

## International Bible Lessons.

## SECOND QUARTER.

## LESSON X. (June 7.)

## PAUL'S VOYAGE AND SHIPWRECK. Acts 27. 33-44.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses." Psa. 107. 28.

## Primary Notes.

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*Approach.* A tiny bird has fallen from its nest. A storm is coming on. The mother-bird cannot get baby-bird back into the nest, for it is hurt and frightened. A kind man comes along. A strong hand lifts the bird into the warm nest. Mother-bird covers it with her wings. The storm begins, but the bird is saved. It is safe now, under the warm wings. Its little cry of distress was heard by a kind heart, and a strong hand helped and saved.

A little child is lost in the wood and is frightened. He calls "Father! father!" as loud as he can. He is in great distress or trouble. The father hears, where he is, and runs to save his boy from fear and harm. In father's arms the child is safe. His father has heard and helped.

A man is in great trouble because he has sinned and cannot keep from it. He needs help and longs for it. He cries to Jesus; that is, he prays, and Jesus forgives his sin and gives him help, making him stronger each day to do right. The bird and the baby boy and the man knew what distress means, and now they know what it is to be saved out of trouble. Which takes most power—to save a bird, or a baby, or a man's soul? Jesus is strong and loving enough to save from every trouble and to save all his creatures. This lesson will show how he saved many from great danger.

It makes a difference whether we look down or up, sometimes. A man on a mountain looked down and saw clouds at his feet, but, looking up, he saw the light shining above. In this lesson we will look down and up both.

Looking down first, we see

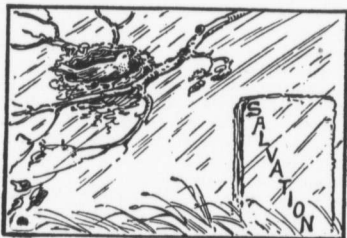
*Trouble.* Recur to the reason for Paul's

voyage (explain word), tell of danger of storms because of season of year, Paul's advice to wait in a safe place, the sailing on, the great storm, the danger and distress, the long fast, Paul's courage and cheerfulness, his prayer and God's promise even in the dark and in the midst of trouble. (Draw line—write "trouble" below, "cheer" above.) Now, look above and see

*Cheer.* Cheer is brightness, courage, and comfort. One has to look up for this. Tell how Paul comforted them all in the tempest-tossed ship, bidding them be of good cheer. Why? Not because there was no danger, but because God had stood by him while he prayed, and promised safety for Paul and for all with him. Tell of that strange meal at daybreak, the blessing asked upon it, the comfort and strength and cheer that came to all, the lightened load of the ship, the willingness to do all that could be done by captain and sailors. Now, look down again and see the

*Shipwreck.* In spite of Paul's saying "Be of good cheer," the waves broke the ship to pieces. No matter; it only gave another chance to "cry unto God" in trouble. He was near the broken ship and the men in the water. It was a dark and dangerous time—a time to beg for help. Now look above once more and see

*Safety.* What is it to be safe? What is it to be saved? It is to be taken out of danger and put in a safe place. Tell of God's keeping Paul from being killed by cruel soldiers, and of the manner of escape to land. Paul had prayed, God had promised to help, God saved them all. Is God the same now? Is there trouble now? Yes, we look down and see it, but we look up and see how bright it is above, and how sure it



is that God will save. He is always ready to help us. But we must cry unto him in trouble. Teach the Golden Text.

*Memory Stone: Safety.* We need to be saved from many things, but the worst shipwreck of