

## Lesson V.

## NOAH SAVED IN THE ARK

February 3, 1907

**BETWEEN THE LESSONS**—To-day's Lesson belongs to a time more than fifteen hundred years later than the last Lesson. The world had become filled with wickedness (ch. 6 : 11, 12), though there had always been in it a line of good men (see ch. 5). At last, God determined to destroy all the wicked by sending a flood upon the earth (ch. 6 : 13). He commanded Noah to build an ark for the preservation of himself and his family, and representatives of every kind of animals and birds, chs. 6 : 14 to 7 : 9. When the ark was finished, these went into it, and the flood came, ch. 7 : 10-12. Every creature outside the ark perished, but those within were kept in safety, ch. 7 : 21-23.

**GOLDEN TEXT** The salvation of the righteous is of the Lord.—Psalm 37 : 39.

**Memorize vs. 1-3. THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Genesis 8 : 1-16. Read Genesis, chs. 6 to 9.

1 And God remembered No'ah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that <sup>1</sup>was with him in the ark : and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters asswaged ;

2 The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained ;

3 And the waters returned from off the earth continually : and after the end of <sup>2</sup>the hundred and fifty days the waters <sup>3</sup>were abated.

4 And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat.

5 And the waters decreased continually, until the tenth month : in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen.

6 And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that No'ah opened the window of the ark which he had made :

7 And he sent forth a raven, <sup>4</sup>which went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth.

8 <sup>5</sup>Also he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground ;

**Revised Version**—<sup>1</sup>were ; <sup>2</sup>an ; <sup>3</sup>decreased ; <sup>4</sup>and it ; <sup>5</sup>And he ; <sup>6</sup>to ; <sup>7</sup>brought ; <sup>8</sup>at eventide ; <sup>9</sup>Omit was ; <sup>10</sup>and she ; <sup>11</sup>hundred ; <sup>12</sup>dried ; <sup>13</sup>dry.

**Daily Readings**—(Courtesy, I. B. R. A.)—M.—A sinful world, Gen. 6 : 5-18. T.—The flood, Gen. 7 : 11-24. W.—Noah saved in the ark, Gen. 8 : 1-16. Th.—God's promise to Noah, Gen. 9 : 8-17. F.—Preacher of righteousness, 2 Pet. 2 : 1-9. S.—Warning against neglect, Matt. 24 : 32-42. S.—God's mercy, Isa. 54 : 4-10.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**I. THE MOUNTAINS.**—1-5. God remembered (thought of) Noah. In him the race of mankind was now to make a new start in a world cleansed of its wickedness. Every living thing. Note God's care for the lower animals (compare Matt. 10:29). A wind; probably a hot wind, by which the waters would be quickly evaporated. Asswaged; lessened. The deep; the mass of raging waters, which were one source of the flood (compare ch. 7 : 11), the other source being the windows of heaven; whence comes the rain (compare 2 Kgs.

7 : 2, 19 ; Mal. 3 : 10). Returned, etc. The waters kept diminishing in depth and amount. **Hundred and fifty days.** For 150 days the waters had kept increasing (ch. 7 : 24); for another 150 days they kept decreasing. **Rested.** The ark was 30 cubits (about 45 feet) in height (see ch. 6 : 15). The half of it would probably be under water. **Seventh month . . seventeenth day ;** the beginning of the 150 days of v. 3. The Jewish year had two starting points—the sacred year in April, and the civil year in September. If the first of these be taken, the "seventh month" is October, if the second, it is April. Ararat. See The Geography Lesson. **Tenth month . . first day ;** about two and a half months after the ark grounded. **Tops of the mountains ;** the lower surrounding elevations.

**II. THE MESSENGERS.**—6-12. **The window.** But one window is spoken of in the ark (see ch. 6 : 16). Sent forth a raven ; expecting it to bring back some token of dry ground. Went . . to and fro ; perching and feeding on floating dead bodies, and returned not. A dove ; which feeds on buds and leaves, and would therefore return, if the waters still covered the trees. **Olive leaf plucked off ;** Rev. Ver. Margin, "a fresh olive leaf". This was proof that the waters had greatly fallen, since the olive does not grow at great heights.

**III. THE DRY LAND.**—13-16. **Six hund-**



COIN REPRESENTING NOAH AND THE ARK

This coin, struck about A.D. 200, bears a picture of the flood. An ark, or boat, with a man and woman in it, floats upon the waves. On the boat are the Greek letters NOE, the Greek for Noah. A bird is perching on the boat and another is flying towards it. Beside the boat stand the man and woman, now supposed to have got out on dry land.