THE SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR JULY 18.

Lesson Text: "Pani at Thessalonica and Berea," Acts zvil., 1-12—Golden Text Acts zili., 11—Commentary on the Day's Lesson by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

Day's Lesson by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

1. "Now, when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews." See this company of men in this world for God. They have no aim but to henor Him. Their one thought is to magnify the Lord Jesus Christ (Phill. 1, 20), and to this end they are under the centrol of the Holy Ghost, passing through this town or that and stopping only where He directs. Whether in prison or in Lydia's house, on the road or in the synagogue, their one business is to glorify God and make Him known. Thessalonica was about 100 miles southwest of Philippi, so that it must have been several days' journey; but, as is usual in Scripture, the incidents of the journey are omitted. They "passed through" and "came to."

2. "And Faul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the Scriptures."

"To the Jew first" was ever Paul's principle in going after the people with the gospel (Rom. 1, 16), and who can tell what we are losing by not continuing to act on this principle, both with the gospel and

gespel (Rom. i., 16), and who can tell what we are losing by not continuing to act on this principle, both with the gospel and with gifts for missions? He had but one text-book, the Scriptures, which he fully believed was sufficient to furnish any one thoroughly for every good work (H Tim. ii., 16, 17). He was not full of the opinions of men; but, being the Lord's messenger, he carried the Lord's message (Hag. i., 13).

3. "Opening and alleging that Christ must needs have suffered and risen again from the dead, and that this Jesus whom I preach unto you is Christ." The Jews were looking for a Messiah to sit on David's throne and subdue their enemies and make Israel, as in the days of Solomon, the first nation on earth, and in this expectation they were perfectly right, for this was promised by the prophets and will yet surely be fulfilled desire of T. Ier. iii. 1718. Zeob. vit. 6, 172. the prophets and will yet surely be fulfilled (Isa.ix., 6, 7; Jer. ill., 17,18; Zech. xiv., 6, 17). But it was just as plainly foretold and fore-shadowed that the Messiah would also suffer and die and rise from the dead be-fore He would thus reign as David's son on David's throne (Gen. iii., 15; Isa. liii.; Ps. rvi. and xxii., etc.).

avi. and axii., etc.).

4. "And some of them believed and conserted with Paul and Silas," and a multitude of men and women, the verse goes on to say. Just as in Gen. i. the Spirit moved, God spake, and the work was done, so here and so always His word will accomplish His always and preserve in the thing whereto and so always his word will accomplish his elessure and prosper in the thing whereto He sends it (Isa.lv., 11). It is ours to be faithful messengers; it is His to accomplish the work. There is perfect rest in His work when we are willing that He should do it all and as He pleases, we believing in His hand for His pleasure.

5. "But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain level fellows." Then followed a mob and a not and an assault, for the devil was losing ome of his property, and he was stirred mightly, as at Philippi, to do somewhat to resist the truth and the power of God, and so for a time the saints must suffer with Christ. Fellowship with Him in suffering is a great privilege not appreciated by the mins as it should be (Phil. 1., 29; iii., 10;

56. "These that have turned the world up-lide down have come hither also." Not fading the apostles, they took Jason and other brethren to the city rulers with these and other accusations. It was surely quite a compliment to say that these men had power to turn the world upside down. There ought to have been enough of the supernatural in that to make them stop and consider, but when men are blinded by anger they consider neither their words for their deeds. The facts in the case are that the world is in a sense upside down because of sin, and Jesus, whom these men

because of sin, and Jesus, whom these men preached, is the only one who can set it right side up (Ez. xxi., 27).

