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Department. "louths" Lessons for 1871 THE WORDS OF JESUS.

SUNDAY, MAY 7TH, 1871. The Tares,-Matt. xiii. 24-30.

GOLDEN TEXT .- " Gather the wheat into my barn "-V. 30.

SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS .- Matt. xiii. 36-43 : iv. 1-11 ; John viii. 31-59 ; Eph. vi. 10-17.

QUESTIONS .- What is a parable? Who spoke the parable given in our lesson? To whom did he speak? Verses 34-36. In which vs. of this chapter does he explain this parable ?

What is meant in vs. 24, by " the kingdom of heaven'? In what does it differ from "the kingdom of God," in Matthew vi. 33; John iii. 5? To what does Jesus in our lesson liken this kingdom? Tell, in your own words, the narrative Jesus gives in vs. 24-30. What are "tarcs "? Give your opinion of the enemy, the servants, and the owner.

Who in the kingdom of heaven is meant by the "man who sowed good seed "? vs. 24, 37. Who is meant by the title, "Son of man '? John in. 14. What is " the good seed " which be sows ? vs. 38. Whoare "children of the kingdom"? Who is meant by "the enemy"? vs. 39. How does he do his work ? vs. 25. What does this show us about him? Who are meant by "tares"? vs. 38. Are you a child of the kingdom, or of the wicked one?

Where is all this sowing done? vs. 24. 38. What does this teach us? When does among those who spread life, and the the difference between wheat and tares appear? vs. 26. How did the servants propose to get rid of the tares? v. 28. Who are these servants? vs. 27, 30, 39. Why were they not permitted to gather them up? v. What was to be done in the harvest? v. 30. What is meant by this harvest? v. 39 What shall then be done with the tares? vs. 40-42. What shall then occur with the righteous? v. 43. What shall then be done with you?

CHRISTIAN MESSENGER. THE most auspicious moment the deed was

done. Note, too, that he then " went his way," v. 25, thus admitly taking himself from observation, that the work of evil might be unsuspected. Just as really is the devil a person as

was the enemy, and just as truly is he the bitter antagonist of Jesus, as was the man who sowed tares an antagonist of him whom he wronged, and the devil times his assaults as wisely, and he conceals himself,

and escapes observation, leaving his deadly work to go on. For the souls and bodies places, preaching, working miracles, and of each pupil this enemy works. Expose his methods; display his wiles, that he may be known and shuuned., Matt. iv. 11; 2 Cor. ii. 11; Eph. iv. 11; James iv. 7.

The plant is like true grain and so affords an apt image of fallen human na-

" The children of the wicked one," do not transform the good into the bad, but they do sap strength, impede, afflict, annoy. See John viii. 44 ; Acts xiii. 10 ; 1 John ii. 8. This antagonism was foretold in Eden, Gen. iii. 15. Some children of Satan are not found near the people of God, but shun their society, and avoid all contact with them. Others, however, are side by side with the good seed ; they even look about as well in some stages of growth, and yet they are infinitely removed in character and in prospect. Satan loves to scatter those who spread death

man was sent to a rich city to strengthen is too bad that father has to go out in all smile. the young converts. Here God blessed his labours so largely, that he sought an apos-

tle's aid in this fruitful field. 4. These two, ere long, were despatched with their people's alms to a distant' city they are, - father, Uncle George, and in distress.

5. On their return they were solemnly ordained by God's command to special mission work. They visited many distant often returning after an interval to strengthen new converts, and establish the infant | home."

churches. They were compelled to fly for their lives from one city; in another, their | ful for my many blessings," and Willie leader was wellnigh martyred; and from

one district they were fiercely driven. But no deadly hatred could quench their faith and love, and even to these spots they carried again the gospel of peace. Re-

stored to their first flock, they gave account | conclude to stop by the way." of their mission.

6. Once, when a grave question threatened to divide the people, these two brethren were sent to get the advice of the mother church, which was so wisely given that peace was re-established.

7. We last see this servant of God departing on a second mission to his native island, when his choice of a companion temporarily estranged him from an old glorious meeting, and our hearts were so friend.

8. It is also recorded that he was once that we cared but little for the cold. We carried away with the dissimulation of first talked over the various uses of snow, in order.

