

**Pax Vobiscum.**

Not in the quiet churchyard, near those who loved them best; But by the wild Saskatchewan they laid them to their rest.

A simple soldier's funeral in that lonely spot was theirs, Made consecrate and holy by a nation's tears and prayers.

A few short prayers were uttered, straight from their comrades' hearts— A volley fired in honour, then the company departs.

Their requiem the music of the river's surging tide, Their funeral wreaths—the wild flowers that grow on every side.

Their monument—undying praise from each Canadian heart, That hears how for their country's sake they nobly bore their part.

A wail arises for them, and echoes through the land, The brave and gallant first fruits of that noble-hearted band.

So, resting in their peaceful graves beneath the prairie sod, Enshrined in golden memories, we yield them up to God.

Toronto, May 2. E. C. P.

**LESSON NOTES**

**SECOND QUARTER.**

A. D. 66.] **LESSON XIII.** [June 28. REVIEW.

Scripture Lesson.—The Golden Texts of the Quarter, and 2 Tim. 4. 1-8.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.—2 Tim. 4. 7.

**DAILY READINGS.**

M. Acts 27. 1-44. Th. Phil. 2. 5-16; 4. 4-13. T. Acts 28. 1-31. F. 1 Tim. 1. 15-20; 2. 1-8. Su. 1 Tim. 4. 1-8.

W. Eph. 6. 1-13. Su. Heb. 1. 1-8; 9. 1-12. Su. 2 Pet. 1. 1-11.

**TIME.—A. D. 60-68**

PLACE.—Caesarea, Malta, Rome, the Mediterranean Sea.

PERSONS.—Paul, Peter, Luke, Aristarchus, Julius, Timothy, Publius.

BOOKS.—Acts, Ephesians, Philippians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Hebrews, 2 Peter.

PLACE IN BIBLE HISTORY.—The last two chapters of the Acts, and several years after the Bible narrative closes.

SUGGESTIONS.—There may be a general review by the Topics, Golden Texts, Central Truths, and by the Review Exercises of the whole quarter.

The various places may be pointed out on the map, and what took place at each one, the voyage of Paul, and the places where the Epistles were written and to which they were sent.

The different books studied may be assigned to the different scholars, for special reports. And in the same way the different characters studied may be also assigned to them. Let each one make a list (1) of the great truths found in these lessons; (2) of the great duties; (3) of the things to be desired and sought for; (4) of the things to be avoided.

**QUESTIONS.**

I. THE LAST YEARS OF PAUL.—LESSONS 1, 2, 3, 4, 9. From what place did Paul start on his last voyage? For what place? Under what guardianship? How long was it before he reached his destination? Describe the storm that overtook him. What good came from this storm? Paul's character as revealed in it. How long was he at Malta? What good things did he do there? When did he arrive at Rome? Who met him? Where did he live at Rome? How long was he there? Give some account of his subsequent life. Of his death. What opinions have you formed of his character? Of his greatness? Of the good he did?

II. THE CHRIST WHOM PAUL PREACHED.—(Lessons 5-12). What is taught us of his nature? (Les. 10.) Of his atonement? (Les. 11.) Of his salvation? (Les. 8.) Of him as our example? (Les. 6.) Of obedience? (Les. 5.) Of rest in him. (Les. 7.) Of devotion to him? (Les. 9.) Of progress toward him and by him? (Les. 12.)

B. C. 975.] **LESSON I.** [July 5.

**STUDIES IN THE KINGS.**

**THIRD QUARTER.**

**REVOLT OF THE TEN TRIBES.**

1 Kings 12. 6-17. Commit to mem. vs. 6-8.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

He that walketh with wise men shall be wise; but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.—Prov. 13: 20.

**CENTRAL TRUTH.**

Selfishness, pride, and bad companions are the way to ruin.

**DAILY READINGS.**

M. 1 Kings 9. 1-28. Th. 1 Kings 11. 23-43. T. 1 Kings 10. 1-29. F. 1 Kings 12. 1-24. W. 1 Kings 11. 1-22. S. 2 Chron. 10. 1-19. Su. 2 Chron. 11. 1-23.

TIME.—B. C. 975. Just following the death of Solomon.

PLACE.—Shechem, between Mts. Ebal and Gerizim, in Ephraim.

RULERS.—Rehoboam, king of Judah; Jeroboam, king of Israel; Shishak, king of Egypt.

PARALLEL ACCOUNT.—2 Chron. ch. 10.

THE BOOK OF KINGS.—(1) Title, from its being a history of the kings. (2) Author, unknown, but some think it was compiled by Jeremiah; others by Ezra. (3) Date, about B. C. 560. (4) Time. The history of the kings extends over 455 years, B. C. 1015-560.

REHOBAM.—The only son of Solomon mentioned in history. His mother was Naamah, an Ammonite princess. Hence Rehoboam was brought under heathen influences. His age at this time is given in 1 Kings 14: 21, as 41 years, probably a corruption for 21. He was brought up to be proud, selfish, inefficient, irreligious, wild, inexperienced in government. "Solomon had only one son and he was a fool."

