from all good from it, in spite of temp ation to use it, is noble. The temptation is presented every where. In glory of the peaceful abode, and the joyous promised husband that you belong to the Lord, ding, some intoxicating mixture is set before us, features of the white robed society, act as vigor- who has redeemed you by his blood; and that and we are told that we are guilty of rudeness

done for her soul, and the yows which she had rifice, on your part, of the pleasure of pouring made to be the Lord's. Renewing her assuran- filthy stimulants down your throat, will not be

2. Deal very kindly with the drunkard.

There is a general disposition to kick the poor vice of God, that their union might be lasting fellow, to speak harshly to him, or, at best, to let him alone, as a degraded specimen of hu-The favor of heaven followed this adherence manity. This is wrong. He is besotted, it is been allowed to pursue his fiendish business with little hindrance on the part of Christian people, beyond an occasional (not very forcible) remons rance. The drunkard, fallen though he may be, is our brother. We cannot get rid of our A daily prayer-meeting was established in the responsibility by saying, "Am I my brother's rooms of the American Tract Society soon after keeper?" It is our business to do all we can its formation, in the days of Harlan Page, which to reform and restore him to decency and to has been continued ever since, attended chieffy Christianity, and what we do must be done in

3. Help down with the rum trade. Its profits have been so great that it has beor indecency is too great for it to commit. For An incident recently occurred showing how gain, it makes merchandise of the souls of its God can work beyond the intended agencies of victims; it ruins families; it breaks up the his people, and beyond their weak faith. peace of households; it makes widows and Beneath the room for prayer are offices occupied orphans; it fills almshouses, jails, and penitentiby legal gentlemen, one of which, as the bell aries. It fattens pauper graveyards with the restruck for the hour of devotion, a man of the mains of its victims. It not only controls priworld entered to transact some secular business. mary meetings, elections, and legislative assem-Once a professor of religion, he had long since blies; but it is protected by law to such an exgone back to the world, and was living in flag- tent, that, while it is permitted to make wrecks rant disregard of Christ's claims. While wait of men, their outraged willows have no recourse

smitten a solow from the Almighty, and were horrible. The dealer in human flesh was transfixed, and amained for a time unconscious voted to be a low wretch, who could not gain

'The liquor trade is, it possible, worse. The ently ask the blessing of God. To this end we

4. Awaken the people to action.

Present indications show that the people are beginning to think on this matter as they bave not thought for years. People will listen to addresses and lectures on the subject, as they have not listened to them, and will crowd to temperance meetings as they have not before crowded. We dare not neglect such a favorable time for following up the work as this points the present

What, then, is our duty?

To use every possible individual effort, in personal example, in writing, speaking, and laboring for the reform of drunkards and the suppression of drunkenness.

To labor as bodies of Christian men, to arouse the people by public meetings and otherwise. No work comes more legitimately within the sphere of Young Men's Christian Associations than this. No work can be more readily done. No work promises better or speedier results.

Open your halls and churches. Call the people together. Get your best speakers; ministers, lagyers, statesmen, merchants, clerks-any body who has heart and brains to speak, and voice to command the people's attention. Persuade the men and the women that there is a mighty work to be done, and show them how to

" WATCH YE, STAND FAST IN THE FAITH, QUIT YOU LIKE MEN, BE STRONG!"

# Our remaining great national curse must be An Important Question answered.

Dr Jewitt in an address, answered the question "Why men should not drink alcoholic liquors?—thus:—

1. Their use injures the health.

2. It injures the character; through the social influences connected with liquor and the places where it is sold. 3. It lessens the chances of success as busi-

4. It taxes the pocket, and thus lessens the

5. It increases fourfold the likelihood of being attacked by epidemic diseases. 6 It exposes to the risk of dying a miserable

7. It exerts a ruinous influence on one's com-

8. It upholds a system which brings inexpres-

9. It helps fasten on the country an unmiti-

Scientific.—A Paris blacksmith has invented a new system of shoeing horses. Instead of the shoe being placed -frequently much too hot on the book and burning its own restingplace, the outside of the hoof is cut away round the foot to about the depth of half an inch this leaves a ledge into which the shoe fits, and is then flush with the frog which just touches the ground, and the whole foot rests on the ground instead of being raised as of old by the shoe.

THE WEED TOBACCO .- In Great Britain, at ously as the worth of such a residence should in publicly owning Jesus for your Master, you it we do not partake of it; in the family closet, the present time, the consumption of tobacco is prompt. Without looking down into the red, do not love him less, but only your Saviour the jug of braudy; or the bottle of vile " bits at the rate of twenty-two ounces per head per at distant of ters," invites to the private pursuit of a course annum. But we are still far behind other counfearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and Jane was convinced of her error, and at once the murderers, and dogs, and sorcerers, and took up her cross and followed the divine come and wormwood.