

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE LESSONS.

FIRST QUARTER.

About B. C. 434. LESSON X. KEEPING THE SABBATH.

[March 5.]

GOLDEN TEXT. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Exod. 20. 8.

Authorized Version.

Neh. 13. 15-22. [Commit to memory verses 17, 18.]

15 In those days saw I in Ju'dah *some* treading wine presses on the sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all *manner* of burdens, which they brought into Je-ru'sa-lem on the sabbath day: and I testified *against them* in the day wherein they sold victuals.

16 There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the sabbath unto the children of Ju'dah, and in Je-ru'sa-lem.

17 Then I contended with the nobles of Ju'dah, and said unto them, What evil thing *is* this that ye do, and profane the sabbath day?

18 Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Is-ra-el by profaning the sabbath.

19 And it came to pass, that when the gates of Je-ru'sa-lem began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and *some* of my servants set I at the gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the sabbath day.

20 So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Je-ru'sa-lem once or twice.

21 Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do *so* again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they *no more* on the sabbath.

22 And I commanded the Le'vites that they should cleanse themselves, and *that* they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, *concerning* this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.

Revised Version.

15 In those days saw I in Ju'dah some treading wine presses on the sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses *therewith*: as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Je-ru'sa-lem on the sabbath day: and I testified *against them*

16 in the day wherein they sold victuals. There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, which brought in fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the sabbath unto the children of Ju'dah, and in Je-ru'sa-lem. Then I contended with the nobles of Ju'dah, and said unto them, What evil thing

is this that ye do, and profane the sabbath day? 18 Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city?

19 yet ye bring more wrath upon Is-ra-el by profaning the sabbath. And it came to pass that, when the gates of Je-ru'sa-lem began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that

the doors should be shut, and commanded that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and some of my servants set I over the gates, that there should no burden be brought

20 in on the sabbath day. So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Je-ru'sa-lem once or twice. Then I testified

21 against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do *so* again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they

22 no more on the sabbath. And I commanded the Le'vites that they should *purify* themselves, and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the sabbath day. Remember

unto me, O my God, this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.

TIME.—About B. C. 434. PLACE.—Jerusalem. RULERS.—Same as before. DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The sanctity of the Sabbath.

HOME READINGS.

M. Keeping the Sabbath. Neh. 13. 15-22.

Tu. The Sabbath appointed. Gen. 1. 26-2. 3.

W. Sabbath sanctity enforced. Jer. 17. 19-27.

Th. Sabbath-breaking denounced.

Ezek. 20. 13-20.

F. Jesus and the Sabbath. Luke 6. 1-11.

S. Our Lord's custom. Luke 4. 14-21.

S. Sabbath joy. Isa. 58. 8-14.

LESSON HYMNS.

No. 285, New Canadian Hymnal.

Lord of the Sabbath, hear our vows.

No. 286, New Canadian Hymnal.

With joy we hail the sacred day.

No. 288, New Canadian Hymnal.

Oh, day of rest and gladness.

DOMINION HYMNAL

Hymns, Nos. 154, 153, 152.