

LIFT HIGH THE BANNER.

LIFT it high! 'tis pure as the morning light.
 Let it wave o'er land and sea,
 'Twill be borne aloft in the cause of right,
 Till the whole wide world is free.
 It will bring the dawn of a brighter day
 To the weak and tempest tossed,
 Like a star that shines with a cheering ray,
 For the wand'ring and the lost.

Lift it high! in sight of the vaunting foe;
 For the vict'ry we will win
 Is to save the lost from the depths of woe,
 From the gloomy haunts of sin.
 And we come, with faith in the power divine,
 And a courage bold and high,
 Where the poison lurks in the fumes of wine,
 To the rescue we will fly.

Lift it high! we fight on a bloodless field,
 But the conquest will endure,
 For the Lord Himself is our mighty shield,
 And His promises are sure.
 Like the stars that shine in the vault above,
 Is the crown the victors wear,
 When they give their lives to the cause they love,
 And a spotless banner bear.

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A PERSON who borrows a book has no right to lend it to another without the express permission of the owner. This should be an unvarying rule.

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Never ask the loan of a very costly book or one belonging to a set, if you can avoid it by any means.

Teach children to be very particular in regard to the handling of all books, whether their own or those of others.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

B.C. 740.] LESSON X. [Dec. 6.
 THE SINFUL NATION.
 Isa. 1. 1-18. Commit to mem. vs. 16-18.

GOLDEN TEXT.
 Cease to do evil; learn to do well. Isa. 1. 16, 17.

OUTLINE.
 1. A Sinful Nation, v. 1-4.
 2. A Desolate Land, v. 5-9.
 3. A Divine Appeal, v. 10-15.
 4. A Divine Warning, v. 16-18.

TIME.—Perhaps about B.C. 740, or twenty-seven years earlier than the date of the last lesson.

PLACE.—The land of Judah.

EXPLANATIONS.—*The vision*—The prophets were called seers, and the prophecies visions. *Concerning Jerusalem*—The prophecy had reference to the destruction about to come upon Jerusalem. *Hear*—An appeal to the heavens and earth to listen. *Brought up children*—God had nourished the people, cared for them, and blessed them, and they had rebelled—a case of gross ingratitude. *The ox knoweth*—Israel was more senseless than the animals, having even forgotten the source of their supplies. *Laden with iniquity*—Burdened. *A seed*—The children—showing that the fathers had set an evil example. *Why shov' I ye be stricken*—Of what avail is chastisement since they have lost the sense of its benefit? *The whole head is sick*—The disposition of sin pervades mind and body. *The whole heart jaunt*—The disease threatens to be fatal. *No soundness*—No health. *Wounds, bruises, sores*—Evils without and within. *Mollified with ointment*—Eastern medical practice consisted chiefly in outward applications. *A lodge*—A shed or hut for watchmen. *Cucumbers—Gourds. Rulers of Sodom*—Referring to those of Judah because their wickedness resembled that of Sodom. *Vain oblations*—Offerings without heart. *New moons*—The first day of the new moon was a holy day.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson do we learn—
 1. That worship without obedience is offensive to God?
 2. That true repentance demands an altered life!
 3. That divine forgiveness is full and complete!

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What does the Lord say concerning the children he had nourished and brought up? "They have rebelled against me." 2. What does he say of Israel? "A people laden with iniquity." 3. What should we cease to do? "Cease to do evil." 4. What should we learn to do? "Learn to do well." 5. What does the Lord say of our sins though they be as scarlet? "They shall be as white as snow."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—God's mercy to sinners.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

42. Are baptized infants partakers of these privileges? They have the outward advantages of the Christian Church, and all the spiritual blessings of the covenant are assured to them for the future when they shall comply with the terms of the Gospel.

B.C. 700.] LESSON XI. [Dec. 13.
 THE SUFFERING SAVIOUR.
 Isa. 53. 1-12. Commit to mem. vs. 4-6.
 GOLDEN TEXT.

The Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isa. 53. 6.

OUTLINE.

1. The Rejected Saviour, v. 1-3.
 2. The dying Saviour, v. 4-9.
 3. The Interceding Saviour, v. 10-12.

TIME.—This prophecy may have been delivered about B.C. 700.

PLACE.—Jerusalem.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Our report*—Our doctrine, our statements—a form of expression showing the prophet's astonishment at prevailing unbelief. *Arm of the Lord*—Power of God. *Tender plant*—Regarded contemptuously by the Jews. *Root out of a dry ground*—Christ sprang out of the royal family when it was reduced to obscurity. *No form or comeliness*—Nothing extraordinary; nothing attractive to the worldly-minded. *Rejected of men*—On account of his lowly birth. *Acquainted with grief*—Because his mission was to suffer in our stead. *Our griefs*—Not his own; that is, not caused by any sin of which he was himself guilty. *Yet we did esteem*—Men perversely considered him suffering for his own wrong-doing. *Wounded*—Hebrew, *chatal*, pierced. The wounding was for our transgressions, the bruising for our iniquities, the chastisement for our peace. *Like sheep*—The whole flock follows heedlessly the one that goes astray. *Every one*—There was none righteous; hence "the Lord laid on him the iniquity of us all." *Opened not his mouth*—Uttered no protest—made no complaint. *As a lamb*—Without resistance; signifying also a spotless, acceptable offering. *His grave with the wicked*—Was buried among the sinners he died to save. *His seed*—Spiritual children. *By his knowledge*—By the knowledge of him, through faith, we are saved.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson is shown—
 1. Man's need of a Saviour!
 2. Man's treatment of a Saviour!
 3. Man's redemption by the death of Jesus!

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What was foretold concerning the treatment Christ was to receive? "He is despised and rejected of men." 2. What sort of man was he said to be? "A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief." 3. With what are we healed? "With his stripes we are healed." 4. What did the Lord lay on Christ? "The iniquity of us all." 5. With whom was he numbered? "He was numbered with the transgressors."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The atonement for sin.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

43. What are the privileges and duty of parents who dedicate their children to God in baptism? Their privilege is to claim the fulfilment of the promise of the Spirit to their children, and their duty is, in dependence on this promise, to "nurture them in the chastening and admonition of the Lord."—Eph. vi. 4. [Mark x. 14.]

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