

SABBATH, Feb. 22.—LESSON VIII.—The Exodus.—Exod. xiii. 17-22.

Leader. 17. And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near:

School. For God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt:

L. 18. But God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red Sea:

S. And the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the Land of Egypt.

L. 19. And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him: for

he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you.

S. 20. And they took their journey from Succoth, and encamped in Etham, in the edge of the wilderness.

L. 21. And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light: to go by day and night.

S. 22. He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

TOPIC—God, the Pilgrim's Guide.

Golden Text—I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.—Ps. xxxii. 8.

OUTLINE :

I. THE PILGRIMAGE COMMENCED, v. 17-20; Num. xxxiii 5-8; Deut. xvii. 16; Prov. xvi. 9.

II. GOD'S WAY THE BEST, v. 17, 18; Exod. xv. 13; Num. xiv. 3, 4; Deut. xxxii. 10; Ps. cxvii. 7.

III. THE HONORED DEAD, v. 19; Gen. xxiii. 17, 18; L. 24, 25; 2 Sam. xxi. 12-14; Ruth i. 17.

IV. THE PILLAR OF GUIDANCE, v. 21, 22; Exod. xxxiii. 9, 10; xiv. 19-24; Num. xiv. 14; Ps. cv. 39; Isa. lv. 5, 6; Matt. ii. 2, 9; Luke i. 79; Acts vii. 38; 1 Cor. x. 1, 2.

QUESTIONS, etc.—What does the word "Exodus" mean?

[Ans. *The going out.*]

Who, in this case, went out?

From what place?

Toward what place?

Who was their guide? (See Topic.)

Recite God's promise as a guide in the **GOLDEN TEXT**.

Recite **OUTLINE**.

1. *The Pilgrimage Commenced.*—Why had Pharaoh let the people go? Read Exod. xii. 29-38.

Who led them?

Where was the first stopping-place? v. 20.

From what place had they come? Exod. xii. 37.

What is meant by "the way of the land of the Philistines?"

[Ans. *The Philistines occupied the coast on the direct road from Egypt to Canaan. By this road the Midianites traveled on their journey to Egypt.*]

2. *God's Way the Best.*—Why did he not lead them by this route? v. 17.

How would they "see war?"

[Ans. *In dispossessing the nations that inhabited the land of Canaan.*]

In what way did the Lord lead them?

Where was the wilderness of the Red Sea?

[Ans. *South of Succoth, on the north of the peninsula of Sinai.*]

Why were they thus led?

[Ans. *To give them strength and vigor, and to organize this vast people for the work before them.*]

Is not God's way always the best way?

3. *The Honored Dead.*—What did Moses take with him? v. 19.

At whose command was this done? Heb. xi. 22.

4. *The Pillar of Guidance.*—How did the Lord show his presence? v. 21.

What did the pillar of fire and cloud become to the Hebrews?

[Ans. *A guide and a protection.* See Exod. xiv. 19-24.]

How is the Holy Bible like this pillar of fire and of cloud? Ps. cxix. 105.

Where may we learn from this lesson—

1. That God himself chooses the way for his people to tread?

2. That God's way is not always the shortest, fairest, or smoothest?

Home Readings.

M. Exod. xiii. 17-22.

Tu. Matt. xvii. 1-8.

W. Exod. xii. 16-27.

Th. Ps. xxxii.

F. Exod. xxiv. 9-18.

S. Exod. xix. 16-25.

S. Ps. cxlvi.

3. That God is with those who walk in his way?

4. That God never leaves those who walk in his way to the wrath of their enemies?

HYMN—*Tune*, "Dundee."—C.M.

O God of Bethel! by whose hand

Thy people still are fed;

Who, through this weary pilgrimage,

Hast all our fathers led;

Our vows, our prayers, we now present

Before thy throne of grace;

God of our fathers! be the God

Of their succeeding race.

O, spread thy covering wings around,

Till all our wanderings cease,

And at our father's loved abode,

Our souls arrive in peace.

Such blessings from thy gracious hand

Our humble prayers implore;

And thou shalt be our chosen God,

Our portion evermore.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

12. *Wherein consisteth Christ's exaltation?*

Christ's exaltation consisteth in his rising again from the dead on the third day, in his ascending into heaven, and his sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in his appointment to judge the world at the last day.

1 *Corinthians* xv. 4. And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.

Mark xvi. 19. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

Acts xvii. 31. He hath appointed a day in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained.

13. *What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?*

Christ as our Redeemer executeth the offices of a Prophet, of a Priest, and a King, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.

Acts iii. 22. Moses truly said unto the fathers, A Prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

Hebrews v. 6. Thou art a Priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.

Psalms ii. 6. Yet have I set my King upon my holy hill of Zion.