

The Sunday-School.

SECOND QUARTER,
LESSON IV.—April 26.

PAUL'S JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM.

ACTS 21: 3-12.

GOLDEN TEXT.—*The will of the Lord be done.*—Acts 21: 14.

HISTORICAL SETTING.—*Time.* The journey from Miletus to Jerusalem occupied about four weeks, from May 1 to May 27, A. D. 57. *Place.* At Tyre and Cesarea were made the principal stops. *Place in the History.*—The return home from the third missionary journey.

VOYAGE FROM MILETUS TO TYRE.—Vs. 1-3. Having left with reluctance and grief the elders of Ephesus, Paul and his companions proceeded on their voyage. *The first stop,* after sailing forty miles in a southerly direction, was at Coos, a small island of commercial importance off the coast of Caria, in Asia Minor. *The second port was Rhodes* (rose), an island and a city fifty miles southeast of Coos. *The third port was Patara,* a seaport of Lycia, opposite the island of Rhodes. Here the company changed from the coasting vessel to a larger ship. *When we had discovered Cyprus,* Paul could recall his first experience as a foreign missionary ten years before, when he went through this island with Barnabas and Mark. *Sailed into* (unto) Syria, of which Phœnicia was a part, and of which Tyre was the chief city.

TYRE AND ITS ASSOCIATIONS.—Vs. 4-6. Tyre, the commercial emporium of Phœnicia, had been one of the greatest and most famous cities of the ancient world. *And finding* (the) disciples, looking up the disciples they knew to be there. *We tarried there seven days.* The time spent in unloading the vessel, and probably taking in a new cargo. *Who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem.* There were not only disciples at Tyre, but prophets. It was revealed to them, not that Paul should go, but that if he went, he would go into bonds, prison, sufferings. *When we had accomplished those days,* as if the days had fulfilled their purpose. *Went our way.* Were going on our journey. *Brought us on our way.* The expression of sympathy and love must have cheered the apostle. *We knelt down.* The *we* implies that others prayed besides Paul. *We took ship,* the same ship.

Vs. 7-14. *And when we had finished our course.* Our voyage by sea. *Came to Ptolemais.* About 30 miles south of Tyre. *And the next day we . . . departed.* Probably by land. The journey was 30 or 40 miles. *Cesarea was the Roman capital of Palestine,* and the official residence of Herodian kings and the governors of Judea. This was the third visit Paul had paid to this city. Here Paul was imprisoned, a few weeks after the present visit, and remained in prison for two years, whence he was sent to Rome. *Philip . . . one of the seven deacons appointed at the same time with Stephen.* *The evangelist.* The word "evangelist," means a herald of good tidings. It describes the work of those who went about the neighboring communities preach-

ing the Word and communicating the facts of the Gospels to those unchristianized. *Had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.* The word means those who speak forth, or in behalf of God. It does not necessarily imply a revelation of future events, but a consciousness of having some truth or message from God. Where they preached, whether in private houses, or to women only, or to public assemblies, we do not know. *As we tarried there many days.* About ten days. *From Judea a certain prophet, named Agabus.* Coming lately from Jerusalem, he knew the feelings of the Jews toward Paul. *He took Paul's girdle,* like those used to bind the loose, flowing robes worn in Eastern countries. *Bound his own* (Agabus') *hands and feet.* His revelation was made in that dramatic form which impresses the mind with a stronger sense of reality than mere words can. Thus saith the Holy Ghost. Through whom the revelations to the prophets of old were given. *So shall the Jews . . . bind.* The Jews were the real source of the persecution. It was in this same city that Paul was in bonds for two years. *Besought him not to go.* Inferring that this was the intention of the prophecy. *What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart?* He knew the danger, he felt the power of their loving persuasiveness, but he went steadfastly on in the way of duty. *For I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die.* Paul's heroic firmness in directing his way toward Jerusalem was not obstinacy, but an absolute surrender of himself to duty. There is no heroism so great as self-surrender to God's will, without regard to consequences.

GAINING A REAL TREASURE.

A precious treasure may be ours for the asking if in early life we begin to memorize from the Bible, from Shakespeare, Tennyson and Wordsworth, and from the hymn writers whom we love.

Not only are our vocabularies very much enlarged and enriched by the familiarity which is gained by frequent repetition of a beautiful sentiment or a stirring speech or a comforting chapter, but our ideals are elevated and our critical faculties are developed. And much time is saved for us in the busy years when time presses if our minds are our convenient reference books, so that when we hear an allusion in a sermon or meet a quotation in a newspaper we can instantly verify or place it, or recall its context, because it is one of the treasures committed to memory.

You know nothing about it now, my bright-eyed friend, in the blithe strength and gladness of the twenties; but there may dawn a day in the long march of the days when you will not sleep as you sleep in youth. If one must lie awake when others sleep there is great joy and consolation in having some pleasant food for thought. The hours drift by slowly, it is true, but are neither desolate nor unprofitable when stanzas of poetry, thrilling lyrics, fine ballads, and beautiful scenes from favorite

books come at a call and give one "songs in the night."

Commit to memory's keeping many texts of Scripture, and a few beloved chapters of Isaiah and St. John and St. Paul; learn by heart the Beatitudes, and, indeed the whole Sermon on the Mount. You will find your intellectual equipment vastly greater and your power of assimilation in every direction much increased by the simple process.—Margaret Sangster.

HURRAH FOR THE OTHERS.

The backyard had taken on a highly military aspect. There were soldiers with broomsticks, an officer with a wooden sword, a proud boy with a flag too large for him, and a "band" with a gaily painted drum, which he was beating furiously. Only little Robbie sat forlornly on the steps and looked on. A treacherous bit of glass had disabled his foot and he could not keep up with the army.

"I can't do nothin'," he said, disconsolately.

"Yes, you can," answered Captain Fred; "you can hurrah when the rest go by."

So the little fellow kept his post, watching through all the marching and countermarching, often left quite alone while the troop traveled in another direction, but he never failed to swing his small cap and raise his shrill cheer when they appeared.

Robbie was the real hero. It is not easy to hurrah for those who can go ahead when we must stop; to forget our own disappointment and cheer for those who are doing what we would like to do and yet cannot do; to rejoice in the success of those who have the place which we want.

Wherever there are sickly people with weak hearts and deranged nerves, Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills will be found an effectual medicine. They restore enfeebled, enervated, exhausted, devitalized or over-worked men and women to vigorous health.

IN NATURE'S STOREHOUSE THERE ARE CURES.—Medical experiments have shown conclusively that there are medical virtues in even ordinary plants growing up around us which give them value that cannot be estimated. It is held by some that Nature provides a cure for every disease which neglect and ignorance have visited upon man. However, this may be, it is well known that Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, distilled from roots and herbs, are a sovereign remedy in curing all disorders of the digestion.

Found at Last.—A liver pill that is small and sure, that acts gently, quickly and thoroughly, that does not gripe. Laxa-Liver Pills possesses these qualities, and are a sure cure for liver complaint, constipation, sick headache, etc.

There are so many cough medicines in the market, that it is sometimes difficult to tell which to buy; but if we had a cough, a cold or any affliction of the throat or lungs, we would try Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup. Those who have used it think it is far ahead of all other preparations recommended for such complaints. The little folks like it as it is pleasant as syrup.

Half-Sick

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