

LESSON NOTES

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN JEWISH HISTORY.

B.C. 760.] LESSON VIII. [Nov. 24.

THE WOES OF INTEMPERANCE.

Isa. 5. 11-23. Memory verses, 11-13.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink.—Isa. 5. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. The Drunkard's Feast, v. 11-16.
2. The Drunkard's Woe, v. 17-23.

TIME.—B.C. 760.

PLACE.—Probably Jerusalem.

RULERS.—Azariah, king of Judah; Pekah, king of Israel.

INTRODUCTORY.—Isaiah was the most eloquent of the prophets; of royal blood, probably.

HOME READINGS.

- M. The woes of intemperance.—Isa. 5. 11-23.
- Tu. The mocker.—Prov. 20. 1-7.
- W. Poverty and rags.—Prov. 23. 15-23.
- Th. The serpent's bite.—Prov. 23. 29-35.
- F. The drunkard rejected.—1 Cor. 5. 7-13.
- S. Shut out of the kingdom.—Gal. 5. 16-26.
- Su. Works of darkness.—Eph. 5. 11-21.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *The Drunkard's Feast*, v. 11-16.

Upon what early risers is a woe pronounced? (Golden Text.)

What music have they at their feasts?

For whose work have they no regard?

What doom awaits all such? See Psalm 28. 5.

Why had the people been taken captive?

What had become of the men of honour?

Into what pit had their glory gone?

Who would be humbled in that day?

Who would be exalted?

Why do God's judgments exalt him? See Psalm 19. 9; 119. 75.

2. *The Drunkard's Woe*, v. 17-23.

What is said of the waste places?

What is said of vain and bold sinners?

What was their challenge to the Almighty?

Upon what perverters of language will we rest?

What is in store for the conceited?

What warning does a wise man give to such? Prov. 3. 7.

Upon what mighty men is a woe uttered?

Of what injustice were they guilty?

How does God regard such people? Prov. 17. 15.

What is the most terrible woe to the drunkard? 1 Cor. 6. 10.

How can we escape the drunkard's woe? Prov. 23. 31.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. That liquor drinking is a curse?
2. That drunkenness leads to other vices?
3. That God will surely punish the drunkard?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. On whom does the prophet pronounce a woe? On those that will follow strong drink.
2. On whom is a second woe pronounced? On those that will justify sin.
3. On whom is a third woe pronounced? On those who will not be taught their duty.
4. On whom is a fourth woe pronounced? On those that justify wickedness for a reward?
5. Repeat the Golden Text: "Woe unto them," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The righteousness of God.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

Where are prayer and thanksgiving joined together? Philippians 4. 6.

Where should we offer our prayers and thanksgivings?

We are required to offer up our prayers and thanksgivings publicly in the assembly of God's people, and privately in our chambers.

OLD GASPARD.

LONG, long ago there lived in a German town an old man whose trade it was to make violins. He was tall and thin, with a long, white beard, and a grave, reserved face, which, however, was often lighted up by a singularly beautiful smile. He was indeed much respected by the townsfolk, who were proud too of the fame he had acquired, for there were no violins like Gaspard's throughout the whole world. There seemed, in truth, to be something about the construction of them which no one—not even his own apprentices—could succeed in imitating. Often one of the latter would finish a violin exactly after Gaspard's own model—nothing seemed wanting to the eye; and hoping, yet fearing, the youth would carry it to his master. Then the old man would take the instrument with a kindly smile and draw the bow lightly across the strings. Alas! the sound was always thin, sharp, and grating; and Gaspard, picking up one of his own violins, would bid the lad note the difference between the two. Full, clear, and melodious, now with a triumphant swell, now with a tender, long-drawn note, like a sigh of the wind, the music would float out into the old street, and the passers-by would stop to listen, saying, "Hush! there is Gaspard tuning another violin!"

"What is the secret, master?" cried one of his cleverest workmen, in despair. The old man's answer was always the

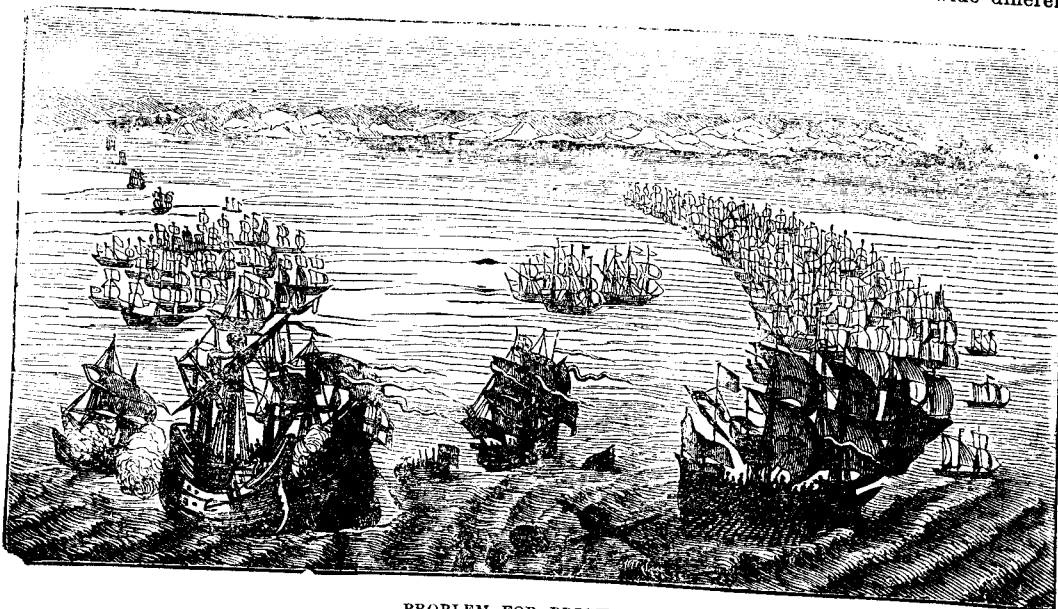
wonderful part of the story is how they scattered the ships of the proud king until they were as glad to get away as they had been to begin the attack, and out of the vast fleet only fifteen ships got back to their own country.

