

avenger of blood is limited both as to person and as to time. This time limit was applied in several ways in Israel. Every seventh year there was a release of debtors from their debt and of Israelitish slaves from their bonds. *Come unto his own city.* The whole regulation regarding the cities of refuge was such that while the unwitting slayer was secured, no premium was placed on carelessness in the matter of another's life, for unwitting killing involved temporary exile.

III. THE MANSLAYER'S PRIVILEGE.—6b-9. *They appointed.* The cities chosen were Levite cities. The Levites received forty-eight cities as compensation for not having any definite portion of the land assigned to them. *Kedesh*, etc. There were three cities on each side of Jordan. *For the stranger.* Aliens were likewise protected.

Lesson Questions

For what purpose were cities of refuge appointed?

What were the regulations to be observed?

Who was the avenger of blood?

Name and locate these cities.

For Further Study and Discussion

1. Where is Jesus represented as a refuge? (Heb. 6 : 18.)

2. What was the attitude of Israel to the stranger? (Deut. 10 : 19.)

3. Is carelessness a sin?

4. Should aliens have the rights of citizens in Canada to-day?

PROVE FROM SCRIPTURE—That we should forgive others.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Ques. 50.

THE LESSON IN DAILY LIFE (Daily Readings)

Monday—Cities of refuge appointed, Num. 35 : 9-21.

The Mosaic law laid great value on life. The civilization of to-day sometimes forgets that value. The sweat shop, the tenement, the slum, the liquor traffic all testify to the indifference to the value of life. "Safety first," is good business and good religion.

Tuesday—Rules for refugees, Num. 35 : 22-34.

In good and evil alike, religion measures the motive as well as the act. It was the motive that made the poor widow, who gave her two mites, a princely giver. It was the motive behind the Pharisee's religion, that called forth the scorn of the master.

Wednesday—The cities of refuge, Josh. 20 : 1-9.

Christ is our refuge appointed for us. Our guilt does not debar us from his mercy. "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out." Our greatest plea with Christ is our need, not our innocence. It is from the uttermost and unto the uttermost he saves.

Thursday—A life lost through disobedience, 1 Kgs. 2 : 36-46.

Remember what kind of person Shimei was. He cursed David when he was a fugitive and fawned upon him when he was a victor. The glory of friendship is in being a friend not having a friend and its hour of glory is the hour when darkness reigns.

Friday—A refuge of lies, Isa. 28 : 14-22.

Spinning cobwebs in the whirlwind, binding empires with silk threads, checking tides with straws—that was what the politicians of Jerusalem, with their craft and cunning, were doing. All the while there was a steadfast foundation of hope laid in Jerusalem. Remember to-day has unsettling fears it has also settled foundations.

Saturday—A sure refuge, Heb. 6 : 13-20.

This epistle is a tract for changing times. The Jewish Christians were troubled at the passing of the old dispensation with its visible priesthood, its significant sacrifices, its vivid ritual. Yes, they must go because the new is better, because Christ is come immutable as God, strong as an anchor.

Sunday—Jehovah a refuge, Ps. 91 : 1-16.

This psalm is the shadow of a great shield—the shade of God's sheltering wings. By night ; by day, mid plague and battle and journey. God keeps his own. These dangers mentioned by the psalmist represent all dangers against which our own puny strength and wisdom are unavailing.

A PRAYER

O Lord our rock, in whom we hide, we thank thee that thou art a shelter in time of storm and that we can dwell with thee when all is well. Keep us serene in the midst of the most trying circumstances, and show us how to tell others the joy of living with thee. For Jesus' sake. Amen.