

SCHOLARS' NOTES

(From Westminster Question Book)

LESSON III. (1 Kings 3: 5-15) SOLOMON'S CHOICE. COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 9, 10.

5. In Gibbon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

6. And Solomon said, Thou hast showed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

7. And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father; and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

8. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.

9. Give, therefore, thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad; for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

10. And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

11. And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself, nor for thee; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor for thee; neither hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;

12. Behold, I have done according to thy word: I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there shall be none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

13. And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and glory; so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.

14. And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.

15. And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to his chamber, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt-offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

GOLDEN TEXT

"Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom."—Prov. 4: 7.

HOME READINGS.

M. 1 Kings 3: 1-15. Solomon's Choice.

W. Prov. 1: 1-13. Wisdom of the Friend.

Th. James 1: 1-12. Prayer for Wisdom.

F. Prov. 9: 1-12. The Call for Wisdom.

Sa. Job 28: 12-28. Where and What is Wisdom?

S. Prov. 2: 1-5. The Lord Giveth Wisdom.

LESSON PLAN.

1. The Choice Made. 2. The Choice Approved. 3. The Choice Exceeded.

Time.—E.C. 10½. Places.—Gibson, Jerusalem.

LESSON NOTES.

I.—V. 5. GIBSON—a town about six miles northeast of Jerusalem, where the old tabernacle and altar still remained. ASK WHAT I SHALL GIVE THEE—thus graciously signifying his acceptance of Solomon's offering. SOLOMON'S SAID—he first acknowledged God's goodness to David his father, and then confessed his own insufficiency for the work laid upon him. V. 7. BUT A LITTLE CHILD—not absolutely in years, but to experience and skill for government. V. 9. AN UNDERSTANDING HEART—practical sagacity, that he might rule wisely. (See Prov. 2: 6; James 1: 5.) The desire to be wise is an evidence of wisdom. WHO IS ABLE—the best prepared offered up his insufficiency the most. (Compare 2 Cor. 2: 16.)

II.—V. 10. PLEASED THE LORD—Solomon had chosen well, and God granted him his desire.

III.—V. 11. THAT WHICH THOU HAST NOT ASKED—God's mercy exceeds man's requests. Matt. 6: 33; Eph. 3: 20. To wisdom was added an absolute promise of riches and honor, and a conditional promise of long life. V. 14. IF THOU WILT WALK IN MY WAYS—Solomon failed to fulfil these conditions, and therefore, though he had riches and honor, his life was not prolonged, as it otherwise would have been.

WHAT HAVE I LEARNED?

- 1. That wisdom is more to be desired than riches or honor.
2. That the Lord delights to give great blessings.
3. That he often gives us more than we ask.
4. That children should be thankful for God's mercies to their parents.
5. That answers to prayer should be acknowledged with thanksgiving.

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COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Oct. 7, 1884.

The market this week has not shown a single distinctive feature. Prices are the same, practically speaking, but flour has gone down another ten cents per barrel. This has increased the volume of business a little however, for the stock in store has been reduced by 1,600 barrels, and the receipts for the week amounted to 25,000 barrels.

Chicago wheat has changed but little. Corn is still in the hands of the ring and only November and year are quoted. We quote wheat 77½c Oct.; 79½c Nov.; 81c Dec.; and 81½c Dec. Corn 55½c Nov.; 44½c year.

There is absolutely nothing to say about the local grain market. We quote—Canada Red Winter, 85c to 87c; White, 80c to 87c; Peas, 80c to 82c; Oats, 35c. Barley, 55c to 65c. Corn, to 69c.

FLOUR.—Dull, and prices quoted lower. Holders want to know where the bottom is. We quote—Superior Extra, \$4.10 to \$4.15; Extra Superfine, \$3.95 to \$4.00; Fancy \$4.00; Spring Extra \$3.90 to \$4.00; Superfine, \$3.25 to \$3.30; Strong Bakers' (Can.), \$4.50 to \$4.85; Strong Bakers' (American), \$5.00 to \$5.50; Fine, \$3.00 to \$3.10; Middlings, \$2.85 to \$2.90; Pollards, \$2.65 to \$2.75; Ontario bags, (bags included) Medium, \$2.15 to \$2.20; Spring Extra, \$2.00 to \$2.10; Superfine, \$1.60 to \$1.70; City Bags, (delivered), \$2.70.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Cheese is unchanged, with a brisk market, and is quoted as follows: Sept. 11c to 11½c; 7½c to 9½c July, August 9½c to 10½c. Butter is still dull. We quote—Creamery, 23c to 25c; Eastern Townships, 18c to 21c; Western, 14½c to 17½c.

Eggs are selling at 15c to 17c as to quality.

HOG PRODUCTS are unchanged. We quote:—Western Mess Pork \$20.50. Hams, city cured, 15c to 16c; Bacon, 13½c to 14c; Lard, western in pairs, 11c to 11½c; Canadian, 10½c; Tallow, common refined, 7c to 8c.

ASHES are quoted at \$4.30 to \$4.40, for Pots.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The wet weather and muddy roads have made it unpleasant for farmers to bring produce to the markets, and the saving of the crop will require the attention of a good many farmers for some time. The supplies of produce continue ample, with no changes to note in the prices of most kinds. There are abundant supplies of potatoes and other roots, as also of cabbages, and prices of these have a downward tendency. The fruit market continues glutted with all sorts of fall apples, which sell at low rates. The prices of eggs and choice butter are advancing. Dressed hogs and dead poultry are somewhat lower in price.

