

III. A DIVINE REVELATION.—23-25. Thus saith the Lord. Speaking in God's name, Huldah declares that a terrible punishment is coming upon Judah. Her word was fulfilled within 36 years, when the people of this kingdom, like those of Israel, a hundred years before, were carried captive into Assyria.

26-28. And as for the king of Judah. There is a message of comfort for Josiah. Because his heart was tender, and he did humble himself, the doom of his people should not come until after his death. Thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace. It is true that Josiah was slain in battle (ch. 35 : 20-24) ; but, since he did not witness the dreadful fate of his kingdom, it could be said that he died in peace.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—Josiah and the Book of the Law, 2 Chron. 34 : 14-21. T.—Josiah and the Book of the Law, 2 Chron. 34 : 22-28. W.—Heeding the message, 2 Chron. 34 : 29-33. Th.—The great Passover, 2 Chron. 35 : 1-6, 16-19. F.—Remember and do ! Deut. 6 : 1-12. S.—The king's duty, Deut. 17 : 14-20. S.—God's Word remembered, Psalm 119 : 1-16.

Prove from Scripture—*That God's law is our guide.*

Shorter Catechism—*Ques. 90. How is the word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation ? A. That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation, and prayer ; receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practise it in our lives.*

The Question on Missions—31. What of Erromanga to-day ? Erromanga is now almost entirely Christian. The children of those who were cruel, brutal savages, murderers and cannibals, are now worthy, humble members, and some of them office-bearers, of our church.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 97 (Supplemental Lesson) ; 119 : 105 ; 91 (Ps. Sel.) ; 559 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY) ; 161.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—What building was being repaired ? Who found a book ? What was it ?

14-18 What was the book like that Hilkiah found ? By whom had it been written ? To whom did Hil-

kiah give it ? To whom did Shaphan bring the book ? Did he read it to the king ?

19-22 How did the reading of the book make Josiah feel ? How did he show his grief ? What did he wish to know ? To whom did he send ?

23-25 For whom did Huldah speak ? What did she say would happen to the people of Judah ?

26-28 What promise was made to Josiah ?

Seniors and the Home Department—Give the date of the Lesson. What discovery did Hilkiah make ?

14-18 By whom was the Pentateuch written ? What does John say was given by Moses ? (John 1 : 17.) What by Jesus Christ ? How does Christ sum up the law ? (Matt. 22 : 37-40.)

19-22 What part probably was read to Josiah ? Should God's delay to fulfil His threatenings lead us to despise them ? (2 Pet. 3 : 9, 10.)

23-28 Through whom did God reveal His will to Josiah ? By whom has He spoken to us ? (Heb. 1 : 1, 2.) How should this influence us ? (Heb. 2 : 1.)

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. Said the great artist and writer, John Ruskin :—
"Whatever I have done in my life has simply been due to the fact that when I was a child my other daily read me a part of the Bible, and daily made me learn a part of it by heart."

2. The greatest in the land are proud of being the messengers of an earthly king. It is a far greater honor to carry the messages of the King of heaven. And this honor we all may have.

3. The great Gladstone tells again and again in his diary, how in times of difficulty, he found strength and comfort in the Bible, especially in the Psalms. Their promises were to him like a rock shielding him from his enemies.

4. As well may we be angry at the friend who rouses us to tell us our house is on fire, as at the one who warns us that some sin in our life will destroy us unless we give it up.

5. When the destroying angel passed through Egypt, the houses sprinkled with blood were safe. Just as safe from God's wrath against sin are those who trust in Jesus' blood.

6. The darkness brings its opportunity to the lamp, which is useless so long as the sun is shining. And wherever there is a place in the world darkened by sin it is the business of Christians to carry the light.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What was the book found by Hilkiah ?

2. How did its reading affect the king ?

3. What did Huldah predict as to the people ? As to the king ?