

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

LESSON III - October 16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And the men did the work faithfully, - 2 Chron. 34: 12.

The section includes the history of half a century, from the death of Jehoshaphat to the death of his great-grandson Joash (2 Chron. chapters 21-34).

HISTORICAL SETTING.

Time.-During the first two-thirds of the reign of Joash, who reigned B. C. 878-84 (rev. chron. 858-795). The repairs were begun early in his reign, but were not completed till his twenty-third year (2 Kings 12: 6).

Place.-Jerusalem, the capital of the kingdom of Judah.

Prophecy.-The prophet Elijah lived to write a letter to Jehoram; and Elisha was writing in Samaria, the capital of the neighboring kingdom, during the whole of the reign of Joash of Judah. Zechariah, the son of Jehoiada, who was stoned to death by Joash for repressing him.

The other kingdom was characterized, during Joash's reign, chiefly by the cruel zeal and retention of Jehu and the mild and wise influence of Elisha.

LESSONS VI. to X. of the third quarter.

THE TEMPLE REPAIRED. - 2 Chron. 24: 1-14.

Read 2 Kings, chapters 11 and 12. Commit verses 2-11.

QUESTIONS.

1. The progress of the history. From the "Chast" learn the outline of the history. What had woman come near wrecking the kingdom? What evil grew under her influence and reign? (See both Chronicles and Kings.) How long a period between Jehoshaphat and Joash?

2. The Boy King, Joash. - Who were the father and mother of Joash? (2 Kings 11: 2; 12: 1.) What narrow escape from death did he have in his childhood? (2 Chron. 22: 10-12.) How old was he when he began to reign? (23: 1.) How long did he reign? Who was his chief adviser during the first half of his reign? What was his character during this period? (v. 3.) What change came over him after the death of his uncle? (2 Chron. 24: 17-19.) What lesson do you learn from this?

III. Beginning of Reform.

Three reforms began early in his reign. Describe the solemn league or covenant. (2 Kings 11: 17.) What was the second reform? (2 Kings 11: 18; 2 Chron. 23: 3.)

IV. Repairing the Temple (vs. 4-14).

How long had the temple been built? (It was built B. C. 1045.) Would its age cause it to need repairs? How had it been neglected? (2 Chron. 28: 1-3.) What had the sons of Queen Athaliah done to it? (v. 7.) What delays occurred? Why did the priests take so little interest in the work? What change of plan was made? What was the result?

V. Lesson.-What does the career of Joash teach us to personal advisers and friends? What are some of the needs of repair or improvement in your church and Sunday school rooms? What is the church spiritual? Will religion prosper with a neglected sanctuary? What do we learn as to giving? Why should every one, children and all, have a part in the giving?

DEATH OF EWEN FORSTER.

The following telegram has been received by W. H. Thorne:

BUFFALO, Oct. 4, 1898.

Ewen died this morning, about two o'clock. Funeral Thursday, Oct. 7, 1898.

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REVISION CHANGES.

Ver. 4. (a) To remove.

Ver. 5. (b) The fall of Moses. (c) Tent of the Testimony.

Ver. 2. (d) The tax.

Ver. 11. (e) Chief priests.

Ver. 12. (f) To repair.

LIGHT ON THE TEXT.

Joash was the great grandson of Jehoshaphat. Jehoshaphat's son, Jehoram, married Athaliah, who was the

daughter of Ahab and Jezebel, and she was like her mother. She usurped the throne of Judah, introduced idolatry, and murdered her grandchildren, except Joash, then only a few months old. He was saved by a few months old. He was saved by a few months old. He was saved by a few months old.

After this, his marriage and coming to age (v. 3), Joash was minded to repair the house of the Lord. The temple, now 150 years old and neglected and injured. (See v. 2.) There had been several reforms before this, earlier in his reign.

1. The people had renewed their covenant to God (2 Kings 11: 17).

2. The people on the same day, by a popular uprising, tore down the temple of Baal (2 Kings 11: 18).

3. The service of the priests in the temple was reorganized (2 Chron. 23: 15). Now came the fourth reform.

4. To do it, and gather. Each one independently. The Levites hastened accordingly. The Levites hastened accordingly. The Levites hastened accordingly.

4. note.-The delay was very long. It took twenty-three years of Joash (2 Kings 12: 6). The reasons were probably (1) want of interest; (2) the money collected largely belonged to them by law, and there was not much more gathered than they needed; (3) the people had not much interest in giving where they saw no results.

5. Tabernacle of witnesses.-The laws of Moses were made when there was no temple, but only a tabernacle.

6. A chest.-With a mercy hole in the top. At the gate.-It was in the court of the priests, near the altar, and near the door from the court into the temple proper.

7. Collecting that Moses, etc.- (See Ex. 30: 12; Lev. 27: 1-9; Deut. 17: 5-12.)

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