

lined to Joshua the work which lay before him. Appalled at the greatness of the task before him, Joshua rends his clothes and falls at the feet of Moses, weeping to think that he in his incompetence is left to take the place of this mighty leader. But Moses raises him from the ground and places him

on a seat by his side; comforts him with the assurance that God has foreseen and provided for all these things from the beginning and adds that he has been chosen by the Lord for this post neither on account of his virtue nor his weakness, but through the Divine compassion.—Deane.

### LIGHT FROM THE EAST

By Rev. Professor Ross, D.D., Montreal

**HITTITES**—They were probably the third power in the world at the Exodus. They were a people of the ancient northern type, and came over the Taurus Mountains into Syria. Their empire lay between their two principal cities, Carchemish on the Euphrates, and Kadesh on the Orontes; but there were settlements of them scattered from Hebron to the Black Sea and the Aegean. They seem to have been a peaceful agricultural people, who knew how to defend themselves when attacked. At Kadesh they measured swords with Rameses II, and while, according to his own account, he was victorious, he

was glad soon afterwards to conclude a treaty with them, the text of which still exists. Their power was finally overthrown by Sargon, King of Assyria, about 720 B.C. A number of colored pictures of them have been found on the monuments of Egypt. They had beardless faces, with receding foreheads and projecting upper jaws. They wore a pointed hat, a loose tunic, leather boots with turned up toes, and tied their long yellow hair in a sort of pigtail. It is intimated that Prof. A. H. Sayce has partially deciphered the Hittite inscriptions which have baffled scholars for thirty years.

### TEACHING HINTS AND HELPS

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades in the school.

#### For Bible Class Teachers

AN ANALYSIS

By Rev. Principal MacVicar, D.D., LL.D.

The book of Joshua contains the history of the entrance of the chosen people into Canaan; their conquest of the country; its division by lot among their tribes, and the setting up of the Jewish church in the land. The history strikingly illustrates the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises to the patriarchs. It embraces a period estimated at between twenty-six and twenty-seven years. We have in the present lesson:

1. *God's announcement of the death of Moses.*

(a) The announcement was needed. No man ever saw him die. God alone closed his eyes on Nebo. But for this divine, authoritative statement what foolish conjectures or superstitions might have arisen among the people. (b) God gives the obituary and the future of the dead leader and legislator in one emphatic phrase: "Moses my servant." Moses is dead, but his work goes on to com-

pletion. Hence (c) the practical inference for his followers from the fact of his death: "Now therefore arise." No useless dependency, but "Arise" to the great things yet to be accomplished.

2. *The appointment of Joshua as successor to Moses.* Many things pointed to his being the right man for this high position. (a) He was of illustrious descent. His grandfather, Elishama, was a prince of the children of Ephraim (Num. 7:48), and he enjoyed the same rank. (b) He was educated as a soldier, and now there is need of military tactics and prowess. He can turn to good account the experience gained in repelling the attack of Amalek. (c) He has had special marks of honor already conferred upon him. He accompanied his distinguished master part of the way up Mount Sinai, and was one of the two spies who gave the right report of the promised land. (d) He received most valuable training during long years of weary wandering in the Arabian desert as Moses' "minister" or attendant. Obscurity and the faithful performance of humble, arduous tasks are often the precursor of dignity and