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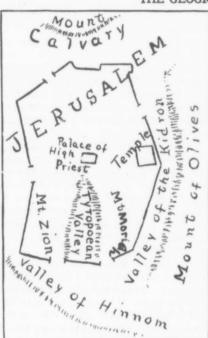
this young man Saul: a bad beginning he was making.

And very wonderful the end of Stephen, vs. 59, 60. No flinching, even in the presence of death; no bitterness even against his

cruel murderers; very gentle the falling asleep. Chapter V. The Burial.

Buried in honor, as so brave a servant of the Lord deserved to be, and lamented as one much missed and much loved, ch. 8:2.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



Synagogue is the name given to the meeting place used by the Jews primarily as a place of worship. Ruins of ancient synagogues are found at several spots in northern Galilee. "Almost all these synagogues lie north and south, so that the entrance is at the south. As a rule they appear to have had three doors in front-one principal entrance and two side doors. In some instances it can still be seen that the building was divided by two rows of pillars into three aisles. Some had a portico in front." The synagogue was used also as a school for younger children, and for the holding of local courts. At the time of the rise of Christianity every Jewish community, whether in Palestine or amongst the Dispersion, had its synagogue. Jerusalem, immediately before its destruction by the Romans under Titus, in A.D. 70, is said to have had as many as 480 synagogues. This is probably an exaggeration, but in any case the number of such buildings in that city was very large. It was the custom of the Jews living amongst the heathen to build synagogues by the sea shore or on a river bank, perhaps in order to

avoid the interior of the city, looked upon as defiled by idolatry.

ADDED HINTS AND HELPS

In this section will be found further assistance under various headings.

Some Test Questions

- 1. Why did Stephen see more clearly than the apostles, that the religion of Jesus was universal?
- 2. What two classes of Christian converts were there in Jerusalem? About what did a dispute arise between these?
- 3. Who were appointed to deal with this dispute? What place did Stephen hold amongst the deacons?
- 4. What power was given to him? With whom did he hold discussions? What were these about?
 - 5. Before what court did his opponents

bring Stephen? What charge was brought against him?

- 6. What change took place in his appearance? Whence did he draw his defence?
- 7. In what manner did the judges show their rage? Whom did Stephen see standing in heaven?
- 8. In what way was Stephen put to death? Who led in the stoning? What law did this fulfil? Name another leader in the martyrdom of Stephen.
- 9. What prayer did Stephen offer for himself? What for his foes?
- 10. What followed on Stephen's death? Why was this persecution of so great importance? Who was a leader in it?