

itic nations, that is, nations regarded as descendants of Shem. These may be classified as follows:

BABYLONIAN GROUP.

Old Babylonians
Assyrians
Chaldeans

CANAANITE GROUP.

Canaanites
Phœnicians

ARAMEAN GROUP.

Mesopotamians
Syrians

HEBREW GROUP.

Hebrews
Moabites
Ammonites
Edomites

In addition to the above named peoples, the Arabians and Ethiopians (in Abyssinia) are to be classed among the Semites.

QUESTIONS.

1. What was the extent of the world as known to the ancient Hebrews?
2. Describe, in a general way, the physical features of Babylon, Assyria and Mesopotamia.
3. Where are the Lebanon mountains and the valley of Lebanon?
4. Describe the country and people of Phœnicia.
5. What countries named in the Bible possessed the oldest civilization?
6. Name and classify the Semitic nations.

LESSON IV.

PALESTINE.

Extent.—The land of Palestine, which has given so much to the world, was very small as compared with other neighboring lands. It was not more than one hundred and fifty miles from north to south, and its greatest width about one hundred miles. The Jordan river divides the country into Eastern and Western Palestine. The area of the Eastern division is estimated at