

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From the "Little Pilgrim Question Book," by Mrs. W. Barrows, Congregational Publishing Society, Boston.)

LESSON IX.—JUNE 16.

MESSIAH'S KINGDOM.—Dan. vii. 9-14.

9. I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garments were white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool; his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

10. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

11. I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

12. As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.

13. I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

14. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre." —Ps. xlv. 6.

1. In studying the history of Daniel what must we remember?

ANS. That he was a prophet.

2. What is a prophet?

ANS. One who prophesies, or foretells what is going to take place.

3. How did Daniel know what was going to take place in the future?

ANS. God told him in visions and dreams.

4. What is this lesson about?

ANS. About a vision which Daniel had of Messiah's kingdom.

5. Who is Messiah?

ANS. Messiah is another name for Christ.

6. What did Daniel see in his vision, before Christ's kingdom was shown him?

ANS. "Four great beasts came up from the sea" (ver. 3).

7. What was meant by these four beasts and their horns?

ANS. Four kingdoms and their kings.

8. Describe the fourth beast?

ANS. "A fourth beast dreadful and terrible and strong exceedingly" (ver. 7).

9. What kingdom is meant by this fourth beast?

ANS. Probably Syria, which was "dreadful and terrible" to God's ancient people, the Jews.

10. What next did Daniel behold in his dream or vision?

ANS. The four kingdoms which were destroyed before Christ came.

11. Who is meant by the Ancient of days?

ANS. The Lord our God.

12. What do we understand by the white garments?

ANS. His purity and holiness.

13. What is meant by the fiery flames about the throne, and the fiery stream?

ANS. The justice and judgment of God.

14. Whom did Daniel see before and around the throne?

ANS. Angels and saints, the inhabitants of heaven.

15. Who were they?

ANS. The nations and kingdoms who were so wicked.

16. What judgments were sent on the beasts, or kingdoms? (Vers. 11, 12.)

ANS. More than five hundred years.

17. What is next shown to Daniel in his vision?

ANS. Christ our Saviour.

18. Who is this Son of man?

ANS. Christ our Saviour.

19. Why ought all people and nations and languages to serve him?

ANS. Because he died to save all people and nations and languages.

20. How long before Christ's life and death on earth was Daniel's vision?

ANS. More than five hundred years.

21. Has this vision all been fulfilled?

ANS. Not yet, and will not be until all the world shall serve Christ.

22. Who belong to Christ's kingdom?

ANS. All who love him, and do his will.

23. May children come into the kingdom of Christ?

ANS. Yes, if they will do the will of their Father in heaven.

24. What did David say about his throne and sceptre? Golden Text.

ANS. He is the Son of God.

25. What is a sceptre?

Prayer for this week,
"THY KINGDOM COME."

LESSON XII.—JUNE 23.

THE DECREE OF CYRUS.—2 Chron. xxxvi. 22, 23.

22. Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord spoken by the mouth of Jer-

miah might be accomplished, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

23. Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the Lord God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? The Lord his God be with him, and let him go up.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned."—Isa. xl. 2.

1. Do you remember where the people of Judah were carried when their country was conquered?

ANS. To Babylon, by King Nebuchadnezzar?

2. What was their condition there?

ANS. They were servants and slaves.

3. How long were they kept in Babylon?

ANS. For seventy years, just as it had been foretold by Jeremiah.

4. When the seventy years were ended, how many of those brought from Judah were living?

ANS. Very few; but of their children and grandchildren there were many thousands.

5. Had they forgotten their country and their religion?

ANS. They remembered both with great love and interest.

6. What do they say about their memories of their home?

ANS. "By the rivers of Babylon there we sat down; yea, we wept when we remembered Zion" (Ps. cxxxvii. 1).

7. Had they given up their idolatry?

ANS. Yes, entirely.

8. Who conquered Babylon, and took possession of the country, just at the time when the seventy years of captivity were ended?

ANS. Cyrus, king of Persia.

9. What had been foretold of Cyrus by the prophet Isaiah?

ANS. That he should rebuild Jerusalem and the temple (Isa. xliv. 28).

10. How long before?

ANS. About one hundred years.

11. What happened soon after he became king of Babylon? Ver. 22.

12. Do we ever have proclamations sent all through the land?

13. What was this proclamation of King Cyrus? Ver. 23.

14. How and when had the Lord told Cyrus to do this?

ANS. The Bible does not tell us; but some people think the Lord sent messages to him by Daniel, and others think it was put into his heart by the spirit of the Lord.

15. What do you notice in this proclamation of King Cyrus?

ANS. That he believes in the true God and obeys his commands.

16. What did he want God's people to do?

ANS. To go up to Jerusalem, and help rebuild the city and temple.

