

Lesson VIII. **THE IMPORTANCE OF SELF-CONTROL—** May 20, 1917
TEMPERANCE LESSON

Isaiah 28 : 1-13. *Scripture Memory Verse, Gen. 21 : 18.

Golden Text—Every man that striveth in the games is temperate in all things.—1 Corinthians 9 : 25 (Rev. Ver.).



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1 Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of E'phraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, which are on the head of the fat valleys of them that are overcome with wine !

2 Behold, the Lord hath a mighty and strong one, which as a tempest of hail and a destroying storm, as a flood of mighty waters overflowing, shall cast down to the earth with the hand.

3 The crown of pride, the drunkards of E'phraim, shall be trodden under feet :

4 And the glorious beauty, which is on the head of the fat valley, shall be a fading flower, and as the hasty fruit before the summer ; which when he that looketh upon it seeth, while it is yet in his hand he eateth it up.

5 In that day shall the LORD of hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty, unto the residue of his people,

6 And for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment, and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate.

7 But they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way ; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink ; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment.

8 For all tables are full of vomit and filthiness, so that there is no place clean.

9 Whom shall he teach knowledge ? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine ? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept ; line upon line, line upon line ; here a little, and there a little :

11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

12 To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest ; and this is the refreshing : yet they would not hear.

13 But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept ; line upon line, line upon line ; here a little, and there a little ; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The land that God gave to his people, Israel, was a very good and beautiful land. On the hillsides were many vineyards. But the people made a bad use of some of the good things God had given them. From the grapes that grew in the vineyards, they made great casks of wine to drink, and became a nation of drunkards. Now you all know that wine drinking is the cause of all

sorts of wrong-doing, so God's people became very wicked.

God saw that his people had become wine drinkers and wrong-doers, and that he must punish them, so he allowed a very cruel king to come from another land, with his armies of soldiers, and take possession of their country. The soldiers killed many of the people, and captured the beautiful city of Samaria.

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