

Lesson V. THE QUEEN OF SHEBA VISITS SOLOMON August 1, 1915

1 Kings 10 : 1-10, 13—Memory Verses, 8, 9.

Golden Text—Wisdom is better than rubies.—Proverbs 8 : 11.

1 And when the queen of She'ba heard of the fame of Sol'omon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to prove him with hard questions.

2 And she came to Jeru'salem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones : and when she was come to Sol'omon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.

3 And Sol'omon told her all her questions : there was not *any* thing hid from the king, which he told her not.

4 And when the queen of She'ba had seen all Sol'omon's wisdom, and the house that he had built,

5 And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cup-bearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the Lord ; there was no more spirit in her.

6 And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom.

7 Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen *it* : and, behold,

the half was not told me : thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard.

8 Happy *are* thy men, happy *are* these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, *and* that hear thy wisdom.

9 Blessed be the Lord thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Is'rael : because the Lord loved Is'rael for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice.

10 And she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices very great store, and precious stones : there came no more such abundance of spices as these which the queen of She'ba gave to king Sol'omon.

13 And king Sol'omon gave unto the queen of She'ba all her desire, whatsoever she asked, beside *that* which Sol'omon gave her of his royal bounty. So she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The long line of camels came slowly over the sand. For miles and miles the queen of Sheba had journeyed across the desert. Her home was far, far away to the south of Jerusalem, and it would take a very long time, likely about two months and a half to reach that city.

She was going to visit King Solomon. In her castle far away she had heard how wise he was and of the beautiful temple he had built in the name of the Lord. So the queen had said, "I will go and see for myself."

The queen rode on her camel under a great canopy. She wore rich and costly robes, and perhaps she carried her crown with her.

It was a long and wearisome and dangerous journey she was making. Riding on a camel

day after day was very tiring, and there were many perils along the way. Lions were found in the desert. Sometimes robbers came stealing along in the darkness. That was why along with the queen went a guard of men who carried spears with sharp, bright points.

But by and by they left the desert. They were coming near to Jerusalem.

"Is that the temple? Can it be?" I suppose the queen exclaimed, as she saw the great white walls shining in the sun.

At last they reached the city. The queen went up some broad steps, and then she was in Solomon's palace.

There sat King Solomon on his ivory throne. A golden crown was on his head, and