

garden it was? God likes his children to dwell, when it is possible, in beautiful surroundings. Can we do anything to make our surroundings beautiful? What? Get one of the scholars to tell what was in the garden. (v. 9.) What did God intend the man to do in the garden? Discuss the question: Does true happiness consist in having nothing to do?

What command did God give to the man? Was it really a hard command? There was only one tree he must not touch; of all the others he might eat freely. Impress the thought that God gives us plenty of opportunities to be happy in right ways. What was to be the punishment if the man disobeyed God's command? (v. 17).

What further provision did God make for man's happiness? (v. 18). What does a

"help meet for him" mean? Explain that "meet" means "suitable." The animals could minister to the man's comfort and necessities, but they could not be companions to him (v. 20). How were the animals named? Does God expect us to be interested in the animals? Does the fact that we have been given dominion over the animals justify us in being cruel to them? Use this question to bring out the important lesson of kindness to dumb animals. Impress this. Ask some one to read Matt. 10:29.

How was a companion provided for the man? This is the story of the beginning of the first home. Impress the thought that the home is something which has been founded by God; and that we are helping on God's purpose when we try to make our homes happy.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON

[SEE MAP ON PAGE 3 OF COVER]

It is generally agreed by Bible students that the description of Eden given in Genesis refers to a valley in southwestern Asia. Maps in our Bibles call the region Mesopotamia. It is a big, sunny hollow in the earth's surface, beginning up among the mountains of Asiatic Turkey and sloping southeastward down to the Persian Gulf.

Let us use a stereograph made in the ancient Eden district, on the bank of a river which flows into the Euphrates. Looking out through the stereoscope, you find yourself on the edge of a steep bluff, with the river flowing by, thirty or forty feet below the top of the bluff.

To western eyes the place, now neglected, is interesting, but not a marvel of beauty. Those Arabs admire it more than you do. We have to remember that a river like this, with date palms and shade trees growing alongside, makes a district seem full of comfort and promise in comparison with the hundreds of miles of desolate desert sands which lie at the west between here and Palestine.

You can see the region as it looks to-day by using a stereograph entitled, Beautiful Scene in Lower Mesopotamia, Traditional Location of Eden.

ADDED HINTS AND HELPS

In this section will be found further assistance under various headings.

Lesson Points

"Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands" (Ps. 8:6). v. 26.

God gave man a boundless heritage: He made man like Himself. v. 27.

Man is a mixture of earth and heaven. v. 7. God desires that the surroundings of man should be healthful and uplifting. v. 8.

Beauty, as well as usefulness, has its

place in God's plan. v. 9.

To be made in the image of God is not to be made for idleness. v. 15.

Man could have no freedom without the possibility of sin. vs. 16, 17.

"The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). v. 17.

Man was intended to live in society. v. 18.

Our interest should extend to all that God has made. v. 19.

"For woman is not undeveloped man, but diverse." vs. 21, 22.