

*First Class.* By fulfilling his promise contained in the Golden Text: "I will bless thee and make thy name great, and thou shalt be a blessing."

*Supt.* Wherein was this blessing bestowed?

*First Class.* First, by changing his name from Abram to Abraham, meaning father of a multitude; second, by bestowing upon him great prosperity; third, by giving a most exalted position as the founder of a great nation; fourth, by a special covenant made with him.

*Supt.* How is this life of Abraham's instructive to us?

*First Class.* It suggests to us the pilgrimage of life to which we are called, and in which we are blessed with God's promises and God's guidance.

#### HYMN. L. M.

He leadeth me! O blessed thought!  
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

*Supt.* The second class will please tell me about the sixth, eighth, and ninth lessons.

*Second Class.* The subject of these lessons is Lot's choice, with its consequences.

*Supt.* Lot chose to dwell in the cities of the plain, a place "well watered every-where," "even as the garden of the Lord." Why did his choice prove so unfortunate?

*Second Class.* Because the men who dwell there were wicked, and sinners before the Lord exceedingly.

*Supt.* What choice are we bidden, in the Golden Text of the sixth lesson, to make?

*Second Class.* "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness."

*Supt.* The eighth lesson is about Abraham's pleading for Sodom. In this lesson we see at once God's justice and mercy.

*Wherein do we see this illustrated?*  
*Second Class.* First, by the doom pronounced over the wicked cities; second, by the willingness of God to hear the prayer for mercy; third, by the assurance that the cities would be spared for the sake of ten righteous persons.

*Supt.* The ninth lesson treats of the destruction of Sodom and Lot's escape. Will the third class repeat the Golden Text and the outline?

*Third Class.* The Golden Text is: "Escape for thy life," and the outline is, first, "Righteous Lot," and, second, "Wicked Sodom."

*Supt.* What happened to the wicked city?

*Third Class.* After Lot and his family escaped, "God rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire out of heaven."

*Supt.* What happened to Lot's wife?

*Third Class.* "She looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt."

*Supt.* What are some of the practical lessons in this incident?

*Third Class.* That God cares for the righteous; second, that God is angry with the wicked and will punish them; third, there is no way of escape from destruction except by leaving sin; fourth, that it is a terrible thing to backslide, to look back regretfully at worldly pleasure.

#### HYMN. 7.

Hasten, sinner, to be wise!  
Stay not for the morrow's sun;  
Wisdom if you still despise,  
Harder is it to be won.

Hasten, sinner, to return!  
Stay not for the morrow's sun,  
Lest thy lamp should fall to burn  
Ere salvation's work is done.

*Supt.* The seventh and tenth lessons treat of God's special dealings with the father of the faithful. What about the covenant in the first of these two lessons?

*Fourth Class.* God was pleased to make an agreement with Abraham, and promised him a glorious fulfillment if he would be true to his faith.

*Supt.* The tenth lesson gives a narrative of Abraham's great trial, in which we see the glorious trust of the man of God. What was his trial?

*Fourth Class.* He was called by God to make a sacrifice of his beloved son Isaac.

*Supt.* How did he meet this demand and stand the test?

*Fourth Class.* He obeyed God and brought his son Isaac in sacrifice to God, and thus showed his faith in God.

*Supt.* Repeat the verse of the lesson which shows how God looked upon his obedience.

*Fourth Class.* "Now I know that thou fearest God, seeing that thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son, from me."

*Supt.* What practical lesson is taught us in this Scripture narrative?

*Fourth Class.* Blessed are those who endure trials and fear not, for to them come fuller promises and richer blessings.

#### III. About Jacob.

*Supt.* The eleventh and twelfth lessons contain incidents at the beginning and in the middle of Jacob's life. What is the topic of the first of these two?

*School.* "Jacob at Bethel;" and the Golden Text is, "Surely the Lord is in this place."

*Supt.* What vision did Jacob have here?

*School.* "He dreamed, and beheld a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and beheld the angels of God ascending and descending on it."

*Supt.* What vow did he make in the morning on waking from his dreams?

*School.* He first exclaimed, in the words of the Golden Text, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I knew it not;" and then he proceeded to build of the stones a pillar, and called the place Beth-el. He then vowed a vow, that the Lord should be his God, and the stone which he set for a pillar should be God's house, and that he would give a tenth of all he made to God.

*Supt.* What are a few of the practical lessons that may be learned from this incident?

*School.* First, that God is nearer to us than we think; second, that God will not desert his servants, though they may be in affliction and far from home; third, that heaven and earth are not very far apart; that we may realize that the house of God is the gate to heaven.

#### HYMN. 6, 4, 6.

Though like the wanderer,  
The sun gone down,  
Darkness be over me,  
My rest a stone,  
Yet in my dreams I'd be  
Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee!

Then, with my waking thoughts  
Bright with thy praise,  
Out of my story griefs  
Bethel I'll raise:  
So by my woes to be  
Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee!

*Supt.* The twelfth lesson is about Jacob's new name. What is the Golden Text?

*School.* "And he said, I will not let thee go except thou bless me."

*Supt.* The practical subject of this last lesson of the quarter may be called Preserving Prayer. What are the conditions of such a prayer?

*School.* First, the time of need; second, taking our needs to God in prayer; third, working as well as praying; fourth, wrestling with God; fifth, persevering in prayer.

#### HYMN. L. M.

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,  
That calls me from a world of care,  
And bids me at my Father's throne  
Make all my wants and wishes known!  
In seasons of distress and grief  
My soul has often found relief,  
And oft escaped the tempter's snare,  
By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.

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