

International Bible Lessons

Studies in the Old Testament from Samuel to Solomon.

LESSON CALENDAR: FOURTH QUARTER

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| 1. October 4 | David Brings up the Ark. 2 Sam. 6: 1-12. |
| 2. October 11 | God's Covenant with David. 2 Sam. 7: 4-16. |
| 3. October 18 | David's Confession. Ps. 51: 1-17. |
| 4. October 25 | David's Joy Over Forgiveness. Ps. 32. |
| 5. November 1 | David and Absalom. 2 Sam. 15: 1-12. |
| 6. November 8 | David's Grief Over Absalom. 2 Sam. 18: 24-33. |
| 7. November 15 | David's Trust in God. Ps. 23. |
| 8. November 22 | The Curse of Strong Drink. Prov. 20: 1; 23: 20, 21, 29-35. |
| 9. November 29 | David's Charge to Solomon. 1 Chron. 28: 1-10. |
| 10. December 6 | Solomon's Wise Choice. 1 Kings 3: 4-15. |
| 11. December 13 | The Dedication of the Temple. 1 Kings 8: 1-11, 62, 63. |
| 12. December 21 | The Queen of Sheba Visits Solomon. 1 Kings 10: 1-10. |
| 13. December 27 | REVIEW. |

Lesson X.

SOLOMON'S WISE CHOICE

December 6, 1903

1 Kgs. 3: 4-15. Study chs. 3: 1-15; 4: 29-34. Commit to memory vs. 12, 13. Read 1 Kgs. chs. 1-4.

4 And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar.

5 In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

6 And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee: and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

7 And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

8 And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered or counted for multitude.

9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this? thy so great a people?

Revised Version—1 kindness; 2 thy servant therefore; 3 evil; 4 thy great people; 5 word; 6 hath been.

GOLDEN TEXT

Prov. 9: 10. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

DAILY READINGS

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| M.—Kings 3: 4-15. | Solomon's wise choice. |
| T.—Heb. 11: 17-26. | Choice of Moses. |
| W.—Josh. 24: 1-15. | Joshua's decision. |
| Th.—Job 28: 12-28. | Value of wisdom. |
| F.—Matt. 16: 21-28. | What profit? |
| S.—Prov. 4: 1-13. | The principal thing. |
| S.—Matt. 6: 25-34. | The first choice. |

CATECHISM

Q. 105. What do we pray for in the fifth petition?

A. In the fifth petition (which is, *And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors*) we pray, That God, for Christ's sake, would freely pardon all our sins; which we are the rather encouraged to ask, because by His

10 And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

11 And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;

12 Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

13 And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee ⁱⁿ thy days.

14 And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.

15 And Solomon awoke, and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

grace we are enabled from the heart to forgive others.

TIME AND PLACE

1015 B.C.; Gibeon, a city five or six miles northwest of Jerusalem. Here the tabernacle was erected in David's reign and in that of Solomon, before the building of the temple. Solomon at this time was a young man of 18 or 20.

LESSON PLAN

- I. A Gracious Offer, 4, 5.
Made by the Lord to Solomon.
- II. A Prudent Request, 6-10.
For wisdom to govern the people.
- III. A Divine Answer, 11-15.
Containing a promise and a condition.

LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise, 108; 175; 113 (Ps. Sel.); 267; *87; 233.

EXPOSITION

By Rev. W. G. Hanna, B.A., Mount Forest, Ont.

Connecting Links—After the public proclamation of Solomon as king, he received the allegiance of the whole nation, 1 Chron. 29: 23-27. Adonijah sued for his life and was spared, 1 Kgs. 1: 50-53. Before

his death David gave Solomon specific directions regarding the administration of justice, 1 Kgs. 2: 1-9. Early in his reign Solomon held a national assembly of the leaders of the people at Gibeon, Comp. 2 Chron. 1: 1-16.