JEROBOAM.—The son of Nebat, lived at Zereda, in Ephraim. His mother's name was Zeruiah. He was employed by Solomon to build the fortifications of Jerusalem, and proved so efficient that Solomon placed him over all the laborers for him from Ephraim. When Solomon sinned, a prophet of Shiloh, Ahijah, met Jeroboam and foretold him that he should be king of ten tribes. He awakened Solomon's suspicion, and had to fly for his life. He went to Egypt, where it is said that he married Ano, a sister of Tahpenes, the queen of Shishak, king of Egypt. He returned to Ephraim on the death of Solomon.

CIRCUMSTANCES.—Solomon in his last years yielded to the idolatry of his heathen wives, and for punishment ten tribes were to be rent from his kingdom, in the days of his son. After reigning with great outward prosperity for 40 years, Solomon died at the age of about 60 years, B. C. 975. His son Rehoboam was his natural successor. He went to Shechem, in Ephraim, to be crowned, and to be accepted as king by the tribes of which Ephraim was the chief. The people assembled, and requested that the burdens of taxation and forced labor be lessened. He asked three days in which to consult and come to a decision. Here our lesson for today begins.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—1. The old men—The elders, or the experienced advisers of Solomon. 7. Be a servant—Do as the people wish; regard the rights of the people as a king ought. 8. The young men grown up with him—His young companions, wild, thoughtless, selfish, proud, despising the people. 9. Yoke—The burdens of taxation and labor. 10. My little finger, etc.—My exactions will be as much greater than Solomon's, as the whole body is larger than the little finger. 11. Scorpions—Whips whose lashes were loaded with lead and sharp points. 15. The cause was from the Lord—They did as they pleased, but God overruled it. The result was the punishment for Solomon's sin; and the people were so turned to idolatry that probably the only way to keep any pure religion, was to separate these tribes from Judah. 16. In David—In David's tribe of Judah, and David's successor.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—The Book of Kings.—The condition of the kingdom at the time of Solomon's death.—Rehoboam.—Jeroboam.—The prophecy of Ahijah.—Scorpions.—The folly of Rehoboam's decision.—How this division was from the Lord.—Into what portions the kingdom was divided.

**QUESTIONS.**

INTRODUCTORY.—What can you tell about the Books of the Kings? What was the condition of the kingdom at the death of Solomon? What sins did he commit in his last years? (1 Kings 11. 4-8.) What was the punishment? (1 Kings 11. 9-13.) In what year did Solomon die? Who was his successor? Give some account of Rehoboam. Of Jeroboam. In what other place is the lesson of to-day recorded?

**SUBJECT: TURNING POINTS IN LIFE.**

I. THE CORONATION ASSEMBLY.—Where was the assembly held? (1 Kings 12. 1.) Why there? Who was their leader? (1 Kings 12. 2, 3.) What request did the people make of the king? Had they just cause of grievance? How did Rehoboam answer them? Of what two classes of people did he seek advice?

II. WISE COUNSEL (vs. 6, 7).—To whom did Rehoboam first apply for advice? What reason is given why they were peculiarly fitted to give wise counsel? What was their advice? Was it judicious?

III. RASH COUNSEL (vs. 8-11).—To whom did Rehoboam next apply? Why were they unfitted to give wise counsel? What was their advice? Meaning of yoke? What burdens had Solomon inflicted on them? (1 Kings 5. 13-16.) Meaning of scorpions? Why was this bad advice? From what bad qualities did it spring?

IV. THE FOOLISH DECISION (vs. 12-17).—When and where did the people assemble again? Whose advice did Rehoboam follow? What was the result? How many tribes went off? Who led them? What tribes remained with Rehoboam? In what sense was this result from the Lord? For whose sin was it a punishment? (1 Kings 11. 4-13.) How may this division have been necessary for keeping a pure worship of God?

V. APPLICATIONS.—What kingdom does God offer us? (Luke 12. 31, 32; Matt. 6. 33.) Of whom do men seek advice as to what they shall do? What do the experienced advise? What do those devoted to self and pleasure often advise? Whose advice should you follow? Why? What is the result of yielding to wrong counsel? In what did Rehoboam fail in seeking advice? (Ps. 55. 16.) Who will direct us aright? (James 1. 5; Ps. 73. 24.)

**PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.**

1. Neither wisdom nor grace runs in the blood.
2. Thank the Lord for a good mother.
3. Take counsel of the experienced, and not of those who flatter and pander to our faults.
4. Bad companions and bad advice are the ruin of many.
5. It is blessed for us that God overrules the plans of bad men.
6. Make all great decisions with prayer, with care, with wise counsel.

**REVIEW EXERCISE.** (For the whole School in concert.)

1. Who was Solomon's successor? ANS. His son Rehoboam. 2. Where did he meet the people to be acknowledged as king? ANS. At Shechem, in the tribe of Ephraim. 3. What did the people request before giving him their allegiance? ANS. That he should lighten their burdens. 4. With whom did Rehoboam consult? ANS. With the old and experienced, and with his young and rash companions. 5. What was his answer to the people? ANS. He refused their request. 6. What was the result? ANS. Ten tribes revolted from his kingdom.

A CLEVER author says there are three kinds of men in the world—"the Wills, the Won'ts, and the Can'ts" The first effect everything, the next oppose everything, and the last fail in everything. "I Will" builds our railroads and steamboats; "I Won't" doesn't believe in experiment and nonsense; while "I Can't" grows weeds for wheat, and commonly ends his days in the court of bankruptcy.

WHEN Moses wore a heavenly radiance "he wist not that his face shone." The best people are those who have the least to say about their own goodness.

OUR grand business in life is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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