

WHAT SHALL WE BRING!

WHAT shall we bring the stranger, Born upon Christmas day! A star the heavens lend Him, Angels with songs attend Him, Turn not, O earth, away.

The souls of men are weary, On binding paths they go, The night hangs murky and dreary, All sounds are full of woe. Yet hark the herald splendour breaks, The choral melody awakes, For in the Christmas morn Is the Deliverer born!

Draw near, ye sin-defiled! Look on the meek Child! He comes to such as ye,— Captive, to set you free, Wounded, to heal your pain; Lost, to reclaim again.

What shall we bring! Our gold is dust, His own away, ours but in trust! Our honour, to enrich His fame, Who bears o'er all the highest name! What can these poor hands bring Unto creation's King!

Love He will own and take, For His most holy sake; He in whose boundless heart Love's purest currents start, Asks of each soul again its store; Asks the one guerdon meet Poured at His blessed feet, Rich, for love's sake, himself made poor. —Charlotte M. Packard.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

B.C. 1056.] LESSON XII. [Dec. 23.

DEATH OF SAUL AND JONATHAN.

1 Sam. 31. 1-13. Commit to memory vs. 11-13.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The wicked is driven away in his wickedness, but the righteous hath hope in his death. Prov. 14. 32.

OUTLINE.

- 1. Defeat and Death. v. 1-3. 2. Suicide and Shame. v. 4-10. 3. Burning and Burial. v. 11-13.

TIME.—B.C. 1056.

PLACE.—Mount Gilboa, on the border of the plain of Esdraelon.

EXPLANATIONS.—Men of Israel fled—The people suffered for the sins of their king whom God had forsaken. Followed hard—Pressed closely in the battle. Slew Jonathan—His death was honourable and made the kingdom more secure for his friend David. Archers hit him—His great height made him an easy mark. At our oar—A servant who carried the large shield and some weapons. Lest these uncircumcised—The Philistines. Abuse me—Torture him as they had Samson. Sore afraid—His respect for the king kept him from doing as he asked. Fell up in it—Not a noble end for the Lord's anointed. Other side of the valley—Opposite to the battlefield. Forsook the cities—So the central portion of the land fell into the power of the enemy. Strip the slain—Take away their armour and plunder the bodies. Cut off his head—To show their triumph. House of their idols—As before in the life of Samson, the idol-temples were places of meeting and feasting. Fastened his body—Hung up by cords or nailed up. Wall of Bethshan—In the Jordan valley. Inhabitants of Jebesh-gilead—A city east of the Jordan, which Saul had delivered from the Ammonites (chap. 11.), so that their act now was one of gratitude. Went all night—Lest liable to attack than by day. Burnt them—So that the enemies could not carry them away again. Fasted—In token of grief.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson may we learn— 1. That failure comes to those who forsake God! 2. That the innocent suffer with the guilty! 3. That a noble deed is remembered!

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Where was Saul's last battle field? On Mount Gilboa. 2. Who were there slain? Saul and his three sons. 3. How did Saul die? He killed himself with a sword. By whom was his body rescued from the Philistines? By the men of Jabesh-gilead. 5. Who became king after Saul's death? David.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The results of forsaking God.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

50. Had not other believers in Christ power to work miracles also? Other believers in Christ beside the Apostles had also power to work miracles; for Jesus Christ communicated very great gifts and powers to them, by laying on of the hands of the Apostles.

FOURTH QUARTERLY REVIEW.

Dec. 30.

REVIEW SCHEME.

[TO THE SCHOLAR.—1. Read over the lessons of the quarter carefully. 2. Learn and repeat the TITLES and GOLDEN TEXTS. 3. Learn the answers in the LESSON CATECHISM. 4. Study these questions until you can answer them readily. 5. Find something in each lesson of the quarter for yourself to do or to be.]

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Lesson I. Eli's Death. 1 Sam. 4. 10-18.—Who was Eli? How was the ark of God taken? What happened to Eli's sons? What is the GOLDEN TEXT? How did Eli die? How can children save their parents from sorrow?

Lesson II. Samuel the Judge. 1 Sam. 7. 8-17.—What did Samuel urge the people to do? For what did he call an assembly? Who came against the Israelites? How were they delivered? What memorial did Samuel set up? What did he say of its name? [GOLDEN TEXT.] How may we have God's help?

Lesson III. Asking for a king. 1 Sam. 8. 1-10.—When did the Israelites ask for a king? Why did they ask? How did Samuel feel when they asked? What did God say? Upon whom may we put confidence? [GOLDEN TEXT.]

Lesson IV. Saul Chosen King. 1 Sam. 10. 17-27.—How was Saul chosen? Where was he found? How did he appear? What did the people say? [GOLDEN TEXT.] Who went with Saul to his home?

Lesson V. Samuel's Farewell Address. 1 Sam. 12. 13-25.—Wherein did Samuel say that the people had done wrong? How did he show them their sin? What did he urge them to do? [GOLDEN TEXT.]

Lesson VI. Saul Rejected. 1 Sam. 15. 12-26.—Why was Saul rejected? What was his act of disobedience? How did he try to excuse it? What did Samuel say to him? [GOLDEN TEXT.] How may we please God?

Lesson VII. David Anointed. 1 Sam. 16. 1-13.—Who was David? By whom was he anointed? What was David doing when he was called? What is the GOLDEN TEXT? How did Samuel know who to anoint? What kind of people does God choose?

Lesson VIII. David and Goliath. 1 Sam. 17. 38-51.—Who was Goliath? How was David armed? How did Goliath feel towards David? What did David say? [GOLDEN TEXT.] What was the result of the battle? How may we have victory over temptation?

Lesson IX. David's Enemy Saul. 1 Sam. 18. 1-16.—Why did Saul become David's enemy? How did he show his hate? Who loved David? Why did David win the love of the people? [GOLDEN TEXT.] How may we be loved by all?

Lesson X. David's Friend, Jonathan. 1 Sam. 20. 32-42.—How did Jonathan show his friendship for David? What was the token arranged between them? What agreement did they make with each other? What is the GOLDEN TEXT? Who is the best of all friends?

Lesson XI. David Sparing his Enemy. 1 Sam. 24. 1-17.—Whose life did David spare? What was Saul doing at the time? How did David show his kindness? What did he afterwards do? How did his words affect Saul? What is the command of Christ in the GOLDEN TEXT?

Lesson XII.—Death of Saul and Jonathan. 1 Sam. 31. 1-13.—Where did they die? How did Jonathan die? How did Saul die? What was done to Saul's body? How was it afterwards rescued? What is the GOLDEN TEXT? Which of the two classes in the GOLDEN TEXT would you choose?

Special Quarterly Service.—Topics: The benevolence of the Church. 1. Money and the need of the Church. 2. The duty of giving. 3. The rewards of liberal giving.

WHEN the small boy is pursued by the dog in the melon patch, and there are no trees handy, he sings: "Oh, for the garden wall!"

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