

TOPIC—Priests of God and of Christ.

Golden Text—Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people. 1 Pet. ii. 9.

OUTLINE :

I. THE SELECTION MADE, v. 5, 6, 12, 13; Num. xvi. 9; xviii. 2-6.

II. THE SERVICE APPOINTED, v. 7, 8; Deut. xxi. 5; 1 Chron. xxiii. 28-32; Neh. xii. 44; John xii. 26; Acts v. 3, 4; Eph. iv. 8-11; 1 Peter iv. 10, 11; v. 2.

III. THE SUPERIOR OFFICE, v. 10; Isa. xlii. 1; Col. i. 13, 15; Heb. x. 19, 22; Rev. i. 5.

IV. THE STRANGERS' PERIL, v. 10; Num. xvi. 35-40; 1 Sam. vi. 19; 2 Sam. vi. 7; 2 Chron. xxvi. 16-21; Eph. ii. 17.

QUESTIONS, etc.—From what book is our lesson taken? Why is it called "Numbers"? Give the title of the lesson. What are all believers called in the TOPIC? In the GOLDEN TEXT? Recite OUTLINE.

1. *The Selection Made.*—What tribe was selected for service in divine things? v. 6. Who was Levi? Whom had the Lord chosen unto himself from the children of Israel? v. 13. Whom did he now set apart instead of the first-born? v. 12. How were the Levites set apart for this work? Num. viii. 7-14. What is said in the GOLDEN TEXT of "those which believe" in Christ? What is the title given to God's children in Rev. i. 7? Are not all true believers, then, the Lord's ministers? Are you in his service?

2. *The Service Appointed.*—For what were the Levites chosen? v. 7, 8; Num. i. 60, 61. What is meant by the "service of the tabernacle"? [ANS. The care of the various parts of the tabernacle, both in setting up, taking down, and carrying, during the journeyings, the preparation of sacrifices, and the general service of the tabernacle. The sons of Levi alone could touch the sacred things of the tabernacle.] To what service are believers in Jesus "set apart"? Eph. iv. 11; Heb. xiii. 15, 16; John xii. 26.

3. *The Superior Office.*—Of what tribe was Aaron? Num. xviii. 2. To what service were he and his sons

appointed? v. 10. What were the duties of the priests? Heb. v. 1-4. What did God say about the "garments" for Aaron? Exod. xxviii. 2. What garments? Exod. xxviii. 4. Of what material? Exod. xxviii. 5. What beautiful m to did Aaron wear on his mitre? Exod. xxviii. 36. How was Aaron like Jesus? In what was Jesus a greater and better priest than Aaron? How is every Christian like a priest among the Jews?

4. *The Strangers' Peril.*—What penalty was threatened upon "strangers" entering into the tabernacle? v. 10. What is meant here by "stranger"? Num. xvi. 40. [ANS. Those who had not been set apart for this work.] With what dreadful penalty did God visit those who put "unclean hands" upon the ark? 2 Sam. vi. 7.

Where, in this lesson, may we learn—1. That consecration to God is essential to his service? 2. That the servants of God must be clothed with the garments of holiness? 3. That we have a great High Priest? 4. That to be priests of God we need sacrifice and purity?

QUESTION AND ANSWER.**26. What is justification?**

Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein he pardoneth all our sins, and accepteth us as righteous in his sight, only for the sake of Christ.

1. Romans i. 7. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.

2. Corinthians v. 21. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; in that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Romans v. 19. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

SABBATH, May 24.—LESSON VIII.—Israel's Unbelief.—Num. xiv. 1-10.

Leader. 1. And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night.

School. 2. And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

L. 3. And whosoever hath the Lord brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?

S. 4. And they said one to another, let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.

L. 5. Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

S. 6. And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the

son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:

L. 7. And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.

S. 8. If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.

L. 9. Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is despised from them, and the Lord is with us: fear them not.

S. 10. But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel.

TOPIC—The Sad Results of Unbelief.

Golden Text—So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief. Heb. iii. 19.

QUESTIONS, etc.—Recite TITLE, TOPIC, GOLDEN TEXT, SELECTED VERSES, and OUTLINE.

1. *Of unbelief.*—Why did the Israelites mourn? [ANS. Because of the report of the spies sent into the land of Canaan.] What was the report of the spies? Chap. xiii.

27-33. What was Caleb's report? v. 7, 8. Where were the Israelites at this time? Chap. xiii. 26. Where was Kadesh? [ANS. On the southern border of the land of Canaan.]

2. *Murmuring.*—Against whom are the Israelites said to

Home Readings.

M. Num. iii. 5-13.
Th. Exod. xxviii. 1-12.
W. Heb. v.
Th. Exod. xxviii. 36-42.
F. Heb. vi.
S. Num. vii. 9-26
S. Heb. 7.

Home Readings.

M. Num. xiv. 1-10.
Th. Deut. ix. 7-24.
W. Exod. xiv. 10-18.
Th. Prov. i. 24-33.
F. Jer. xvi. 10-15.
S. Neh. ix. 21-31.
S. 2 Peter ii. 12-22.