

## LESSON NOTES.

## FOURTH QUARTER.

THREE MONTHS WITH SOLOMON AND THE BOOKS OF WISDOM.

B.C. 1015.] LESSON I. [Oct. 5.

SOLOMON SUCCEEDING DAVID.

1 Kings 1. 22-31. Commit to mem. vs. 28-30.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

And thou, Solomon, my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart, and with a willing mind.—1 Chron. 28. 9.

## CENTRAL TRUTH.

Those who obey God will have true success in life.

## DAILY READINGS.

M. 1 Kings 1. 5-21. Th. Psa. 1. 1-6.  
T. 1 Kings 1. 22-35. F. Prov. 1. 20-33.  
W. 1 Kings 1. 36-53. Sa. Prov. 3. 1-17.  
Su. Psa. 72. 1-20.

TIME.—B.C. 1015. Some eight years after David's sin in numbering the people (Less. 8, 3rd Quar.); six months before David's death.

PLACE.—(1) Jerusalem. (2) The fountain of Enrogel, in the Kedron valley, just south of Jerusalem. (3) Gihon, south-west of Jerusalem, but close to the city.

DAVID.—70 years old, in the 40th year of his reign.

SOLOMON.—18 to 20 years old. Solomon—the peaceful. His other name, Jedidiah—the beloved of the Lord.

THE BOOKS OF KINGS.—Originally part of the same work as the Books of Samuel. They were completed about B.C. 560. Author unknown.

INTRODUCTION.—This lesson follows Less. 8, 3rd Quar. After the plague was stayed, as related in that lesson, David's life seems to have been peaceful and happy, and he spent his last years in preparing the materials for the temple which Solomon was to build. As David's life drew near its close, Adonijah, the oldest living son, fearing he might not be appointed king, made a desperate effort to seize upon the kingdom. Nathan heard of this, and reported it to Bathsheba, Solomon's mother, who carried the news to the king.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—22. *Nathan*—A wise and bold prophet, who had reproved David for his sin, and also aided him in his efforts for the temple. 24. *Adonijah*—The oldest of David's fifteen living sons, badly trained (v. 6), beautiful in form, ambitious, but not fitted for the kingdom. 25. *Slain cattle*, etc.—For the religious feast of his inauguration. *Captains of the host*—Of whom Joab was chief, a skilful and brave soldier, unscrupulous, not religious, successful for this world. 26. *Solomon*—Son of David and Bathsheba, 20 years old, wise, pious, well-trained, called of God. This effort of Adonijah was a complete failure, and Solomon became king.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—David's last years.—State of the kingdom.—Adonijah.—Solomon.—Nathan.—Joab.—Adonijah's attempt.—How it was defeated.—Solomon's fitness for the kingdom.

## QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—What was the subject of the last historical lesson? How long an interval between that lesson and this? At what date did Solomon become king? What can you tell about the Book of Kings?

SUBJECT: SUCCESSFUL AND UNSUCCESSFUL MEN.

I. ADONIJAH THE USURPER (vs. 23-27).—How many sons had David? (1 Chron. 3. 4-8.) Who was probably the oldest one living? What was the character of Adonijah? What kind of a man in appearance? (1 Kings 1. 6.) What defect in his early training? (1 Kings 1. 6.) What attempt did he make to secure the throne? Why did he make the attempt at this time? (1 Kings 1. 1.) Did he probably know that David proposed to make Solomon king? (1 Kings 1. 13; 1 Chron. 28. 5.) What claim had Adonijah to be king? What were his plans? Where was Enrogel? Who went to his feast? Who were not invited? How were his plans defeated? What became of him after this? (1 Kings 2. 13. 25.) Would he have made a good king? Was he a successful man? What made him fail? (1 Kings 2. 15.) What lessons can you learn from his life?

II. SOLOMON THE KING (vs. 28-31).—How old was Solomon at this time? What name did the prophet Nathan give him? (2 Sam. 12. 24, 25.) What is the meaning of Solomon? of Jedidiah? What was his character? Who appointed him to be king? (1 Kings 1. 13, 30.) In what place was Solomon crowned as king? Give an account of the coronation? What was the effect on the usurping Adonijah? Was Solomon successful? In what respects? What was the secret of his success? (vs. 3-14.) What can you learn from him as to the way to make your life successful?

III. NATHAN THE PROPHET (v. 22).—What prophet helped Solomon to his kingdom? What had he to do with Solomon's early years? (1 Sam. 12. 24, 25.) In what great undertaking did he advise David? (2 Sam. 7. 1-17.) What sharp reproof did he administer? (2 Sam. 12. 1-10.) What two books did he write? (1 Chron. 29. 29; 2 Chron. 9. 29.) What qualities of character did Nathan show? Was he a successful man? In what respects? The secret of his success?

IV. JOAB THE GENERAL (v. 25).—What was Joab's position under David? (2 Sam. 8. 16; 1 Chron. 11. 6.) By what high titles is he called? (2 Sam. 11. 11; 1 Chron. 27. 34.) What relation was he to David? (2 Sam. 8. 16; 1 Chron. 2. 13-16.) What kind of a man was he? Why did he join in Adonijah's usurpation? What became of him? (1 Kings 2. 28-34.) Was he a successful man?

## PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. From the history of others we learn the way of success, and the rocks on which we may be wrecked.
2. Solomon was youthful, pious, well-trained, wise, studious, fitted for his life work.
3. Adonijah was allowed his own way, beautiful in form, but untrained, unfitted for the kingdom, and a failure.
4. Nathan was a true prophet, wise, bold, holding communion with God, reproving sin, helping others to good works.
5. Joab, a brave and skilful general, headstrong, but faithful till toward the last, revengeful, enjoying honours and wealth.
6. The condition of success is obedience to God, help from God, faithfulness in every duty.

REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School in concert.)

1. How long did David reign? **ANS.** Forty years. 2. Who made an attempt to obtain the throne? **ANS.** His oldest living son, Adonijah. 3. Whom had David appointed as his successor? **ANS.** Solomon, his youngest son. 4. What was the result of Adonijah's plan? **ANS.** It failed, and Solomon was made king. 5. Why was Solomon successful? **ANS.** Because he was wise, studious, pious, and was called of God.

B.C. 1015.] LESSON II. [Oct 12.

DAVID'S CHARGE TO SOLOMON.

1 Chron. 22. 6-19. Commit to mem. vs. 17-19.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Arise, therefore, and be doing, and the Lord be with thee.—1 Chron. 22. 16.

## CENTRAL TRUTH.

Every one should do his part in the work of the Lord.

## DAILY READINGS.

M. 1 Chron. 22. 1-19. Th. 1 Chron. 29. 1-9.  
T. 1 Kings 2. 1-10. F. 1 Chron. 29. 10-30.  
W. 1 Chron. 28. 1-21. Sa. Psa. 72. 1-20.  
Su. Psa. 84. 1-12.

TIME.—B.C. 1015. Soon after the last lesson.

PLACE.—Jerusalem, the capital of the kingdom.

DAVID.—70 years old, near the close of his forty years' reign.

SOLOMON.—18 to 20 years old, just crowned king.

THE KINGDOM.—At the height of its prosperity,—wide extended, well-organized in all its parts, religious, civil and military, at peace.

CORRESPONDING PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE.—Another charge to Solomon is recorded in 1 Kings 2. 1-9. The preparations for the Temple are given at greater length in 1 Chron. 28, 29. The 72nd Psalm was probably composed for this occasion.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—9. *Solomon*—The name means peaceful. (See last lesson.) 10. *He shall build a house*—Times of peace (1) gave opportunity for building, (2) allowed the men to work at it, (3) helped in accumulating the needed wealth, (4) the temple of God should be the home of peace. 14. *A hundred thousand talents of gold*—A Jewish talent of gold was worth \$26,280.00. *A thousand thousand talents of silver*—A talent of silver was worth \$1,642.50. This would make the whole amount equal to \$4,270,500,000. By another reckoning, of a civil shekel half as great as the shekel of the sanctuary, the amount would be reduced one-half. If a Syrian talent was used, the amount would be about \$60,000,000. 17. *David commanded the princes*—A great assembly was held soon after, in which Solomon was crowned publicly, and the leaders of the people gave liberally for the Temple (1 Chron. 28, 29.)

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—Why David could not build the Temple.—How Solomon was prepared to do it.—The qualities of a successful worker for the Lord (vs. 11-13).—The amount of silver and gold David had laid up for the Temple.—The great assembly (1 Chron. 28, 29).—The state of the kingdom.

## QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—Who was now king in place of David? How old was David? What was the state of the kingdom?

SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR GOD'S WORK.

I. PREPARATION OF THE WORKER (vs. 6-13).—What was the great work David had left for Solomon to do? Why was it so important? Why could not David do it himself? What circumstances of the kingdom favoured Solomon's building the temple? Why could it be done better in times of peace? How many qualities are mentioned in verses 11-13 as fitting Solomon for his work? Which were the more important? Where may we obtain wisdom? (James 1. 5.) Do we need the same qualities in doing God's work.

II. PREPARATION OF MATERIAL BY DAVID (vs. 14-16).—How much gold and silver had David laid up for the Temple? What does it amount to in our money? Where did he obtain so much? (1 Chron. 18. 6, 11; 26. 26-28.) What was to be done with this gold and silver? What else had he prepared? Could David have done better with his wealth? How would his planning and preparing for the Temple be a joy and blessing to his life? What was Solomon to do himself? (v. 14.) What things have been done by our fathers for the coming of Christ's kingdom? How may we "add thereto?"

III. PREPARATION OF MATERIAL BY THE PEOPLE (vs. 17-19).—Whom did David call upon to help build the Temple? What great meeting did he hold? (1 Chron. 28, 29.) To what motives did David appeal? How did the people respond? (1 Chron. 29. 6-9.) To what great work has God called us? How will it make our lives better if we give and labour for it? Is it worth more than Solomon's Temple? How did the people feel after they had given so liberally? (1 Chron. 29. 9.)

## PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. Blessed is the father who has a good and wise son.
2. Some must prepare material for others to use.
3. Those that lay the hidden foundations have also a part in the joy of the completed work.
4. If we are fitted for a work, God will send the work to us.
5. The qualities needed for doing God's work,—Divine help, earnestness, wisdom, obedience, courage, and hope.
6. We should "add thereto" to the unmeasured riches of church and state, ideas, literature, inventions, schools, and means of doing good, which our fathers have prepared for us.
7. God's cause needs the gifts of every one, and not of the rich and great alone.

REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School in concert.)

6. What was the great desire of David's life? **ANS.** To build a temple to the Lord. 7. What did he do towards it? **ANS.** He prepared an immense amount of gold and silver and materials for its construction. 8. To whom did he commit the work? **ANS.** To his son Solomon. 9. Upon whom did he call to help him? **ANS.** All the leaders of the people.

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