

**11. The Lord be with thee.** Many times are we told that "the Lord was with David;" and this presence of God David now invokes to accompany his son. **Prosper thou, and build.** Solomon must remember that his prosperity was bestowed upon him so that he might execute God's plans. 5. Let us not only enjoy opportunities, but also use them for God.

**12. Wisdom and understanding.** 6. There is nothing which requires greater wisdom than the building and care of God's cause. **Give thee charge.** Or, "give thee direction and instruction." **Keep the law.** For in no other way can the duties of a king be fulfilled, than in the spirit of obedience to God's law. Solomon must remember that there is a King above the kings of earth.

**13. Then shalt thou prosper.** In the Hebrew, the same word means "prosper," and "do wisely;" and either translation will fit the sense of this passage. **Be strong, and of good courage.** 7. In the service of God and the building up of his cause there is great need of vigour and boldness.

**14. In my trouble.** David speaks modestly of his achievements and conquests as a period of trouble or labour. **An hundred thousand talents.** The talent was a weight, not a coin; and variously estimated at different periods and in different countries. Different writers have fixed this sum at from two to six billions of dollars, either of which is possible, when we consider that in war *all* the property of the captured was taken as spoil, and tribute upon conquered nations was oppressive. Alexander obtained a much larger sum in the conquest of Persia. **Talents of silver.** The silver talent was worth about one thousand five hundred dollars, thus making this fifteen hundred millions. Possibly the numbers are incorrect, or used in a hyperbolic sense. In fact, we know almost nothing about the values of ancient money. Only this is certain, that David made the gathering of treasure for the temple one of the great aims of his reign.

**15, 16. Workmen with thee.** These were mostly Tyrians, as the Israelites were then farmers, and not builders. **Cunning men.** Skilled mechanics. **No number.** The store was so great that it was uncounted. **Be doing.** 8. Those who possess God's treasures are called to use them in his service.

**17. Princes of Israel.** The hereditary chiefs of families throughout the tribes, and the nobles in the court established by David, which was much more stately than that of Saul. **To help Solomon.** By their co-operation, their influence, and especially by their contributions. This would give to all the land a deeper interest in the worship, since all were contributors to the temple.

**18. Is not the Lord....with you.** The princes, as well as the king, shared in the

benefits of peace, and in the prosperity of the realm. **The inhabitants of the land.** These are the Canaanites, Amorites, and other native races, who until David's time had contested with Israel the control of the land, but were now thoroughly subdued. As God had given them victory, they should now present thank-offerings to his temple.

**19. Seek the Lord.** They should first enter into fellowship with God, and then would gladly open their purses in his cause. **The sanctuary.** "The holy house." **The ark.** This was the secret chest containing the law, for which the temple was to be the shrine. **Holy vessels.** All the furniture of worship, as table, candlestick, censers, fire-pans, etc., etc., used in the services of the tabernacle and the temple.

#### GOLDEN TEXT.

**Arise therefore, and be doing, and the Lord be with thee.**—1 Chron. 22. 16.

#### OUTLINE.

1. The Lord's House, v. 6-13.
2. The Preparation, v. 14-16.
3. The Command, v. 17-19.

#### LESSON HYMNS.

Lord of hosts! to thee we raise  
Here a house of prayer and praise:  
Thou thy people's hearts prepare,  
Here we meet for praise and prayer.

Here to thee a temple stand,  
While the sea shall girt the land:  
Here reveal thy mercy sure,  
While the sun and moon endure.

Hallelujah! earth and sky  
To the joyful sound reply:  
Hallelujah! hence ascend  
Prayer and praise till time shall end.

No. 161, S. S. Hymnal.

The Gospel bells are ringing,

No. 160, S. S. Hymnal.

Repeat the story o'er and o'er.

No. 163, S. S. Hymnal.

I love to tell the Story.

TIME.—B. C. 1015.

CONNECTING LINK.—David's preparation for building the temple. 1 Chron. 22. 1-5.

EXPLANATIONS. — *Then he called*—David, though in age and feebleness, held a public assembly in which he charged Solomon to build the temple. *An house for the Lord*—A house which should represent God's dwelling among his people. *Unto the name*—The name here means the Lord who was known by his name. *Thou hast shed blood*—David's wars were just and necessary, and in them he was doing the Lord's work; but the building of God's house was more appropriate in a time of peace and