

us. Acts 19: 21-34. (Read chap. 19: 1 to 20: 3.) Memory verses: 24-26. *Golden Text*—Take heed, and beware of covetousness. Luke 12: 15.

10. Sept. 5.—GENTILES GIVING FOR JEWISH CHRISTIANS. 2 Cor. 9: 1-11. (Read chaps. 8 and 9.) Memory verses: 6-8. *Golden Text*—Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich yet for your sake he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. 2 Cor. 8: 9.

11. Sept. 12.—CHRISTIAN LIVING. Rom. 12: 9-21. (Read chaps. 12 and 13.)

Memory verses: 16-18. *Golden Text*—Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. Rom. 12: 21.

12. Sept. 19.—PAUL'S ADDRESS TO THE EPHESIAN ELDERS. Acts 20: 22-35. (Read vs. 3-38.) Memory verses: 22-24. *Golden Text*—Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20: 35.

13. Sept. 26.—REVIEW. *Golden Text* Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matt. 5: 16.

THE DAWN OF EUROPEAN CHRISTIANITY.

We stand with Paul on the edge of Asia. Yonder, across the sea, begins another continent, still unbled with the gospel. It is a remarkable spot we stand on—near to the site of old Troy, and in the very city where Alexander the Great halted on his march to conquer the East. But how comes Paul here? He had no thought of coming when he left Antioch the second time with Silas. Through Syria, Cilicia, Lycaonia, “confirming the churches” (Acts 15: 41; 16: 1-5)—that was his first object; but not his only object. He is the apostle of the gentiles, and into Phrygia and Galatia he penetrates, telling the good news of salvation, and “evidently setting forth” Christ crucified (Gal. 3: 1), notwithstanding bodily weakness (Gal. 4: 13-15). Then his eyes turn wistfully to “Asia” (the western part which we now call Asia Minor), and its great cities (Ephesus and others), and he would turn to the left to go thither, but the guiding Spirit “forbids him.” Well, then, he will turn to the right: Bithynia needs the Gospel too. No he must not go there either. As if between two hedges he moves straight on, wondering; and now he is on the seashore at Troas. Shall he take ship? No, not without the Lord’s direction: so he waits. “And,” he writes, “a door was opened unto me of the Lord.” One morning, in Troas harbour, four men are inquiring for a ship going across to Macedonia—Paul, Silas, Timothy, Luke (see the ‘we’ in verse 10). That vision has called them, and “immediately” they seek means to answer the call. And a striking confirmation that they are rightly interpreting God’s purpose is granted them. The words “came with a straight course,” in verse 11, mean literally “sailed before the wind,” and “the next day” they had completed a voyage which on another occasion took five days (Acts 20: 6). Philippi, where they now arrive, was a “colony,” that is, a military station of Roman citizens and soldiers in a conquered country, governed by *pretors*, who were attended by *lictors* (the “magistrates” and “serjeants” of verse 35). No Jews here (or very few), and no synagogue. But a few devout female proselytes have got a little prayer house by the river side; there he quietly teaches, and there is founded the first European Church.—*E. Stock.*

OUR COUNTRY AND OUR QUEEN.

The whole empire has just celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of our sovereign’s coronation with a loyalty and enthusiasm never before witnessed in any age or country. The pride which glows in our bosoms at the thought of belonging to such a magnificent empire is not an unworthy emotion. When the Queen presented the African prince with a Bible, naming it as the source of Britain’s greatness, she displayed a true insight into the potency of the moral forces which have raised our country to its proud position amongst the nations of the world. We can preserve this pre-eminence only through the blessing of God, and we can secure this by obedience to the teachings of his Holy Word. They that honor God, God will honor. He will give power and influence to those who show that they will use it aright. Prosperity comes from him. If you would be true heirs of Britain’s greatness you must be loyal to King Jesus as well as to Queen Victoria.