7. "These all do contrary to the decrees of Cesar, saying that there is another ting, one Jesus." Cesar is the earthly, the the God of this world—that is, the deal. Jesus is the heavenly, representing the only living and true God, God manifest in the flesh, and we must choose one or the other. His own to whom He came chose Cesar instead of Him (John xix. 12), and Casar instead of Him (John xix., 12), and Casar they have had from that day to this. The world and the church, the worldly is darkness and light and can no more assimilate than water and oil, but they some-times try desperately hard to mix up. See Jas. iv., 4: John ii., 15-17.

therefore of the city when they heard these things." So, when Christ was born King of the Jews, Herod and all Jerusalem were troubled (Math. ii., 3), and when He shall come in His glory the world lying in the micked one shall be greatly troubled (Rev. L. 7; xi., 18), and their troubles may never the troubles may be troubled to the troubles may never the troubles may never the troubles may never the troubles may be troubled to the troubles may never the troubles may never the troubles may never the troubles may be troubled to the troubles may never the ment for ever and ever (Rev. xiv., 11; Mark (x., 43, 44). 10. And the brethren immediately sent

and the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea." So they move on in His name, witnessing pate Him, and again we find them in a synagogue of the Jews. The Master's instructions were to pass on when not wanted (Luke x., 10; Math. x., 23), but some flui it hard even yet to obey these orders, and the more than a reason to the sent the sent that the sent the sent that the sent the sent that the sent the sent the sent the sent that the sent that the sent that the sent t and the more they are not wanted the more they seem to stay, to their own and others' mfort and doubtless to the grief of the

II. "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica in that they received the word Thessalonica in that they received the word with all readiness of mind and searched the scriptures daily whether those things were scape and the second se His, and no way but His is the only

the way. 12. "Therefore many of them believed: the of honorable women which were, and of men not a few." This is almost the rerese of verse 4-as to men and women. his word accomplished His pleashe, and many were saved. The Spirit
hoved, the word was spoken, and the work
was done. The next verse tells of the perlistence of the devil in sending his servants
from Thesalonica to stir up persecution,
and so it will be till he shall be shut up in
the pit for a thousand years. But the saints
have naught to fear, for our Lord shall not
fall nor be discouraged. He shall see of an enaught to rear, for our Lord shall see of fall nor be discouraged. He shall see of the travail of His soul and shall be satis-led, and every purpose of the Lord shall be performed (Isa. xill., 4; litt., 11; Jer. lvii., b).—Lesson Helper.

Detecting Icobergs.

One way in which the crew of an scan steamer detect the fact that they are nearing the neighborhood of icefigs is by observing the action of the fopeller. The water surrounding the speller. The water surrounding the limity of leebergs is much colder than stdinary for a considerable distance tound, and when the vessel enters wafound, and when the vessel enters wahr of such a reduced temperature the
hropeiler runs faster. When this aclien is perceptibly increased without
the steam power being augmented,
burd is sent up from the engine room
to the officer on the bridge, and a close
kokout is kept.

The pioneer cycling trip to Central fica has just been reported by the fitish Consul at Uganda. It was made a missionary, who mounted his steel at the Endian ocean and pedaled if the way to the Victoria Nyanza, a stance of about 600 miles. Of course natives were astonished, to put it aldly. They regard the cyclist as a comancer.

; KEYSTONE STATE NEWS GONDENSED

SLIMY BED FELLOWS.

A Mother Discovers Two Large Snakes on Her Baby's Body.

Mrs. Alex. Mason, who lives a few miles west of Beaver Falls, on the Darlington road, took her sleeping 8-months'-old baby a few days ago and laid it on a bed on the floor in the sitting room, and after pulling down the blinds to keep the flies out, returned to her work in the kitchen. In about an hour she heard the child making queer noises, and going to the room, discovered two large snakes on the bed with the little one. One of the reptiles was at its feet, the other was partially coiled on the child's breast. The one at the foot wriggled off the bed as soon as it saw Mrs. Mason, but the other showed fight. It raised its ugly broad head, darted out its tongue and hissed victously. She ran for a poker and when she returned both snakes had disappeared. The child was not injured.

