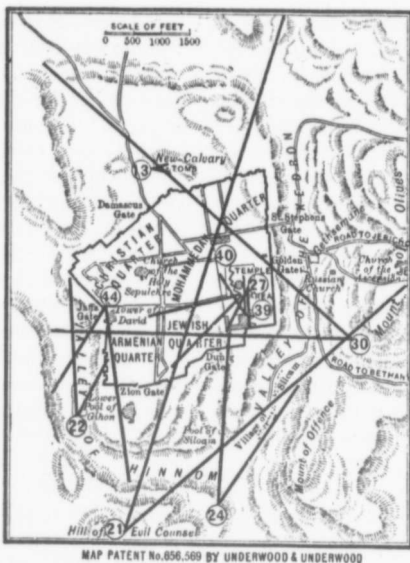


masonry with arched openings like doorways side by side. It is in fact a splendid gate marking one of several entrances to the paved terrace on which we are standing. Through the lofty arches of that gate we look down to a lower terrace; that is partly covered with paving stones, but here and there are spots of ground where trees are growing,—tall, slender cypress trees with close-packed masses of dark green foliage and a few ancient olives with gnarled, crooked trunks and feathery



bouquets of silver-green. A stairway leads from the gate down to the lower terrace, though it is not in sight at this moment. Beyond the trees stands a stone building with a broad, many-arched portico across its fronts and a dome crowning the central part of its roof. It is a Moslem mosque known as El Aksa, held in great honor by Mohammed's followers all through the Orient.

Use a stereograph entitled, Beautiful Mosque El Aksa, South from the Temple Area.

THE LESSON APPLIED

By Rev. John W. Little, B.D., East Kildonan, Man.

We are all missionaries, whether we desire to be or not. For what we are and do, starts into being currents of influence that flow on and on, touching lives we have not met and moving unknown minds. The fame of Solomon reached far off Sheba, and kindled hopes and aspirations in the soul of its queen. Our lives spread beyond the circle of our immediate associates, and touch many other lives for good or for evil. This responsibility we cannot evade.

The interest of this foreign queen centred in "the name of the Lord." Her questionings were religious, growing out of a thirst for the knowledge of the true and living God. Though of another race and land than Solomon and his people, in this deep need of her nature she was akin to them. After all, the differences in color, languages, and places of habitation among men do not penetrate their souls. All ponder the same great questions, reach out after the one God and can find rest only as they find the one Christ. God has made of one blood all the nations. The weary pilgrimages, cruel scourgings, senseless penances and countless offerings of the heathen, are so many manifestations of

an unquenchable heart hunger and restless quest for the God whom we know and in whose worship we delight.

So eager was this queen to find the truth, that she made a long and perilous journey, fraught with many hardships. Do we sufficiently appreciate the intensity of the heathen hunger for the gospel? Writes Bishop Bashford of China: "We now have cities offering to build and equip hospitals, if the church at home will only send physicians; offering to turn over their temples for worship if the church at home will only send ministers; cities offering to hire halls and pay the rent and help support the preacher if we will only send them the ministers." In every land the missionaries report the same eagerness to hear their message. The door of opportunity is wide open. God's command, "Go!" is being answered all over the heathen world by the imploring cry, "Come!"

The queen was greatly impressed with the evidences of the divine favor in the splendor and prosperity of Solomon's kingdom. Nations that fear God most advance furthest in civilization. God does prosper those peoples that most truly learn His ways. The great