

LESSON IX—August 29th, 1897.

Paul opposed at Ephesus. ACTS 19: 21-34.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

What tumult took place at Corinth and how did the Roman governor act? Trace on the map Paul's course to Jerusalem? Who went with him to Ephesus? What important convert did they gain? What reception did Paul meet with at Ephesus? What was the effect of his preaching upon the community?

21. Where does Paul tell us the chief object he had in view in visiting these churches? (1 Cor. 16: 1-3, 8, 9). What would be the moral effect of this plan? Name the principal churches at Macedonia?

22. Why did he send these brethren before-hand? (1 Cor. 16: 2). When did Paul intend to follow them? (1 Cor. 16: 8). What has become of Silas? (1 Pet. 5: 12). Who was Erastus? (Rom. 16: 23; 2 Tim. 4: 20). Why did Paul remain at Ephesus? (1 Cor. 16: 9). What Epistle was written at this time?

23. Why was christianity called "The Way"? (ch. 18: 25, 26; 24: 14; 1 Pet. 2: 2).

24. Where did a love of gain stir up another tumult against Paul? (16: 16, 19).

25. What other churches did Paul found in the vicinity of Ephesus? (Rev. 1: 11; Col. 1: 2; 4: 13). What other hints have we of Paul's style of addressing the heathen? (ch. 14: 15-17; 17: 23, 24). Compare it with his mode of dealing with Jews.

26. What others named Gaius do we read of in the epistles? (1 Cor. 1: 14; 3 John 1: Rom. 16: 23). Where do we again hear of Aristarchus? (ch. 20: 4; 27: 2; Col. 4: 10; Phil. 24). Is it probable that Aquila and Priscilla were in danger at this time? (Rom. 16: 4). Why did the mob refrain from injuring Gaius and Aristarchus?

27. Notice how courteous to Paul are all those of high social position with whom he comes in contact,—Gallio, Felix, Festus, Centurion &c. What does this reveal regarding Paul?

28. Was Alexander a christian Jew? Is he to be identified with Alexander the copper-smith?

29. Give instances of the contempt in which Jews were held by the heathen? (16: 20; 18: 17).

LESSON X—September 5th, 1897.

Gentiles giving to Jewish Christians. 2. COR. 9: 1-11.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

When and where was *Second Corinthians* written? Read the Epistle carefully and then answer? Why does it seem to have been written? Who brought it to Corinth? What collection is referred to (Rom. 15: 26; 1. Cor. 16: 1; II. Cor. 8)? What good effect would taking up this collection have upon the relations between Jewish and Gentile christians?

1. Had the Corinthians adopted the "weekly offering" system? (I. Cor. 16: 2.)

2. What zeal had the Corinthians shown? (ch. 8: 10.) Is emulation in good works commendable? (Heb. 10: 24.)

3. What might have interfered with the work of collecting? (I. Cor. 1: 11.)

4. Other instances of "Blessing" used for "Gift." (Rom. 15: 29; Eph. 1: 3; Gen. 33: 11; Judges 1: 15; 1. Sam. 25: 27.)

5. The same idea is found in Prov. 3: 9; 11: 24; 22: 9; Ecc. 11: 1; Mat. 3: 10; Luke 6: 38; Acts 20: 35; 1. Tim. 6: 18, 19.

6. All gifts should be willing ones. (Ex. 25: 2; 35: 5; Deut. 15: 10; Prov. 11: 25; Rom. 12: 8; II. Cor. 8: 12.)

7. What comfort is there in the thought of God's power? (Rom. 16: 25; Eph. 3: 20; Jude 24.) All temporal blessings are the gifts of God's grace. (Deut. 8: 18; 12: 7; Ecc. 2: 24; 5: 18, 20; 1. Tim. 6: 17.)

8. Spiritual results compared to sowing and reaping. (Hos. 10: 12; Gal. 6: 7, 8, 9; Jas. 3: 18; Heb. 12: 11; Job 4: 8; Prov. 22: 8; Hos. 8: 7.) The word here translated "Bountifulness" means "Sincerity," honest openness, and is the same as occurs in Rom. 12: 8, and II. Cor. 8: 2.

9. Notice how Paul keeps up the tone of his appeal for money. (ch. 8: 5; 9: 7, 11-14 reaching the climax in verse 15.)