

father of this particular tribe. Show how the tribe was divided for the purpose of serving God. The family of Aaron were to be priests, to offer sacrifice; the rest of the tribe were to attend to the tabernacle and its furniture. Divided into three great families, each had its own share of the work. Show to the class why we have no priests now as then. Jesus, the great High-Priest, has come, and has offered himself as the great sacrifice for the sins of the world. He asks us to give ourselves to him. We are to be set apart to his service and are to try and work for him.

#### Whisper Song.

Love Divine, choosing me?  
Wholly thine would I be.  
Free from sin may I be  
Pure and clean, *more like Thee.*

#### Miscellaneous.

##### THEMES FOR BIBLE READINGS.

1. THE WORK OF MINISTERS. Num. xvi. 9; Acts vi. 3, 4; Isa. lii. 7, 8; 2 Cor. v. 20; 1 Cor. ii. 2.
2. HOW TO PREACH. 1 Pet. v. 2; 1 Tim. iv. 6, 7, 15, 16; Acts xx. 31; 2 Cor. vi. 3-7.
3. HOW TO HEAR. Matt. vii. 24, 25; Rom. ii. 13; Heb. ii. 1; xii. 25; James i. 22.
4. HOW TO PRACTICE. Titus ii. 2; 1 Thess. ii. 10; Col. iv. 5; Titus iii. 14.
5. THE SUPPORT OF THE MINISTRY. Rom. x. 14, 15, 1 Cor. ix. 7-14.
6. ALL GOD'S PEOPLE TO BE PREACHERS AND TEACHERS. Eph. iv. 8-11; Psa. li. 13; lxxviii. 11; Matt. v. 13-16; Eph. iv. 29; Col. iv. 6.
7. THE SECRET OF SUCCESS. Exod. iv. 12; 1 Pet. iv. 10, 11; 2 Cor. iv. 7; Zech. iv. 6; 1 Cor. iii. 6, 7.

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 1874.

#### LESSON VIII.—Israel's Unbelief.

Num. xiv. 1-10.

GOLDEN TEXT: Heb. iii. 19.

#### Berean Notes.

##### I. GENERAL STATEMENT.

Having encamped before Sinai about a year, at length, on the twentieth day of the second month of the second year after their departure from Egypt, the Hebrews were ordered to proceed toward Canaan. Advancing along the valleys of Sinai, they soon encountered the

desert, and thenceforth their journey is filled with complaints against both Moses and Jehovah. In five or six months they reach Kadesh, a distance of about one hundred and twenty miles from Sinai. They send out "spies" into Canaan. For the stations and events between Sinai and Kadesh, see Numbers, chapters x., xi., xii., xxxiii.

##### II. NOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

1. MOURNING, ver. 1. (1) *Place of mourning.* "Kadesh," in the "wilderness of Paran." Num. xiii. 26; on the southern border Canaan. Num. xxxiv. 4; Josh. x. 41. The only station of the wanderings called a "city." Num. xx. 16. The term Kadesh sometimes signifies a wide region, as "the wilderness of Kadesh." Psa. xlviii. 8. (2) *Cause of the mourning.* Dissatisfaction with the spies' report. Num. xiii. 21-23. ALL THE CONGREGATION. The six hundred thousand warriors and the rest of the vast multitude lose all courage, fearing the "giants" of Canaan. Unbelief makes cowards. WEPT THAT NIGHT. Not spasmodic, but long continued grief.

2. MURMURING, ver. 2. (1) *Carnal passions.* THE WHOLE CONGREGATION included the "mixed multitude." Exod. xii. 38; Num. xi. 4. MURMURED. They preferred the "flesh-pots" of Egypt. Had no spirituality. Tribulation of any kind at once drove them to complaints and unbelief. Exod. xiv. 10-12; xvi. 2; xvii. 2, etc. (2) *The impious wish.* HAD DIED . . IN EGYPT. With the "first-born," or under the task-masters. IN THIS WILDERNESS. On the very borders of the promised land, they wish for slavery or death. So the sinner prefers carnal pleasures to heaven, and chooses death rather than life eternal. Prov. i. 24, 25; Matt. xiii. 58; xix. 22; John v. 40; x. 10; Heb. iv. 2.

This ought to be the greatest cause of weeping—that our life is no life, because we never cease from sinning while we are here pilgrims and strangers, exiled and banished out of our Father's house in heaven.—*Cavedray.*

Compare Israel's wicked murmurings with the following pious prayer: Send us poverty now, that we may be spared in eternity; send us reproach now, that we may be spared in eternity; send us sickness now, that we may be spared in eternity; send us just as many evils as may please Thee in this world, provided that we may be spared forever in the world to come—that we may be spared in eternity.—*Segneri.*

3. REBELLION, verses 3, 4. (1) *I thought.* WHEREFORE . . BROUGHT. This is not

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