

Lesson XII.

THE DEATH OF MOSES

September 21, 1902

Deut. 34 : 1-12. —Memory Verses, 10-12.

Golden Text—The Lord spake unto Moses face to face.—Exod. 33 : 11.

1 And Mo'ses went up from the plains of Mo'ab unto the mountain of Ne'bo, to the top of Pis'gah, that is over against Jer'icho. And the LORD shewed him all the land of Gil'ead, unto Dan,

2 And all Naph'tali, and the land of Eph'ra-im, and Manas'seh, and all the land of Ju'dah, unto the utmost sea,

3 And the south, and the plain of the valley of Jer'icho, the city of palm trees, unto Zo'ar.

4 And the LORD said unto him, This is the land which I swear unto A'braham, unto I'saac, and unto Ja'cob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed : I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither.

5 So Mo'ses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Mo'ab, according to the word of the LORD.

6 And he buried him in a valley in the land of Mo'ab, over against Beth-pe'or : but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

7 And Mo'ses was an hundred and twenty

years old when he died : his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.

8 And the children of Is'ra-el wept for Mo'ses in the plains of Mo'ab thirty days : so the days of weeping and mourning for Mo'ses were ended.

9 And Josh'ua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom ; for Mo'ses had laid his hands upon him : and the children of Is'ra-el hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Mo'ses.

10 And there arose not a prophet since in Is'ra-el like unto Mo'ses, whom the LORD knew face to face,

11 In all the signs and the wonders, which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt to Pha'raoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land,

12 And in all that mighty hand, and in all the great terror which Mo'ses shewed in the sight of all Is'ra-el.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The work of Moses, the great leader of the Israelites, was now done. Ever since he was a baby he had been trained by God to be the leader of His chosen people.

It was he who had rescued the Hebrew slaves from their cruel masters, the Egyptians, and snatched them out of the power of Pharaoh, one of the strongest kings that had ever lived. He had borne patiently with these people all through the forty years in the wilderness, though they had often turned against him and at one time had even threatened to stone him to death because they had no water to drink.

More than all, he had taught the poor slaves to love and honor the one true God, and had given them laws and teachings that

would some day make them a great nation. He had found time, too, to write the history of God's people from the beginning of the world until they entered Canaan. This record was the beginning of the Bible, the first five books of which are still called, "The Books of Moses."

But the day had come when even Moses, the great servant of God, must die. For God had said to him while he was still in the wilderness, "You shall not live to enter the land of Canaan with my people, but shall die in the plains of Moab." But at the same time the Lord had promised to show Moses a far-off view of the land of Canaan from a mountain side, before He should take him to be forever with Himself.