

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From the International Lessons for 1881, by Edwin W. Rice, as issued by American Sunday-School Union.)

LESSON XII.

Dec. 18.]

QUARTERLY REVIEW.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: we have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the majesty in the heavens.—HEB. 8:1.

CENTRAL TRUTH.—Christ ever liveth as our prophet, priest and king.

INTRODUCTORY.

QUESTIONS ON THE BOOKS WE STUDIED:

What books compose the Pentateuch? By whom were they written? Of what does Genesis mainly treat? Out of which were this Quarter's lessons taken? How many lessons out of each? What is the meaning of "Exodus"? Of what does it mainly treat? Why was the third book called "Leviticus"? What is the general difference between its contents and those of Deuteronomy? From what did "Numbers" receive its name? What are its main contents? What does "Deuteronomy" mean? When was it written? About how many years do this Quarter's lessons cover? How long was Israel in Sinai?

The following outline, in reviewing what has been studied, may be adopted:

Israel } Their Sacred Service } In the Wilderness,
 " } Holy Seasons }
 " } Last Year }

REVIEW QUESTIONS.

I. ON THE SACRED SERVICE, LESSONS I. TO V.

In what kind of building did Israel worship? Who had planned the Tabernacle? Where had Moses received the directions? Who was Moses? Who was to be High Priest? Who the other Priests? Whence were the means derived for building the Tabernacle? Who contributed and how? What does this teach us? Who were the two chief architects? What was each one's special work? What was the Court of the Tabernacle? How was it formed? What was the "Tent of meeting"? Why so called? Its dimensions? What was the Tabernacle proper? Of what were its sides? Its roof? What was the Most Holy Place? Its dimensions? What was kept in it? On what day only was it entered? By whom only? What was the ark? Its dimensions? What was the Mercy Seat? What three articles of furniture were kept in the Holy Place? Describe each? What was the Brazen Altar? Its size? Its location? Its use? What was the Laver? Its use? Describe the usual dress of the priests? Of the High Priest? What two kinds of offerings were ordained in the Tabernacle service? What three classes of animal offerings were there? What animals only could be used? About which offerings did two of our lessons specially treat? What was the difference between the two? Of what were these offerings the type? What offering is still required of us? Name Aaron's sons? What sin did two of them commit? On what occasion? How were they punished? What may we learn from this?

II. ON THE HOLY SEASONS, LESSONS VI. TO VIII.

What were the three "Great Festivals" of Israel? Of which of them did we study this Quarter? What solemn day came five days before it? In what month? What was its general character? Its purpose? What ceremony was performed in the Most Holy Place? What was the meaning of the scapegoat? What was the symbolical significance of the whole day and its services? Are you cleansed? How? How long did the Feast of Tabernacles last? What was its character and purpose? From what did it derive its name? What kind of offerings were made? What was the purpose of the booths? Of what does it teach us the duty? What was a "sabbath year"? What was celebrated at the end of every seventh sabbath year? What was done then? How was justice maintained in purchases, &c.? Of what was it a type? What is the condition upon which its fulfillment depends.

III. ON THE LAST YEAR IN THE WILDERNESS, LESSONS IX. TO XI.

Describe Israel's route from Mt. Sinai to Mt. Hor. Where was the desert of Sin? Why did they have to pass through the desert? About what did they murmur? How were they punished? How cured? On what conditions? Of what was this the type? From what must we be cured? How? What was Israel's route from Mt. Hor to Moab? Why was Balaam sent for? By whom? What was Balaam's character? From where? What was his history? What may we learn from it and his history? What did he foretell about Moab? About Israel? In whom was his prophecy fulfilled? Where had Aaron died? What was Moses' last command? Where was Israel at the time? Where did Moses die? What pleasure was denied him? Why? What blessing and honor were granted him? Give a sketch of his life? Who succeeded him? What do we learn from Moses' life? From his last command? From his death? What was Joshua's character?

ON THE GOLDEN TEXTS.

