

The Sunday School

BIBLE LESSON.

Abridged from Peloubet's Notes.

Fourth Quarter, 1901.

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER.

THE PASSAGE OF THE RED SEA.

Lesson XII. December 22. Ex. 14: 13-27.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously.—Ex. 15: 1.

EXPLANATORY.

PHARAOH'S ATTEMPT TO BRING BACK THE FUGITIVES.—Vs. 13-18. The Israelites marched southerly to reach the gates through the great wall which opened into the Red Sea Road to Palestine. This was near the head of the Red Sea. They had, of course, permission to go through, but when they reached the place they found everything changed. They were unexpectedly caught in a trap. Pharaoh had changed his mind. The garrisoned gates through the wall were closed. The wall coming down to the water prevented them from going round the head of the sea. On two sides were high mountains. In front of them the wide expanse of the sea.

WHEREFORE CRIEST THOU UNTO ME? SPEAK UNTO THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, THAT THEY GO FORWARD. God had promised. It was now no time to stop and pray. The answer had come. Trust it, and use it, and go forward. It was time for action. This command is not without its application to modern times. You pray for a reform, for the conversion of the heathen, for the salvation of a friend. It is right, but also the word from God is: Go forward, work the reform, give liberally, use the means. God is always ready to exert his power for his cause.

CROSSING THE RED SEA.—Vs. 19-25. The night came on. The first part was moonless, for it was at least three or four days after the full moon of the Passover. The Israelites in the light went forward toward the sea. The Egyptians followed them in the darkness, slowly, but feeling sure of capturing them in the morning. But the flaming fire that led the Israelites also made known to the Egyptians where the fugitives were. Hence 19, THE ANGEL OF GOD. That is the real presence of God, manifested in the pillar of cloud and fire. It was never more cloud and fire, but God's angel in them, a living power that guided the nation by this outward manifestation. The real presence removed, and with that the pillar of the cloud removed.

20. AND IT WAS A CLOUD AND DARKNESS TO THEM (to the Egyptians) BUT IT GAVE LIGHT . . . TO THESE (the Israelites.) It was now near night, and the cloud surrounded the Egyptians like a dense fog, which made it too dark for them to know what was going on among the Israelites.

21. AND MOSES STRETCHED OUT HIS HAND. With the rod in it (vs. 16,) to

show that the miracle was from the God of Israel, and that Moses was the leader appointed by him. AND THE LORD CAUSED THE SEA TO GO BACK BY A STRONG EAST WIND. Any easterly wind, from north-east to south-east, would be called an east wind in Hebrew. This was probably a northeast wind. In the poetic form of Moses' song, this scene is described as a fearful storm. "And with the blast of thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as a heap, and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea." The terrific accompaniment of darkness, wind, and rain is almost paralleled, according to the reports of the Ordnance Survey, by the wild northeasterly storms that sometimes at the present day rage at the head of the Gulf of Suez.

22. AND THE WATERS WERE A WALL. It is not meant that the waters rose in a perpendicular wall, "but that the waters served the purpose of a fortification in preventing the Egyptians from attacking the people on one flank or the other."

23. AND THE EGYPTIANS PURSUED, AND WENT IN AFTER THEM. Without doubt they were unaware that they were in the midst of the sea, for it was night, and they were surrounded by a fog. ALL PHARAOH'S HORSES, HIS CHARIOTS, AND HIS HORSEMEN. The word translated "horsemen" probably means the men who rode in the chariots. Observe that the Pharaoh himself is not said to have gone in.

24. IN THE MORNING WATCH. The "morning watch" of the Hebrews, at this period of their history, lasted from 3 a. m. to sunrise. Sunrise in Egypt, early in April, would take place about a quarter to six. THE LORD LOOKED UNTO R. V. "looked forth upon." "We suppose that side of the pillar-cloud toward the Egyptians was suddenly, and for a few moments, illuminated with a blaze of light." The sudden flash out of the dark cloud dazzled and frightened them. Psalm 77: 16-20 gives a vivid description of this violent storm.

25. AND TOOK OFF THEIR CHARIOT WHEELS. "The wheels ran off the axles, so that the body of the chariot dragged upon the ground." It was probably the deep sand of the treacherous lake or gulf that did it, swallowing up the wheels, or clogging them, or even wrenching them off entirely. THE LORD FIGHTETH FOR THEM. Compare the promise of Moses (vs. 14.) If this were so, it was of no use to persevere, and accordingly they began their retreat.

THE DESTRUCTION OF PHARAOH'S HOST.—Vs. 26, 27. 26. STRETCH OUT THINE HAND. Showing that the power was from God. But as the pathway was made by the wind, so doubtless now there were employed a wind changed to west and the returning tide.

27. OVERTHEW THE EGYPTIANS. It is nowhere said that Pharaoh himself was drowned in the sea. He was overthrown in his army. According to the monuments, Menephtah was not much of a warrior, but preferred to send his generals to war rather than go himself. THE SEA RETURNED TO HIS STRENGTH. Better, as in margin of R. V., "to its wonted flow."

CONFIRMATIONS FROM THE MONUMENTS OF EGYPT.—There are continually coming from Egypt confirmations of the Exodus, which are interesting. See volumes of Professor Price and Professor Sayce.

