

LESSON III.—October 16th, 1898.

THE TEMPLE REPAIRED. 2 Chron. 24: 4-13.

I. GOLDEN TEXT: "And the men did the work faithfully." 2 Chron. 34: 12.

II. REVIEW THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER: Pictures and stories about good men of the Old Testament.

III. REVIEW THOUGHT FOR TO DAY'S LESSON: Reverencing God's temple.

IV. REVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Jehoshaphat?

2. How do you know he was a good man?

3. What is the best guide to follow in the world?

4. What was last Sunday's Golden Text?

V. SYNOPSIS OF LESSON:

Joash was the son and successor of Ahaziah, king of Judah. Jehosheba, the wife of Jehoiada the high priest, his aunt, preserved him from the murderous designs of Athaliah, his grandmother, when he was but a year old, and kept him hid six years in a chamber belonging to the temple. When he was seven years of age, Jehoiada entered into a solemn covenant with Azariah and others, to set up young Joash for their sovereign and dethrone the wicked Athaliah.

After preparing matters in the kingdom, and bringing the Levites and such others as they could trust, to Jerusalem, they crowned him in the court of the temple with great solemnity. Joash behaved himself well while Jehoiada the high priest lived and was his guide, but no sooner was this good man removed, than he began to listen to the counsels of his wicked courtiers. The worship of God fell into neglect, and idolatry prevailed. Zechariah, the high priest, son of Jehoiada, warned him of his sin and danger, but as a reward of his fidelity he was, by order of Joash, stoned to death between the porch and the altar. When dying he assured them that God would avenge his death, to which event our Saviour is supposed by some to refer.

Hazael invaded the kingdom, but Joash, with a large sum of money, including all the treasures and furniture of the temple and palace, redeemed his capital from plunder. After suffering other injuries from the Syrians, and after being loaded with ignominy, he was

murdered by his own servants after a reign of forty-one years.

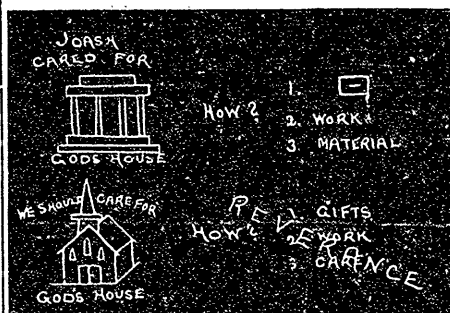
V. PRINCIPLES OF TEACHING AS APPLIED TO THIS LESSON:

1. REVIEW.

Do not fail to review. Nothing shows up the weak points in our teaching like review. As these weak points are discovered, aim by more careful preparation to do better work. Always review.

2. ADAPTATION.

How shall we adapt this lesson to the child? Perhaps no better thought could be emphasized than that of reverence for God's house. Let us make the teaching positive, not negative. The best way to drive out irreverence is to teach reverence. Therefore emphasize



the strong positive teaching of this lesson.

3. DEFINITENESS.

Aim at the one central definite thought of "Reverence for God's house." Joash took care of the temple, God's house. We should take care of the Church which is God's house.

In an older class the thought might be carried one step further, namely, our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we should take care of them. Be careful, however, lest you attempt to teach too much, and perhaps it would be best to aim simply at reverence for the Church.

4. CO-OPERATION AND ILLUSTRATION.

(a) Begin by asking some questions about the church in which the Sunday-school is held. This will surely be a point of contact