The following Pennsylvania pensions have been granted: Justus E. Brooks, Bradford; George Cronemiller, Pine Grove Mills; David Mims, Franklin; Ahira L. Eunnell, Bradford; Sarah C. Marlett, Johnstown; Reuben Mohny, Ridgway; Peter J. Dennis, Pittsburg; Joseph Hethinger, Boalsburg; William K. Myers, Tyrone; Peter Overmire, Conneautville; Jas. H. Randall, Pittsburg; Samuel A. Kelce, Canton; William H. Munshower, Cookport; Ephraim B. Milligan, Manor station; minors of Samuel McMaster, Latrobe, Fort Palmer and Bradenville; Louisa Stehley, Pittsburg; Sarah E. Bennett, Port Mattlda; Elizabeth McDowell, Grove City; Pauline M. Hoit, Pittsburg; Mary H. Baldwin, Huntington; Robert Hare, Allegheny; Abraham Noxon, Meadville; George W. Hoover, Charleroi; Charles Lampus, Allegheny; John Barr, Mars; William Sharp, Plum; James M. Cooper, Williamsburg; Joseph C. Taylor, Murrysville; Abraham Hill, Greendale; George W. Bowen, Big Shanty; William S. Marks, Erie; John C. Gulker, Grampion; Augustus H. Southworth, Me-Murrysville: Abraham Hill, Greendale; George W. Bowen, Big Shanty; William S. Marks, Erie; John C. Gulker, Grampion; Augustus H. Southworth, McCrays; John Hassen, Cambridgeboro; James A. Swaney, Punxsutawney; Henry P. McKallip, Meechburg; George McQuilkey, Kennerdell; George Hartman, Tunnelville; John H. Friday of Phillipsburg; James H. Foor, Ray man, Tunnetvine; John H. Friday of Phillipsburg; James H. Foor, Rays Hill: Jefferson Call, Durbin; John Kauffman, Altoona; Quincy A. Redit, Shira; James Morse, Piney Creek; Henry H. Coleman, Curlisville, Eleanor H. ry H. Coleman, Curlisville, Eleanor H. Schaeffer, Schaeffer, Margaret M. Lewis, Uniontown: Laura B. Hoops, Monaca; Allen E. Bagshaw, Huntington: Arthur Gallagher, Allegheny; Jacob Troutman, Pierce: Robert Hall, Orwell; Archibald Boyd, Ohlo Pyle: Joseph Rosengrant, Munster; James Klinesmith, Pittsburg: James A. Quigley, Blanchard: Lot M. Anderson, Adams; John Beers, Rosebud; Thomas J. Byrne, Erie; Sarah M. Witherow, J. Byrne, Erie; Sarah M. Witherow, Banport; Ellen Sharon, St. Augustine. On June 6 a clothing store in Altoona, known as the New York Clothing Store, and owned by the Friedlander Company, of Washington City, was damaged by fire. Appearances pointed to incendiarism. The stock was in-sured for \$15,000, but the stock is said to have been worth not more than \$6,-600. A few days ago Constable Roe

Herman Friedlander, of Washington, with having set fire to the store. Two foreigners whose names could not be learned lost their lives near West Newton, Tuesday, One went in swimming at Port Royal with a number of companions. He received injuries upon the rocks which stunned him, was deserted by his frightened companions and when reached by Charles paniors, and when reached by Charles Reed, an old soldier, was beyond re-suscitation. The other fell under a Pittsburg, McKeesport and Youghio-gheny Railroad freight train at Jacobs Creek, and was frightfully mangled.

swore out an information charging L. B. Greenburg, local manager of the store; Mayer Bremer, an employee, and

During the heavy windstorm Sunday five persons took refuge under a big tree on Everhart's Island, near Pitts-ton. The wind blew the tree to the ground with great force and all those who were under it were injured, two of them fatally. Those fatally injured are John Strininski, legs broken, injured internally; Mrs. Felix Faramon-ski, leg and arm broken, injured internally: Mrs. Peter Silvinski and daugh-ter Anna, injured internally: Martin ter Anna, injured internally: Martin Faronski, ankle sprained and injured

John Stokka, a Hungarian, who was lately employed at the Reed coke works, at Dunbar, secured passage the other day for the old country. Three of his companions have been killed by the excessive heat, and John has been prostrated and fears he will die unless he gets back to his old home. He says that the heat is killing his people, he will never return to this country if he gets home safely.

Coke production went away up last week; shipments declined. The output of the Connellsville region reached a little more than 111,000 tons, the high water mark in production for many months. The report for the week end-ing July 3, shows 18,121 ovens in the region, 10,792 active and 7,329 idle, with an estimate output of 111,075 tons for the week.

