CONTENTS.

CHAPTER XXIII.	
The Jews Become Oracles in Babylon—Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream—Predictions of the coming of Christ—The three Hebrews in a fiery furnace—Nebuchadnezzar becomes insane—Belshaszar's feast—Daniel is cast into a den of lions—Daniel's prayer for Jerusalem—Daniel's visions,	330-341
CHAPTER XXIV.	
Return of the Jews from Captivity—Rebuilding of the temple—Ezra goes to Jerusalem—Separation of the Jews and their wives taken from other nations,	
CHAPTER XXV.	
The Story of Esther—Vashti disobeys the king—Esther chosen to succeed her as queen—The king orders the Jews to be slaughtered—How Esther saved her people—Mordecai's triumph—Execution of Haman,	34 6-357
CHAPTER XXVI.	
Nehemiah sent to Rebuild Jerusalem—Celebrating the restoration—Abuses reformed—Nehemiah the seal of the prophets,	358-362
CHAPTER XXVII.	
The Apocrypha—Discussion of its admission to the Bible—Israel after Nehemiah's death—A second temple built by a schism in the church—Alexander the Great—Jerusalem captured by Ptolemy—The death of Simon—Eleazar—Heliodorus scourged by an angel,	
CHAPTER XXVIII.	
The Sack of Jerusalem—Pollution of the temple—Dreadful persecution of the Jews—Horrible punishment of a mother and her seven sons—Deliverance of the Jews by Maccabeus—Battle with the Syrians—Eleazar slain by an elephant—Alexander the Horrible—Mark Antony and Cleopatra—Cruelty of Herod.	
Syrians—Eleazar slain by an elephant—Alexander the Horrible—Mark Antony and Cleopatra—Cruelty of Herod,	374-39

BIRTH OF CHRIST.

CHAPTER XXIX.

The Four Gospels—A golden promise—An angel appears to Zacharias—Gabriel appears to Mary—The birth of John—The birth of JESUS—An angel announces the glad tidings—Naming of Christ—Herod murders the children of Bethlehem—Escape of JESUS—JESUS disputes with the doctors—Preaching of John—John declares the coming of Christ—John baptizes JESUS—The forty-days' fast, and temptation—The first miracle—Money changers driven from the temple—Conversion of Nicodemus—John is beheaded—JESUS discourses with a Samaritan woman—Healing of the nobleman's son—The Nazarenes conspire to kill JESUS—Miraculous draught of fishes—Healing the sick—Healing of a leper—JESUS illustrates His discourse—The Pharisees demand His punishment—Christ heals the cripple—Twelve apostles chosen—The centurion's faith is rewarded—JESUS raises the widow's son—JESUS anointed by a penitent woman—Parable of the sower—Parable of the tares and mustard seed.