It will be interesting to find out the name of this great fleet, what country it came from, the name of the king, the number of ships, and what country it fought against.

EASE IN SOCIETY.

"I'd rather thrash in the barn all day," said Reuben Riley to his sister, as he adjusted an uncomfortable collar about his sunburnt neck, "than go to this party. I never know what to do with myself, stuck up in the parlour all the evening. If the fellows would pull their coats off and go out and chop wood, on a match, there'd be some sense in it."

"Well, I hate it as bad as you do, Reub," said sister Lucy. "The fact is, we never go anywhere, and see nobody, and no wonder we feel so awkward when we do happen to stir out." The remarks of this brother and sister were but the echoes of the sentiment of many other farmers' boys and girls, when invited out to spend a social evening. But poor Lucy had not hit the true cause of the difficulty. It was not because they seldom went to any place, but because there was such a wide difference



PROBLEM FOR BRIGHT EYES.

same: "Put your heart into it, my lad; that is all!"

Time passed, and at length there was mourning in the old German town, for Gaspard was dead! And then the secret was revealed, for immediately all his violins lost that extraordinary sweetness and depth of tone which had so distinguished them. They were good violins still, but a change had passed over them, and they would never recover their lost power. Gaspard had put a little piece of his own heart into each instrument, they said, and when he died the heart of the instrument died also.

PROBLEM FOR BRIGHT EYES.

LONG ago, in 1588, a certain king, who was a Roman Catholic, determined to destroy the Protestant religion in a great country, and to make every man and woman a Romanist. So he armed a great fleet and sent it to fight against the people of the Protestant country. The people were very much alarmed when they heard this news, for their vessels were few and small compared with those of the Romanist king. But the very day their enemies sailed a great storm arose and sank some of the ships, and the others had to go back into the harbour. After a while they started again and at last reached the country which they intended to attack. The people saw them coming across the waters, with their ships arranged in the shape of a half-moon, stretching away off, seven miles from one end to the other. It is a long story—how bravely the people in the Protestant country behaved and how skilfully their commanders managed. The

between their home and company manners. The true way to feel at ease in any garb is to wear it often. If the pleasing garb of good manners is only put on on rare occasions, it will never fit well and seem comfortable.

HOW CHARLEY LOST HIS PLACE.

CHARLEY was whistling a merry tune as he came down the road, with his hands in his pockets, his cap pushed back on his head, and a general air of good fellowship with the world.

He was on his way to apply for a position in a stationer's store that he was very anxious to obtain, and in his pocket were the best of references concerning his character for willingness and honesty. He felt sure that there would not be much doubt of his obtaining the place when he presented these credentials.

A few drops of rain fell, as the bright sky was overcast with clouds, and he began to wish that he had brought an umbrella. From a house just a little way before him two little children were starting out for school, and the mother stood in the door smiling approval as the boy raised an umbrella and took the little sister under its shelter in quite a manly fashion.

Charley was a great tease, and like most boys who indulge in teasing or rough practical jokes, he always took care to select for his victim some one weaker or younger than himself.

"I'll have some fun with the children," he said to himself; and before they had gone very far down the road he crept up

behind them, and snatched the umbrella out of the boy's hand.

In vain the little fellow pleaded with him to return it. Charley took a malicious delight in pretending that he was going to break it or throw it over the fence; and as the rain had stopped, he amused himself in this way for some distance, making the children run after him and plead with him tearfully for their umbrella.

Tired of this sport at last, he relinquished the umbrella as a carriage approached, and, leaving the children to dry their tears, went on toward the store.

Mr. Mercer was not in, so Charley sat down on the steps to wait for him. An old gray cat was basking in the sun, and Charley amused himself by pinching the poor animal's tail till she mewed pitifully and struggled to escape.

While he was enjoying his sport, Mr. Mercer drove up in his carriage, and passed Charley on his way into the store. The boy released the cat, and, following the gentleman in, respectfully presented his references.

"These do very well," Mr. Mercer said, returning the papers to Charley. "If I had not seen some of your other references I might have engaged you."

"Other references? What do you mean, sir?" asked Charley, in astonishment.

"I drove past you this morning when you were on your way here, and saw you diverting yourself by teasing two little children. A little later a dog passed you, and you cut him with a switch you had in your hand. You shied a stone at a bird, and just now you were delighting yourself in tormenting another defenceless animal. These are the references that have decided me to have nothing to do with you. I don't want a cruel boy about me."

As Charley turned away, crestfallen over his disappointment, he determined that wanton cruelty, even though it seemed to him to be only "fun," should not cost him another good place.

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