3. When persecution had widely sown frosted window-pane upon the snow-covered a hen covering her chickens under her the seeds he sought to destroy, this good ground and the leaden sky. " I think it wings. " Yes ee, yes ee,' he said with a

> weathers to preach, while other men can A few days after, I asked him what it sit around their big, nice fires. I think a meant. " I know," he said, folding his arms across his breast ; " fold him very preacher's life the very hardest of all. I won't be a preacher; no, I won't. There close; take very good care."

> > This school is in Portland, Oregon. " And our effort is but a drop, as it were, in the ocean," says the teacher.

Wherever the Chinese are, Christian hall where the gentlemen were shaking schools should be immediately opened, to " Ah, Bro. Roberts," said Mr. Raines, which they will come, and gladly come. "you are blessed with a comfortable. - Child's Paper.

THE OLD BELL.

" What ails our bell? It sounds dull and harsh. It has no ring. As my brother said when he was here the other day, " It stops when it gets through. What ails

" That's a good bell."

" Perhaps it is, but surely something is wrong with it now. Let's go up and see what's the matter."

So we climbed up among the dusty timbers, till we stood beside the friend we had come to interview. We found, to be sure, a good bell, of fair size and good metal, and perfectly sound. Not a flaw or crack

But we discovered what ailed it. It had sounded out its call when the rope was pulled, but had not been cared for or kept

. C Dear Bro I desire ger to sen what I an not, howe doing, for been occu On account travelling ral of our hope, in attention. progresses nccomplis their dor expressed this conne there are their dut and earne come to t noble won I repor Rev. Isa. to co Weston I Mrs. J. A William Charles I J. P. Fos John Brit Shippy S William N. T. Bal Gardener Leason B Rev. Obe

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felt himself pressed closer to his father's heart. "You have had a bitter cold ride," said Mrs. Roberts. " The evening was so very disagreeable, I almost feared you might it?"

there's Mr. Raines, too, mother."

snow from overcoats and hats.

Soon cheerful voices sounded from the

"Yes; Bro. Raines, I trust I am thank-

" I did not find it disagreeable, did you, Bro. Raines ?"

" Disagrecable ? no, by no means."

"Did you George?" asked Mr. Roberts of his brother.

" On the contrary, I believe I have passed one of the happiest days of my life, even though riding through a snow storm," " The truth is, wife, we have had a in it.

warmed up by the love of the Saviour,

evil men stand side by side. At the judgment they will be forever and fearfully separated.

ANALYSIS.-I. The Swings v. 24, 25. 1. Of good seed. v. 24. 2. Of bad seed. v. 25.

II. The Discovery. v. 26.

III. The Decision. v. 27-30. 1. Negative. v. 27-29. 2. Positive. v. 30. Exposition .- No other Evangelist records this garable.

short, that beside some truth, shows some familiar thing which helps us to understand the truth. It describes something churches, for these are included in "the that we easily understand, so that we may learn another thing which is not so easy. situdes, even as the humblest believer is. Our lesson states the plainer case.

43, was given privately to the disciples in | They are the farm hands, doing all sorts the house where Jesus lodged. v. 36.

Kingdom of Heaven. That government, | time, sowers at another, and reapers in the founded by God, centered in heaven, ruled harvest. They therefore are angels. v. by Christ, accepted by saints, and which 39; Matt. iv. 11; 25; 13; Heb. i. 14, shall eventually rule over all. It was foretold in Psalms ii; cx; Dan. ii. 44; viii. 14, 27.

but the man and the circumstances ings. Jas. i. 12; 1 Pet. i. 7; Heb. xi. narrated.

Tares .--- The plant we call tares is not good. such as the parable assumes that sown to have been. The Darnel of Palestine does, however, meet the requirements of the case. Concerning it Dr. Hackett says: Except that the stock was not so high, it appeared otherwise precisely like wheat closing address in verse 43. not us the onve havin to show themeoleou

more the evil resembles the good the better he is pleased. 2 Cor. xi. 13-15.

The field is the world .- All mankind, as in the great commission. Matt. xvi. 15. Here, Satan works and ever has worked, and Jesus means to teach his disciples how they must deal with the evil ones in the world. Civil punishment of evil doers, and church discipline for un-SUMMARY .- In this life, good men and worthy members, are not abrogated here. These must exist. Rom. xiii. 4; 1 Cor. v. 11-13.

