

looked upon as the most unnatural of vices. "Thou shalt swear only in truth, in judgment and in righteousness."

HINTS. After reading the story of the blaspheming son of the Israelitish woman, a lesson may be given on the manner of taking the oath in a court of justice. The blasphemy of swearing falsely is a breach of the third commandment : perjury is an aggravated breach of the ninth as well. "**Ye shall not swear by my name falsely.**"

QUESTIONS. 1. Give the meaning and derivation of the word *blasphemy*, *perjury* and *legislation*. 2. Where is the story of the son of the Israelitish woman to be found? 3. What was the offence of the prophet of Bethel? 4. Name some of the ways in which perjury can be committed. 5. What is meant by taking "the oath of office?" 6. Explain the expression "his word is as good as his bond." 7. Narrate the story of Jonathan and the honeycomb. 8. Give examples of the oath of friendship, the oath of covenant-making and a national oath. 9. Under what circumstances did Nehemiah put the priests under an oath? 10. Give two historical examples of the effects of a rash vow.

REVERENCE. PROFANITY.

Even when no irreverence is intended, there is no excuse for profanity. As a defilement of the gift of speech the cursing habit is gross vulgarity ; and as a mark of disrespect to a fundamental principle of the moral law it is, like idol-worship, an insult to God. "**Neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God ; I am the Lord.**"