

Lesson XII.

REVIEW, SUPPLEMENTAL LESSONS

March 25, 1906

BIBLE WORK—Groups of Books of the Old Testament, with Key-words for each Group. SCRIPTURE MEMORY PASSAGES. SHORTER CATECHISM—Questions 1-10. PRIMARY CATECHISM—Qs. 65-79. SUPPLEMENTAL HYMN—538, Book of Praise. THE QUESTION ON MISSIONS—Qs. 1-11.

TEMPERANCE LESSON

Proverbs 23 : 29-35—Memory Verse, 31.

Golden Text—At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.—Proverbs 23 : 32.



29 Who hath woe ? who hath sorrow ?
who hath contentions ? who hath babbling ?
who hath wounds without cause ? who hath
redness of eyes ?

30 They that tarry long at the wine ; they
that go to seek mixed wine.

31 Look not thou upon the wine when it
is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup,
when it moveth itself aright.

32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, and
stingeth like an adder.

33 Thine eyes shall behold strange women,
and thine heart shall utter perverse things.

34 Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down
in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth
upon the top of a mast.

35 They have stricken me, *shalt thou say,*
and I was not sick ; they have beaten me,
and I felt it not : when shall I awake ? I
will seek it yet again.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Two of the most dreaded reptiles in Eastern lands are the snake and the adder, the bite of both being poisonous and deadly. The chief danger from these creatures, which at first glance may often appear harmless and even beautiful, lies in the fact that they are not easily seen and always attack people by stealth and when they are least expecting it.

King Solomon, one of the wisest men who ever lived, when he wanted to warn people against the sin and danger of drunkenness, compared wine and such strong drinks to both of these poisonous animals, saying, "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth its color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright ; for at the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder." Solomon meant that, like the deadly bite of a poisonous and cunning reptile, the constant drinking of wine and such like drinks, would bring a man, even before he was aware of it, to certain ruin and destruction.

Now a person bitten by a poisonous snake is sometimes thrown into a deep and pleasant sleep, from which it is impossible to awaken him, and in the same way, the first effect of whisky poison is to make one happy ; but the pleasure lasts only for a short time and turns quickly into sickness and disgust.

In his Proverbs or Wise Book, which King Solomon wrote especially for the instruction and warning of young people, and which is now part of the Old Testament, he gives a terrible description of a drunkard returning to his home after a night spent in feasting and drinking with evil companions. While the pleasure lasted, everything went merrily, but when morning came, no one would know him for the same man. While in a drunken state someone has kicked and wounded him, so that he is covered with blood and bruises, of which he can give no account. His eyes are swollen and red, he is quarrelsome, foolish, and altogether unhappy. But for all this, he is not