

Lesson VIII.

ISRAEL JOURNEYING TO CANAAN

August 25, 1907

Numbers 10 : 11-13, 29-36. Commit to memory vs. 35, 36. Read Numbers 10: 11 to 12: 6.

GOLDEN TEXT—And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light.—Exodus 13: 21.

11 And it came to pass¹ on the twentieth day of the second month, in the second year, that the cloud was taken up from² off the tabernacle of the testimony.

12 And the children of Israel³ took their journeys out of the wilderness of Si'nai; and the cloud⁴ rested in the wilderness of Par'an.

13 And they first took their journey according to the commandment of the Lord by the hand of Mo'ses.

29 And Mo'ses said unto Ho'bab, the son of⁵ Ragu'el the Mid'anite, Mo'ses' father in law, We are journeying unto the place of which the Lord said, I will give it you: come thou with us, and we will do thee good: for the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel.

30 And he said unto him, I will not go; but I will depart to mine own land, and to my kindred.

31 And he said, Leave us not, I pray thee; foras-

Revised Version—¹in the second year, in the second month, on the twentieth day of the month; ²over; ³set forward according to their journeys; ⁴abode; ⁵Reuel; ⁶shalt; ⁷good soever; ⁸set forward; ⁹Omú in the; ¹⁰seek; ¹¹from; ¹²O; ¹³ten thousands of the thousands.

LESSON PLAN

I. Israel's Journey, 11-13.

II. Israel's Guide, 29-32.

III. Israel's Trust, 33-36.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—Israel journeying to Canaan, Num. 10 : 11-13, 29-36. T.—The cloud and fire, Num. 9 : 15-23. W.—

—Manifold mercies, Neh. 9: 7-19. Th.—Led by God, Ps. 107 : 1-15. F.—God's great goodness, Isr. 63 : 7-14. S.—Mercies forgotten, Ps. 78 : 12-25. S.—

—"He leadeth me," Ps. 23.

much as thou knowest how we are to encamp in the wilderness, and thou⁶ mayest be to us instead of eyes.

32 And it shall be, if thou go with us, yea, it shall be, that what⁷ goodness the Lord shall do unto us, the same will we do unto thee.

33 And they⁸ departed from the mount of the Lord three days' journey: and the ark of the covenant of the Lord went before them⁹ in the three days' journey, to¹⁰ search out a resting place for them.

34 And the cloud of the Lord was¹¹ upon them by day, when they¹² went out of the camp.

35 And it came to pass, when the ark set forward, that Mo'ses said, Rise up,¹³ Lord, and let thine enemies be scattered; and let them that hate thee flee before thee.

36 And when it rested, he said, Return, O Lord, unto the¹³ many thousands of Israel.

Shorter Catechism—Review Questions 64-66.

The Question on Missions—8. What are some special features of mission work in these Provinces? Settlements, in many fields, are widely scattered, and the missionary has to ride or drive great distances. Gasoline launches are used in British Columbia for coast and river work, and in some of the mining towns there are "institutional" churches, with reading and recreation rooms.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, 213 (Supplemental Lesson); 304; 297; 1 (Ps. Sel.); 272 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 583.

EXPOSITION

Time and Place—B. C. 1490; at Mount Sinai.

Connecting Links—The children of Israel remained about a year encamped before Mount Sinai. During that time, the Ten Commandments were received from God, and various directions, as well, for the regulation of both civil and religious affairs. The people were more thoroughly organized, also, alike for peace and war (see Ex. 18 : 17-26). After this period of preparation, the march was commenced toward the southern frontier of the land of Canaan, by which Israel hoped to enter and take possession of it as their own. The signal for marching was the rising, and for camping, the resting of "the cloud of the Lord" which covered the tabernacle (see Ex. 40 : 38, Lesson V., and compare Num. 9 : 19-22).

I. Israel's Journey, 11-13.

V. 11. *Twentieth. second month. second year*; a little more than a year after Israel's departure from Egypt, which took place on the fourteenth day of the first month, in the previous year. *Cloud was taken up*; lifted high over the tabernacle, the signal for

breaking up camp and beginning the march. *Tabernacle of the testimony*; so called as containing "the ark of the testimony", the chest in which rested the tables of the law, Ex. 25 : 16, 21, 22.

V. 12. *Children of Israel*; a vast host, including some 603,550 men twenty years old and upwards (chs. 1, 2), besides 22,000 Levites, ch. 3 : 39. Adding to these the women and children, the total number would be about 2,000,000. Great progress had been made in the organization of the nation: a code of laws had been framed; a priesthood and authorized religious services instituted; political and military regulations established; and judges and officers appointed over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens (Ex. 18 : 25; Deut. 1 : 15), with a general council of seventy elders, Ex. 24 : 1; ch. 11 : 16. *Wilderness of Paran*. See Geography Lesson.

V. 13. *They first took their journey*. "First" applies to the tribe of Judah, v. 14. The meaning is that this camp led the van, the others following in the order of vs. 14-28. *According to the commandment of the Lord*. The order of the march was divinely deter-