

International Bible Lessons

Studies in the Old Testament from Samuel to Solomon.

LESSON CALENDAR: FOURTH QUARTER

1. October 4 David Brings up the Ark. 2 Sam. 6: 1-12.
2. October 11 God's Covenant with David. 2 Sam. 7: 4-16.
3. October 18 David's Confession. Ps. 51: 1-17.
4. October 15 David's Joy Over Forgiveness. Ps. 32.
5. November 1 David and Absalom. 2 Sam. 15: 1-12.
6. November 8 David's Grief Over Absalom. 2 Sam. 18: 24-33.
7. November 15 David's Trust in God. Ps. 23.
8. November 22 The Curse of Strong Drink. Prov. 20: 1; 23: 20, 21, 29-35.
9. November 29 David's Charge to Solomon. 1 Chron. 28: 1-10.
10. December 6 Solomon's Wise Choice. 1 Kings 3: 4-15.
11. December 13 The Dedication of the Temple. 1 Kings 8: 1-11, 62, 63.
12. December 21 The Queen of Sheba Visits Solomon. 1 Kings 10: 1-10.
13. December 27 REVIEW.

LESSON V.

DAVID AND ABSALOM

November 1, 1903

2 Sam. 15: 1-12. Study vs. 1-23. Commit to memory vs. 4-6. Read 2 Sam. chs. 13, 14.

1 And it came to pass after this, that Ab'salom prepared him chariots and horses, and fifty men to run before him.

2 And Ab'salom rose up early, and stood beside the way of the gate: and it was so, that when any man that had a controversy came to the king for judgment, then Ab'salom called unto him, and said, Of what city art thou? And he said, Thy servant is of one of the tribes of Israel.

3 And Ab'salom said unto him, See, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man *deputed* of the king to hear thee.

4 Ab'salom said moreover, Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice!

5 And it was so, that when any man came nigh to him to do him homage, he put forth his hand, and took him, and kissed him.

6 And on this manner did Ab'salom to all Israel that came to the king for judgment: so Ab'salom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

7 And it came to pass after forty years, that Ab'salom said unto the king, I pray thee, let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed unto the Lord, in Hebron.

8 For thy servant vowed a vow while I abode at Geshur in Syria, saying, If the Lord shall bring me again indeed to Jerusalem, then I will serve the Lord.

9 And the king said unto him, Go in peace. So he arose, and went to Hebron.

10 But Ab'salom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, As soon as ye hear the sound of the trumpet, then ye shall say, Ab'salom reigneth in Hebron.

11 And with Ab'salom went two hundred men out of Jerusalem, that were called; and they went in their simplicity, and they knew not anything.

12 And Ab'salom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counsellor, from his city, even from Geth, while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Ab'salom.

Revised Version—a chariot; 2 any man had a suit which should come; 3 took hold of; 4 at the end of; 5 indeed bring me again to Jerusalem; 6 is king; 7 that were invited, and 8 the.

GOLDEN TEXT

Ex. 20: 12. Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

DAILY READINGS

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| M.—2 Sam. 14: 25-33. | The king's son. |
| T.—2 Sam. 15: 1-12. | David and Absalom. |
| W.—2 Sam. 15: 13-23. | A sad flight. |
| Th.—2 Sam. 15: 24-37. | David's trust. |
| F.—2 Sam. 17: 1-14. | Absalom's wicked intent. |
| S.—Prov. 19: 16-26. | The unfaithful son. |
| S.—Mark 7: 5-13. | Honor to parents. |

CATECHISM

Q. 100. What doth the preface of the Lord's prayer teach us?

A. The preface of the Lord's prayer (which is, *Our Father which art in heaven*) teaches us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence, as chil-

dren to a father, able and ready to help us; and that we should pray with and for others.

TIME AND PLACE

About 1023 B.C., eleven or twelve years after David's sin and repentance. The rebellion of Absalom probably took place in the thirty-second year of David's reign. The places are Jerusalem, where David's palace was situated, and Hebron, David's first capital, and the city in which Absalom began his open rebellion. Hebron was twenty miles south of Jerusalem.

LESSON PLAN

I. Absalom the Flatterer, 1-6.
Winning the hearts of the people from their king

II. Absalom the Hypocrite, 7-9.
Covering his crime with religious pretence.

III. Absalom the Rebel, 10-12.
Causing himself to be proclaimed as king.

LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise, 255: 290; 7 (Ps. Sel.); 245: 250; 380.

EXPOSITION

By Rev. W. G. Hanna, B.A., Mount Forest, Ont.

Connecting Links—The events of the Lesson are generally assigned to the latter part of David's reign. Chs. 13 and 14 re-

late the murder of his brother by Absalom at a sheep-shearing festival to which all the king's sons had been invited, and