

JOASH THE BOY KING

November 6, 1904

2 Kings 11 : 1-16—Memory Verses, 10-12.

Golden Text.—When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice.—Prov. 29 : 2.

cometh in. 9 And the captains over the hundreds did according to all *things* that Jehoiada the priest commanded: and they took every man his men that were out on the sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.

10 And to the captains over hundreds did the priest give king David's spears and shields, that were in the temple of the LORD.

11 And the guard stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, round about the king, from the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, along by the altar and the temple.

12 And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, God save the king.

13 And when Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and of the people, she came to the people into the temple of the LORD.

14 And when she looked, behold, the king stood by a pillar, as the manner was, and the princes and the trumpeters by the king, and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets; and Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, Treason, Treason.

15 But Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds, the officers of the host, and said unto them, Have her forth without the ranges: and him that followeth her kill with the sword. For the priest had said, Let her not be slain in the house of the LORD.

16 And they laid hands on her; and she went by the way by the which the horses came into the king's house; and there was she slain.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The wife of the King of Israel was Athaliah, who, when her husband and son were dead, tried to make herself queen by putting her remaining children and grandchildren to death. But her sister, wishing if possible to save one of the princes alive, stole away the baby Joash, and hid him in the temple, where she and her husband, the high priest, took care of him.

When the boy was seven years old, the high priest sent for the chief rulers and captains of Israel, and showed them the prince, and, binding them by a solemn promise to be faithful to him, he appointed them to keep strict watch round about the temple to

1 And when Athaliah the mother of A'hazi'ah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal.

2 But Jeho'sheba, the daughter of king Jo'ram, sister of A'nazi'ah, took Jo'ash the son of A'hazi'ah, and stole him from among the king's sons which were slain; and they hid him, even him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain.

3 And he was with her hid in the house of the LORD six years. And Athaliah did reign over the land.

4 And the seventh year Jehoiada sent and fetched the rulers over hundreds, with the captains and the guard, and brought them to him into the house of the LORD, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of the LORD, and shewed them the king's son.

5 And he commanded them, saying, This is the thing that ye shall do: A third part of you that enter in on the sabbath shall even be keepers of the watch of the king's house;

6 And a third part shall be at the gate of Sur: and a third part at the gate behind the guard; so shall ye keep the watch of the house, that it be not broken down.

7 And two parts of all you that go forth on the sabbath, even they shall keep the watch of the house of the LORD about the king.

8 And ye shall compass the king round about, every man with his weapons in his hand; and he that cometh within the ranges, let him be slain; and be ye with the king as he goeth out and as he

cometh in on the sabbath, with them that should go

see that no harm came to the boy. And Jehoiada chose from them a royal guard, giving them the spears and shields of David, and when they had taken their place in order in God's house, he called Joash, and set him before them as their king.

Then the high priest took the crown that had once belonged to the boy's father, and put it upon the head of Joash, and handing him the book of God's law, he poured oil upon his head, as a sign that he proclaimed him king, in the name of the Lord. And all the people clapped their hands and cried, "God save the king!"

But suddenly the rejoicing was inter-