Lesson VII.

'S VICTORY OVER THE PROPHETS February 12, 1911 OF BAAL

BETWEEN THE LESSONS-The Lesson follows closely on that for last Sabbath. GOLDEN TEXT--Choose you this day whom ye will serve,--Joshua 24: 15.

Memorize vs. 38, 39. THE LESSON PASSAGE-1 Kings 18: 25-39. Study 1 Kings 18: 1, 2, 17-40. Read ch. 18.

25 And Eli jah said unto the prophets of Ba'al,

25 And Elijah said unto the prophets of Ba'al, Choose you one buflock for yourselves, and dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of your 1 gods, but put no fire under.

26 And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Ba'al from morning even until noon, saying. O Ba'al, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped 2 upon the altar which was made.

27 And it came to pass at noon, that Eli'jah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is 'talking, or he is 'pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure, he sleepeth, and must be

28 And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and blancets, till the blood gushed out upon them.

gushed out upon them.

29 And it came to pass, when midday was past,

nnd they prophesied until the time of the offering of
the erening sacrifice, that there was neither voice,
nor any 10 answer, nor any that regarded.

30 And Eli'ah said unto all the people, Come near
unto me. And all the people came near unto him.
And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was

31 And Eli'jah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Ja'cob, unto whom the word of the Lord came, saying, Is'rael shall be thy name:

32 And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord: and he made a treach about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed.

33 And he put the wood in order and cut the hull lock in pieces, and laid 10 him on the wood, and 11 said. Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt 12 sacrifice, and on the wood.

34 And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.

35 And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water.

38 And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening "sacrifice, that Eli'jah the prophet came near, and said, "I Long God of A'braham." I'saac, and of Is'rael, let it be known this day that thou art God in Is'rael, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word.

37 Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that 16 thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

38 Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt 12 sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

39 And when all the reople saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said. The God; the Lord, he is 17 the God. The LORD, he is 17 the

Revised Version—1 god; 2 about the altar; 3 musing; 4 gone aside; 5 lances; 6 was so, when; 7 that they; 8 oblation; but there; 9 thrown down; 10 it; 11 he; 12 offering; 13 oblation; 14 O Lord, the God; 15 of; 16 thou, Lord, art God; 17 Omit the.

Daily Beadings-(Courtesy, I.B.R.A.)-M.-Elijah's victory over the prophets of Baal, 1 Kgs. 18: 1-16. T.-Elijah's victory over the prophcts of Baal, 1 Kgs. 18: 17-29. W.-Elijah's victory over the prophets of Baal, 1 Kgs. 18: 30-40. Th.—Warning against idolatry, Dcut. 4: 14-26. F.—Answer by fire, 2 Chron. 6: 12-21; 7: 1-3. S.—Idols and the true God, Jer. 10: 1-11. S.—A call for decision, Josh. 24. 1, 2, 13-18.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

In the third year, either ,; of the drought or of Elijah's sojourn with the widow, at God's command, Elijah again went to Ahabi to announce the termination of the drought. Vs. 1, 2.

vs. 3-24 record the prophet's meeting, first with Obadiah and then with Ahab, and the gathering of the people on the top of Mount Carmel.

I. THE PROPHETS OF BAAL .- 25, 26. The

prophets of Baal; that is, the priests in charge of the Baal worship. There were four hundred and fifty of them present, v. 19. Choose you one bullock . . dress (prepare it for sacrifice) it first. Elijah gives his opponents every advantage, so as to take away every excuse for failure. Ye are many ; a good reason for their leading the way: they



MOUNT CARMEL

could have their bullock ready sooner than he could prepare his. Your gods; Rev. Ver., "god", that is, Baal. Put no fire under. See ou vs. 3-24. 0 Baal, hear us; and an swer us by sending down fire. Voice, etc. The wild chorus from among the rocks was met by a dead silence in the heavens. Leaped upon; danced wildly up and down.

27-29. Mocked them; urging them on to still

greater exertions, to make their failure more marked. For he is a god. So the Baal priests believed. Why, then, did he not answer? Talking, etc. The heathen picture their gods as being like men, even to their wants and weaknesses. Cut themselves; to induce Baal to answer. It was a heathen belief that the gods were pleased with the shedding

^{*}This Lesson has been selected to be treated as a special missionary Lesson for the Quarter