

"elders" of the tribes. **INTRODUCTORY.**

—The tribes soon took a very dangerous course; they made terms with their idolatrous enemies, and permitted them to reside in the land on payment of tribute. Intermarriage followed and led to community of religious worship. The two religions were in some sort incorporated, and if the first commandment of the law was not generally broken, the second was. **DOCTRINAL SUG-**

GESTION.—The discipline of affliction.

HOME READINGS.

- M.* The time of the judges. Judg. 2. 1-10.
Tu. The time of the judges. Judg. 2. 11-17.
W. A sad history. Judg. 2. 18-23.
Th. Command and warning. Num. 33. 50-56.
F. Forsaking God. Jer. 2. 4-13.
S. Folly of disobedience. Psalm 81. 8-16.
S. Unfaithfulness. Psalm 106. 34-45.

LESSON HYMNS.

No. 287, New Canadian Hymnal.

Safely through another week.

No. 358, New Canadian Hymnal.

O God of Bethel, by whose hand.

No. 278, New Canadian Hymnal.

One more hymn we'll sing at parting.

QUESTIONS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS.

1. A Faithful Rebuke, v. 1-5.

Who came up from Gilgal to Bochim?
 What do you know about Gilgal? What about Bochim?

Where were the Hebrews accustomed to gather for religious and political purposes? (*Answer.* Shiloh.)

How and where did God swear to the "fathers" that they should inherit Palestine?

What "leagues" had the Israelites made with the inhabitants of the land?

Had they thrown down their altars? Why not? How did the Hebrews act when the angel rebuked them?

What did they call the place where the angel spoke?

What does Bochim mean? (*Answer.* Weeping.)

2. A Forgetful People, v. 6-12.

What followed Joshua's dismissal of the tribes? How long were they faithful to their covenant? Of what had they been witnesses?

What was Joshua's age at his death?

Where was he buried?

What is meant by "gathered to their fathers?"

What change in the people did time accomplish?

How did the new generation show their forgetfulness of God?

What was Baalim?

Of what had God especially warned his people? (*Deut.* 6. 14.)

Into what idolatry did they fall?

What was the consequence of their folly?

On what conditions had success been promised them? (*Deut.* 28. 1.)

What was fulfilled in the distresses of this people? (*Josh.* 23. 16.)

3. A Gracious God, v. 16.

How did the Lord show his mercy toward the transgressors?

Had these judges anything like "constitutional rights," or were they what might be called providential dictators?

Did they each govern all the country?

Practical Teachings.

Where are we taught in this lesson—

1. That God secures to his people their inheritance?

2. That forgetfulness of God's promises leads to departure from his service?

3. That the threatenings and promises of God are alike sure?

QUESTIONS FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOLARS.

1. A Faithful Rebuke, v. 1-5.

What visitor came to Bochim?

What had he done for Israel?

What had he promised to keep unbroken?

What alliance had he forbidden?

What duty had he enjoined?

What did he say of Israel's conduct?

What punishment would result from their disobedience?

How were the people affected by this rebuke?

What name did they give to the place? Why?

What did they offer to the Lord?

Of what are God's rebukes a proof? (*Rev.* 3. 19.)

2. A Forgetful People, v. 6-12.

Where did the people go from Bochim?

How long did they remain true to God?

What was Joshua's age at his death?

Where was he buried?

What is said of the next generation?

What evil did Israel do before the Lord?

Whom did they forsake? Whom follow?

Name some of the gods whom they followed.

Which commandment did they break? Repeat it.