

sought; <sup>13</sup> to come; <sup>14</sup> Now the; <sup>15</sup> was reading; <sup>16</sup> as; <sup>17</sup> before his shearer is; <sup>18</sup> he openeth; <sup>19</sup> judgement; <sup>20</sup> His generation who shall declare; <sup>21</sup> Omit man; <sup>22</sup> And Philip; <sup>23</sup> beginning from this scripture, preached; <sup>24</sup> the way; <sup>25</sup> saith, Behold, here; <sup>26</sup> Omit whole verse; <sup>27</sup> both went down; <sup>28</sup> came up; <sup>29</sup> and the; <sup>30</sup> for; <sup>31</sup> the gospel to all the cities.

#### LESSON PLAN

- I. A Commission, 26-29.
- II. A Conversation, 30-35.
- III. A Convert, 36-40.

#### DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association, Mr. S. C. Bailey, Hon. Secretary, 56 Old Bailey, London, England.)

M.—Philip and the Ethiopian, Acts 8 : 26-33. T.—Philip and the Ethiopian, Acts 8 : 34-40. W.—The Ethiopian's reading, Isa., ch. 53. Th.—Meditate daily, Josh 1 : 1-8. F.—A prayer for guidance, Ps. 119 : 9-19. S.—God's law a delight, Ps. 1. S.—The joy of understanding, Luke 24 : 25-32.

**Primary Catechism**—Ques. 80. *What promise has Jesus given to those who meet for His worship?* Jesus has promised to be wherever two or three meet in His name.

**Shorter Catechism**—Review Questions 49, 50.  
**Lesson Hymns**—Book of Praise : 418 (Supplemental Lesson), 449, 447, 52 (Ps. Sel.), 562 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY), 457.

**Special Scripture Reading**—Matt. 17 : 1-9; given also in Departmental Graded Teacher's Quarterlies. (To be read responsively or in concert by the whole School.)

**Lantern Slides**—For Lesson, B. 127, Philip and the Ethiopian. For Question on Missions, H. M. 97, Nurses at Teulon. (Slides are obtained from the Presbyterian Lantern Slide Department, Room 626, Confederation Life Building, Toronto, at \$2.00 a dozen.)

**Stereograph**—For Lesson, Gaza, Lowland Stronghold of the Philistines, from the Southeast (Order from Underwood & Underwood, 417 Fifth Ave., New York City; further particulars, see page 120).

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**Time and Place**—A.D. 36 or 37; the road from Jerusalem to Gaza.

**Connecting Links**—At the close of Lesson X., Mar. 5, Acts 7 : 54 to 8 : 3, we saw how the disciples were driven from Jerusalem by the persecution following on the martyrdom of Stephen. Philip, one of the seven "helpers" (see Lesson IX., ch. 6 : 1-7), went to Samaria and preached the gospel there. Wonderful miracles accompanied his ministry, and the people received his message with great joy. (See vs. 4-8.) Vs. 9-13 record the conversion of Simon Magus, and vs. 14-25 give an account of the visit to Samaria of Peter and John, who imparted the Holy Spirit to the new believers. These verses also tell of Simon's offer to purchase the gift of the Holy Spirit with money and of Peter's stern rebuke.

#### I. A Commission, 26-29.

V. 26. *An angel of the Lord* (Rev. Ver.). Luke frequently mentions angelic appearances (see Luke 1 : 11; Acts 10 : 3, 30; 12 : 7). *Spake*; probably in a vision, as to Cornelius (ch. 10 : 3 and to Peter, ch. 10 : 13.) *Unto Philip*; to be distinguished from the apostle of the same name, John 1 : 43-46; Matt. 10 : 3. One of the seven "helpers" (ch. 6 : 3), he received the title of the Evangelist (ch. 21 : 8) because of his services in different missions. *Arise, and go*; a missionary command which Jesus, in his words and through his Holy Spirit, gives to every

follower, bidding him share his knowledge of the gospel with some one else, near or far off. *Toward the south*; that is, from Samaria. *From Jerusalem unto Gaza*; a distance of 60 miles in a southwesterly direction. *The same is desert* (Rev. Ver.). The route was a solitary one, and all the greater, therefore, was the demand on Philip's obedience. The word "desert" may, however, refer to Gaza, not to the road thither.

V. 27. *He arose and went*; rendering prompt and implicit obedience. *A man of Ethiopia*; the country south of Egypt, now known as Nubia and Abyssinia. *Of great authority*; like Joseph in Egypt (Gen. 41 : 39-45) and Daniel in Babylon, Dan. 2 : 48. *Under Candace*; the official title of the queens who, for some time before and after the coming of Christ, ruled over Ethiopia. *Over all her treasure* (Rev. Ver.); finance minister of the kingdom. *Had come to Jerusalem for to worship*; being perhaps a Jew who had made his home in Ethiopia, or a Jewish proselyte, that is, a heathen converted to the Jewish faith.

Vs. 28, 29. *Was returning . . . in his chariot*; accompanied, of course, being so great a man, with a large retinue of servants and guards. *Was reading* (Rev. Ver.); aloud, as was the custom in the East. *Esaias* (Isaiah) *the prophet*; in the Greek translation. The translation of the Old Testament from the original Hebrew into Greek, called the