

God promised Solomon peace and prosperity if he would *serve him*. God's law and love is the same as it was when Solomon lived. Love, faith, and obedience to him are better in his sight than all the works we can do, or gifts we can bring. If we love and serve God, he will surely send us blessing and joy. "I will love thee, O God, my strength!"

ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE. The House of God.

I. THE HOUSE.

1. **Its Porch.** The porch before. v. 3.
"Enter into his gates....with praise."
Psa. 100. 4.
"Ransomed....come to Zion." Isa. 35: 10.
2. **Its Chambers.** Chambers round about. v. 5.
"They which minister....live." 1 Cor. 9. 13.
"Blessed....dwell in thy house." Psa. 84. 4.
3. **Its Sanctuary.** Temple of the house. v. 3.
"The first....called the sanctuary."
Heb. 9. 2.
"Satisfied with the goodness." Psa. 65. 4.
4. **Its Oracle.** Of the oracle. v. 5.
"Called the holiest of all." Heb. 9. 3.
"God is in the midst of her." Psa. 46. 5.

II. THE PURPOSE OF THE HOUSE.

1. **A House of Prayer.** An house of prayer. Golden Text.
"Windows open toward Jerusalem."
Dan. 6. 10.
2. **A House for the Lord.** The house....built for the Lord. v. 2.
"Ye are the temple of....God." 2 Cor. 6. 16.
3. **A House of God's Promise.** The word of the Lord came. v. 11, 12.
"To obey is better than sacrifice."
1 Sam. 15. 22.
4. **A House of God's Presence.** I will dwell among....Israel. v. 13.
"I will be their God." Zech. 8. 8.

ADDITIONAL PRACTICAL LESSONS.

The Temple a Type of the Church.

1. The temple, like the Church, arose among a chosen, peculiar, and consecrated people, called out from the world. v. 1.
2. The temple, like the Church, required long preparation before it was finally erected. God waited four thousand years before founding the Christian Church. v. 1.
3. The temple was the outgrowth and enlargement of the tabernacle; and the Christian Church arose out of the Jewish system of worship. v. 2.

4. The temple, though magnificent and costly, was the free-will offering of the king and the people; so the Church is the result of the labour and gifts of God's people.

5. The temple arose silently, and so the Church grows "without observation," by the quiet operation of the great forces. v. 7.

6. The temple, like the Church, was the outward token of God's spiritual presence among his people, and the pledge that he would hear their prayers. v. 12, 13.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

1. *How did all things come into being?*

By the will of God; who created all things and brought all into their present order.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Genesis 1. 1.

He spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast. Psalm 33. 9.

By faith we understand that the worlds have been framed by the word of God, so that what is seen hath not been made out of things which do appear. Hebrews 11. 3.

ENGLISH TEACHER'S NOTES.

BY SARAH GERALDINA STOCK.

THE illustrated papers and magazines of the present day are constantly used for the purpose of making their readers in some measure acquainted with the great works which are being carried on. We got, for instance, a series of pictures representing different parts of a large manufactory, each one showing a different stage of the work there carried on; and by means of all the illustrations we are able to form some idea of the manner in which it is done, and the amount of labour and pains bestowed upon it. The teacher of this lesson may with advantage adopt a somewhat similar plan, and endeavour to supply his class with a series of mental pictures illustrating the whole subject of the lesson.

The first picture should be the hill of Moriah, the situation of which may be shown on the map. Here had lived Araunah the Jebusite chief, and here was the flat, bare, circular piece of ground which had been his threshing-floor. On this threshing-floor the temple of God was to be built. But the area was not itself large enough to contain all the building, and required to be artificially enlarged. And the spot was surrounded on all sides by valleys, and therefore difficult of access. How much less labour would have been involved in the construction of a building on some large plain!

Now turn to the stone quarries, as some think of Lebanon, though this seems uncertain. Here are some thousands of Israelite and Phenician workmen hewing out enor-