

International Bible Lessons

Studies in the Old Testament

LESSON CALENDAR: FOURTH QUARTER.

1. October 1.....Joy in God's House. Psalm 122.
2. October 8.....Haman's Plot against the Jews. Esther 3: 1-11.
3. October 15.....Esther Pleading for Her People. Esther 8: 3-8 and 15-17.
4. October 22.....Ezra's Journey to Jerusalem. Ezra 8: 21-32.
5. October 29.....Psalms of Deliverance. Psalms 85 and 126.
6. November 5.....Nehemiah's Prayer. Nehemiah 1: 1-11.
7. November 12.....Rebuilding the Walls of Jerusalem. Nehemiah 3: 7-18.
8. November 19.....Public Reading of the Scriptures. Nehemiah 8: 1-12.
9. November 26.....Woes of Intemperance. Proverbs 23: 29-25.
10. December 3.....Keeping the Sabbath. Nehemiah 13: 15-22.
11. December 10.....Lessons in Giving. Malachi 1: 6-11; 3: 8-12.
12. December 17.....Fruits of Right and Wrong Doing. Malachi 3: 13-4: 6.
13. December 24.....Christ's Coming Foretold. Isaiah 9: 2-7.
14. December 31.....Review.

LESSON I.

JOY IN GOD'S HOUSE

(October 1, 1899)

Psalm 122. Commit to memory vs. 6-9. Read Psalm 84

1 I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.

2 Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

3 Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

4 Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the LORD.

5 For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

7 Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.

8 For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

9 Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek thy good.

Revised Version—1 Unto; 2 Are standing; 3 That art builded; 4 Even the tribes; 5 For a testimony unto Israel; 6 For; 7 For the sake of.

GOLDEN TEXT

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Ps. 122: 1.

DAILY READINGS

M.—Psalm 122. Joy in God's House.

T.—2 Chron. 29: 25-31. Songs of gladness.

W.—Psalm 84.—Longed for.

Th.—Psalm 92. A good thing.

F.—Isa. 2: 1-5. Come ye!

S.—Luke 4: 14-22. Christ's example.

S.—Rev. 7: 9-17. Heavenly worship.

TIME

The Psalms belong, most likely to David's or Solomon's time.

PLACE

One of a series—"The Songs of Degrees,"—sung by the people on their way to the Holy Feasts.

CATECHISM

Q. 78. Which is the eighth commandment?

A. The eighth commandment is, Thou shalt not steal.

LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise—57 (Ps.), 7, 387, 386.

LESSON PLAN

I. On the Way, 1.

And already glad in the prospect of being in God's House.

II. In the City, 2-5.

The city of Jerusalem, "the joy of the whole earth," great and strong, where the tribes of Israel meet, where God is praised, and where David's line rules in justice.

III. A Prayer for Peace, 6-9.

For the peace of the Holy City, that her people may prosper and God's House may abide.

CONNECTING LINKS

The one hundred and twenty second psalm is one of a group of fifteen (Ps. 120-134), each of which bears the title, "A Song of Degrees," or "Goings Up." Some of them are hymns that were sung by the pilgrims going up to the great feasts at Jerusalem. Hence the title. Others seem to refer to the return of the exiles. This psalm is distinctly a pilgrim psalm. But the joy of the pilgrims may well express the joy of the returning exiles; and thus the psalm fittingly introduces the lessons of the quarter.

EXPOSITION

I. On the Way, 1.

V. 1. I was glad when they said unto me. The Jews were accustomed to make pilgrim-

ages from all parts of the country to the great feasts held at Jerusalem three times a year. To cheer the loneliness of the way they used

Lesson I - VII inclusive