

s a tablet which chronicles the events of each year in the reign of Nabonidus, the last Babylonian monarch, and continues the history into the first year of Cyrus, as king of Babylon. The other is a cylinder, on which Cyrus glorifies himself and his son Cambyses, and professes his adherence to the worship of Bel-Merodach, the patron god of Babylon."—*Professor A. H. Sayce.*

**The Lesson Applied.**

LESSON 10.—SEPT. 3, 1899.

**Rebuilding the Temple.**

(Lesson Text : Ezra 3:10 to 4:5. Commit to Memory verses 10,11.)  
(Read chapters 3 and 4.)

**GOLDEN TEXT.**—"The temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."—1 Cor. 3:17.

**DAILY READINGS.**—Monday: Ezra 3:1-7. Tuesday: Ezra 3:8-13. Wednesday: Ezra 4:1-6. Thursday: Ezra 4:11-24. Friday: 1 Chron. 23:24-32. Saturday: Ps. lxxv. Sunday: 1 Cor. 3:6-17.

**CENTRAL TRUTH.**—While we build for God we cannot compromise with sin.

**SUGGESTIVE POINTS.**—All our work should be preceded by worship.—We should take God with us in all our undertakings for Him.—A thankful heart finds something for which to praise God.—We may look forward to a noble structure if we have the right foundation.—God's promises for the future contain great blessings.—It is not safe to make leagues with pretenders in religion.—Satan may hinder us, but his plans fail if we keep true to God.

**SUGGESTIVE QUESTIONS.**—What time was spent by the returning Jews in going from Babylon to Jerusalem? How did they find the city? How many years had passed since the temple was destroyed? What was the distance from Babylon to Jerusalem? What was the first step in religious work when the journey was made? Who managed the building of the temple? How were their services conducted? What adversaries did the Jews have? How did they interrupt the work of building? How many years passed while the temple was being built?

LESSON 11.—SEPT. 10, 1899.

**Encouraging the Builders.**

(Lesson Text : Hag. 2:1-9. Commit to Memory verses 4, 5.)  
(Read the Book of Haggai and Isa. 60.)

**GOLDEN TEXT.**—"Be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and work, for I am with you."—Hag. 2:4.

**DAILY READINGS.**—Monday: Haggai 1. Tuesday: Haggai 2:1-9. Wednesday: Ezra 5:1-5. Thursday: Ezra 5:6-17. Friday: Ezra 6:1-12. Saturday: Ezra 6:13-22. Sunday: 2 Chron. 5:11-14.

**CENTRAL TRUTH.**—God will send the glory if we prepare our temple.

**SUGGESTIVE POINTS.**—Perseverance is better than enthusiasm.—We cannot fail in God's work while we stand on the promises.—We are taught to be strong in the Lord—not in ourselves.—God puts the jewels of His grace within. They shine more than outside tinsel.—When God gives peace and quietness, who then can make trouble?

**SUGGESTIVE QUESTIONS.**—How many years between our last lesson and this? Who speaks to the people here? Why had the work on the temple been delayed? Why did Haggai ask who had seen

the first temple? What were the people exhorted to do? What promise was given? What covenant did God make with Israel? Who is meant by the Desire of all nations? How should the second temple surpass the first?

LESSON 12.—SEPT. 17, 1899.

**Power Through the Spirit.**

(Lesson Text : Zech. 4:1-14. Commit to Memory verses 8-10.)  
(Read the chapter, and compare Ezra 6:14-22.)

**GOLDEN TEXT.**—"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts."—Zech. 4:6.

**DAILY READINGS.**—Monday: Zech. 4. Tuesday: 2 Chron. 20:5-18. Wednesday: 2 Chron. 32:1-8. Thursday: Isa. 59:16-21. Friday: Rom. 15:13-21. Saturday: 1 Cor. 1:18-31. Sunday: 2 Cor. 3.

**CENTRAL TRUTH.**—The sword of the Spirit is the Christian's weapon.

**SUGGESTIVE POINTS.**—The candlestick is Christ.—As the Light, Christ reveals, admonishes, warms, purifies, beautifies, gladdens, vivifies.—We are to "shine as lights."—Heavenly work needs heavenly power.—God is honored in the feeblest of His creations.—There is no way to become a light but by becoming a branch through whom the Holy Spirit can flow.—It is blessed to be the channel of God's blessings to men.

**SUGGESTIVE QUESTIONS.**—How long had the people been at work on the temple at this time? Whose vision is here given? How would this be of help to the people? What does the candlestick represent? What is represented in the bowl, the lamps, the pipes, the trees? How was this vision to be explained to Zerubbabel? What mountain stood before him? How should he overcome? What is meant by the day of small things?

LESSON 13.—SEPT. 24, 1899.

**Review.**

**GOLDEN TEXT.**—"The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him and delivereth them."—Psa. 34:7.

**DAILY READINGS.**—Monday: Hosea 14:1-9. Tuesday: Daniel 1:8-21. Wednesday: Daniel 5:17-31. Thursday: Daniel 6:10-23. Friday: Ezek. 36:25-36. Saturday: Ezra 1:1-11. Sunday: Haggai 2:1-9.

**Periodicals.**

*Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly* for August is a grand Mid-summer Art and Fiction Number. It is brilliant and entertaining in its literary contents, and sumptuous pictorially, as may be judged from the fact that among its writers are included: W. D. Howells, Ruth McNery Stuart, Joel Chandler Harris, Egerton Castle, Van Tassel Sutphen, Edgar Fawcett, Etta W. Pierce, C. F. Carter, Theodosia Pickering Garrison, Ferriton Maxwell, Larkin G. Mead, Eben E. Rexford, and R. K. Munkittrick. The single article upon "Weddings in Art" is illustrated with sixteen beautiful reproductions of paintings by celebrated European and American masters. William Dean Howells gives, in quaint and delightful verse, the gastronomical observations of one of his fellow-countrymen at Carlsbad, who declares, "Breakfast is my best meal!" Joel Chandler Harris contributes one of his inimitable "Minervy Ann" stories, while Ruth McNery Stuart's "Queen o' Sheba's Triumph" is destined to rank among her masterpieces. Van Tassel Sutphen shows, in a wonderfully imaginative work of fiction, entitled "The Greatest Thing in the World," how this country is rapidly becoming golficized. Edgar Fawcett spins a weird yarn. "The Lid of the Chest." Etta W. Pierce's "Miss Angel" is more cheerful.

*The Treasury of Religious Thought* for August, though an vacation number, shows perhaps more than the usual number of attractive articles and sermons. The leading preacher, whose portrait and church are displayed, is Rev. Sydney Herbert Cox, pastor of the Lee Avenue Congregational church, Brooklyn. He is followed by Rev. Kerr B. Tupper, D.D., LL.D., the eloquent