George Kiser, aged 22, of Altoona, while handling a pistol, accidentally shot himself near the heart and died. Edward Winsor, an unmarried man living at Hickernell Hollow, about eight miles from Meadville, in getting a gun out of bushes where he had hidden it, discharged the weapon blew part of his head off. He died in a few hours.

A gasoline stove exploded at York Friday in the kitchen of Joseph Campbell, and four frame dwelling houses and two stables were totally destroyed. The property was owned by Geo. Hib-ner, Lewis Robinson and Charles Lehr. The inmates barely escaped with their lives. The loss is about \$6,000.

At Markleysburg, Friday evening, Elizabeth Wynn, aged 14, committed suicide by shooting herself through the head. She was an orphan and lived with a family named Allman, who recently removed there from Homestead. She was homesick and had once attempted to run away.

William H. Weaver, the 8-year-old son of Alexander Weaver, a Scalplevel farmer ner Johnstown, crawled to the seat of a mowing machine and jerked the lines to the horses. The team at once dashed away, throwing the boy n front of the mower. He was literally cut to pieces.

Mary Marcella, aged 12 years, attempted to light a fire with coal oil at Lock Haven. The can exploded and the girl was badly burned. She died a few hours later, literally burned to a crisp. The flesh dropped from her body. body.

Mrs. J. L. Wagner, of Brookfield township, was canning cherries the other day when she accidentally over-turned the kettle of bolling fruit on

herself, burning her legs in a frightful manner.

Rev. J. L. Baker, of Mt. Pleasant, one of the oldest ministers in the Allegheny Conference of the United Brethren Church, was seriously injured at Beaver Valley, where he was preaching Beaver Valley, where he was preaching by being run down by a team of horses

SELECT RELIGIOUS READING.

PREGNANT THOUGHTS FROM THE WORLD'S GREATEST AUTHORS.

The Trials and The Reward-When Duty Becomes a Pleasure-A Prayer-Turn Thine Eyes-Be Frequently Alone With God-Levenge of Love-Not a Stranger.

For the joy set before thee—
The cross.

For the gain that comes after—
The loss.

For the morning that smileth—
The night.

For the peace of the victor—
The fight.

For the white rose of goodness-The thorn.

For the Spirit's deep wisdom-Men's scorn. For the sunshine of gladness-The rain.

For the fruit of God's pruning-The pain. For the clear bells of triumph—

A knell.

For the sweet kiss of meeting—
Farewell.

For the height of the mountain—

For the height of the mountain.

The steep.

For the waking in heaven—

Death's sleep.

—Christian Commonwealth.

When Duty Becomes a Pleasure. If we go on in the course which God intends there will come a time when, just as the sol-dier becomes inspired with intense patriot-ism, just as the physician realizes the digni-ty and solemnity of his profession, so the Christian enters into the largeness and ful-ness of divine things, and then there is an ardor, a zeal, an enthusiasm, a positive joy, in doing the will of God which transform and transfigure the whole man. Duty, which before was like the piping and fron work intended for an illumination, but which was black and cheerless, flames out with a light and beauty all its own: obedi-ence, which before was like a dewdrop in the darkness of the night, catches the flashes of the morning sun, and has a radiance surof the morning sun, and has a radiance sur-passing any diamond: devotion, which be-fore was like a windmill moving with fitful-ness, new has the beat and steadiness of an engine; faith, which before crept like a vessel through a fog, now sweeps on as a mighty steamer in the cloudless day; prayer, which before hardly dared to rise from the earth, now as on eagles' pinions travels the measureless sky. A glorious travels the measureless sky. A glorious transformation has been effected. The body no longer dominates the soul. The mind, the heart, the spirit, are under the spell of the unseen, and the life which the man lives in the flesh is lived by faith in the Son of God.—J. Wesley Johnston, D. D., in "The Creed and the Prayer."

A Prayer for Knowledge.

