

COURSE OF SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR 1853.

FIRST SERIES.

- April 24.**—*Scripture to be read*—2 Ch. xxxiv. 1-8. *To be committed*—Ps. cxix. 113-115. *Subject*—Josiah. *Prominent topics of the Lesson*—Josiah, king of Judah—(explain division of the kingdom since Solomon)—right in the sight of the Lord—when young began to seek God—Edward VI. of England—in 20th year began to purge Jerusalem—extent of the idolatry—when he had put down the idols, repaired the temple. It is the love of God's holy law, the Spirit's work in the heart, that is effective to put away evil from the actions of the life.
- May 1.**—*Scripture to be read*—Jer. xvii. 1-10. *To be committed*—Jer. xvii. 9, 10. *Subject*—Jeremiah. *Prominent topics of the Lesson*—When the wickedness of Israel had become great, and the time of judgment was drawing near, prophets were sent to warn them—Jeremiah—the lessons of this chapter—their sin graven—children witnessed and remembered it—the curse and the blessing—the deceitful heart.
- May 8.**—*Scripture to be read*—2 Ch. xxxvi. 11-21. *To be committed*—Isa. lv. 6, 7. *Subject*—Captivity of Judah. *Prominent topics of the Lesson*—King wicked—priests corrupt—God's compassion—the ingratitude of the people—they passed the limit which God had set to his own long-suffering, and wrath was allowed to fall—the captivity—prophecy fulfilled. (Spirit will not always strive—now the day of salvation.)
- May 15.**—*Scripture to be read*—Dan. iii. 13-26. *To be committed*—Luke ix. 24-26. *Subject*—The Jews at Babel. *Prominent topics of the Lesson*—The image—the king's command—the three Jews faithful—their calm trust in God, when called before the king—the cruel persecution—the companion of these witnesses in the furnace—"I am with you always.") Their deliverance.
- May 22.**—*Scripture to be read*—Haggai ii. 1-9. *To be committed*—Luko ii. 27-30. *Subject*—Temple rebuilt. *Prominent topics of the Lesson*—The captives had returned, Ez. i.—Temple built, see Ez. vi. 13-15—inferior—people sad—the encouragement; 1st, my Spirit remaineth; 2nd, the Desire of all nations shall come—the glory of the latter house.

SECOND SERIES.

- April 24.**—*Scripture to be read*—Matt. xv. 7-20. *To be committed*—Prov. xv. 11. *Subject*—The form and the power of godliness. *Prominent topics of the Lesson*—Isa. xxix. 13. The Pharisees—the letter and the spirit—the religion of form—offended—state of the heart. Rom. ii. 28, 29.
- May 1.**—*Scripture to be read*—Matt. xxi. 1-11, 15, 16. *To be committed*—Ps. lxxii. 17-19. *Subject*—Hosanna to the Son of David. *Prominent topics of the Lesson*—Approaching Jerusalem—ready to be offered—v. 3, whatever the Lord hath "need" of, dedicate to his service, Zech. ix. 9. The honor done to Jesus—some children's hands stretched out to strew a palm on the way, and some children's voices mingling in the hosanna. He smiled upon them—suffer little, &c., v. 15, 16; Ps. viii. 2.
- May 8.**—*Scripture to be read*—Matt. xxi. 33-46. *To be committed*—Isa. liii. 3-5. *Subject*—The vineyard, the husbandmen, and their Lord. *Prominent topics of the Lesson*—The narrative of the parable—God gave the Jewish people a vineyard, Ps. xvi. 5, 6; Rom. iii. 1, 2.—Prophets persecuted. See Jeremiah, and Acts vii. 52; Heb. xi. 36-38.—The Son, best pledge of the Father's love, was crucified—(crucified afresh, Heb. vi. 6)—The Head of the Corner.
- May 15.**—*Scripture to be read*—Matt. xxiv. 36-46. *To be committed*—1 Cor. xv. 55-57. *Subject*—The Lord's coming. *Prominent topics of the Lesson*—The Last Judgment and our death to us the same.—Sudden, unexpected—e. g., the deluge—one taken, another left—*watch*, every one—Lord, is it I?—(some instance of a neighbor's sudden death—and what if you had been called?) At peace in the beloved, you would be willing to wait, but ready to go.
- May 22.**—*Scripture to be read*—Mark xiv. 12-31. *To be committed*—1 Cor. xi. 27-29. *Subject*—Christ our passover. *Prominent topics of the Lesson*—The passover, Ex. xii.—the traitor—is it I?—the Supper—the hymn—the Shepherd—the sheep—the offence—the denial.

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