

nations to-day are the Christian nations. That land is exalted that exalts righteousness. Patriotism demands home missionary enterprise. He is doing most for his country who promotes religion most within its bounds. He is also helping other lands, for one of the influences which has attracted pagan nations to the gospel is the greater security, comfort and prosperity that is evident where Christianity prevails. The effects of our faith in national life and growth has been one of the strong factors in influencing Japan in its favor. If only our powerfully entrenched evils were rooted out and the principles of the kingdom of God were more fully incorporated in our laws and institutions, how much more powerful that appeal to other nations would be.

Solomon seems to have used the opportunity presented by the queen's questions to reveal to her the God whom he worshiped. He found in her visit a chance for missionary work, and he met it. So we find Jesus in His ministry ever turning the conversation with whomever He chances to meet into religious channels, and directing their thoughts towards God. To the woman who comes to the well to draw water, He speaks of the water of life. It is a rare gift, this gift of aptitude for personal work on behalf of our master. But He who has set the example and called us to follow Him, has this confidence in us that we will be true missionaries wherever we are, using every opportunity to speak a word for Him.

THE LESSON GRADED

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades in the School.

For Teachers of Bible Classes

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We have been surfeited in these recent stirring times with the fact of war and with philosophical teaching about the greatness of the violent "over-man." Solomon's reign represents more the victories of peace; the magnificence of constructive work, rather than destructive. Solomon's peaceful personality proved a magnet that drew the Queen of Sheba, with her train of camels, across the desert sands. Jesus claimed to be "greater than Solomon" and rebuked the lesser interest in Himself as the Prince of Peace (see Matt. 12:42).

As a matter of fact the missionary enterprise for the most part is a contrast, not a parallel, to the story of the Queen of Sheba. Instead of staying at home and receiving voluntary seekers after truth and wisdom from other lands, Christianity's mission from its very inception has been to go out into other lands and seek itself for responsive hearts. The multitudes of foreigners who have sought entrance into Canada have come seeking gain, not light on their heart problems, and they, too, have to be sought by the church in the true missionary spirit. The world, in all its hugeness, was never so small as to-day in its

accessibility to the seeking messengers of the gospel.

With that clearly in mind, discuss the Lesson in the aspect of the sovereignty of missions. For Christianity is the universal and final religion, and every land sooner or later is bound to come to it for light and life. Before the forward movements in India, Japan and China, various commissions were sent to Christian lands to inquire into the secrets of their progress. Find a spot in the world where the sovereignty of missions is unknown, unheard-of, and you find at best arrested progress. The points of contact in the Lesson that suggest missionary treatment are:

(1) *The magnetism of a sovereign power*, v. 1. Non-Christian religions afford high standards of morality and striking spiritual ideals: but they lack ability to communicate real power to live up to them. Even Solomon in all his glory failed to maintain his own ideals.

(2) *The tribute of exacting tests*, vs. 2-5. The Christianity that cannot solve the world's heart-problems will be driven into oblivion.

(3) *The experimental proof of power*, vs. 6-9. The transformation of New Guinea was not accomplished by a brigade of botanists, but by the potency of a missionary movement that moved.

(4) *The interchange of tangible benefits*, vs. 10, 13. Costly gifts have been bestowed and