Aimighty God, we would rest in thine eternity, in our Father's sovereignty, in the throne of the one Majesty; because the Lord reigneth, the earth should be all sunshine and song and joy and worship. The riches of Jesus Christ are unsearchable riches, therefore we can never be poor and weak. Father, we would know the mystery of fiving wholly in thee and so dwelling in the world as to live apart from it. Even this miracle lies within the scope of thine almighti-ness. The Lord's own spirit, more beautiful than light, be with us; an inward glory, a lamp shining on the hidden parts that we may know what is right, not only in conduct but in thought, and live that interior, profound life, which the ever blessed spirit himself must approve. In our Saviour's name, infinite in excellency, we ask great things. Lord, if our prayer be great, thy throne is greater, thy cross is infinitely more. Amen.

Turn Thine Eyes to the Day.

My soul, art thou in doubt about thy fu-ire? Art thou searching for a testimony of Christ on the nature of angels? Thou art looking too far. Not His testimony, but His life, shall be thy light. No man by seaching can find the ivory gate that leads to immortaity. There is no method but the method of Jesus—life. He came to the crown when He was following the cross: He found the gate of heaven when He was seeking the door of earth. So shall it be with thee, O my soul! Is the ivory gate dim to thee? Do not strive to clear thy sight. Forget the gate in the gold. the going. Turn thine eyes to the day and to the dust. Turn thine ears to the cry in the desert. Turn thy hands to the wants of the toiling. Turn thy heart to the wants of the weary. And lo! in the unexpected scene the ivery gate shall shine. The door to God shall open through the dust; the read to Olivet shall glitter in the gloom; and, where the rivers of humanity meet, thou shalt find the way to Paradise. To live the life of the way to Paradise. To live the life of Jesus is thy only light.—George Mathe

Too Little Alone with God.

We are far too little alone with God : and this, I am persuaded, is one of the very sad-dest features in our modern Christian living. It is work, work, work—at the very best some well-meant, Martha-like serving; but where are the more devoted Marys, who find the shortest, surest way to the heart of Jesus by ceasing very much from self-willed. self-appointed toils and sitting humbly at His feet to let Him carry on His blessed work within ourselves? If the Mary-like method were carried out more, it might abridge considerably the amount of work apparent ty accomplished, but it would incomparably enhance the quality. What though we should lese a hundredweight and get instead of it only a pound—if the hundredweight lost were only lead and the pound gained were pure gold?—Methodist Times.

Make My Heart Thy Dwelling. Father! replenish with thy grace This longing heart of mine: Make it thy quiet dwelling-place.
Thy sacred inmost shrine!
Forgive that oft my spirit wears
Her time and strength in trivial cares;
Enfold her in thy changeless peace. So she from all but thee may cease -Angelus Silesius, 1657.

Is your life what you want it to be? Is it satisfactory? I hear people sometimes say in prayer meeting, "I want a few crumbs from the Master's table." Well, you may from the Master's table. Well, you may have them if you want to; crumbs are good for cats and dogs; but I am going for the whole loaf. The Lord doesn't want His peo-ple to live on crumbs; He is longing to give them a whole loat.-D. L. Moody.

The Lure of June. Comes the lure of green things growing Comes the call of waters flowing— And the wayfarer desire Moves and wakes and would be going. Hark the migrant hosts of June Marching nearer noon by noon! Hark the gossip of the grasses Bivouacked beneath the m

A song in the heart is better than a grand plano in a gilded parlor. Real riches cannot be counted out in coin. We are rich in what whare. People are troubled because they live in back streets, but the alley is as near heaven as the avenue.—Dean Hodges.

-C. G. D. Roberts.

O God, who art the truth, make me one

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPICS.

TOPIC FOR SUNDAY, JULY 18.

Bolief in Christ: What it is. What It Does." John iv. 46-53; Acts zvl. 25-34.

DAILY READINGS. July 12. A well-founded belief. Acts. xvii. 10-15.

A powerful beltef, Mark. ix.

July 14. A divided belief, 1 Cor. iii, 1-7. July 15. A firm belief, Ps. xxiii, 1-6. July 16. Believe the works. John z. 31-42.