What duty do we learn from the Golden Text of Lesson I.? What is the Golden Text taken from the lesson to which it belongs? The one that explains Balaam's character? The one that tells in whom the typical sacrifices of the Old Testament are fulfilled? Name the texts which enforce the duty of calling to mind God's blessings, and of giving him thanks therefor? Who wrote the one that tells us in whom our atonement is fulfilled? What is the one that gives the command which Aaron's two sons disobeyed? Which one did Christ speak? Which one refers to the year of Jubilee? What is the one that sums up the teachings of Moses' life? From what eight books are the Golden Texts of the Quarter taken?

LESSON XIII.

THE BABE AND THE KING.

Dec. 25.]

Isa. 9:6, 7.

6. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it, with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

GOLDEN TEXT.—I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a king shall reign and prosper.—JER. 23:5.

CENTRAL TRUTH.—He must increase.

INTRODUCTORY.—The Book of Isaiah contains the revelations made by God concerning Judea and includes the fullest and clearest predictions of the person and work of the Messiah anywhere found in the Old Testament. They were made during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, probably between the years B.C. 762 and 698.

NOTE.—DAVID, "beloved," youngest son of Jesse of the tribe of Judah, was born at Bethlehem in B.C. 1085. Anointed king of Israel by Samuel in obedience to God's command, after various adventures he reigned seven and a half years over Judah; and afterward 33 years over the united kingdom of Israel, until his death B.C. 1015. Solomon, his son, succeeded him and built the temple at Jerusalem, which David had planned and prepared for. He was the type and most illustrious ancestor of Christ; a wise and powerful king, a devout and God-fearing man; and a fervent and prophetic writer and singer of Psalms.

EXPLANATIONS.

LESSON TOPICS.—(I.) THE CHRIST. (II.) HIS KINGDOM.

I. THE CHRIST.—(6.) FOR, the following is the reason of, and explains, the fulfillment of the preceding; UNTO US, or for us, for our benefit. Christ left his glory and became a man, a feeble infant, A CHILD, "a male child"; A SON, of God and man; IS GIVEN, the free, undeserved gift of God, Jno. 3:16; Rom. 8:32; GOVERNMENT, kingly rule, Matt. 28:18; UPON HIS SHOULDER, i.e., shall be borne by him; NAME SHALL BE CALLED, i.e., he shall be; WONDERFUL, or wonder, marvel, miracle. Christ was the miracle of miracles, from his wonderful birth to his marvellous death, resurrection and ascension; COUNSELLOR, one who devises and gives counsel; MIGHTY GOD, distinct from, yet one with, God the Omnipotent; EVERLASTING FATHER, Father of eternity, yet Son of God and born of a woman; PRINCE OF PEACE, or peaceful prince, not like earthly kings ruling by the sword and violence of war.

II. HIS KINGDOM.—(7.) OF THE INCREASE, to the increase; OF PEACE, to peace; THERE SHALL BE NO END, there is no limit. Christ's peaceful reign will spread over the whole world, Eph. 1:21-23. This is being verified in history; UPON THE THRONE OF DAVID, see Notes; TO ORDER IT, confirm and settle it; ESTABLISH IT, on an everlasting foundation; WITH JUDGMENT, with right punishment of the evil; JUSTICE, righteousness, these are the means of establishing the kingdom; FROM HENCEFORTH, from the time when Christ should begin to reign; ZEAL, "jealousy," God's love for man is so great that he will not allow them to wander or be drawn away from him.

TEACHINGS:

- (1.) God became a little child, that children might understand and love him.
- (2.) Christ's reign is not one of force, but of love.
- (3.) Obey him as a Counsellor, love and trust him as a Father; be a loyal subject to him as a King.
- (4.) As his subjects we must do our part in advancing his kingdom.
- (5.) Be not discouraged; God will surely fulfil his loving purposes.
- (6.) His work, and therefore our work on his behalf, will prosper and last forever.
- (7.) Is Christ born for you? Are you a subject of his kingdom?

1882.

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