

Lesson XII.

THE DEATH OF MOSES

September 22, 1907

Deuteronomy 34 : 1-12—Memory Verses, 10-12.

Golden Text—Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.—Psalm 116 : 15.

1 And Mo'ses went up from the plains of Mo'ab unto the mountain of Ne'bo, to the top of Pis'gah, that is over against Jer'icho. And the LORD shewed him all the land of Gil'ead, unto Dan.

2 And all Naph'tali, and the land of E'phraim, and Manas'seh, and all the land of Ju'dah, unto the utmost sea.

3 And the south, and the plain of the valley of Jer'icho, the city of palm trees, unto Zo'ar.

4 And the LORD said unto him, This is the land which I swore unto A'braham, unto I'saac, and unto Ja'cob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed : I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither.

5 So Mo'ses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Mo'ab, according to the word of the LORD.

6 And he buried him in a valley in the land of Mo'ab, over against Beth-pe'or : but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

7 And Mo'ses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died : his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.

8 And the children of Is'rael wept for Mo'ses in the plains of Mo'ab thirty days : so the days of weeping and mourning for Mo'ses were ended.

9 And Josh'ua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom : for Mo'ses had laid his hands upon him : and the children of Is'rael hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Mo'ses.

10 And there arose not a prophet since in Is'rael like unto Mo'ses, whom the LORD knew face to face.

11 In all the signs and the wonders, which the LORD sent him to do in the land of E'gypt to Phar'ao, and to all his servants, and to all his land.

12 And in all that mighty hand, and in all the

great terror which Mo'ses shewed in the sight of all Is'rael.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The time had now almost come for Moses to die. It seemed sad that he wasn't to be permitted to go into the Promised Land with the people whom he had led so far. But once, in the wilderness, when the people had been complaining against Moses and Aaron because they had no water to drink, God had told Moses to speak to a certain rock and water should come out of it; and Moses was so impatient with the complaints of the people, that he very angrily struck the rock twice instead. And God was displeased because Moses was so impatient, and said, "Thou shalt see the land of Canaan, but shalt not go into it." And now they were within sight of the land, and Moses spoke his last words to the children of Israel.

He told them that if they obeyed the Lord, they would become greater than any other nation, but if they disobeyed Him, many evils would come upon them; and so he begged them to choose the best way—to serve God wholly—so that they and their children might live and not die.

Then, after he had blessed the Israelites,

he left them forever. For the Lord spoke to Moses, and commanded him to go up to the top of a high mountain called Pisgah, from which he could look across the river Jordan into the land to which the people were going. So Moses went up the mountain quite alone. He was very old—one hundred and twenty years; but he was not weak. He could walk as well as when he was young, and he could see just as well.

From the top of the mountain, he saw a long distance over the land of Canaan. It was a beautiful land, full of green hills and of rivers, of rich fields, of trees and vines laden with fruit. And the Lord said, "This is the land which I promised Abraham and Isaac and Jacob should one day belong to their descendants." And after Moses had looked at the land, he died there on the mountain; and the Lord Himself buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, but no man has ever known the place where he was laid.

After Moses was dead, God appointed Joshua to be the leader of the Israelites in his place. Joshua was a great soldier, and