The supply of hay continues rather light and prices are firm. Oats are 80c to 90c per bag; peas, 85c to 90c per bushel; beans \$1.50 to \$1.80 do; potatoes 40c to 50c per bag; turnips, carrots, beets and onions 30c to 50c per bushel; cabbages 12c to 35c per dozen heads; butter 17c to 35c per lb; eggs 20c to 30c per dozen; apples \$1.50 to \$2.50 per barrel; pears \$4.00 to \$5.00 do; tomatoes 20c to 35c per bushel; young turkeys \$1.00 to \$1.50 the pair; dead geese \$1.40 to \$1.75 do; fowls 60c to 85c do; spring chickens 35c to 70c do; ducks 60c to \$1.00 do; hay \$6.00 to \$9.00 per 100 bundles.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

The supply of butchers' cattle continues very large, but comparatively few of them are in really good condition, and butchers have to pay somewhat higher prices for choice beefs, but this is more than compensated by the low prices at which common and inferior beef critters can be bought. Cattle shippers have also been buying all the thrifty large steers they can get, part of which are shipped to Scotland as stockers to be fed there during the autumn, while the others will be sold to butchers on their arrival in Britain. A few choice heifers and small steers were bought here by butchers at over 4½c per lb, and pretty good steers and fat cows at \$38 to \$45 each, or 4c to 4½c per lb, but common steers and fair sized dry cows sell at from \$30 to \$34 each, or about

3½c per lb. A good many small cattle, yearlings and two-year-olds, are being brought to market, though not very fat, and sell at from \$10 to \$20 each. A few rather lean dry cows and strippers are sold at from \$15 to \$24 each, or from 2c to 2½c per lb. Sheep and lambs are very numerous and generally of indifferent quality; for the cattle the demand is slow and prices lower, but choice lambs continue to sell at from \$3.50 to \$4 each. Live hogs are much more plentiful and prices are declining, being from 5½c to 6c per lb. Milch cows are in good supply, while the demand is light and prices tending downward.

NEW YORK, Oct. 6, 1884.

GRAIN.—Wheat, 87½c October; 89½c Nov.; 93c Dec.; 94½c Jan.; 99½c May. Corn, 63½c October; 61½c Nov.; 53½c Dec.; 49½c Jan. Rye, quiet, 66c to 72c. Oats in fair demand, 32½c Sept., 33½c Oct., 32c Nov. Barley, nominal. Pease nominal.

FLOUR.—The quotations are as follows: Superfine, \$2.40 to \$2.65; Low Extra, \$2.35 to \$3.20; Clears, \$3.70 to \$4.65; Straight (full stock), \$5.30 to \$5.75; Patent, \$4.60 to \$6.15. Winter Wheat—Superfine, \$2.60 to \$2.85; Low Extra, \$2.60 to \$2.55; Clears (R. and A.), \$3.35 to \$5.00; Straight (R. and A.), \$4.15 to \$5.45; Patent, \$4.65 to \$5.65; Straight (White Wheat), \$4.25 to \$5.30; Low Extra (City Mill), \$3.15 to \$3.55; West India, sacks, \$3.75 to \$4.10; barrels, West India, \$4.65; Patent, \$5.00 to \$5.50; South America, \$4.50 to \$4.65; Patent, \$5.00 to \$5.60. Southern Flour—Extra \$3.25 to \$4.50; Family, \$4.75 to \$5.25; Patent, \$5.35 to \$5.90. Rye Flour—Fine to superfine, \$3.00 to \$3.80.

MEALS.—Cornmeal, \$3.40 to \$3.50 in bbls; oatmeal, \$5.00 to \$5.90 per bbl.

SEEDS.—dull. Clover 8½c to 9½c; Timothy, \$1.65 to \$1.75; Linseed \$1.00 to \$1.42½.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter—we quote creamery, ordinary to select 19c to 31c. Half firkins, ordinary to best 16c to 26c; Welsh tubs 18c to 25c; Western ordinary factory, to choice imitation creamery 6c to 24c. Cheese, state factory, ordinary to fair cream, 4c to 12c. Ohio flats, fair to choice, 6c to 11c; Skins ½c to 3c.

TOBOGANNING BEATEN HOLLOW!

Some interesting particulars of curious customs are given in Volume XI. of the North-West Provinces Gazetteer, which deals with the Himalayan districts of India. The following, for instance, is related of a ceremony performed by Badis, or ropedancers, to bring prosperity to the villages to which they belong. A rope is stretched from the summit of a cliff to the valley beneath, the ends being made fast to stakes driven into the ground. The Badis, seated astride on a wooden saddle, well greased to make it run freely, rides from the top to the bottom of the rope. The pace, as may be imagined, is always very rapid and sometimes terrific. The saddle is fastened so that it cannot slip around the rope (as saddles on horses sometimes do), and the Badis's feet are ballasted by sandbags to maintain his perpendicular, and the only danger is from a possible breaking of the rope, which is usually made of Jubbah grass. The Badis is paid one rupee (about 50 cents) for every hundred cubits of rope traversed, and the longest journey of the kind on record is one for which twenty-one rupees were paid, and which accordingly measured 2,100 cubits or 3,150 feet. It used to be the custom, whenever a Badis fell, for the surrounding spectators to promptly dispatch him with swords. That is no longer done. The rope used is supposed to be endowed with remarkable properties by the successful accomplishment of the feat, and it is cut up and distributed among the people of the village, who hang the pieces to the eaves of their houses to serve as charms. The Badis's hair is believed to have similar properties, and is cut off and preserved; and he himself is supported by contributions of grain from the villagers, in addition to the monetary reward for his feat, the theory being that his share in propitiating the gods to secure fertility to the lands of others makes his own land unlucky, and that any seed he might sow would be certain not to germinate.

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