

laws that safeguard the freedom of the people secures greater freedom for himself. Our Lessons have illustrated this principle. In the Review, link to each Lesson some principle distinctive to Christ's laws in regard to the kingdom of God, as follows :

1. *The pathetic collapse of a disobedient son's pretensions*, Lesson I. Absalom's insane ambition, displayed in armed conflict with his royal father, ended in disaster, incidentally due to the excessiveness of his vanity. Christ's law of greatness is humility, Matt. 18 : 4.

2. *The moral dignity of strict regard for one's plighted word*, Lesson II. Much emphasis has been put upon this in connection with the terrible war in Europe. Christ's codified law is that His followers must regard themselves as never off their oath, even through national exigencies, Matt. 5 : 37.

3. *The wise preference of a youthful sovereign for higher endowments*, Lesson III. Solomon craved the deepest qualifications for filling his position. Christ's law is that the right use of power increases it, whilst the abuse or neglect of power deprives one of it altogether, Matt. 25 : 29.

4. *The supreme place of religion in national expansion*, Lesson IV. The foremost nations to-day owe their advancement to Christianity. Where Christianity has not come progress is lacking. Where Christianity has deteriorated, progress is imperfect. Christ's law is that spiritual compulsions are indispensable, Luke 24 : 47, along with the Golden Text, Isa. 56 : 7.

5. *The attractive force of wise rule*, Lesson V. The Queen of Sheba typifies the deference paid by lower powers to higher. Christ's law is that the brighter the light at home, the farther it shines, Matt. 5 : 16.

6. *The disintegrating folly of harsh rule*, Lesson VI. Rehoboam by his drastic action shattered his kingdom. Christ's law is that he rules most perfectly who serves most faithfully, John 13 : 13, 14.

7. *A nation degraded by lowering its religious ideals*, Lesson VII. Worship, when corrupted, corrupts character. The law of Christ as stated to the Samaritan woman, who adhered to a rival ritual, is that worship to be acceptable to the supreme spirit must be spiritual and ethical, John 4 : 24.

8. *The regnancy of quiet power*, Lesson VIII. The intensive influence of Christianity has everything to do with making it extensive. Christ's law is that unseen influences dominate His kingdom, Luke 17 : 20, 21.

9. *Human dependence upon divine care*, Lesson IX. God meets our need in His very sovereignty over the forces of nature. The law of Christ is that faith can bring us through what seems impossible, Luke 17 : 6.

10. *The answer by fire*, Lesson X. God, in His sovereignty, is not subordinate to His own works. Christ's law is that God controls what He has made, Matt. 5 : 45.

11. *Finding God in the stillness*, Lesson XI. Men who render exalted service for the kingdom may easily become overwrought. Christ's law is that after excessive work it is good to go apart, Mark 6 : 31.

12. *A ruler's need to rule himself*, Lesson XII. In regard to appetite the absence of self-control may imperil a whole kingdom. Christ's law is self-denial, Matt. 16 : 24.

## THE QUARTERLY REVIEW

### FOR SENIOR SCHOLARS AND THE BOYS AND GIRLS: Character Studies

Make the Review a series of short character-studies, bringing out the leading features in each life. Quote Carlyle's saying that human portraits, faithfully drawn, are of all pictures the welcomest on human walls.

1. *Absalom*, Lesson I. What did Absalom possess which made for success in life? Bring out that he was physically fit and possessed a strikingly attractive personality. How can we