1. The mummy of Rameses II. has been discovered, with suggestions that he was the Pharaoh of the oppression.

2. Twice the name "Israel" has appeared on the monuments.

3. The circumstances of the reign of Menephtah favor the Exodus. In his fifth year, there were ominous uprisings against Egypt by the surrounding nations which had been subdued by his father Rameses, so that there was almost a breaking up of the kingdom. Thus weakened, there was much more probability that the Egyptians would let the Israelites go, and they would have less power to pursue and bring them back. The events of his reign after this time are passed over in silence.

4. "Dr. Payne gathers from many inscriptions that the records tell us of the sudden death of the eldest son of the reigning Pharaoh," Menephtah. This son he associated with him as Pharaoh when he was 18 years old. The tomb of the lad has been discovered at Thebes, unfinished; there is an inscription on some tablets, referring to the death of his son and the heir of the throne.

Subject to the consent of the Imperial authorities, the new contingent will be known as the Canadian Mounted Rifles, Major Hamilton Merritt will be second in command. Capt. Leckie, of Halifax, who went through the South African campaign with Strathcona's Horse, will, it is said, get a captaincy in the Mounted Rifles.

A Teamster's Story.

SUFFERED GREATLY FROM ASTHMA AND KIDNEY TROUBLES.

Spent Some Time in a Hospital and Almost Impoverished Himself Buying Medicines Without Benefit—Again Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Cure After Other Medicines Fail.

From the Recorder, Halifax, N. S.

Mr. William Cochrane, a well known teamster, who lives near the Halifax Polo Grounds, is one of those who willingly bear testimony to the curative powers of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. A reporter of the Acadia Recorder who had heard of Mr. Cochrane's sufferings and subsequent cure, called at his home, when he gave an account of his experience substantially as follows:—"He had for many years been a constant sufferer from asthma, accompanied by an aggravated form of kidney trouble. The latter trouble caused severe pains in the back and loins, and at times his sufferings were very acute. He said he had almost impoverished himself in buying medicines of all kinds, but to no purpose; the trouble continued and seemed to grow worse as the years passed. Mrs. Cochrane said that she had frequently seen her husband choke up and fall to the floor as though dead, and he would have to be worked with and rolled around before he would revive. A few years ago he spent ten days in the Victoria General Hospital. The doctors then thought that the pains in the back were due to over-exertion in his business as a teamster. But gave him no material help. After leaving the hospital, he used bottles and bottles of medicine, but failed to find a cure. A neighbor of his, Mr. Lowe, whose wife had been made a well woman after years of sickness, by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, advised him to try them. He used a couple of boxes without apparent result, and felt somewhat discouraged, but Mr. Lowe advised him to continue the use of the pills, and before the third box was finished, he began to improve. 'Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have been a Godsend to me,' said Mr. Cochrane; 'they are the only medicine I have taken which seemed to do me any good. I had one prescription from a doctor which cost me \$1.75 a bottle, which like many medicines I took, was just so much money wasted. I have used eight or ten boxes of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and can say that before I began their use life was an intolerable burden. I have reason to be thankful that I have followed the friendly advice that urged me to use this medicine.'


Most diseases have their origin in poor blood or weak nerves, and it is because Dr. Williams' Pink Pills make rich, red blood and strengthen the nerves that they have met with such success in curing kidney trouble, rheumatism, paralysis, St. Vitus dance, anaemia, nervous prostration and kindred troubles. See that the full name "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People" is on the wrapper around each box. If in doubt, send direct to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., and the pills will be mailed post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50.

The gold medal of the Italian Science Society has been presented to Sig. Marcous. The presentation was made by the Marquis Luigi Solari di Loretto, an officer of the Italian navy who subsequently gave a dinner in honor of the event and expressed the admiration of Italy for her distinguished son.

Why Croup is Fatal.

When croup attacks your child you must be ready for it. It comes as an accompaniment to an ordinary cough, or it may attack without warning. All ill children develop quickly, and when any kind of cough appears there should be something at hand to stop it with promptness. Many a child has choked to death because the right remedy was not convenient. Every one should know that the right safeguard for a child's cough or any cough is Adamson's Botanic Cough Balsam. With this soothing compound in the house, croup is always easily checked and relieved.

To give a child a "cough mixture" containing a narcotic is a very serious matter, yet most preparations contain something of this kind. Adamson's Botanic Balsam is prepared from the purest extracts of barks and roots and gums of trees, and is health-giving in every component part of it. Wherever it touches an inflamed surface, it heals and soothes it. Nothing ever compounded for cough is so harmless, and nothing so efficacious. Adamson's Balsam is an old remedy, and it has never lost a friend through failure to help. Keep it in the house. Try it on your own cough and do your child a good turn by being ready for any emergency. Price 25 cents at any druggists.



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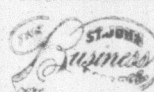
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"I have had pimples on my face for three years, and about two years ago I took an attack of nervousness. I got so bad I could not sleep and lost my appetite and was very weak and miserable. I was taking different kinds of medicines but seemed to be getting worse. A friend advised me to try Burdock Blood Bitters, I did so, taking in all four bottles. As a result I sleep well, have a good appetite, my face is free from pimples, my skin clear and my health is in every way perfect."



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