

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE LESSONS.

SECOND QUARTER: STUDIES ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF JUDAH.

B. C. 624. LESSON II. THE SCRIPTURES FOUND AND SEARCHED: or, The Awakening Word. 2 Chron. 34, 14-22. April 14th.

EXPLANATORY.

VERSE 14. THE MONEY. Money is the sinew of war, both in the State and the Church. God honors those who possess it, by making them almoners of his bounty and helpers in his work.

15, 16, 17. SHAFHAN. The prime-minister and trusted servant of the king. I have found. A rare honor thus to bring God's word out of neglect and darkness, and cause it to illumine a land.

18, 19. READ IT. It is not laid up in the king's cabinet as a piece of antiquity, a rarity to be admired, but it is read. The best casket for God's word is the heart of an obedient hearer.

20, 21, 22. THE KING COMMANDED. The noblest in the realm were not too lofty to wait upon the prophetess and learn the will of the Lord. Recently a Japanese nobleman, who had found a part of the New Testament, sent his trustiest servant three hundred miles to ascertain from a missionary the meaning of the word.

GOLDEN TEXT: Search the Scriptures; for in them they think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. John 5, 39.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION: Inspiration of Scripture.

The next lesson is Jer. 33 1-9. It will be cause of great regret to many that the income of the Wesleyan Missionary Society this year is considerably below that of the previous year.

"GOD A'MOIGHTY HE KNOWS."

An' here's just where I'd like to ax a question, Mester, about summat 'at's worried me a good deal. I dunnot want to question the Maker, but I would like to know how it is 'at sometime it seems 'at we're clean forgot—as if He couldna fash Hissen about our troubles, an' most loike left them to work out theirsens.

"Tim," she'd say, "this is on'y th' skoo' an' we're th' scholars, an' He's teachin' us His way. We munnot be loike th' children o' Israel i' th' wilderness, an' turn away fro' th' cross 'cause o' th' serpent. We munnot say, 'There's a snake.' We mun say, 'There's th' cross, an' th' Lord gi' it to us.' Th' teacher wouldna' be o' much use, Tim, if th' scholars knew as much as he did, an' I allus think it's th' best to comfort mysen wi' sayin', 'Th' Lord A'moighty, He knows.'"

CHRISTIAN joy comes through knowledge, and gets on to duties done. It is not a mere profession. It is not a sudden enthusiasm. It is more than words. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." The idle Christian, or the disciple who gives little or nothing of his means to the advancement of the cause of truth, no matter what high attainments he may possess, has not attained the solid comfort of the believer.

GRACE does not manifest itself upon any scale of years, and we have a right to expect to see persons of all ages brought into the church and then consecrate themselves to God and his service. The expressions we so often hear that if men do not believe when young, they are not likely ever to do so, is a wrong one, and one that weakens the efforts of ministers and others in respect to those whom they might otherwise seek with hope and determination.

A SCORE of years since, or more, Father Taylor was among the guests at the session of the Providence Conference, held in the city of Providence. At the close of the services preceding the reading of the appointments the presiding bishop called upon the old hero to lead in prayer. He had a very free time, and began to soar upward in one of his flights of eloquence, as he invoked the Divine blessing upon the labourers about to receive their appointments.

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