

his people.

33. Elders; the consult with tion. Went here confes- with deep ssion. But ed with his se of, and ". All the r assembly, ir ears; as hey were to ; the book nant: God obedience,

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king, v. 16. editation, it ks. It was be put into d of the na- ough him it hole people. andbook of In it and of the King

of kings; and when He speaks, it is the duty of high and low to give ear and obey His commands.

A book, v. 18. (A Christian sect in Russia, which originated about fifty years ago, are called Stundists, from the German "stunde" meaning "hour lesson", from their custom of meeting regularly for the study of the Bible. In the days of our Lord, the most common name for a school was "Beth Hassepher", that is, "The House of the Book", the Old Testament being practically the only subject of study. In the Koran Mohammed usually calls Christians by the title, "The People of the Book". Bible study, constant and diligent, is necessary to the development of a strong Christian character and to efficiency in Christian service. Says Dr. Moule, Bishop of Durham: "Learn your Bible. A 'step at a time', a verse a day, or two verses, or ten, as your memory may serve: what a treasure you will gather up ere long!")

When the king had heard. .he rent his clothes, v. 19. "The way to heaven is by Weeping Cross", said an old divine. There is much sorrow for sin, however, which is worse than useless. Godly sorrow ends in the reformation of the life, and unless it does this, it is not godly sorrow at all, however keenly remorseful it may be. The mission of God's Word is to produce the contrite heart; and there is no real repentance unless the heart is broken from sin as well as broken for sin. "A great deal of rust requires a rough file", and repentance is one of God's files which is appointed to wound in order that we may seek the waters of healing, even the "fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins".

He read in their ears all the words of the book, v. 30. A buoy off the coast of Wales bears a

bell which is meant to warn mariners off a dangerous rock. It is quiet in ordinary weather; but when the winds are out and the great waves rush in towards the shore, its solemn tones are heard for miles around as it swings to and fro in the hands of the sea. So the Bible sounds forth its alarming notes in the storm when the rocks of error and destruction are in sight. Wise are we if we heed the warning and beware of sins which hurt and defile.

The king..made a covenant..to keep..his testimonies, v. 31. God's law is a reflection of God's nature. His statutes are right, His commandments are pure like Himself, and they are worthy of all acceptation for our guidance. When the courtiers of Louis XIV. rebuked Massillon, the great preacher, for his plain speaking before the king, the latter rebuked the critics, saying, "He has done his part; it remains for us to do ours." It is a privilege to hear the Word of the living God, but it profits us not to hear unless we are also doers of the Word. Our will finds its highest exercise in the resolve to take God's Word as a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path.

Josiah..made all..to serve the Lord, v. 33. George Macdonald tells of a little child gazing at the red, the green and the gold of the sunset sky, who said he wished he could be a painter, so that he could help God to paint the sky. This, of course, was a vain wish; but God does ask us and does give us the honor and privilege of putting touches of beauty into immortal lives. By his own devotion and earnest ministries, Josiah was enabled to turn many to righteousness; and God's method is to use men to save men. But if we would lift other, we must stand on the higher ground of personal surrender to Jesus Christ.

TEACHING HINTS

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades in the School.

For Teachers of Bible Classes

Begin with the finding of the book of the

law in connection with the repairs of the temple. What was the book that was found? This Lesson shows how the book of the law was made the basis of a great reformation. It is generally believed the book was the