

## Lesson XI.

## ELIJAH'S FLIGHT AND RETURN

September 12, 1915.

1 Kings 19 : 8-18. Study 1 Kings, ch. 19—Memory Verses, 9, 10.

**Golden Text**—Be still, and know that I am God.—Psalm 46 : 10.

8 And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.

9 And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there ; and, behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Eli'jah ?

10 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts : for the children of Is'rael have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword ; and I, *even* I only, am left ; and they seek my life, to take it away.

11 And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD ; *but* the LORD was not in the wind : and after the wind an earthquake ; *but* the LORD was not in the earthquake :

12 And after the earthquake a fire ; *but* the LORD was not in the fire : and after the fire a still small voice.

13 And it was *so*, when Eli'jah heard *it*, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, *there came* a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Eli'jah ?

14 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts : because the children of Is'rael have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword ; and I, *even* I only, am left ; and they seek my life, to take it away.

15 And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damas'cus : and when thou comest, anoint Haza'el to be king over Syr'ia :

16 And Je'hu the son of Nim'shi shalt thou anoint to be king over Is'rael : and Eli'sha, the son of Sha'phat of A'bel-meho'lah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.

17 And it shall come to pass, *that* him that escapeth the sword of Haza'el shall Je'hu slay : and him that escapeth from the sword of Je'hu shall Eli'sha slay.

18 Yet I have left *me* seven thousand in Is'rael, all the knees which have not bowed unto Ba'al, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

## THE LESSON RETOLD

Elijah was fleeing for his life.

Queen Jezebel, the wife of Ahab and a very wicked woman, had heard how Elijah had proved to the people that Baal could do nothing to help those who worshiped him. She believed in the false god, and now she was very angry at Elijah. Soon she sent him a terrible message saying that the next day he should be slain.

So Elijah had fled to the wilderness. Oh, how tired and sad he felt ! He would be killed or driven away, and then he feared that the people would go back to the worship of Baal.

"My work for God has done no good," he thought sorrowfully. He wished to die,

since all that he had tried to do, seemed to have failed.

He was so weary that by and by he fell asleep under a juniper tree. As he slept an angel came and said, "Arise and eat."

Elijah looked about him. A fire had been kindled and a cake was baking on the coals. A cruse or jar of cool, fresh water stood beside him.

He ate and drank and then lay down again. Once more the angel came and said, "Arise and eat, for thy journey is hard."

After Elijah did as the angel bade him, he started again on his wanderings. For forty days he journeyed in the wilderness.

After Elijah had wandered about here and