

Some came to see and hear for themselves; among these a queen from a very far country. We shall learn her name and read about what she said and did when she visited King Solomon in his own city.

Then there was great trouble in the kingdom, and it was divided into two nations with a king over each. We shall hear about those terrible times and of the kings who reigned, some of them good and some of them very evil.

But even more interesting than the stories of the kings are the stories which we shall find in the Lessons of one of God's great prophets. A prophet was a man to whom God spoke, and who then told the people what God said to him and what God wished them to do. How birds brought this prophet his food, and how he spoke out against the wicked prophets of a heathen god, and how, by and by, he got weary and discouraged, and how God cheered and comforted him—these all crowd into the Lessons. There is no danger of getting tired, this Quarter, as Sunday by Sunday such wonderful tales are told.

Teaching the Little Ones to Obey God

By Rae Furlands

The little child who has learned early to love God and to know something of Him as a father, and who has perceived, first through his mother and further by stories about Jesus, that love manifests itself in service, is now ready to be taught more of the part it is his privilege to play in the great whole.

Obedience to parents should be the symbol or type by which the child learns to obey God.

A blind, unreasoning obedience is perhaps better than lawlessness, but it is not the kind that tends to the spiritual strength and uplift of the individual. Not, of course, that every command should be explained; but, as a general thing, it is good to know why certain requirements are desirable, because it makes a better preparation for future choice. Life is a series of decisions. We are continually called upon to choose between this and that, often good or evil, to obey or disobey. The child must learn by degrees how to make wise and deliberate selections,

and how can this be done if he is not taught the why and wherefore of things.

A child may be helped in his lessons in obedience by having something to direct. First, inanimate objects such as his playthings, to which almost every child imputes life similar to his own. In this case, of course, the child himself has to cause the thing to obey his command. For example, if he tells a soldier or doll to stand in a certain place, he puts it in that place as he speaks. If he has younger brothers or sisters or a pet dog, he very early and effectively learns how desirable a thing it is, that they should carry out his requests. The wise mother will seize upon these assets in training her children. The younger should obey the elder, only if the elder does not abuse his responsibility.

Give the child concrete experiences. If he insists on disobeying, let him do so and suffer. It is really kindness to do this, if the mother manages that she shall be near to regulate the suffering that it may not be too serious. The child finds that "Mother knew best." The most helpful punishment, and the kind that God gives is: "That the deed shall return upon the doer."

God says: "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." If we do not obey this we must suffer for it. Even big people like father and mother must obey God.

A child thus continuously taught will see the sweet reasonableness of it all, and though he will, no doubt, make many breaks,—we all do—the tendency and pleasure will be in the right direction and will, we trust, prevail. "To obey is better than sacrifice."

Some Bible Animals

By Mary Isobel Houston

THE DOG

The dog in Bible times was not looked upon as the same true friend of man that he is with us to-day. To call a man a dog was to say that he was all that was mean and low, for the Jews counted the dog as an unclean animal, fit only to roam the streets, living on the refuse he could find. Even to-day in Palestine and other Eastern countries, the dog is a creature much despised by all, and perhaps it is not to be wondered at when