

other gods, for He is our own God. Did not He work great signs and wonders for our fathers in Egypt, and only the other day He saved us from the Amorites by a miracle? Surely He is the greatest of all gods!"

"But," said Joshua, "Remember, it is not an easy thing to serve the Lord, for He is a holy God and can never overlook even the smallest sin. If you turn against Him, He will quickly punish you and take from you all the good things that you now enjoy." But the people shouted again and again, "We will serve the Lord and Him only will we follow."

When Joshua saw that they had chosen rightly, he said, "Let us make a solemn agreement this day that you will put away the strange gods of this land from among you for ever, that you may serve our God with a perfect heart." So the people joined in a solemn covenant together, saying, "The Lord our God will we serve, and His voice

will we obey."

To show that they were in earnest and to mark the place of their promise, Joshua and the people set up a stone under an oak tree in Shechem and appointed it as a place of worship for the people of Israel.

Questions on the Lesson

1. What two things did Joshua help the Israelites to do? 2. Where did he speak his farewell words? 3. Of what did he first remind them? 4. What danger did he warn them against? 5. How did they answer Joshua's warning? 6. What did Joshua say about serving God? 7. What did he say would happen if the people fell into sin? 8. What choice did he offer them? 9. What side did they take? 10. What were the words of their covenant? 11. What is a covenant? 12. How did they show that they wished to remember it? 13. What is the Golden Text?

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

I should choose God now

Primary Catechism—121. What becomes of our bodies when we die? When we die our bodies return to dust.

122. What becomes of our souls when we die? The good go to heaven and the wicked go to hell.

Shorter Catechism—49. Which is the second commandment?

A. The second commandment is, Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Lesson Hymn

There is no name so sweet on earth,
No name so sweet in heaven,
The name before His wondrous birth
To Christ the Saviour given.

*We love to sing around our King,
And hail Him blessed Jesus;
For there's no word ear ever heard
So dear, so sweet as Jesus.*

And, when He hung upon the tree,
They wrote His name above Him;
That all might see the reason we
For evermore must love Him.

So now upon His Father's throne,
Almighty to release us
From sin and pains He gladly reigns
The Prince and Saviour, Jesus.

Amen.

—Hymn 545, Book of Praise