

bors met, followed worship; but this feast was an indecent riot, such as belonged to heathen festivals.

Verses 7, 8. What God thought of it all. As a just God He must punish such rank disobedience and disloyalty to Himself.

Verses 9-29. Select one or two points from the many, as, for example, Moses' fervent plea with God to forgive (vs. 9-14); his destruction of the idol (When is it right to be angry?), and his summoning to himself those who were on the Lord's side. It was a stirring and dreadful day in the camp.

Verses 30-32—Begin the next day's

events. How like Jesus is Moses! He wants to save the sinners, not destroy them, v. 30; see Luke 19:10. He wrestles with God in intercession for these transgressors, vs. 31, 32; see Luke 23:34. He is willing to give his life for theirs, v. 32; see Matt. 20:28.

Verses 33-35. It is the God of justice, the great Judge of all, who appears in these verses. Learn from v. 33, that every one must answer for his own sin (Rom. 14:12); and from vs. 34, 35, that God's punishments are thorough. There is one touch of light in the darkness; the next chapter tells how Moses won back the presence of God amongst the people.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON

[SEE SKETCH MAP LESSON III.]

The HOME STUDY QUARTERLY refers to the mines in the region about Sinai. Hundreds of years before the days of Moses, the Egyptians came here for copper. Other minerals also are found—iron, magnesia, cobalt, manganese, and turquoise. Dr. W. M. Flinders Petrie has discovered from ancient records, that large parties of men, in one case 734, were sent from Egypt to work these mines. He found, not far from Sinai, the remains of "miners' huts consisting of five chambers, roughly square, and built of the rounded stones of the valley. The walls were about 2 to 2½ feet thick. On clearing out the rooms, five pits were found in the floors, three of which contained pottery jars", of very ancient date. Dr. Petrie also found many inscriptions on the rocks of the Sinai country. (See HOME STUDY

QUARTERLY.) Some of these were the work of "miners, who put up their own statuettes and tablets on the rocks, engraved with a writing of their own."

On the slope of Jebel Mûsa towards the wady ed-Deir, 5,014 feet above the sea level, stands the famous monastery of St. Catharine. Formerly between 300 and 400 Greek monks lived there, but the number at present does not exceed 40. In the garden are fig, orange, olive, almond, apple and apricot trees, grape vines, and a few lofty cypresses. The library contains many valuable manuscripts. Here was discovered in 1844 one of the oldest manuscript copies of the New Testament in Greek, and in 1892, a manuscript of the four Gospels in Syriac, probably written in the fifth century A.D. The monastery was founded in A.D. 527.

Some further points of interest about Sinai may be noted

ADDED HINTS AND HELPS

In this section will be found further assistance under various headings.

Some Test Questions

1. What laws did Moses receive from God in addition to the Ten Commandments?
2. How long was Moses afterwards alone with God? What instructions did he receive?
3. What were the people tempted to think regarding Moses?
4. Who was Israel's leader in Moses' absence? Describe his character.
5. What demand did the people make of

him? What led them to do this?

6. How did Aaron seek to put a check on their idolatry?
7. What did he at last make for the people?
8. For what purpose was this to be used? Which Commandment was thus broken?
9. How did God regard Israel's sin? Who interceded for them?
10. What sacrifice was Moses willing to make for his people?

Something to Look Up

1. The event of this Lesson is mentioned in one of the Psalms, where we are told the