

they should come into the land of Canaan, they must go to a place in the middle of the land, and there have the law read to the people. Joshua accordingly led the people northward to a place called Shechem, between the mountains Ebal and Gerizim. Here an altar was built of rough stones, and sacrifices were offered, and the law was written upon these stones. Then the people were divided into two companies. Six tribes stood on the side of Mount Gerizim, and six on the side of Mount Ebal, and in the middle of the valley was the ark of God surrounded by the priests. Then the law was read, and all the people answered to the law, "Amen!" Then the six tribes on Mount Gerizim repeated the blessings upon them keeping the law, and the six tribes on Mount Ebal answered with the curses that should come upon them breaking the law.

*Supt.* Give a division of the lesson.

*Girls.* The Altar; The Law; The Reading.

*Supt.* What doctrine does this lesson suggest?

*Boys.* The free agency of man.

*Supt.* What practical lessons are here taught?

*School.* That God should be acknowledged in all our successes; that God designs his people to be acquainted with his will; that the blessing or curse is the result of our own actions.

*Supt.* "The Cities of Refuge" is the title of the sixth lesson.

*All.* Golden Text: "Who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us."

*Selected Class.* The Lord commanded Joshua to have the people appoint cities of refuge, that when one should accidentally kill another he might flee to such a city and find refuge from the avenger of blood. The refugee was to run to the gate of the city of refuge and their explain his case to the elders, and they should then receive and protect him. He was to dwell there until the death of the high-priest, when he could return to his own home.

*Supt.* What were the names of the cities of refuge?

*Girls.* Ke'desh, She'chem, Kir'-jath-ar'ba, Be'zer, Ra'moth, and Go'lan.

*Supt.* What doctrine does this lesson suggest?

*Boys.* Security in Christ.

*Supt.* Mention some practical teachings.

*School.* Men are held accountable for their doings; God tempers judgment with mercy; men have a refuge in the hope set before them.

*Supt.* The seventh lesson tells of "The last days of Joshua."

*All.* Golden Text: "Choose you this day whom ye will serve."

*Selected Class.* Before Joshua died he sent for all the rulers and elders of the people to hear his last words. He told them of all the great things that the Lord had done for them; how he had brought them out of Egypt, led them through the desert, given them victory over their enemies, and placed them in this good

land. Joshua then exhorted the tribes to choose what God they would serve, whether the idols which their fathers served, or the gods of the Amorites, or the Lord, whom he and his house had determined to serve. The people declared that they would serve the Lord, and obey his voice. So Joshua exhorted them to put away the strange gods and made a covenant with the people. And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God and set up a great stone for a witness; after these things Joshua died, being one hundred and ten years old.

*Supt.* Give the outline of this lesson.

*Girls.* The Appeal; the Decision; the Warning; the Covenant.

*Supt.* What is the doctrine suggested?

*Boys.* The divine attributes.

*Supt.* Give some practical teachings.

*School.* The service of God means complete surrender; the service of God secures his favour; the remembrance of God's mercies should impel one to present service.

*Supt.* The title of the eighth lesson is "Israel Forsaking God."

*All.* The Golden Text: "And they forsook the Lord God of their fathers."

*Selected Class.* When Joshua dismissed the people, each man went to his respective inheritance, and served the Lord during the life of Joshua and for some time after, until another generation arose which knew not the Lord. And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord and served Baalim, and forsook the Lord. Whereupon the Lord forsook them, and they were sold into the hands of their enemies, so that they could no longer stand before them, and they were greatly distressed. Nevertheless the Lord raised up Judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them.

*Supt.* What contrast does this lesson make?

*Girls.* The contrast of good days and evil days in Israel.

*Supt.* What doctrine is thus taught?

*Boys.* The evil results of sin.

*Supt.* What does this lesson teach?

*School.* That God gives the inheritance which he promises; that breaking of one's covenant with God brings distress; that the threatenings of God are as sure as his promises.

#### SINGING BY THE SCHOOL. L.M.

O where is now that glowing love  
That marked our union with the Lord?  
Our hearts were fixed on things above,  
Nor could the world a joy afford.

Where are the happy seasons, spent  
In fellowship with him we love?  
The sacred joy, the sweet content,  
The blessedness that then we prove?

Behold, again we turn to thee;  
O cast us not away, though vile;  
No peace we have, no joy we see,  
O Lord our God, but in thy smile.