

33 Thus saith the Lord God: In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause *you* to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded.

34 And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by.

35 And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited.

36 Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the Lord build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the Lord have spoken it, and I will do it.

37 Thus saith the Lord God: I will yet for this be inquired of by the house of Is'ra-el, to do it for them: I will increase them with men like a flock.

38 As the holy flock, as the flock of Je-ru'sa-lem in her solemn feasts; so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men: and they shall know that I am the Lord.

the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places shall be builded. And the land that was desolate shall be tilled, whereas it was a desolation in the sight of all that passed by. And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are fenced and inhabited. Then the nations that are left round about you shall know that I the Lord have builded the ruined places, and planted that which was desolate: I the Lord have spoken it, and I will do it.

37 Thus saith the Lord God: For this moreover will I be inquired of by the house of Is'ra-el, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock. As the flock for sacrifice, as the flock of Je-ru'sa-lem in her appointed feasts; so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men: and they shall know that I am the Lord.

TIME.—About B.C. 587. **PLACE.**—Probably in the Euphrates valley. **DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.**—Regeneration.

HOME READINGS.

- M. Promise of a new heart. Ezek. 36, 25-28.
 Tu. A heart of flesh. Ezek. 11, 14-20.
 W. A heart to obey. Deut. 30, 1-8.
 Th. A heart to know God. Jer. 24, 4-10.
 F. Need of a new heart. John 3, 1-8.
 S. Evidence of a new heart. Tit. 3, 1-8.
 S. A spiritual heart. 1 Cor. 2, 6-16.

LESSON HYMNS.

No. 65, New Canadian Hymnal.

Jesus, keep me near the cross,

No. 66, New Canadian Hymnal.

The great Physician now is near.

No. 72, New Canadian Hymnal.

Arise, my soul, arise.

DOMINION HYMNAL.

Hymns, Nos. 43, 44, 39.

QUESTIONS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS.

1. The Lord's People, v. 25-32.

Where did Ezekiel prophesy?

What two other great prophets lived at the same time, and where?

Can you mention any of the characteristics of the Book of Ezekiel?

Can you mention any Jewish rites where water was used as a symbol of purification?

What did all the ceremonies of outer purification enjoined by the law mean?

What does God say he will do to the sinful and captive Jews?

What new force to "make for righteousness" would he give them?

What has been the effect of Christianity on the sympathies of the world?

Whose help do we need to enable us to "walk" in God's statutes?

Are you so walking?

What temporal blessings should accompany their spiritual regeneration?

Does righteous living tend toward prosperity or poverty?

How should a holy man regard his former sins? (Verses 31, 32.)

2. The Lord's Land, v. 33-38.

How soon were the predictions of verses 33-35 fulfilled?

Did the Hebrews ever regain their ancient national prosperity?

What should the heathen learn from God's visible providences?

Had not the "house of Israel" already "inquired of" or besought God for national restoration?

Why had it not been granted before?

What does an apostle say about asking and receiving not?

What promise, when fulfilled to us, will bring in its train all needful secular blessings? (See GOLDEN TEXT.)

Practical Teachings.

Where does this lesson teach—

1. That without purification no one can come into fellowship with God?

2. That God's plan is first to change the heart, then to change the life?

3. That Christianity makes our hearts tender?