

## INTERNATIONAL BIBLE LESSONS.

THIRD YEAR—1875—MAY.

## SECOND QUARTER: LESSONS IN OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 1875.

**LESSON V.**—THE DEATH OF SAMSON. Judges 16. 25-31.

## Berean Notes.

**Leader.** 25 And it came to pass when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport; and they set him between the pillars.

**School.** 26 And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them.

**L.** 27 Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines were there; and there were upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport.

**S.** 28 And Samson called unto the Lord, and said, O Lord God, remember me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.

**L.** 29 And Sampson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and upon which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.

**S.** 30 And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with all his might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein.

**L.** 30 the dead which he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life.

**S.** 31 Then his brethren and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought him up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the burying-place of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.

## HOME READINGS.

Mon. Judg. 16. 11-31.    Thurs. Judg. 16. 1-20.  
Tues. Judg. 14.        Fri. Eccles. 7. 1-12.  
Wed. Judg. 15.        Sat. Luke 18. 1-14.  
Sabbath. Matthew 21. 33-54.

**TOPIC:**—*Earnest Deeds of a Hero.*

**GOLDEN TEXT:**—*He that walketh with wise men shall be wise; but a companion of fools shall be destroyed; Prov. 13. 20.*

**OUTLINE:**—1. *Sport for the Captors*, v. 25, 27; Mark 6. 23, 24; 2 Tim. 2. 26.

2. *Supplication for Strength*, v. 26, 28; Jer. 15. 15; Acts 4. 29.

3. *Slain among his Foes*, v. 29. 30; Acts 7. 59, 60; John 19. 30.

4. *Sepulchre with his Family*, v. 31; Gen. 49. 29, 30; Ruth 1. 17.

## GENERAL STATEMENT.

Behold the strength of the physical man in the service of a God of justice! Samson should have been governed by a nobler aim. A wiser use of his powers would have made his life worthier and his death more truly heroic. Still we see in him the heroic element. We may legitimately speak of his deeds as (in the language of our TOPIC) *Earnest deeds of a hero*. But they remind us the more forcibly, as we review his life, that, in the language of the GOLDEN TEXT: *He that walketh with wise men shall be wise; but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.* Prov. 13. 20. Study the facts suggested by the OUTLINE: 1. SPORT FOR THE CAPTORS; 2. SUPPLICATION FOR STRENGTH; 3. SLAIN AMONG HIS FOES; 4. SEPULCHRE WITH HIS FAMILY. From the whole history of the man we learn the DOCTRINE SUGGESTED: *Retributive justice*. To Samson, the servant, and to the Philistines, the foes of the Lord, the Lord was just. What each sowed he reaped. As then, so now.

**"LESSON HYMN.**—Tune: "Silver Street." S. M.

Servant of God, well done!  
Rest from thy lov'd employ;  
The battle fought, the victory won,  
Enter thy Mast'r's joy!