

LESSON II.—July 10th, 1898.

ELIJAH THE PROPHET. 1 Kings 17: 1-16.

1. **GOLDEN TEXT.** "And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruise of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord." 1 Kings 17: 16.

II. **PREVIEW THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER:** God's good gifts.

III. **PREVIEW THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY'S LESSON:** Food and clothing.

IV. **REVIEW.**

1. Who was Solomon's son?

2. Why did not all the people want him to be King?

3. How many of the people allowed him to reign over them?

4. What was the other king's name?

V. **SYNOPSIS:**—The kingdom was now divided. Several years of Ahab's rule in Samaria had passed. The kingdoms seemed to be prosperous, but religiously the worshippers of Baal were the only ones who were recognized by the king, and Jehovah was almost forgotten. Idols were set up on every hand. Jezebel, the wicked wife of the irreligious king, did everything to foster the worship of Baal, and to put down that of Jehovah.

In the meantime, God, away off in the little hamlet of Thisbe on the eastern side of the Jordan, was preparing a man to be a leader, and a reformer. He was used to hardships, at home on the hills, and was a strong, speedy, shaggy, hairy man, clothed in skins, and with loins girt with a leathern girdle. Like John the Baptist, a child of the desert. "Too strong to die, so God took him." He was in constant communion with God, a man who seemed to have no rival to God in his heart. His character may be summed up as follows:—

Verse 3. Get thee hence.

Verse 5. So he went.

Verse 9. Arise, go to Zarephath.

Verse 10. So he arose, and went.

At Cherith, the ravens fed him. At Zarephath, with the widow and her son "the barrel of meal wasted not, and the cruise of oil did not fail." He was God's own child, and God took care of him.

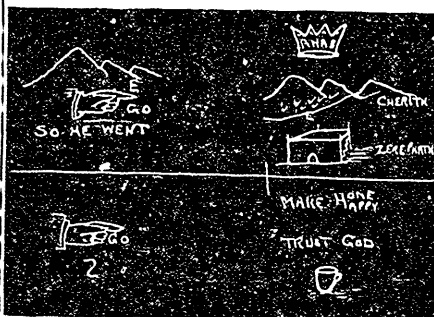
VI. **SUGGESTIVE STEPS.**

1. Boys and girls, I want to make six pictures for you upon the blackboard to-day.

Here are six picture frames. Point to the squares made upon the blackboard beforehand.

2. Review last week's lesson, and tell that the kingdom was now divided, the happy home broken up. Nearly ten years had passed, and the wicked King Ahab was on the throne.

3. Have a heart, or a letter, or something that will stand for Elijah, and as you begin to tell the story of Elijah's life, hold the representation of him in the hand. Now tell the story of the wicked king Ahab, who was upon the throne. Here pin a crown in the first picture frame, as suggested in the cut. Tell the story of Elijah's early life as suggested in the synopsis of the lesson above, and then complete the first picture. God told him to go and stand before Ahab, so he went.



4. Elijah was a man always ready to obey. He stood before Ahab, and was not afraid of him, because he knew God was with him. There was a famine in the land, and God sent him away to the brook Cherith. Here tell the story of the ravens feeding him. As the second picture frame is filled up as suggested in the cut, emphasize the thought that wherever God told Elijah to go, he always went. There was always prompt, and willing obedience on Elijah's part.

5. Now tell the story of the journey to Zarephath, and all that happened there, and as it is told, fill in the third picture frame.

6. Hold in the hand a heart, or a letter, or something to stand for a boy or a girl. God speaks to us as he spoke to Elijah. He says, go do this, do that. Who can tell me some of