# LESSON 'NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE RINGS AND PROPHETS. LESSON V. [Nov. 1. B.C. 838.]

DEATH OF ELISHA.

2 Kings 13. 14-25. Commit to mem. vs. 20, 21. GOLDEN TEXT.

He being dead yet speaketh.-Heb. 11. 4. CENTRAL TRUTH.

According to our faith, it shall be done

DAILY READINGS

M. 2 Kings 13. 1-25. Th. Heb. 11. 1-20. T. 2 Kings 14. 1-16. F. Heb. 11. 21-40. IV. Zech. 1, 1-17. Sa. Ps. 105. 1-24. Su. Mark 5. 21-43.

TIME. -About B.C. 838.

PLACE.—This interview took place at Elisha's home in Samaria. Syria lay to the

north-east. Rulers.—Joash, king of Israel, B.C. 841-825. Amaziah, king of Judah, B.C. 839-825.

INTRODUCTION.—We now return to the history of Israel. Jehu died about the time history of Israel. Jehu died about the time the repairs of the temple were finished, and his son Jehoahaz reigned for 17 years. The kingdom became weak; the Syrians overran it, and reduced it to a low state (2 Kings 13. 4-7.) In this state of things he was rucceeded by his son Joash, about the time of to-day's lesson.

Hyper over Flad Plages—14. Elicha—

was fucceeded by his son Joash, about the time of to-day's lesson.

Helps over Hard Places.—14. Elisha—Nothing has been spoken of him for 45 years, but he was doubtless doing his work. And Joash—Joash was the son of Jehoshaz, king of Israel. He reigned about two years in connection with his father, and now, at the time of Elisha's sickness, he had just become sole ruler. The blessing offered by Elisha was at the very beginning of his reign, and in the midst of great need. The chariot of Israel—That is, he was more important for the defence of the kingdom than were horses and chariots. 17. The window eastward—Toward Syria, and the country the Syrians had taken from Israel. The arrow of the Lord's deliverance—This explained the symbol to Joash, so that he would understand what the shooting yet to come would mean. 18. Take the arrows—Now was come the test of Joash, how much of this promise just given he would receive. Smile—i.e., Shoot out of the window upon the ground. 19. The man of God was wroth—He was indignant that Joash had no more faith and earnestness than his actions proved him to possess. 20. They buried him—Perhaps at Samaria, posthat Joash had no more faith and earnestness than his actions proved him to possess. 20. They buried him—Perhaps at Samaria, possibly at Joricho, near the bounds of Moab. Bands of Moabites—Robbers and marauders. They lived east of the Dead Sea. 21. As they—Some Israelites. Spied a band—Of Moabites. Sepulchre—Not a dug grave, but a cave with a stone against its entrance.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—The intervening history.—Joash.—The state of the singdom when he took it.—Elisha.—The symbol of the arrows.—The promise.—Joash's trial and failure.—Why the blessing can be given only to faith.—The fulfilment of the promise. of the promise.

### QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—To which of the two kingdoms does this lesson belong? How long a time between this lesson and the last? Who were the kings of Israel and Judah at

SUBJECT: GOD'S PROMISES, AND OUR RECEIVING.

I. THE YOUNG KING (v. 14).—Who was Joash? How long had he been reigning at the time of this lesson? How long did he reign? What kind of a king was he? (2 Kings 13, 11.) Relate a parable that he told which shows his pride. (2 Kings 14, 8-10.) What did he do to the temple of God? (2 Kings 14, 12-14.) What was the state of the stat

What did he do to the temple of court (2 Kings 14. 12-14.) What was the state of the kingdom of Israel when he took it? (2 Kings 13. 4-7.)

11. God's Promise Through the Dying Prophet (vs. 14-17).—How old was Elisha? How many years since he is mentioned in the history? How can you show from this

promise made to the king? Why was this symbol of the shooting so carefully explained? III. THE YOUNG KING'S THAL (vs. 18, 19).—What did the prophet now bid the king do? How many times did Josah shoot? Why did he shoot so few times? What did it show as to his faith and character? How Why did he shoot so few times? What did it show as to his faith and character? How did Elisha feel about the king's action? Why was he indignant? How did the king's action affect his realizing the promise of v. 17? Was this simply because he shot but three arrows instead of five or six? Name some of the promises God makes to us. Can we conceive of the greatness of the blessings he has for us? What must we do to receive them? How do we put our own limit to the blessings we receive? What does Jesus say in Matt. 9. 29?

