

last it began to get into deep water, where I couldn't reach it with a stick. Then I told Roy to go and bring it to me.

"He almost always did what I told him, but this time he did not. I began scolding him and he ran towards home.

"Then I was very angry. I picked up a stone and threw it at him as hard as I could."

"O Uncle Phil!" said Archie. "Just then Roy turned his head and it struck him right over his eye."

"O Uncle Phil!" cried Rob. "Yes, it made him stagger. He gave a little cry and lay down on the ground."

"But I was still angry with him. I did not go to him, but waded into the water for my boat."

"But it was deeper than I thought. Before I knew it I was in a strong current. I screamed as it carried me down stream; but no men were near to help me."

"But, as I went down under the deep waters, something took hold of me and dragged me towards shore. And when I was safe on the bank I saw it was Roy. He had saved my life."

"Good fellow! Was he your cousin?" asked Rob.

"No," replied Uncle Phil. "What did you say to him?" asked Archie.

"I put my arms around the dear fellow's neck and cried, and asked him to forgive me."

"What did he say?" asked Rob. "He said 'Bow, bow, bow!'"

"Why, who was Roy, anyway?" asked Archie, in great astonishment.

"He was my dog," said Uncle Phil. "The best dog I ever saw. I have never been unkind to a dog or to any other animal since, and I hope you never will be."—*Sydney Day's, in Our Little Ones.*

Sabbath School Work.

LESSON HELPS.

LESSON ix, December 1, 1889.

THE TEMPLE DEDICATED.

1 Kings viii. 54-63.

COMMIT VERSES 62, 63.

GOLDEN TEXT.—The Lord is in His holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before Him.—Hab. ii. 20.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

The temple was a type of the Christian Church, and of the soul dedicated to God.

DAILY READINGS.

M. 1 Kings v.

Tu. 1 Kings vi.

W. 1 Kings vii.

Th. 1 Kings viii.

F. 2 Chron. ii. and iii.

Sa. 2 Chron. iv. and v.

Su. 2 Chron. vi. and vii.

PARALLEL ACCOUNTS.—The story of the temple is recorded in 1 Kings chaps. v. to viii., and 2 Chron. chaps. ii. to vii.

TIME.—The temple was begun on the 2nd of Zif, about the 1st of May, B.C. 1022, and completed after seven and a half years, in November, B.C. 1005. The dedication was in the previous month, at the Feast of Tabernacles, about the 1st of October, 480 years after the Exodus (1 Kings vi. 1, 37, 38; viii. 2).

PLACE.—The temple was built upon Mount Moriah, the eastern hill of Jerusalem (2 Chron. iii. 1). David bought it of Araunah (2 Sam. xxiv. 16-25). Here Abraham also brought Isaac for sacrifice (Gen. xxii. 2).

MATERIALS.—The temple was built of white limestone, chiefly from quarries under the city. The beams and walls were of cedar, fir, and red sandal-wood (almug trees) overlaid with gold, and adorned with carvings of palm trees, cherubim, and flowers, and garnished with precious stones. The weight of gold was about 500 tons, of silver 1,000 tons, of brass 1,100 tons, and of iron 6,000 tons.

SIZE.

Entire length, 80 cubits, 120 feet. Entire width, 40 cubits, 60 feet. Greatest height, 30 cubits, 45 feet. Porch, 30 feet broad, 15 deep, 180 high.

Holy Place, 60 feet long, 30 wide, 30 high. Holy of Holies, 30 feet long, 30 wide, 30 high.

COURTS.—The temple faced the east and was situated in a court within a court (2 Chron. xxxiii. 5), each surrounded with a wall. The eastern side of the outer court was a colonnade called Solomon's porch. The area was then probably 900 feet by 600 feet, containing about twelve acres. The present area contains thirty five acres.

THE DEDICATION was one of the grandest ceremonies ever performed. The leaders and the people from all Israel were present (1 Kings viii. 1, 2). Solomon's prayer was especially remarkable.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—54. Before the altar: on a brazen platform five feet high and seven and a half feet square (2 Chron. vi. 13). 56. Not failed one word of all his good promises: see Deut. xii. 9, 10; xxviii. 1-14; Josh. i. 3, 4. 60. That all the earth may know: the Israelites' religion was not for themselves alone. They were to be a missionary nation to all the world. 61. At this point God filled the temple anew

with a cloud of splendid glory (2 Chron. v. 14; vii. 1), as a token that He accepted the temple to be His house. 63. Two and twenty thousand oxen: these were not only sacrifices, but were to feed the vast numbers of the people during the feast, which lasted eight days longer, or fifteen or sixteen days in all (1 Kings viii. 65, 66, 2 Chron. vii. 9, 10).