July 17. Be not faithless, John xx. 24-31.
July 18. Belief in Christ: what it does.
John iv. 46-53; Acts. xvi. 25-34.
SCRIPTURE VERSES.—Mark. xi. 20-24; 2 Cor. xiii, 5; Eph. iii, 14-19; vi. 16; Col. i. 23; 1 Thes. v. 8; 1 Tim. i. 18, 19; vi. 11, 12; Heb. iv. 1, 2; x. 22, 23; xiii. 7. LESSON THOUGHTS.

When we receive Christ's word as ab-solutely true, when we accept his promises as absolutely sure, when we obey his word and trust his promises in the face of any seeming contradiction, then our belief in Christ is true and real.

The physical miracles which were wrought through faith in Christ were no more wonderful than the spiritual miracles of concentrated living which even to-day result from belief in Christ. The age of miracles is not yet past. SELECTIONS.

Christian faith can no more be rightly studied from without than a pictured window can be judged from outside. It is the heart and not the head that finds the truth. If we would strengthen our faith, we must do it through experience. If we act on the faith we have we shall gain more. If we would know, we must do. Personal acceptance of Christ is the way to know him; doing his work with him is the surest way of strengthening our faith in him.

Increase our faith, and clear our vision, Lord: Help us to take thee at thy simple word,

No more with cold distrust to bring thee grief; Lord, we believe; help thou our unbe-

We must keep the eye of our faith fixed on God. The observers of the total eclipse of the sun, off the coast of Norway in August last, did but one thing, They looked at the sun. Not for a second did they lower their glasses. The were absorbed in looking at the eclipse They saw nothing else; they cared for nothing else. They looked with intensity. The faith of the disciples suffered partial eclipse because they looked more upon their own resources than upon God's; but God will help our unbelief, if we look earnestly to him for help. Use, use God's gift, O soul of mine:

Though dwindled, yet the living spark Shall flame, and light thee through the

If the strong breath of prayer be thine

A Testimony From the Gallows.

A few months ago a young man in Omaha, while mad with drink, shot and killed a man who had been one of his friends, with-out any apparent motive; and for this crime out any apparent motive; and for this erime he recently suffered the extreme penalty of the law. Shortly before his execution he called for pen and paper, and wrote a most pathetic letter addressed to the young men of the city, especially those who had been his former associates. After recounting various experiences of his boyhood and young manhood by which he had been drawn under evil influences, he said. But if anylody a year ago had told me, that I drawn under evil influences, he said. "But if anybody a year ago had told me that I would be in jail to-day with a death sentence upon me, I would have called him crazy. Yet here I am. Young men, for God's sake, keep away from drink. Keep out of bad company. Keep away from saloons and beer gardens. Seek the society of respectable and manly young men, or stay at home with your mother. If I had done this I would be out in the world among you to-day." you to-day."

Ruskin Denounces the Liquor Business. Ever since 1843, more than a half a cen-tury ago, when the printing-presses of London gave birth to the first volume of "Modern Painters," its author, John Bus-kin, has stood in the front rank of writers in the English language, particularly upon subjects of art. Three times was he elected state professor of fine art at Oxford University. He was also chosen to a similar professorship at Cambridge. His whole life has been spent lecturing and writing upon subjects connected with his profes-sion. Royalties from his books and writ-ings have enabled him to give away three quarters of a million dollars in charity. Four years ago his private secretary thought it about time for Mr. Ruskin to die, so wrote his biography. But Ruskin didn't die. He is still alive, seventy-eight cliant die. He is still alive, seventy-eight years of age, though no longeractive with his pen. It is always of interest to know the attitude of such a man upon social and moral questions, such as the drink problem, which this man was always ready to denounce. Here's one of John Ruskin's most pointed utterances upon this great

"Drunkenness is not only the cause of erime, it is crime; and the encouragement to drunkenness, for the sake of profit on the sale of drink, is certainly one of the most criminal methods of assassination for money ever adopted by the braves of any age or country.

Be Not a Stranger.

My God, permit me not to be A stranger to myself and thee : Amid a thousand thoughts I rove, Forgetful of thy highest love.

Be earth with all her strife withdrawn, Let noise and vanity be gone; In secret silence of the mind, In secret slience of the mind.

My heaven, and there my God, I find.

Watts.



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