

Lesson I.

THE PROPHET EZEKIEL A WATCHMAN

October 1, 1911

Ezekiel 3 : 12-21. Study Ezekiel 3—*Memory Verses 17-19.

Golden Text—Hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.—Ezekiel 3 : 17.



12 Then the spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a voice of a great rushing, saying, Blessed be the glory of the LORD from his place.

13 I heard also the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels over against them, and a noise of a great rushing.

14 So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit ; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.

15 Then I came to them of the captivity at Tel-a-bib, that dwelt by the river of Chebar, and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days.

16 And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Is'rael : therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die ; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked

from his wicked way, to save his life ; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity ; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity ; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

20 Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die : because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered ; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

21 Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned ; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

THE LESSON RETOLD

When Jehoiachin was king in Jerusalem, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, carried away captive its king and many of its chief people. He gave them a place in Babylon where they might live by themselves, near the river Chebar.

Amongst the captives was a priest named Ezekiel, who one day had a very strange and wonderful vision, in which he saw the power and the glory of the Lord, and in the midst of the vision a message came to him. The Lord told him to go and speak to the Jews who were captives with him by the river Chebar. They had been disobedient and sinful, and Ezekiel was to deliver to them a message of

warning from the Lord, that they should cease from sin.

Then Ezekiel was filled with the Spirit of the Lord, and with anger against the people of Israel who had sinned so greatly. So he came to the captives by the river Chebar, and there he sat down amongst them, but he was so dazed and bewildered by the vision which he had seen, that for seven days he could not speak a word. Then the Lord came to him again and said : " Ezekiel, I have made you a watchman to My people Israel ; therefore, when I give you a message for them, you must deliver it. If I say, ' Those who commit sin shall surely die ',

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Leaflets are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. Their recitation leads to the obtaining of a beautiful Certificate or Diploma.