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The Sabbath School.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

Fourth Quarter Lesson 13, Dec. 29, 1901

REVIEW.

Read Psalm 105.
GOLDEN TEXT.—If God be for us, who can be against us?—Rom. 8: 31

SUBJECT: HOW A SMALL PEOPLE WERE BECOMING GREAT

THE PRINCIPLES.

The ultimate purpose of the lesson is "the development of Christian character."
Six principles by which character is developed.

1. Inoculate and develop good habits.
2. Insist upon obedience.
3. Train the power to discriminate between right and wrong by a consistent expression of approval and disapproval, and by leading the pupil to see the consequence of his acts.
4. Fill the mind with high ideals, dwelling more on the beautiful picture of what we ought to be, than on the evil we ought not to be.
5. Try to substitute high motives for the lower ones, but use the lower ones where necessary.
6. Provide opportunities to actualize the ideals. Every principle must be put in practice. Only he that doeth the will of God can know his teaching.

Subordinate Purposes. There are several of these, each of which is a means toward attaining the ultimate purpose of all the teaching.

A KNOWLEDGE OF THE PERSONS WITH WHOM WE HAVE BECOME ACQUAINTED.—Joseph, his brothers, the Pharaohs, Jacob as an old man, Moses, Miriam, Jethro Pharaoh's daughter, the Israelites as a race, the Egyptians, the magicians.

Apply the six principles enumerated above as far as can be done. Keeping those principles before the scholars on paper, or on a blackboard, let them show:

1. What good habits they find in these persons, or actions that express the habit of the person.
2. What examples of obedience.
3. What right things and what wrong ones in their actions, and why.
4. Characteristics in any of them which show a high, noble, heroic character, worthy to be our ideal.
5. From what motives did these persons act, and which were highest and best.
6. Let each one recall to mind what circumstances, past or present, has enabled them, or does now give the opportunity of applying these principles.

EVENTS WHICH WE HAVE SEEN IN THESE LESSONS.—We can present them as a series of scenes. Joseph's dreams and his telling them. Joseph on his way to Dothan. Joseph in the pit, and his brother's treatment of him. Joseph as a slave, as chief steward of Potiphar's estate, in prison, interpreting Pharaoh's dreams, as prime minister of Egypt, meeting his brothers, presenting his father to Pharaoh, his last days. Moses as a child, found by Pharaoh's daughter, as a prince in Egypt, his great choice, his unsuccessful attempt to deliver his people, in exile, at the burning bush, before the people, before Pharaoh. The ten plagues, the Passover, the march from Egypt, crossing the Red Sea, the song of triumph.

Place in the history of the kingdom of God. Review the general trend of the history through the two quarters, and note how God is working among men to redeem the world. Note the changes from a single man, Abraham, called to a nation of two million, called to be the religious nation, for the redemption of the world.

Places where we have been. Hebron, Dothan, Egypt, Desert of Arabia, near Mt. Sinai, Goshen, Zoan, by the Red Sea, beyond the sea.

Apply the six principles to these events, as we did to the persons above.

THE MEANING OF THE FACTS: THE LESSONS THEY TEACH US.—Note all through the history the divine and the human elements; what God did for men, without which they do nothing; and what men did under these circumstances the results to themselves depending on their own free choices. There is the same combination in every life. We can learn from this history some practical truths. (1) About prayer. (2) About the providence of God. (3) About growth in character. (4) About faithfulness in daily duties the way to higher things. (5) About forgiving those who have injured us. (6) About faith in God. (7) About deciding to serve God. (8) About God's goodness and power in saving his people. (9) About hardening the heart. (10) About God's guidance.

Apply the six principles given above to these truths.

Note that one condition of successful teaching is to make the study of the Bible so pleasant and attractive that the scholars will desire to know more about it. Permanent interest is developed by repeated experience of temporary interest.

Note. It is wise to connect the Bible history with secular history, and with general literature, and with the experiences of daily life. Religion is not apart from, but is a part of, all right living.

Santa Claus.

The editor of the N. Y. Sun receives a letter, and answered it follows:

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently to communication below, expressing the same time our great gratitude that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of the Sun:

Dear Editor—I am 7 years of age. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says, if you see it in the Sun, it's so.

Please tell me the truth. There is a Santa Claus!

Virginia O'Hanlon, 115 West Ninety-fifth Street.

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are small. In this universe of ours man is an insect, an ant, in his intellect, compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. There would be no Virginia. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance, to make tolerable this existence. We should have no joyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not even the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the hearts of childhood.

It should not escape notice that the argument for Santa Claus is an argument for faith in the unseen. If one may believe in and love a fictitious saint, because of beneficent bestowal, how much more may he believe in the unseen God who is the author of every good and perfect gift! All minds whether they be men's or children's, are small. But there are not a few of those small minds which think it too small to believe in a God who is spirit, and who must be worshipped in spirit and in truth. That men and children can not see God is no proof that there is no God. The most real things in this world are those that neither children nor men can see. It is because the real God, the Creator, the Preserver, the bountiful Benefactor, is in and with the world that there are joy and gladness and hope and assurance.

THEY NEVER FAIL.—Mr. S. M. Boughner, Langton, writes: For about two years I was troubled with Inward Piles, but by using Parmelee's Pills, I was completely cured, and although four years have elapsed since then they have not returned. Parmelee's Pills are anti-bilious and a specific for the cure of Liver and Kidney Complaints, Dyspepsia, Costiveness, Headache, Piles, etc., and will regulate the secretions and remove all bilious matter.

Help Him Out, Then.

BY LETTICE A. KING.
Yes, said Uncle Dan, He supplies all my need. I don't have to worry; and I never do.

Once I got down very low. No work was coming in, and at last I had but three cents in my pocket. I ate a good supper—cleaned out my cupboard entirely; then I knelt down and told the Lord my

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"I had used Ripans Tablets for a number of years and would not be without them. I was troubled with indigestion and constipation, and have noticed since I have been using them that I am getting rid of those terrible bilious spells which confined me to bed on account of the dizziness. Of late I have not had any. I had just got over a bad spell of bilious fever and was sitting on the step, when a neighbor came to me and remarked how bad I looked. I told him I had just got over the fever, and that I was afraid to eat anything on account of indigestion, from which I had suffered since I was quite young. He advised me to take Ripans Tablets. I said I would try them, and from then I haven't been without them. I can get anything, providing I finish with a Tablet instead of despair. I feel very thankful that I have found something that will prolong my life."

GASTRIC TROUBLES.

"I had suffered three years at least from gastric troubles. I could not sleep at night. My back ached and my feet would be cold as ice. My bowels were not regular and I would have such cramps from gases forming on my stomach that I would faint away. I was so weak that I could not get up stairs. About three months ago I was suffering and my body was tied up inwardly. My brother recommended Ripans Tablets to me. My stomach obtained some for me from the nearest drug store and they were not long in relieving me of all the foul gases that formed in my stomach and they move my bowels regularly for which I had been taking physics all the time. I have no more gases, my bowels are regular, I have no more headaches and can sleep well; in fact, I feel as light as the air which I breathe, and that is saying a good deal for a woman who weighs 150 pounds. I am sorry that I did not commence using the Tablets a year ago, for they would have saved me a great deal of pain and suffering."

One gives relief