

had turned to self-seeking, God appeared and unveiled the glory awaiting him. Bring out the heart of the vision, namely: the assurance (a), that Abram should inherit the land, and (b), that his posterity should possess it.

Now group the main teaching in practical lessons: (1) God guides those who will be guided. (2) God's revelations come to those who seek truth. (3) The peacemakers find large compensations in the infinite resources of God.

For Teachers of the Senior Scholars

Question the class about where we left Abram and Lot last Sabbath, what took them down into Egypt, what happened while they were there and about their return to the promised land. How had they prospered in worldly things? How had they prospered in religious things? What is there to indicate the high place which religion had in the life of Abram? (V. 4.) Draw the lesson, that, although it is a difficult thing for a rich man to be religious, it is not impossible. Our Lesson to-day tells about trouble that arose between Abram and Lot and how it was settled.

1. *Strife Between the Herdmen*, vs. 5-7. What was the occasion of this strife? It did not begin with Abram and Lot themselves, although it could not continue long without involving everybody. Note how much trouble in the world is caused by strife about property, or by unseemly rivalries in business. What made this strife so unseemly? Abram and Lot were brethren. It was a very unseemly thing for an uncle and a nephew to be at variance, for those who worshiped the same God to be bad friends, for those who were going to the same heaven to fall out by the way about a bit of pasture land. It would be an unseemly thing for the heathen people who were still in the land, to witness this.

2. *Abram's Proposition*, vs. 8, 9. Bring out the great, generous spirit which this suggestion revealed, in the light of Abram's right to the first choice, since God had given him the land, and since Lot's success was largely due to being associated with his uncle. Impress upon the class how beautiful the unselfish spirit is, how much better it is

to suffer loss than to be involved in strife. Standing up for our rights is usually a very poor business. It does not pay in the end.

3. *Lot's Choice*, vs. 10-12. Why did Lot make this choice? Why was it a mistake for him to choose as he did? He was governed altogether by material, not religious, considerations. He chose a good place to make money, but a bad place to make a good life. Impress upon the class, that it is always a mistake to leave God out of the question when deciding where we are to live and what we are to do. Note how in Lot's case the choice led to most unfortunate results, to the loss of almost everything he possessed, how his own life deteriorated, and his family got corrupted.

Impress the lesson, that an utterly selfish life is always a great failure in the end.

For Teachers of the Boys and Girls

Tell the scholars that the Lesson shows the best way of settling a quarrel. Get them to tell you amongst whom this quarrel arose,—the herdmen of Abram and the herdmen of Lot. Then, the occasion of the quarrel should be brought out. Here there should be questions about the return of Abram and Lot from Egypt to Canaan and the large flocks and herds which they brought with them,—too large for the pasturage in one part of the land. Have the scholars notice the presence of other people,—“the Canaanite and the Perizzite” (v. 7) as increasing the difficulty of the situation. Now turn the conversation to the two ways of settling the quarrel suggested in the Lesson:

I. *THE HERDMEN'S WAY*. Have the scholars read v. 7 of the Lesson, and question as to what the herdmen's way of settling the quarrel would have been. They, probably, would have fought the matter out. In that case, which side would likely have come out best? It may be supposed that Abram's flocks and herds were more numerous than those of Lot, and therefore that he had a larger company of herdmen.

II. *ABRAM'S WAY*. Who was it that interposed to stop the quarrel amongst the herdmen? To whom did Abram speak? What reason did he give why a quarrel between himself and Lot or amongst their followers