

# Responsive Review Service for the Fourth Quarter.

BY MRS. LILY LATHBURY.

## TOPIC FOR THE QUARTER.—Israel Under David and Solomon.

GOLDEN TEXT FOR THE QUARTER.—“The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.” 2 Chron. 16. 9.

### The Reign of David.

*Superintendent.* What portion of Jewish history did we study in the first half of this quarter's lesson?

*School.* The reign of David; a brave soldier, a beloved king, a great statesman, a true poet, and a genuine servant of God.

*Supt.* What is the opening event of the quarter?

*Teachers.* David chosen by the twelve tribes and anointed king over all Israel.

*School.* “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.” (Golden Text.)

*Supt.* What is David's first great achievement as king of united Israel?

*School.* He captures the stronghold of Jerusalem and enlarges and beautifies it for the capital city of the new kingdom.

*Supt.* What does he then prepare to do?

*School.* To bring the long-neglected ark to Jerusalem and re-establish the worship of Jehovah as the one true God.

*Supt.* What hinders the fulfillment of his plans?

*School.* The disobedience and instant death of Uzzah. The people scatter in fear and confusion, and David leaves the ark at the house of Obed-Edom.

*Supt.* When does he finally accomplish his design?

*School.* Three months later, when, obedient to God's laws concerning it, priests and people place it within the tent prepared to receive it, and David sacrifices burnt-offerings and peace-offerings for the first time in Jerusalem.

*Supt.* What followed this return of Israel to God?

*School.* Great peace and prosperity. The tribes are united, and victorious over their enemies. Jerusalem is made the center of national and religious life. A royal palace of cedar is built on Mount Zion, and the worship of Jehovah is conducted in the tabernacle as of old.

*Teachers.* “And David perceived that the Lord had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people Israel's sake.”

*All.* “The Lord loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.” (Golden Text.)

*Supt.* How does David acknowledge the blessing and favor of God?

*School.* He humbles himself before him in his tabernacle, saying, “What am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?... According to thine own heart hast thou done all these great things.”

*Supt.* In what words does he praise and exalt him?

*School.* “Wherefore thou art great, O Lord God, for there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee.... Let thy name be magnified forever, saying, The Lord of hosts is God over Israel.”

*Teachers.* “In every thing give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (Golden Text.)

*All.* “For of him, and through him, and to him are all things: to whom be glory forever.”

*Supt.* In what other way does David celebrate and perpetuate the goodness of God?

*School.* He organizes sacred choirs of skilled singers and musicians for public worship, and composes for them the spiritual songs and chants known to us as the Psalms.

*Supt.* Of what does David prophesy in these Psalms?

*Bible-class.* Of the coming of Christ and his redeeming love for the whole world.

*All.* “Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Golden Text.)

### HYMN.

“I will sing for Jesus.”

*Supt.* What great trouble comes to David in the height of his glory and power?

*School.* His son Absalom covets the throne, and, conspiring against him, gathers his friends together at Hebron and proclaims himself king of Israel. David, anxious to avoid a war in the holy city, flees from Jerusalem. Absalom pursues him. A battle is fought in the forest of Ephraim, and Absalom is killed and his army defeated. Heart-broken at this terrible event, David forgets the triumph of his cause and leaves his victorious army to be alone with his sorrow.

*Boys.* “A foolish son is a grief to his father and bitterness to her that bare him.” (Golden Text.)

*Girls.* “Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.” (Golden Text.)

*Supt.* What of the close of David's reign?

*Bible-class.* The kingdom is united and become for the first time a great nation. Solomon has been anointed king in the royal succession, and David dies “full of days, riches, and honor,” his last words those of praise and trust in God.

*All.* “He hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things, and sure.” (Golden Text.)

*Supt.* What is the “open secret” of the lessons concerning David's success as a good and great king?

*School.* The fact that though by his wide conquests he showed himself a daring soldier, and by his government of the people a wise statesman, he was, above all, the open and avowed servant of God, earnestly desirous to “walk before him with a perfect heart.”