> The discovery .- The presence of tarcs is discovered by and-by, when the evil germs have time to shoot. The law expressed in Matt. vii. 16-20 ; Gal. vi. 7, 8, cannot fail. The proposal.-V. 28 states it. This is a very natural feeling on the part of any holy being. See Psalm vii. 11; Job xxi 7; Luke ix. 54.

The servants .- Not " the children o A Parable is a discourse, be it long or the kingdom," who are "the good seed," and who do not play a double part in the parable. Not the officers and pastors of good seed," and are subject to all its vicis-"The servants" are those subsequently The Explanation .- Contained in v. 36- doing the work of "the reaper." v. 30.

> of work in season. Ploughmen at one illustrate their work.

The refusal .-. " Nay, lest," etc. Christ's kingdom is so adjusted that the child of Is likened unto .- Not the man merely, God is really aided by untoward surround-11. Uprooting evil would also uproot

> The Harvest .- At this season, segara. tion was certain and easy. For that time God can afford to wait, and hence men and angels also may well wait. Press the concluding practical question, and read Jesus'

others. But we cannot judge in what de- | until our hearts glowed in thankfulness to gree he was blameworthy on these occas sions.

Who was he? and what parts of Scripture record his acts?

SPRING FLOWERS.

The dear children delight in the return of spring, as much as the birds and the skipping lambs. Two little girls and their for the earliest spring flowers.

The first to discover the earliest flowers. was little Annie. With a cry of jog she sprang forward, and stooping down secured her prize, a dainty " spring beauty," with delicately veined petals and slender all studded over with the delicate bloodroot, and blue violets. Various others of pretty names and colors they secured, and with these treasures, returned home quite well satisfied with their early ramble in the woods.

On their way they sang the cheering little song, which, if you do not know, I hope you will learn very soon : " Flowers, wild wood flowers, in a sheltered dell they grew." Showing their fragrant treasures bis cheeks. to their mother, she bade them remember who it is that sends the flowers and the birds, and let their hearts go forth in praise and thanksgiving to Him. They will not soon forget the pleasant search for spring's first, sweetest flowers,

KEEP AWAY FROM THE WHEELS.

Little Charles Williams lived near manufactory, and he was very fond of going among the workmen and the young people that were at work there. The foreman would say to him, " Keep away from the wheels, Charlie."

Charlie did not mind. and would sometimes say, "I can take care of myselt."

God for providing as warm a covering for the tender germs, to protect them from the nipping frost. Then we considered

the several blessings of grace as signified by the figure of snow in the Scriptures. There is the pardon of sin, "Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow"; then the justifying righteousness of Christ,

"Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow "; and then the. young brother started one day to search efficacy of the word of God, "For as the rain cometh down, and snow, from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and

bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater ; so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth," etc. stem. Soon they came to a little knoll, Is not this the analysis of our conversation, Bro. Raines ? "

> "Yes, I believe it is. As we rode along, my heart overflowed with love and gratitude to God that he had conferred so great an bonor upon me, as to call me to preach | bell his gospel. Brethren, ours is a glorious calling."

" It is indeed," both exclaimed, enthusiastically. Mrs. Roberts looked at Willie just in time to see two big tears roll down about the church besides the bell that gets

A SCHOOL OF CEINESE BOYS.

We began the school with four boys, Ah Loons, Ah Lau, Tom Ling, and Ah Luyall boys, though eighteen or twency years old. They are all called " boys." There are fifty names on our list; perhaps half the number are present." People call them all "John," or " John Chinaman," which they don't like; why not another Mellican name, " Charley," or " Sam "? Their real names are Yop, Tae, Tin, Tum, Bah. In speaking of one another, they say, Ali Ling ; "Ah" meaning "Mr." in our tongue.

It is better to have one teacher to two, or at most three scholars, and the children In and help us - I must be al 14 to 1

In the first placed the spring was broken. Of course the clapper, striking end resting on the side of the bell could produce only a dull and heavy sound.

The fastening of the bell in the yoke had worked loose, so that it would sway in a crazy fashion when rung. Then we knew why the ringing of the bell had shaken the house so much of late.

Furthermore, the loosening of the bell had displaced it so much that its edge, on one side, rested directly upon the wood of the wheel. Is it any wonder that its tone was unmusical, and stopped very short? What did we do?

Why, we summoned our most ingenious blacksmith at once. He soon put in a new spring, keyed every thing up tight and snug, and oiled the bearings thorough-

ly. Now the old bell swings easily, and sends out a clear, musical, singing tone. It is heard much farther than before, and people ask if we have been getting a new

While examining things up in the belfry, I mused a little, and since our cld bell sounds like new again, I have mused a little more. Is there not something else to sounding dull and unmusical?

