

Feb. 4.

BEGINNING OF THE HEBREW NATION.

Les. Gen. 12:1-9.
Mem. vs. 1-3.

Gol. Text, Gen. 12:2.
Catechism Q. 87, 88.

HOME READINGS.

M. Gen. 11:1-9.....The Confusion of Tongues.
T. Gen. 11:10-32...From Noah to Abram.
W. Gen. 12:1-9.....Beginning of the Hebrew Nation
Th. Gal. 3:1-9.....Abram's Faith.
F. Acts 7:1-7.....Abram's Obedience.
S. Ruth 1:1-22.....Leaving One's People
S. Luke 18:18-30.....Leaving All for Christ.

Time—B. C. 1921, four hundred and twenty-six years after the last lesson.

Places—Haran in Mesopotamia, on the Belik, a branch of the Euphrates, Canaan.

Opening words—The descendants of Noah had become very sinful, and God determined to choose a man, and through him a nation, to be his witnesses on the earth, and from the nation to bring, in the fulness of time, the promised Saviour. In this lesson we begin the study of the man thus chosen.

Helps in studying—1. *Abram*—the son of Terah, born in Ur of Chaldaea, B. C. 1996. He lived in Ur seventy-five years; then five years in Haran; and afterward a hundred years, mostly in Canaan, and died B. C. 1823, aged 175 years. *Country*... *kindred*... *father's house*—he was to leave all, and go by faith into a land that God would show him. 3. *Bless them that bless thee*—God will treat Abram's friends and enemies as his own. *In thee*—through Christ, the seed of Abram. Rom. 9:5, 4. *Departed*—from Haran, Heb. 11:8-10. 6. *Sichem*—or Shechem, near the middle of Palestine, between Mounts Ebal and Gerizim, *Plain of Moreh*—Revised Version, "Oak of Moreh." 7. *There build he an altar*—in token of his faith and gratitude. 8. *Bethel*—about twelve miles North of Jerusalem.

QUESTIONS.

Introductory—How long was it between this lesson and the last? What took place during this time? Title? Golden Text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses? Catechism?

I. *The Call of Abram*. vs. 1-3.—What had the Lord said to Abram? What was he called to leave? What did the Lord promise him? Who besides Abram's descendants have an interest in these promises? How have they been fulfilled? Gal. 3:8, 14. What call does Christ give to us? Luke 14:33.

II. *The Obedience of Abram*. vs. 4-6.—What did Abram do? Who went with him? How old was he when he left Haran? What is said of this in Heb. 11:8? Whom and what did Abram take with him? Describe his journey? Who were then in the land? Why did this make his obedience the more remarkable?

III. *The Promise to Abram*. vs. 7-9.—Who appeared to Abram? What did the Lord promise him? What did Abram build? To what mountain did he remove? Where did he pitch his tent? What did he do there? In what direction did he journey onward?

LESSONS.

1. We must obey God's command and trust his promises.

2. We must separate ourselves from the world and its wickedness.

3. Wherever we go, we must take our religion with us.

4. In Christ the blessing of Abram has come upon all nations.

5. If we trust God as Abram did, God will bless us as He did Abram.

Feb. 11.

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAM.

Les. Gen. 17:1-9.
Mem. vs. 7, 8.

Gol. Text, Gen. 15:6.
Catechism Q. 89, 90.

HOME READINGS.

M. Gen. 13:1-13.....Abram and Lot.
T. Gen. 14:12-24.....Abram and Melchizedek.
W. Gen. 15:1-21.....God's Covenant with Abram
Th. Gen. 17:1-9.....The Covenant Renewed.
F. Gal. 2:10-29.....Heirs According to the Promise.
S. Rom. 4:1-18.....Righteousness by Faith.
S. Rom. 10:1-12.....Christ our Righteousness.

Time—B. C. 1898.

Place—Hebron, about twenty miles south of Jerusalem.

Opening words—There are twenty-four years between the date of this lesson and the last. The leading events are—Abram's sojourn in Egypt; his return to Canaan; his separation from Lot; the incursion of Chedorlaomer and the captivity of Lot; Abram rescues Lot; is met by Melchizedek; the covenant with Abram; Abram makes Hagar his wife; the flight of Hagar; her return and the birth of Ishmael; the covenant renewed, and the names of Abram and Sarai changed to Abraham and Sarah. Study the intervening chapters—12-16.

Helps in Studying—When Abram was ninety years old and nine—twenty-four years after his departure from Haran, and thirteen years after the birth of Ishmael. *The Lord appeared to Abram*—in some visible form. *The Almighty God*—able to fulfill his promises. *Walk before me*—conscious of my presence. *Be thou perfect*—upright, sincere. 3. *Fell on his face*—in awe and worship. 4. *My covenant is with thee*—the covenant already made with him. 5. *Abram*—"high father." *But Abraham*—"father of a multitude," as the next clause explains. 7. *An everlasting covenant*—to stand forever. 8. *I will give unto thee...the land*—it had been previously promised to Abraham and his posterity (chap. 15:18). Here it was promised as an "everlasting possession," and was therefore a type of heaven. Heb. 11:16. *I will be their God*—a promise and pledge of all spiritual blessings.

QUESTIONS.

Introductory—How long an interval between this lesson and the last? What were the leading events of this period? Title? Golden Text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses? Catechism?

I. *A New Promise*. vs. 1-4.—When did the Lord appear to Abram? By what name did he declare himself? What command did he give? What did Abram do? What did the Lord promise him?

II. *A New Name*. vs. 5-7.—What new name did the Lord give Abram? Meaning of *Abram*? Of *Abraham*? Why was this new name given? Of what promises was this name the pledge? Who are meant by the seed of Abraham?

III. *A New Country*. vs. 8, 9.—What new country did the Lord promise to Abraham and his seed? For how long were they to possess this new country? Meaning of *I will be their God*? Of what is the land of Canaan a type? To whom is heaven promised for an everlasting possession? What did the Lord require of Abraham?

LESSONS.

1. The Lord is almighty, and able to fulfill all the promises of his covenant.

2. His people should trust in his truth and love.

3. He will never fail those who trust in him.

4. The covenant with Abraham includes believers in Christ, the promised seed of Abraham.