IV. The Propher's Tome'(vs. 20, 21).—

promise made to the king? Why was this

in Matt. 9. 29!
IV. THE PROPHET'S TOMB'(vs. 20, 21).

IV. THE PROPHET'S TOMB'(vs. 20, 21).—Where was Elisha buried? How were the castern sepulchres made? How came the body of another to be placed in Elisha's tomb? What was the object of this miracle? In what was the object of this miracle? In what ways may we exert an influence after we are dead? V. THE PROMISE FULFILLED (vs. 22-25).—By whom had the kingdom been devastated? With what effect? (2 Kings 13. 7.) How many times was Joash victorious? Did this lead him to love God? Why was God merciful to such disobedient people?

LESSONS FROM THE LAST DAYS OF ELISHA-

1. Even the sick and dying can be useful. 2. God has many blessings in nature propared for men,—infinitely more than they have received.

have received.

3. God has given us, and especially to the young, great and precious spiritual promises, far beyond our highest hopes.

4. God is continually testing and trying us in little things, and by daily life, as to how much we are fitted to receive.

5. We put our own limit to the degree in which the promises are fulfilled to us.

6. God is most honoured and most ple ved with the largest requests.

with the largest requests.
7. Our influence for good or for evil en-

REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School in copport.)

dures after we are dead.

1. How long did Elisha prophesy? Ans. Nearly 60 years. 2. What did he do on his dying bed? Ans. He gave king Josh a parting blessing. 3. What did Elisha promise? Ans. Deliverance from the Syrians, who had ravaged the kingdom. 4. How did the prophet test the king? Ans. By shooting arrows toward Syria. 5. What was the result? Ans. The king was weak and faithless, and received but a part of the blessing.

B.C. 825 and 775.] LESSON VI. [Nov. 8. THE STORY OF JONAH.

Jonah 1. 1-17. Commit to mem. vs. 4-6.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it.—Jonah 1. 2.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

The way of disobedience is the way of ruin.

DAILY READINGS.

M. Jonah 1. 1-17. Th. Ezek. 18. 20-32. 7. Ps. 139. 1-24. F. Josh. 7. 1-26. W. Matt. 8. 18-27. Sα. Rom. 2. 1-16. Su. Jonah 2. 1-10.

Time.—Between B.C. 825 and 775.

PLACE. -- Jonah was born at Gathhepher, three miles from Nazareth, in Galilee.

RULERS.—Jeroboam II., king of Israel. Uzziah, king of Judah. Homer lived about this time. The prophets Amos and Hosea this time. The prophets Amos and were partly contemporary with Jonah

PLACE IN BIBLE HISTORY .- 2 Kings 14, 15; 2 hron. 25, 26.

BOOK OF JONAH.—Its author is unknown; but it is probably the confessions of Jonah himself. It was almost univorsally received as a true and literal history, and was so endorsed by Christ. (Matt. 12, 40; 16, 4,)

the kingdom of Israel when he took it? (2 Kings 13. 4-7.)

(2 Kings 13. 4-7.)

11. God's Promise Through the Dying Prophet (vs. 14-17).—How old was Elisha? How many years since he is mentioned in the history? How can you show from this lesson that these were years of usefulness? Where was his home? Who came to visit him on his dying bed? What did he say to him? In what sense was he the chariot of Israel? Are good people and good institutions a greater defence of a nation than armies and fortresses? What did Elisha bid the young king do? Why did the prophet put his hands on the king's hands? Why was the window opened castward? What did this acothing mean? What was the

