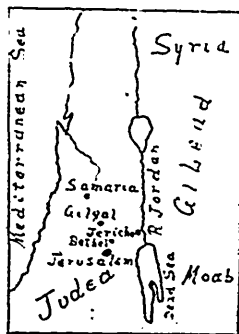


should be inserted before "Oded". Took courage; because he knew that God's power was behind him. Put away...idols; outlining the good work begun earlier, ch. 14:3. Out...of Judah and Benjamin; the two tribes included in the Southern kingdom. Cities...taken from the hill country of Ephraim (Rev. Ver.); the cities amongst the mountains of the Central Range captured by Abijah, Asa's father (ch. 13:19) in his wars with the Northern kingdom here called "Ephraim" from its strongest tribe. Renewed the altar; repaired the altar of burnt offering in the court of the temple. Strangers...of Ephraim...Manasseh...Simeon; people from these three Northern tribes, who had migrated to the Southern kingdom. Fell to him; became his subjects. In abundance; in great numbers. Lord...with him; as proved by the victory over Zerah. Third month; in which the Feast of Pentecost or Weeks was held. Spoil. See ch. 14:13-15.

III. THE PEOPLE'S JOY.—12-15. Entered into a covenant; bound themselves anew (see Ex. 24:3-8) to obey God's law. Seek...with all their heart and...soul; putting all their might into the service of God. (Compare Mark 12:30.) Swore...with a loud voice...with shouting; expressing a united and joyful determination to serve the Lord. Trumpets. These were long, straight silver trumpets with a bell mouth, used only for religious purposes. Cornets; long horns turned up at the end, the national trumpet for rallying the people. All Judah rejoiced; with the joy of all those who find God. The Lord gave them rest; a period of peace.

#### THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



width and 15 feet in height. The altar stood probably on the spot where David erected an altar after the plague had been stayed (see 2 Sam. 21:15-25). It was this altar which King Asa is said to have repaired.

The TEMPLE which was built by King Solomon on Mount Moriah, the Eastern hill of Jerusalem, was surrounded by two courts. Into the inner of these courts only the priests could enter, while the outer one was open to all the Israelites. In the inner or priests' court stood the altar of burnt offering, which was made of brass, 30 feet in both length and

#### LESSON QUESTIONS

1, 2 Who came with a message to Asa? From whom was this message? Where is it said that prophets were "moved by the Holy Ghost"? (2 Pet. 1:21.) From what victory was Asa returning? What promise was made to Asa and his people? What was required of them? What is said of those who seek God early? (Prov. 8:17.)

3, 4 What three things does Azariah say that Israel in the past had often been without? What had led them to return to God? How had He received them? Find in Jeremiah a promise to a nation that repents. (Jer. 28:13.)

5-7 What troubles had come upon Israel? Who had sent these troubles? Wherefore? What did Azariah tell Asa he should be? What promise did he give? Where do we read that Joshua was told to "be strong and of a good courage"? (Josh. 1:6.)

8-11 What did Asa put away? What did he restore? Describe the gathering summoned and the sacrifices that were offered.

12-15 What covenant was made? What did the Lord give to Israel?

#### FOR DISCUSSION

1. Seeking the Lord.
2. Whole-hearted service.

#### A LESSON FOR LIFE

By the simple device of surrounding a bottle with a vacuum between itself and the outer air, the contents of the bottle can be kept hot for a long period. So, though temptations and trials and sorrows may come into our lives, yet when the great and loving God places round us His care and protection, we shall have in our hearts a rest and peace and joy which none of the world's happenings can destroy or even disturb.

Prove from Scripture—That God requires heart service.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 84. What doth every sin deserve? A. Every sin deserveth God's wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.

The Question of Missions—3. What is our church doing for immigrants on their arrival in Canada? A minister of our church meets immigrants at the ports of Quebec, St. John and Halifax, gives to each Presbyterian amongst them a card of introduction to a minister in the place to which he is going, and notifies that minister of the immigrant's arrival. At the port of Quebec last year 6,700 Presbyterian immigrants were welcomed in this way.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 16 (Supplemental Lesson); 116; 104, 63 (Ps. Sel.); 230 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 255.

#### FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What warnings for Asa did Azariah draw from Israel's past history? .....

2. How did Asa show his faithfulness to the Lord? .....