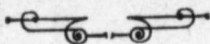


LESSON VIII—May 23rd, 1897.

The Conference at Jerusalem. ACTS 15: 1-6, 22-29.



GOLDEN TEXT: "Through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they." Acts 15: 11.



1 And certain men which came down from Ju-de'a taught the brethren, *and said*, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Mo'ses, ye cannot be saved.

2 When therefore Paul and Bar'na-bas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Bar'na-bas, and certain other of them, should go up to Je-ru'sa-lem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

3 And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phe-ni'ce and Sa-ma'ri-a, declaring the conversion of the Gen'tiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

4 And when they were come to Je-ru'sa-lem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

5 But there rose up certain of the sect of the Phar'i-sees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command *them* to keep the law of Mo'ses.

6 And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter. * * * *

22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to An'ti-och with Paul and

Bar'nabas; *namely*, Jud'as surnamed Bar'na-bas, and Si'las, chief men among the brethren:

23 And they wrote *letters* by them after this manner: The apostles and elders and brethren *send* greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gen'tiles in An'ti-och and Syr'i-a and Ci-li'ci-a:

24 Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, *Ye must* be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no *such* commandment:

25 It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Bar'na-bas and Paul.

26 Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Je'sus Christ.

27 We have sent therefore Ju'das and Si'las, who shall also tell *you* the same things by mouth.

28 For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things.

29 That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.