

Ill-treating the Poor—Picture Amos out on the hillsides (sketch) watching his sheep. He had plenty of time to think about things he had seen and heard. Many people passed by his pasture fields. Great trains of camels and their drivers stopped to get water at the wells where Amos watered his sheep. These drivers talked to Amos and told him about things that were going on in many places. Sometimes Amos went into the large cities to sell the wool from off his sheep. There he took notice of all he saw,—the fine houses of the merchants, who cheated those from whom they bought and to whom they sold, using wrong weights and measures, paying very little for work done for them, making the poor people pay high prices for necessary things which they bought—all this was so that the rich might live in grand style.

Amos used to go home to his sheep and think of all these things. He knew that God would surely punish his people for treating the poor in this way and for all their greediness and dishonesty. Amos knew that their fine buildings, etc., would be destroyed unless they changed their way of living. He wished he could do or say something that would help these people in his homeland to turn from their evil ways and do as God would like them to do.

Home Mission Work—After a while God spoke to Amos and told him to give warning to these people, to tell them how wrong it was to do these things, and try to make them sorry for their sins.

Our Lesson story tells us what Amos said to the people as he went through the cities and villages. Imagine how the people would feel when Amos told them they would not enjoy their fine houses very long. They had planted vineyards, but God would not let them enjoy the fruit, because of the way in which they treated the poor. Amos said, "Hate the evil and love the good and God will forgive you and bless you."

Golden Text—Outline an open Bible. Repeat Golden Text. Let us copy faithful Amos in warning those around us. There are many who know about God but they forget Him and are selfish and wicked. We need brave men like Amos to be missionaries to warn our people of the danger they are in if they do not repent and turn to God. We all have God's word, to know His will. We can help to send out home missionaries. We can be faithful little workers telling those around us about God's messages to all.

Hymn—Sing vs. 1, 3, 5, Hymn 503, Book of Praise.

What the Lesson Teaches Me—I SHOULD TELL GOD'S WORD TO THOSE AROUND ME.

FROM THE PLATFORM

"Hate the evil"
"Love the good"

Ask the scholars whether hatred is ever right. Discuss this question until you have got them to see that it is right to hate things that are evil. Write "*Hate the evil*," v. 15. Direct the conversation to some of the things in our country which are evil and should, therefore, be hated. The scholars will readily mention many such things,—such as the drink traffic, profane swearing, dishonesty, lying, etc. Impress the truth, that hatred of evil should be shown by ridding ourselves of it and fighting it with all our might. Now ask, "If we should hate evil, what should we love?" "The answer is, of course, 'The good.'" Write, "*Love the good*," and emphasize the truth that, if the people of Canada obey these two precepts, our country will be truly happy and great.