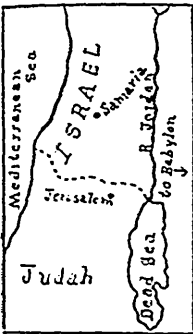


purpose. And bound Isaac . . and laid him on the altar. The Jewish tradition is that Isaac submitted without question.

III. THE MERCIFUL DELIVERANCE.—11-13. The angel of the Lord called: God, in His test of Abraham, let him go to the very edge of the sacrifice, even to the uplifting of the knife. Lay not thine hand. The Lesson shows Abraham's willingness to obey, but it also shows God's rejection of human sacrifice. It is a protest against human sacrifice—a not uncommon thing in that age. I know that thou fearest God. God's test was Abraham's willingness to surrender the thing dearest to his life. Sacrifice is always the surrender of the precious thing. Behold behind him a ram. The whole incident is a splendid type of the gospel sacrifice. God finds His own sacrifice—the Lamb of God. It was little wonder that Abraham should call this place *Jehorah-Jireh*, "Jehovah will see, or provide." Little wonder that God should renew His blessing of Abraham. "In the mount of the Lord it will be seen,"—these words became a proverb, meaning that God's opportunity is found in man's extremity.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



The southeast height of Jerusalem is identified by ancient Hebrew tradition with "one of the mountains in the land of *MORIAH*." This ridge is seen from the slope of the Mount of Olives. Looking north you have the gorge of Kedron at your feet and Mt. Moriah opposite and rising abruptly. To-day the crest of the ridge is crowned by the city wall of Jerusalem. In the time of Abraham, of course, this hill was unoccupied.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1, 2 What is the real meaning of the word "tempt?" Does God ever tempt men to do evil? What strange command does God give to Abraham to test him? How does God describe Isaac? Why was

this a very hard command for Abraham? Where was the sacrifice of Isaac to be made? Where is this name mentioned again?

3-10 Do we read of Abraham's making any protest? Why did he not? How long did he journey? What did Abraham say to the young men? What important thing did Isaac perceive to be lacking? What question did he put? What answer did Abraham make?

11-13 Who stopped Abraham? When? What did the angel say? What did Abraham see behind him? What name did Abraham give to the place where he sacrificed? What does this name mean?

16, 17 What blessing did God pronounce on Abraham?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. The suggestions of the gospel in this story.
2. The uses of temptation.

A LESSON FOR LIFE

Extraordinary precautions are being taken in the construction of the new Quebec bridge. At every stage of the construction, continuous tests are being made of all material that enters into the great structure. It is a great structure, and it demands great tests. Abraham's life was great, and it had great tests and continuous tests. It was not enough that he be asked to surrender friends, home and fatherland. He is asked to surrender his only son. Temptation is a continuous test.

Prove from Scripture—That love is the source of obedience.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 50. What is required in the second commandment? A. The second commandment requireth the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath appointed in his word.

The Question on Missions—11. Is Africa owned by those who are native to it? No, the European nations have divided it up among themselves in such a way that only small portions of it are in the hands of its native people. Great Britain owns more than other nations do.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise: 7 (Supplemental Lesson), 43, 45, 60 (Ps. Sel.), 542 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY), 50.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What reasons would lead Abraham to disobey God's command?

2. What, to obey?

3. What had Abraham proved to God by his obedience?