

phase of Jewish religion which we call Judaism. From his time there flowed certain influences, some of which tended to preserve the Jewish religion against the assaults of hostile people, others of which tended to harden it into a worship of the letter of the law.

If the teacher has a good knowledge of the history of the Jews, he can sketch the main events of this period, indicate the work of Nehemiah and Ezra, enforcing the lessons to be learned from them, and then briefly outline the history of Judaism up to the time of Jesus.

Another method of review may be employed by grouping the lessons under the following headings :

I. THE RETURN

1. *Lessons of the Exile*, Lesson I. What is the date of this psalm ? What are the conditions reflected by it ? How does this psalm illustrate the new religious viewpoint which the Jews gained in the Exile ?

2. *The release*, Lesson II. What events had prepared the way for the proclamation of Cyrus ? How did the Jews respond to their opportunity ?

3. *The new colony*, Lesson III. How many years were spent in building the second temple ? What prophets lived in this period ? What service did they render ? What principle did the temple represent in the new state ?

II. THE REFORMERS

1. *The priest*, Lesson IV. Why did Ezra come to Jerusalem ? What was the date of his arrival ? How does this lesson illustrate Ezra's character ? What were the reforms that Ezra initiated ?

2. *The statesman*, Lessons VI., VII. How was Nehemiah's interest in Jerusalem stirred ? When did he arrive there ? Point out the personal qualities which seemed to aid Nehemiah in his plans to go to Jerusalem ?

3. *Building the walls*, Lesson IX. Who were the enemies of the Jewish community ? Why were they hostile ? How did they seek to circumvent the plans of Nehemiah ? Show how this lesson gives us further light on the character of Nehemiah.

4. *The Law introduced*, Lessons X., XI. What were the contents of this Law ? Explain the situation which led to the introduction of the Law. What effect had this incident on Jewish religion and literature ? What were the reforms introduced by Nehemiah ? In what respect did they differ from Ezra's ? The work of these men illustrates the value of men of diverse gifts for the kingdom.

III. THE FOES

The lessons of this Quarter have emphasized the conditions which are necessary for the healthy life of a state. Lessons V. and VI. may be studied together in order to set forth the principles on which the state must rest.

THE QUARTERLY REVIEW

FOR SENIOR SCHOLARS AND THE BOYS AND GIRLS : Great Men of the Lessons

What constitutes human greatness ? Is it true that some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them ? Or is it true that they only are truly great who are truly good ? Note that the great men of this period are all great in goodness.

1. *The Psalmist*, Lessons I. and VIII. Bring out that if the psalmist had written nothing else but these three psalms he would have immortalized his name. Where in hymnology can we find anything equal to them in spiritual thought beautifully expressed ? Ask for quotations from these psalms.