Lesson III.

ASA'S GOOD REIGN IN JUDAH

January 15, 1911

BETWEEN THE LESSONS-Rehoboam, the first king of Judah, reigned seventeen years, and was succeeded by his son Abijah, who reigned for only three years. Asa, the son of Abijah, then became king of Judah, and reigned forty-ne years. The Lesson describes an incident in his reign not mentioned in Kings. GOLDEN TEXT—Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded. 2 Chronicles 15: 7.

Memorize vs. 1, 2. THE LESSON PASSAGE—2 Chronicles 15: 1-15. Read chs. 14-16: 1 Kings 15: 9-24.

And the 1 Spirit of God came upon Azari'ah the

1 And the 'spirit of God came upon Azari an the son of O'ded:

2 And he went out to meet A'sa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, A'sa, and all Ju'dah and Ber'janin; The Lone is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.

3 Now for 2 a long season Is rael hath been without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law.

- 4 But when 2 they in their trouble did turn unto the Long God of Is'rael, and sought him, he was found of them.
- 5 And in those times there was no peace to him that went out, nor to him that came in, but great vexa-tions were upon all the inhabitants of the countries. 6 And snation was destroyed of nation, and city of city: for God did yex them with all adversity.

7 Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be 8 weak : for your work shall be rewarded.

8 And when A'sa heard these words, and the prophecy of O'ded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the ahominable idols out of all the land of Ju'dah and Ben'jamin, and out of the sities which he had taken from 10 mount E'phraim, and 11 renewed

the altar of the Lord, that was before the porch of the Lord.

the Lorn.

9 And he gathered all Ju'dah and Ben'jamin, and
12 the strangers with them out of E'phraim and
Manas'sch, and out of Sim'eon: for they fell to him
out of Is'rael in abundance, when they saw that the
Lorn his God was with him.
10 So they gathered themselves together at Jeru'salem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the

reign of A'sa.

11 And they ¹³ offered unto the Loan ¹⁴ the same time, of the spoil which they had brought, seven hundred oxen and seven thousand sheep.

12 And they entered into ¹⁵ a covenant to seek the Loan ¹⁵ God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul.

the Lond is God of their fathers with an inter neart and with all their soul;
13 18 That whosoever would not seek the Lond is God of Is real should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman.
14 And they sware unto the Lond with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and

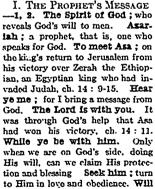
voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets.

15 And all Ju'dah rejoiced at the oath: for they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire; and he was found of them: and the Long gave them rest round about.

Revised Version—spirit (small *); Plong seasons; I in their distress they turned unto the Lord, the God; I lands; they were broken in pieces nation against nation; against; But be ye strong, and; alominations out of; the hill country of Ephraum; he; them that solourned with; ascrificed. It in that day; the: 18 and that; The.

Daily Readings-(Courtesy, I.B.R.A.)-M.-Rest and prosperity, 2 Chron. 14: 1-15. T.-Asa's good reign in Judah, 2 Chron. 15: 1-15. W.-Asa's mistake, 2 Chron. 16: 1-10. Th.-Joshua's covenant, Josh. 24: 14-25. F.—Seeking the Lord, Isa. 55. S.—Trust and safety, Ps. 16. S.—Joyful service, Ps. 99, 100

THE LESSON EXPLAINED



be found; because He is always seeking us. John 4:23. Forsake him; rease to love and oboy Him. Forsake you; withdraw His favor.

3, 4. For a long season; Rev. Ver., "for long seasons". The prophet points king and people back to the past history of Israel. Without the true God; without the knowledge of Him. like the heathen to-day, or without His worship and service. For such times see Judg. 2: 10-15. Without 2 teaching priest; one to teach the people about the



true God and His will, like our ministers to-day. Without law: so that every one did as he pleased, Judg. 17: 6; 21: 25. In their trouble; when suffering came upon them because they had broken God's commandments. Did turn; repenting of their sins. The Lord God of Israel; their rightful Ruler and best Friend. Sought him; their backs toward sin and their faces Codward. Found of them. More willing He to receive them. than they to come to Him. (See Judg. 10: 15, 16, etc.)

5-7. No peace, etc. could not journey safely on the highways for fear of robbers, Jude.

5: 6. Great vexations; sore troubles. Countries; the different districts of Palestine. Nation .. nation. See Judg. 20: 33-48. City..city. See Judg. 9: 45. God did vex them; afflict them, punish them for their rebellion. Be ye strong therefore; "be ye firm", that is, faithful to God. not forsaking Him as Israel did of old. Rewarded: with God's favor and blossing.

II. THE KING'S OBEDIENCE .- 8-11. Prophecy of Oded. Likely "Azariah the son of "