

words written on the board were spoken (Matt. 12 : 42) and about whom, that is, "Jesus, our blessed Lord Himself." Now question about some of the ways in which Jesus is greater than Solomon. He is greater in His wisdom, for He can teach us all about this life and also the life to come; greater in power, as He showed by His miracles; greater in the extent of His kingdom, which shall yet embrace the whole world; and in the number of His subjects, which is to include all mankind. Make the missionary application: we know Jesus; we should make Him known to others.

Lesson VI.

THE KINGDOM TORN ASUNDER

August 8, 1915

1 Kings 12 : 6-16. Study 1 Kings 12 : 1-24. Commit to memory v. 16.

GOLDEN TEXT—Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.—Proverbs 16 : 18.

6 And king Rehobo'am ¹ consulted with the old men, that ² stood before Sol'omon his father while he yet lived, ³ and said, How do ye advise that I may answer this people?

7 And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever.

8 But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and ¹ consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, ² and which stood before him:

9 And he said unto them, What counsel give ye that we may ³ answer this people, who have spoken to me, saying, Make the yoke ⁴ which thy father did put upon us lighter?

10 And the young men that were grown up with him spake unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou ⁷ speak unto this people that spake unto thee, saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou it lighter unto us: thus shalt thou ⁸ say unto them, My little finger ⁹ shall be thicker than my father's loins.

11 And now whereas my father did lade you with a

heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: my father ¹² hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

12 So Jerobo'am and all the people came to Rehobo'am the third day, as the king ¹¹ had appointed, saying, Come to me again the third day.

13 And the king answered the people roughly, and forsook the ¹² old men's counsel that they gave him;

14 And spake to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, ¹³ and I will add to your yoke: my father ¹⁴ also chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

15 ¹⁵ Wherefore the king hearkened not unto the people: for ¹⁶ the cause was from the Lord, that he might ¹⁷ perform his saying, which the Lord spake by ¹⁸ Ahijah the Shilonite ¹⁹ unto Jerobo'am the son of Ne'bat.

16 ²⁰ So when all Is'rael saw that the king hearkened not unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in Da'vid? neither have we inheritance in the son of Jes'se: to your tents, O Is'rael: now see to thine own house, Da'vid. So Is'rael departed unto their tents.

Revised Version—¹ took counsel; ² had stood; ³ saying, What counsel give ye me to return answer to this people; ⁴ that stood; ⁵ return answer to this people; ⁶ that; ⁷ say; ⁸ speak; ⁹ is thicker; ¹⁰ Omit hath; ¹¹ bade; ¹² counsel of the old men which they had given him; ¹³ but I; ¹⁴ Omit also; ¹⁵ So the king; ¹⁶ it was a thing brought about of the Lord; ¹⁷ establish his word; ¹⁸ the hand of; ¹⁹ to; ²⁰ And when.

LESSON PLAN

I. Advice, 6-11.

II. Refusal, 12-15.

III. Revolt, 16.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association, Mr. S. C. Bailey, Hon. Secretary, 56 Old Bailey, London, England.)

M.—The kingdom torn asunder, 1 Kgs. 12 : 1-11. T.—The kingdom torn asunder, 1 Kgs. 12 : 12-24. W.—Revolution prophesied, 1 Kgs. 11 : 26-36. Th.—Wise counsels, Prov. 1 : 1-10. F.—Wise counsels despised, Prov. 1 : 20-31. S.—"Wise in his own conceit," Prov. 26 : 12-19. S.—"A soft answer," Prov. 15 : 1-8.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 25. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest? A. Christ executeth the office of a priest in his once offering up of himself a

sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God; and in making continual intercession for us.

The Question on Missions—6. How does the Settlement improve living conditions in our cities? It studies the conditions of streets and houses and co-operates with the authorities in improving them. It provides a centre where people may get medical help and advice. It sets a standard of cleanliness and decency.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise: 19 (Supplemental Lesson), 13, 90, 63 (Ps. Sel.), 525 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY), 100.

Special Scripture Reading—John 17 : 11-26. (To be read responsively or in concert by the whole School.)

Lantern Slides—For Lesson, B. 1300, Jeroboam and the People Rebel. For Question on Missions, S.O.S. 134, Mothers and Babies. (Slides are obtained from the Presbyterian Lantern Slide Department, Room 626, Confederation Life Building, Toronto, at \$2.00 a dozen.)

Stereograph—For Lesson, Shechem Where the Hebrew Empire Was Divided; East past Mount Ebal (Order from Underwood & Underwood, 417 Fifth Ave., New York City; further particulars, see page 367).

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

Time and Place—About B.C. 980; Shechem, an important town in Israel.

Connecting Links—The sad story of Solomon's downfall, and the Lord's announcement