17. Were the people glad to do?

ANS. Yes; very glad.

18. What did Cyrus send back again to the temple?

ANS. All the vessels of gold and silver which Nebuchadnezzar had taken away.

19. What did the prophet Isaiah say of Jerusalem? Golden Text.

20. Why was it necessary for this people to be punished so long and severely?

ANS. To make them better, and to show the world how God hates sin.

21. How is the love of God shown to the people of Judah?

ANS. By his care of them, and his great patience, and also by his punishment.

22. How did punishing them show his love?

ANS. He knew it was the only way to cure them of idolatry, and he loved them too well to let them go on in such wickedness.

23. If we are God's children, what shall we know when he sends us any sorrow or trial?

ANS. That it is for our good, and that we can trust his love and wisdom.

24. How do you feel when your parents deny you something you wish for very much?

25. If they punish you for doing wrong, does it make you more careful to do right?

26. Why should we love and obey God better than little children love and obey their parents?

Let our prayer be for this week,

"THY WILL BE DONE."



TOMB OF CYRUS AT A-MURGHAB.

SAYING NO.

In every school the difference is clearly marked between the boy who has moral pluck and the boy who is mere pulp. The one knows how to say "No." The other is so afraid of being thought "verdant" that he soon kills everything pure and fresh and manly in his character and dries up into a premature hardness of heart. Five lads were once gathered in a room at a boarding-school, and four of them engaged in a game of cards, which was expressly forbidden by the rules. One of the players was called out. The three said to the quiet lad, who was busy at something else: "Come, take a hand with us. It is too bad to have the game broken up." "I do not know one card from another." "That makes no difference," exclaimed the players. "We will show you how. Come along." Now, that was a turning-point in that lad's life. He nobly said: "My father does not wish me to play cards, and I will not disobey him." That sentence settled the matter and settled his position among his associates. He was the boy who could say "No"; and thenceforward his victories were made easy and sure. I will remember the pressure brought to bear in college upon every young man to join in a wine-drink or to take a hand in some contraband amusement. Some timber got well seasoned. Some of the other sort got well rotted through with sensuality and vice.—Theodore L. Cuyler D. D.

PAY A FAIR PRICE.—The obligations of honesty in trade are usually thought of as having respect to the seller rather than the buyer of goods. But there is for the one buying also, if not exactly a duty to be honest, yet a duty toward honesty. He ought to be willing to pay a fair price for a good article. If he is not, he puts difficulties in the way of fair dealing and tempts men to fraud. This sin is a common one among us. There is a disposition to buy cheaply at all events; and there is a failure with our people to respond readily to the efforts of manufacturers to furnish them with a really good article. The poor quality of goods offered in many lines of trade is due largely to this cause. It is customary to blame the manufacturers; but the customers of the goods may often be most in fault. It is within our knowledge that strenuous and persistent efforts to sell wares of a superior quality have failed, though the rate of profit was smaller than that upon a poorer article, and though the gain to the purchaser was much greater. The mistake made by the buyer as to his own interest in such a case we do not think of so much, if he will deal so hardly by himself. But the wrong that is done to the cause of good morals deserves to be thought of.—Churchman.

CAMPAIGN NOTES.

WHO WANTS A GOOD and cheap newspaper at a very low rate? Any one who does should read the following offer which will be open for a short time. The WEEKLY WITNESS will be sent for six months for fifty cents to new subscribers until this notice is revoked. Our readers who do not know the WEEKLY WITNESS should not fail to take advantage of this offer.

A SHORT TIME AGO a prize of \$50 was offered for the best Canadian ballad sent to the WITNESS. Some three hundred were sent, and all were submitted to a committee of three gentlemen to decide which was the best. The judges were the Rev. J. F. Stevenson, Rev. James Carmichael and Mr. Samuel Dawson (the publisher.) Their decision was in favor of a poem by Mr. George Murray, B. A., Oxon. This poem, with five others which received honorable mention, will be published in the July number of the NEW DOMINION MONTHLY, they all being illustrated by engravings after designs by some of the best Canadian artists. All lovers of Canada should have these poems.

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NEVER SAW ANYTHING SAW

like it before. Now, boys, if you want to saw with a saw with teeth on the back and front, go to work and get \$7.00 in new subscriptions. You can if you like take half-yearly subscriptions to the

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MAKE THEMSELVES USEFUL

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The NORTHERN MESSENGER is printed and published on the 1st and 15th of every month, at Nos. 35 and 37 Bonaventure street, Montreal, by JOHN DOUGALL & SON, composed of John Dougall, of New York and John Redpath Dougall and J. B. Dougall, of Montreal.