they worshipped various gods. Wares—The cargo. Sides of the ship—Below deck, which indicates a large vessel. 6. God—The heathen had a vacua impression of one ne cargo. Sittes of the ship—bolow dock, which indicates a large vessel. 6. Cod—The heathen had a vague impression of one Supreme God. Will think upon us—God's thought implies assistance. 7. Whose cause—On account of whom. 8. What is thine occupation?—Is it displeasing to the gods? 9. I fear —Worship. 14. For this man's life—In exchange for it. Even heathen knew the sacredness of human life. (Gen. 9. 6; Rom. 2. 15.) Lay not upon us innocent blood—Hold us not responsible for his death. 16. Feared the Lord—A new and reverent fear took the place of alarm. Made vows—The ship would not afford enough animals for a large sacrifice then. 17. Prepared—"Appointed," not "created." A great fish—Wron\_ly translated whale in Matt. 12. 40. Probably a shark. The white shark of the Mediterranean has been known to swallow living men. It is sometimes 36 feet

swallow living men. It is sometimes 36 feet

long.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—What is implied in leaving God?—How did the word of the Lord come?—Does special responsibility follow success in God's work?—Did the Jows expect the conversion of the Gentiles?—What right had Jonah to decree his own death?—God's instruments used for saving or destroying.—Did God accept the sailors' prayer?

QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—Why is this story among the prophecies? Where did Jonah live? What preparation had he for this work? What was his objection to it?

SUBJECT: THE WAY OF DISOBEDIENCE.

I. JONAH GOES DOWNWARD (vs. 1-3).—What command did Jonah receive? How What command did Jonah receive? How did he hope to escape the duty? How have other people tried to flee from God's call? Did he really expect to escape from the knowledge of God? (v. 9, and Ps. 139. 4-10.) In what respects is the way of disobedience downward? Where did Jonah go? For what did he look? Is it easy to find aids for wrong-doing? What did he way? Was that all the yayage cost him? go? For what did he look? Is it easy to find aids for wrong-doing? What did he pay? Was that all the voyage cost him? To what company did he join himself?

II. JONAH GOES STUPPLEY (vs. 4-6).—What

messenger of God overtook the runaway?
Describe the scene on deck. How was the Describe the scene on deck. How was the apostle Paul occupied under similar circumaposte Path occupied under similar circumstances? (Acts 27. 22.) Why was not Jonah thus engaged? Describe his rude awakening. Contrast all this with his former life. What does the Bible call a self-willed man? (Prov. 28. 26.)

III. JONAH GOES IN DISGRACE (VS. 7-10).—

How did the sailors look upon the tempest? (See also Acts 28. 4.) Why should they so regard it? What was proposed? Describe the scene of easting lots. (Josh. 7. 16-19.) What questions were asked and answered? IV. JONAH GOES TO DESTRUCTION (vs. 11-15).—Describe the great storm. How only could it be calmed? What efforts did the sailors make? Why were they convices

could it be calmed? What efforts did the sailors make? Why were they so anxious to save Jonah? Why did they not succeed? Are we the only sufferers from our own faults and sins? Will any efforts contrary to God's command save us? The sailors' prayer? What was their last hope? (v.

prayer:
15)

V. Jonah A Warning (v. 16).—Why
should Jonah have been an example? Mention other men who, failing to be examples,
were made warnings. What evidence of

tion other men who, taking to re examples, were made warnings. What evidence of the sincerity of the callors' conversion? VI. SCARCELY SAVED 1. 17).—What had the Lord prepared for lonah? Was there evidence of his repentance? (chap. 2.) What does this lesson teach concerning the mature of disobedience? What concerning the vaculty? Does Jesus Christ save from its results? Does Jesus Christ save from all the consequences of sin?

#### PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

It costs something to dowrong. "Only God is had for the asking."
 Never measure obedience by apparent

success.
3. "Wherever thou turnest, if thou depart from God, thou goest down."
4. No man suffers alone the consequences

REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School in concert.)

1. What word of God came to Jonah? 1. What word of God came to Jonah? Ans. To cry against the wickedness of Nineveh. 2. How did Jonah try to escape from God's presence? Ans. By decing into Tarshish. 3. What messenger did God sond after him? Ans. A great wind, so that there was a mighty tempest. 4. How only could that be quieted? Ans. By casting Jonah into the sea. 5. Was he drowned? Ans. The Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah.

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