

choice included more than he thought. Lot chose good land but bad company,—Sodom. He saw Sodom. He pitched his tent toward Sodom. He moved into Sodom. Lot's choice left out more than he thought. He parted with happiness, for Sodom vexed his soul. He parted with noble companionship, with divine blessing, with the wayside altar. Abram again did not lose by his generosity. God told him to look north, south, east and west. It was to be his.

II. THE RESCUE.—Ch. 14:14. The fortunes of Lot, now separated from Abram, were now identified with Sodom. War had broken out between four kings of whom Chedorlaomer was the chief, and five kings including the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah. A battle was fought in the vale of Siddim. The five kings were defeated, Sodom was sacked, and Lot and his substance were carried off. Word was brought to Abram by an escaped captive. When Abram heard, He had only one thought—that of reaching his nephew. His brother; kinsman. Armed his trained servants; his faithful slaves. Born in his own house; as distinguished from those acquired by purchase. Three hundred and eighteen; a small band against a great army, but Abram is a man of action as well as faith. Unto Dan; to overtake them; the extreme north of Canaan.

15, 16. Divided himself; in bands to attack from different quarters. By night; a surprise attack, like Gideon's. Unto Hobah; about fifty miles north of Damascus. Brought back. Lot. The trader on Abram's generosity profits by Abram's heroism.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



THE RIVER JORDAN, in its course between the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea, first runs through a narrow valley, then about Jericho the valley broadens out into a comparatively wide plain. The land is exuberantly fertile and is watered by many small tributaries of the Jordan. It was this fertile stretch that Lot saw from the hill-top at Bethel. Situated on the floor of this plain or circle were

five cities, including Sodom and Gomorrah. They were called the Cities of the Circle. Sodom was evi-

dently the chief town of the group. There is no trace of them to-day.

LESSON QUESTIONS

5-7 Where were Abram and Lot at the time of our lesson? What is said about the possessions of Lot and of Abraham? What difficulty did their prosperity create? What arose between the herdmen? What other people were then in the land?

8, 9 Who took the first step to solve the difficulty? Why, did he say, they should not quarrel? What was his proposal?

10, 11 What did Lot choose? What kind of land was it? What two places was it said to resemble? Did Lot enjoy his choice? (2 Peter 2:7.) What promise did Abram receive from God? (Ch. 13:14-17.) Where do we read of some one making an unselfish choice? (Ruth 1:16.)

Ch. 14:14-16 What misfortune overtook Lot? How many men had Abram? Where did he follow the enemy? What did he do with his followers? When did he attack? How far did he pursue the enemy? What did Abram bring back?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Is self-denial always a duty?
2. Are riches a blessing or a curse?

A PRAYER

Grant, Lord God, that we may prosper and be in health even as our soul prospereth. Teach us the joy of serving thee, and the emptiness of life without thee. Enable us to keep close to thee, that we may learn thy secrets and tell them to others. And to thee shall be all the glory, forever. Amen.

Prove from Scripture—That we should give others the first place.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 31. What is effectual calling? A. Effectual calling is the work of God's Spirit, whereby convincing us of our sin and misery, enlightening our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and renewing our wills, he doth persuade and enable us to embrace Jesus Christ, freely offered to us in the Gospel.

The Question on Missions—2. What are the homes of the Vancouver Island Indians like? The home of the pagan Indians is the large community house, where several families live together. The half-civilized Indians build smaller frame houses for summer use, but return to the community house in the winter. The Christian Indians have modern houses, some of them with good furniture and even musical instruments.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What sacrifice did Abram make for peace?.....
2. What was Lot's choice?.....
3. Why was Lot's choice a poor choice?.....

SIGN NAME HERE.....