

was living. (9) *God sees where every sinner is at any given moment.*

19. Hast thou killed. The words rebuke his indecent haste in seizing on the land on the very day of its owner's murder. **In the place.** There was a double fulfillment of this prophecy. Ahab's own blood was licked up by dogs, but at Samaria (1 Kings 22: 38); and the body of Ahab's son Jehoram was thrown, after his

slaughter, upon the very place of Naboth's execution, and there left for the dogs to eat. Some commentators see in Naboth a type of Christ. 1.) Each was conspired against. 2.) Each shed his blood for his vineyard. 3.) Each was accused by two false witnesses. 4.) Each was charged with blasphemy against God and the king. 5.) Each was unjustly put to death. 6.) The murderers of each were condemned to destruction for their crime.

HOME READINGS.

- M.* The story of Naboth. 1 Kings 21. 4-19.
Tu. Judgment against Ahab deferred. 1 Kings 21. 30-39.
W. Ahab's death. 1 Kings 22. 14-40.
Th. The stoning of Stephen. Acts 7. 51-60.
F. The God of judgment. Ps. 9. 1-20.
S. Sold, soul and body. John 18. 1-14.
S. Fasting for conspiracy. Isa. 58. 1-7.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord. 1 Kings 21. 20.

LESSON HYMNS.

No. 4, Dominion Hymnal.

Come, Christian children, come, and raise
 Your voice with one accord;
 Come, sing in joyful songs of praise,
 The glories of your Lord.

No. 42, Dominion Hymnal.

Saviour, more than life to me,
 I am clinging, clinging close to thee!

No. 52, Dominion Hymnal.

Gentle, holy Jesus,
 Saviour, meek and mild.

TIME.—B. C. 900.

PLACE.—Jezreel, in the kingdom of Israel.

RULERS.—See Lesson IV.

CONNECTING LINKS.—1. Ben-hadad II., King of Damascus, with all the subject kings under him, made war on Ahab, but was twice defeated, and the second time might have been destroyed but for the unwise kindness of Ahab; 2. Ahab wished to buy a vineyard belonging to Naboth, but his offer was refused, and Jezebel, Ahab's queen, formed a plot to murder Naboth, that her husband might obtain the vineyard. Read 1 Kings 20 and 21.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Human depravity.

QUESTIONS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS.

1. Ahab's Greed, v. 4-6.

What did Ahab covet, and why?
 When Naboth refused to sell, what did the king do?
 What spirit did he manifest?

2. Jezebel's Guilt, v. 7-16.

What did Jezebel propose?
 What plot did she weave?
 How did a public fast serve her purpose?
 Why was the charge of blasphemy made?
 Who were the witnesses?
 What was the result?

3. God's Justice, v. 17-19.

What did the Lord direct Elijah to do?
 What was the prophet to say to the king?
 What terrible punishment was predicted?

Practical Teachings.

Where in this lesson do we learn—

1. That excessive greed leads to murder?
2. That the wicked do impious acts under guise of piety?
3. That retribution is certain?

QUESTIONS FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOLARS.

1. Ahab's Greed, v. 4-6.

Why was Ahab angry?
 How did he show his anger?
 Who questioned the king?
 What was his reply?

2. Jezebel's Guilt, v. 7-16.

What advice did Jezebel give?
 What promise did she make?

To whom were letters sent?

In what city did Naboth live? ver. 1.

What accusation was ordered to be made against him?

How were the queen's orders received?

Who was accused?

What false testimony was given?

What was the result of the trial?

What message was sent to Jezebel?

What advice did she give the king?

What became of Naboth's vineyard?

3. God's Justice, v. 17-19.

What divine command was given to Elijah?

What question was he to ask?

What was Ahab's punishment?

Teachings of the Lesson.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. The sinfulness of selfishness?
2. The cruelty of power in the hands of the wicked?
3. The sure retribution of divine justice?

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

What was there near King Ahab's palace that he wanted very much for his own? **A vineyard belonging to Naboth.**

Why didn't he buy it if he was a rich king? **He did try to, but Naboth would not sell it.**

What did he do because he could not get it? **He went to bed and cried, and would not eat his supper.**

What did Jezebel tell him when she knew it? **That she would give it to him.**

How did she manage to get it? **She wrote to the rulers of the city.**

What did the letter say? **Take Naboth and get some men to swear they heard him curse God and the king.**

What were they to do next? **Take him out and stone him to death.**

Could she find any one wicked enough to do such a thing? **Yes; they did just as she said.**

As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, what did she tell Ahab? **"Arise, and take Naboth's vineyard; for he is dead!"**

As Ahab was walking up and down the vineyard who appeared to him? **Elijah.**

What did Elijah say to Ahab? **"The dogs shall lick your blood in the place they did Naboth's."**

How did Ahab die? **He was killed in battle.**
 When the servants washed his chariot, what happened? **The wild dogs licked up his blood.**

Words with Little People.

God teaches us by bad examples as well as by good ones. Just over that fence, or the other side that store window, is something you want almost as much as Naboth wanted the vineyard. *This* side the fence and the window you are **SAFE**; on the *other* side, you have "sold yourself to work evil in the sight of the Lord," as surely as Ahab and Jezebel had. [Repeat the **GOLDEN TEXT**.] Remember, no one gets **safe** to sin **all at once**; they creep along to it by degrees. Watch and guard against the least **little** step toward it. Remember who is waiting to **help**.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

[For the entire school.]

1. Why would Ahab eat no bread? **Because Naboth refused him his vineyard.**

2. What did Ahab's wicked wife, Jezebel, say to him? **"I will give thee the vineyard."**

3. To accomplish this object, what did she do? **Caused Naboth to be stoned to death.**

4. What did she then say to Ahab? **"Arise, take possession of the vineyard."**

5. What did God command Elijah to go and say to Ahab? **That dogs should lick his blood.**