.People ask sometimes, " What ails your minister? He don't preach as well as he used to. He is heavy and unattractive. He has no life about him."

Suppose you go into the pulpit or the study and make an examination ?' It may be that the spring is broken by cares and wants from which you in your " call " have engaged to keep him free. It may be that he has worn loose in his fasteninge by too long continued hard work. It may be that music is killed in him by contact with the wood of your indifference and lack of co-operation. It may be that he creaks and groans for the went of a little lubrication by words of appreciation and sympathy.

Now there's good metal in him not

Mrs. W. T. R Ha N. P. Sm W. Chip A Friend Mary Cu Andrew Edgar S A Friend A. C. Cr S. N. Bu Hon. Dr H. N. P The c H. N. visit to now. •W her porting, know th me in h than th Para

Rev. J. L.

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surely. Fields were often very remote frome the habitations of their owners, and such a deed as this could easily be per- perated. The damage was done "while men slept;" not to imply negligence on	Recite,—Scripture Catechism, 201, 202. SCRIPTURE BIOGRAPHY. ANSWER TO No. 1. Jehoshaphat was THE GREAT KING, the principal events of whose life were described last week. Here are the passages of Scrip- ture to which reference was made : 1. 2 Chron. xx. 31, 32. 2. 2 Chron. xvii. 7-9. 3. 2 Chron. xviii. 10-13. 4. 2 Chron. xviii. 10-13. 4. 2 Chron. xviii. 29-34 ; xix. 1-3. 6. 2 Chron. xx. 1-28. 8. 2 Chron. xx. 29, 40, 35-37 ; 1 Kings xxii. 48, 49. No. 11. Here are some events in the life of A GOOD MAN. 1. He is first named as doing a very generous action in order to assist the needy. 2. Several years after he showed his charity and insight by his hearty welcome of one from whom the other Christians shrank in doubt and fear—one, too, who was destined to share with him years of	Often he went so near that the wind of the wheels would almost suck him in ; and two or three times he grew so dizzy that he scarcely knew which way to go. At length, one day he staggered while amid the wheels, and fell the wrong way ; and the band caught his little coat, and drew him in, and he was dreadfully mang- led. So it is, boys, when you go in the way of temptation. You may think you can take care of yourselves, and keep clear of the wheels ; but, oh ! you may find your- selves dreadfully mistaken. Before you are aware of it, the band may catch you. Keep away from the wheels ! and daily pray, "Lead us not into temptation, but, deliver us from evil." "HY MRS. MALLARY. "Yes, Willie, I think they will. We must make them forget the cold ride, by the cheerful fire and warm supper we shall have waiting for them." "It's a dreadful evening." said Willie,	when they really understand us, for their "yes-ce" often means "no." When they say, "Yes-ce, me sarez," they seem to know; "Me no sarez," when they do not. At first they looked all alike, with their flat noses, dark skin, shaved heads, and long queues; but we see after a while who is who. They are very doeile, very re- spectful, and very grateful. After reading and speaking, we teach them the words of the Lord's Prayer, and then we rise and recite it together. Their manner is very reverent. Some stand with bowed heads and devout boks. I do not know why, for I think they can have little idea what it is. We thin sing a few verses of Bishop Ken's Evening Hyuni, in which some of them try to join. The Hong-Kong boys are learning it by rote. A few evenings ago I found one of them writing it on his slate. When he had written, "Under Thine own almighty wings," he asked in a very soft voice, "What means it? Me no understand.	him kindness and sympathy. Do your own duty. Co-operate with him heartily in Christian work. You may soon be as well satisfied as if you had thrown him away, and sent off your order to Union, or Allegheny, or Lane "Foundry" for a successor. CONSIDERABLE TO DO.—A missionary of the Sunday School Union, in Michigan, found a Sabbath School superintended by a woman, who is the mother of six sons and six daughters, all but one living at home. She said she had considerable to do, but would superintend the school if no one else would. It is a flourishing school. This mother of twelve children was the on'y professor of religion in the neighbor- hood who could be induced to superintend it. Nature has written a letter of credis upon some men's faces, which is honored almost whetever presented. One reason why the world is not re- formed, is, because every man would have others make a boginning; and never thinks
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