

NOTES FOR SUNDAY LESSONS.

By REV. D. ELSDALE, Rector of Moulson.

CHARACTERS IN THE BOOK OF GENESIS.

Regarded in their *Literal*, *Spiritual*, and *Moral* Features, and

ARRANGED IN INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SUNDAYS AFTER TRINITY.

NOTE.—A *Picture* is suggested for each Sunday, which may be found ready-made, or may be drawn for the occasion on a blackboard or on paper.

- A. The *Literal* facts of the history will be found in the *Passage*.
- B. The *Spiritual* truth, which is worked out by the *Text*, will be enforced by Questions and Answers that should be learnt by heart.
- C. The *Moral* lessons will be summed up in the concluding exhortations.

Eighth Sunday after Trinity. (August 11.)

NOAH—*The Preserver of Life.*

Passage—Genesis vii. 11 to end. Text—S. Luke xvii. 26, 27. Hymns—285, 597.

Picture: Noah sending forth the Dove—and Jesus sending down His Holy Spirit—over the troubled waters.
(See Genesis i. 2.)

A. The first of the three Arks of the Old Testament.

- I. Material—gopher or cypress wood.
- II. Size—length, 450 feet.
breadth, 75 „
height, 45 „
- III. Arrangement—
 - 1. 'Rooms,' or compartments.
 - 2. 'Stories'—perhaps
 - { Upper, for birds.
 - { Middle, for mankind.
 - { Lower, for beasts.
 - 3. 'Window,' or set of windows.
 - 4. 'Door'—only one aperture.
 - 5. 'Living things'—7 of every clean beast and fowl for sacrifice—i.e. oxen, sheep, goats, doves and pigeons; 2 of every unclean beast and fowl.

B. The Parable of the Ark.

- I. What does this Ark represent?—The Ark is like the Church, in which we are 'being saved.' (Acts ii. 47, Revised Version.)
- II. How are we admitted into the Church?—We are 'saved' by being brought through the Waters of Baptism. (1 S. Peter iii. 20, 21.)
- III. Who is the Builder and Captain of the Church Ship?—Jesus is the true Noah in whom we find rest. (S. Matt. xi. 28.)
- IV. Will there ever be another Flood?—Yes, God will bring upon the world a flood of fire. (2 S. Peter iii. 10.)
- V. What is the doom of those who will not come into and remain in the Ark?—Disobedient Christians will be shut out at last. (S. Matt. xxv. 11.)
- VI. What will become of those who have never been called into our Ark?—God has not told us the lot of unbaptised babes, ignorant sinners, and the heathen. (S. Luke xii. 47, 48.)

C. I too must be a *Preserver of Life.*

- First—My own life. (S. Mark viii. 36.) ∴ avoid those sins which kill the soul.
- Second—The bodily life of my brother. (Gen. iv. 9.) ∴ help him in sickness or accident.
- Third—The life of his soul. (S. Matt. x. 28.) ∴ don't kill your friend by bad advice or bad example.