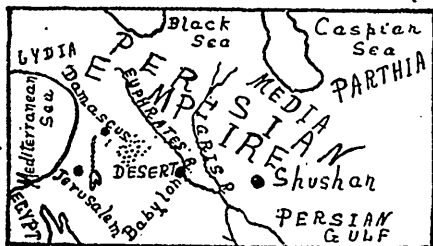


They all meet at one and in one. Truth... out of the earth... righteousness... from heaven. Earth and heaven are reconciled.

IV. THE HARVEST OF TEARS.—Ps. 126:1-6. Like them that dream. The deliverance seemed too good to be true. Laughter... singing; expression of joy. Said they among the heathen. The heathen saw the deliverance as an act of Israel's God. Turn again our captivity. The present circumstances have something of the sorrow of captivity. As streams in the south. Their present life is like a dry river bed that needs showers from above. They that sow. Notice the contrast in the following: (1) going forth—coming again; (2) bearing precious seed—bringing abundant sheaves; (3) weeping—rejoicing. Tears are the seed we sow in the fields of life: joy is the rich harvest we reap.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



BABYLON was built on both sides of the Euphrates. It came to its glory after the fall of Nineveh. It was a city of vast area, great walls and noble buildings. Nebucadnezzar was its king when the Jews were taken captive. The Jews in Babylon lived in houses of sun-baked clay. Although treated at first as slaves, they were afterwards allowed to acquire land and settle in little colonies through the land. Here they maintained with great tenacity their religious customs and their love of their land.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1-3 What great event has the psalmist in mind when he begins this Psalm? Where were the Jews captive? What do we understand by "Jacob"? What does the word for "iniquity" mean? What

does it mean to cover sin? What does the word "fierceness" suggest God's anger to be like? Show that God hates sin. (Zech. 8:17.)

4-7 What does "turn" mean in a spiritual sense? What does "revive" mean?

8-13 What are we to understand by the word "saints"? What does the meeting together of mercy and truth mean? What does the kissing of righteousness mean? What is to spring out of the earth? What is to look down from heaven? In whom did God come to dwell amongst men? (John 1:14.)

Ps. 126:1-6 Why were the people of God like them that dream? How did they show their joy? What did the heathen say? What prayer does the psalmist make for the present? What does the psalmist say is the harvest of tears?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Can a nation be great without being righteous?
2. Is sorrow necessary for the making of a noble life?

A PRAYER

O thou who art our refuge and strength, we praise thee for deliverance, and hope and peace and joy. We praise thee that thou art our God and that thou art ever with us. Keep us in the hollow of thy hand; put underneath us thine everlasting arms. And use us for thy glory, through Christ. Amen.

Prove from Scripture—That God's people are happy.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 101. What do we pray for in the first petition? A. In the first petition (which is, Hallowed be Thy name) we pray, That God would enable us and others to glorify him in all that whereby he maketh himself known, and that he would dispose all things to his own glory.

The Question on Missions—(October, OUR MISSION HOSPITAL AT RUTLAM, CENTRAL INDIA)—1. How do the natives of India try to keep away sickness? Many of them wear charms round the neck,—an image of a Hindu god, the claw of a wild animal or a small box of silver or tin containing a quotation from the Koran or a verse written by a priest. Braids of knotted horsehair or peacock feathers are worn round the wrist or ankle. Five white hands painted on the wall of a house beside the front door are supposed to be a protection against smallpox.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What happens to him who goes forth, weeping, bearing precious seed?

2. Where was Babylon situated?

3. How did the exiles live there?

SIGN NAME HERE.