SUBJECTS FOR FURTHER STUDY AND SPECIAL REPORTS.—The site of the temple.—The materials.—The workmen.—Date and time of building.—Size and shape of the temple.—The courts.—The dedication services.—God's manifested presence.—Lessons from the temple.—Each soul as a temple.—The people of God, His temple.

QUESTIONS.

REVIEW.—Who was King of Israel at this time? How old was he? What choice did he make? What did God promise him?

SUBJECT: THE TEMPLE AND ITS LESSONS.

I. THE TEMPLE.—How long after Solomon began to reign did he begin to build the temple? (1 Kings vi. 1). Give the date. How long after the Exodus? Where was the temple built? (2 Chron. iii. 1). Of what materials? (1 Kings v. 17, 18; 2 Chron. ii. 7, 8, 14; iii. 5-7). What is said of the workmen? (v. 13-16). What was the size of the temple? (vi. 2, 17, 20). How long was the temple in building? (vi. 37, 38). Into what two rooms was it divided? (vi. 16, 17). How was the building enclosed? (1 Kings vi. 36; 1 Chron. xxviii. 12). Describe some of the furnishings. (2 Chron. iii. and iv).

What was the object of the temple? Of what was it a type? In what respects is a true Christian like a temple? (1 Cor. iii. 16, 17; vi. 19). In what respects is the whole Church like this temple? (Eph. ii. 20-22). Who is the only true foundation? (1 Cor. iii. 11).

What peculiarity in the method of building the temple? (vi. 7). How is this world like a quarry for God's spiritual temple? How are the "living stones" prepared here for that temple? Are all true Christians being thus prepared? How may our trials, our joys, our labours, fit us to be the temple of God? How does it give value and blessedness to life, that we are here preparing for something higher and better that will last forever? How should it help us to judge kindly of other Christians who are in the process of the quarry, and not yet finished and complete?

II. THE DEDICATION.—When did the dedication services take place? (viii. 2). At the time of what great feast was it? Who came to join in these services? (viii. 1, 2). What great procession took place? What did they bring to the temple? (viii. 3, 4). Who made the dedicatory prayer? Have you read it? (viii. 22-54). Why should we dedicate ourselves to God? (Rom. xii. 1). Does the fact that the wisest man who ever lived prayed show that it is manly for us to pray?

III. THE TEMPLE A CENTRE OF BENEFICENT INFLUENCES (vs. 54-63).—In what posture did Solomon pray? (v. 54). Does it make any difference what attitude we take in prayer? What promises had now been fulfilled? (v. 56; Deut. xii. 9, 10; xxviii. 1-14; Josh. i. 3, 4). Does God still fulfill all his promises? What did Solomon earnestly wish? (v. 57). How was this petition answered? (2 Chron. v. 14; vii. 1). How is it answered to us? (John xiv. 16, 17; Acts ii. 2, 17; Rev. iii. 20). What is the effect of God's presence in the heart? (v. 58). Is true religion the greatest aid to morality? Were the temple and God's presence for the Israelites alone? (v. 60). Are all our religious privileges meant as a means of leading others to God? (Matt. v. 16). On what condition could the people have the blessings desired? (v. 61).

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

I. The temple is a type of the individual Christian (1 Cor. iii. 16-17). (1) Rich and costly preparations have been made by others. We are heirs of all the ages. (2) The foundation is Jesus Christ, the Rock that never can be moved. (3) The true Christian character when complete is beautiful and costly. (4) The Christian is made for the worship of God, by the incense of prayer, by sacrifice, by the commandments, by praise. (5) His soul is the Holy of Holies, in which God dwells and manifests himself. (6) His whole purpose is for the glory of God, and the honour of His name.

II. The temple is the type of the Church. (1) In its foundations; (2) in the preparations made for it, all the world is made tributary to its work; (3) in the silent process of its building; (4) in its beauty and grandeur as a whole; (5) in its many harmonious parts; (6) in its altars of worship; (7) in the chambers around it, showing the secular and business side; (8) in its objects the worship of God; (9) in the manifestation of God's abiding presence.

III. Every person needs a place of worship.

IV. The leaders in talent, in wealth, in position, and in influence should be also leaders in prayer. When boys see that their mothers pray, but that their fathers do not, "are taught by this that religion is for women and children, but not for men."—*Peloubet.*

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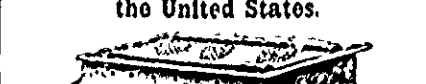
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