



“BEZALEEL, THE SON OF URI.”

(Read Exodus 31: 2 to 11.)

By L. A. MORRISON.

“Bezaleel, the Son of Uri” saith the Lord “have I anointed,
 “Filled with knowledge, and with wisdom, and the Spirit of his God,
 That with breadth of understanding, he may do a task appointed
 Make a Royal “Fest of Meeting” for my permanent abode.

I have called and sanctified him, in his “Master robes” array’d him,
 “Cutting stones” and “carving timber” with a magic skill, imbred,
 I have given Ahohab the *wis-hearted* one to aid him
 Strange, the *heart* in Heav’n-taught workmen should be wiser than the *head*

So with cunning hands and helpers from the crude materials brought him—
 Bezaleel a “Temple” fashioned, finished in the highest art,—
 All its parts in perfect keeping with the plans and measures taught him,
 For each willing tireless toiler in the work was *true at heart*.

And when sacrificial odors from its altar-fane ascended,
 And the shout of million voices told the work completed well,
 In the people’s glad hosannas, Heaven and Earth were sweetly blended,
 And God came down, in Glory, midst its Cherubim to dwell.

God hath given—for he loves us—skilful brain and cunning fingers
 Unto every true mechanic, as He gave to him of yore,
 And His Spirit waits and watches—near each toil’s completion lingers
 That if finished for His glory, He may dwell there evermore

Bezaleel, the son of Uri! Thou art proof to all the ages
 That the handiwork and wisdom of the Human is Divine;
 And the plainly-written record of Time’s intervening pages,
 But intensifies the teaching of this history of thine.

Brother mortal! in thy toiling, read the lessons God is sending
 From the dawn-light and the desert, by His spirit, through this word;
 And let all thy labor praise Him, then—His grace thy toil attending—
 Thou shalt have thy place and record in the annals of the Lord.

“THE ELMS,” TORONTO.

