

1 Kings 19 : 1-8—Memory Verses, 3, 4.

Golden Text—In my distress I cried unto the Lord, and he heard me.—Ps. 120 : 1.

1 And A'hazb told Jez'ebel all that Eli'jah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword.

2 Then Jez'ebel sent a messenger unto Eli'jah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to-morrow about this time.

3 And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Be'er-she'ba, which belongeth to Ju'dah, and left his servant there.

4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree ; and he requested for himself that he might die ; and said, It is enough ; now, O LORD, take away my life ; for I am not better than my fathers.

5 And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat.

6 And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baked on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again.

7. And the angel of the LORD came again

the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat ; because the journey is too great for thee.

8 And he arose and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Ho'reb the mount of God.

THE LESSON RETOLD

As soon as Ahab had got safely home to his palace in Jezreel, he told Jezebel, his heathen queen, all that had happened that day upon Mount Carmel, and how the Lord had sent fire from heaven to burn upon the altar of Elijah, while the prophets of Baal had been put to shame before all the people. When Jezebel heard how the prophets of Baal had been disgraced and afterwards slain by the prophet Elijah, she was furious, and at once sent a threatening message to him saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to-morrow about this time."

Knowing by this that Jezebel would never rest until she had taken away his life, Elijah hurried from the neighborhood of the palace to hide himself again in the wilderness. Taking with him only his young servant, Elijah hurried toward the south, and coming to a place called Beersheba, the prophet left

his servant there and went on into the wilderness by himself.

Elijah had been travelling on foot all day without taking time so much as to eat, and when evening came on he fell almost fainting to the ground, where he at last lay down completely discouraged and tired out under a broom tree. So unhappy did the great prophet now feel, that he prayed that God would allow him to die, saying, "It is enough ; now, O Lord, take away my life ; for I am not better than my fathers." He had forgotten all about yesterday's victory upon Mount Carmel, and felt that life was hard and bitter.

But soon Elijah fell asleep, and as he slept under the broom tree, an angel came and touched him on the shoulder, saying, "Arise and eat." And looking up, the prophet saw a fire burning, with a loaf of bread baking upon it, while beside his head stood a pitcher of water. Raising himself up,