INTERNATIONAL BIBLE LESSONS.

THIRD QUARTER: STUDIES IN OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY-CONTINUED.

B. C. 984 (?)]

LESSON X. SOLOMON'S SIN.

Dec. 6.

GOLDEN TEXT. Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. 1 Cor. 10, 12,

Anthorized Version.

[Commit to memory verses 1 Kings 11. 4-13. 9, 10.]

[Read 1 Kings 11. 4-13.]

4 For it came to pass, when Sol'o-mon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of Da'vid his father.

5 For Sol'o-mon went after Ash'to-reth the goddess of the Zi-do'ni-ans, and after Mil'com the abomination of the Am'mon-ites.

6 And Sol'o-mon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did Da'vid his father.

7 Then did Sol'o-mon build a high place for Che'mosh, the abomination of Mo'ab, in the hill that is before Je-ru'sa-lem, and for Mo'lech, the abomination of the children of Am'mon.

8 And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

9 And the LORD was angry with Sol'o-mon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Is'ra-el, which had appeared unto him twice,

10 And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the Lord commanded.

11 Wherefore the LORD said unto Sol'o-mon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant.

12 Notwithstanding, in thy days I will not do it for Da'vid thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son.

13 Howbeit I will not rend away all the king dom; but will give one tribe to thy son for Da'vid my servant's sake, and for Je-ru'sa-lem's sake which I have chosen.

Revised Version.

4 For it came to pass, when Sol'o-mon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of Da'vid

5 his father. For Sol'o-mon went after Ash'toreth the goddess of the Zi-do'ni-ans, and after Mil'com the abomination of the Am'mon-ites.

6 And Sol'o-mon did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the

7 Lord, as did Da'vid his father. Then did Sol'o-mon build an high place for Che'mosh the abomination of Mo'ab, in the mount that is before Je-ru'sa-lem, and for Mo'lech the about-

8 ination of the children of Am'mon. And so did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

And the Lord was angry with Sol'o-mon, because his heart was turned away from the LORD, the God of Is'ra-el, which had appeared

10 unto him twice, and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which

11 the LORD commanded. Wherefore the LORD said unto Sol'o-mon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee,

12 and will give it to thy servant. Notwithstanding in thy days I will not do it, for Da'vid thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the

13 hand of thy son. Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but I will give one tribe to thy son, for Da'vid my servant's sake, and for Je-ru'sa-lem's sake which I have chosen.

TIME.—About B. C. 984 (?). PLACE.—Jerusalem. THE FALL OF SOLOMON, like that of David, is completely passed over by the chronicer Solomon and his far greater father were men, and like men they fell, but there remained still the promise of a King who should rule in righteousness, endowed with more than David's tendernes and more than Solomon's wisdom and free from all that made them but broken lights of him.

HOME READINGS.

M. Solomon's Sin. 1 Kings 11. 4-13. 2w. Ahijah's prophecy. 1 Kings 11. 29-38. W. Wise counsel forsaken. 1 Kings 12. 1-11.

Th. The kingdom divided. 1 Kings 12. 12-20. F. Danger of evil companionship. Deut. 7. 1-11.

S. Resisting warning. Jer. 44. 1-11.S. Idols of the heart. Ezek. 14. 1-8.

LESSON HYMNS.

No. 220, New Canadian Hymnal. Try us, O God, and search the ground Of every sinful heart; Whate'er of sin in us is found, Oh, bid it all depart!

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