

## LESSON NOTES.

## FOURTH QUARTER.

THREE MONTHS WITH SOLOMON AND THE BOOKS OF WISDOM.

B.C. 1005.] LESSON V. [Nov. 2.]

## THE TEMPLE DEDICATED.

1 Kings 8. 22-36. Commit to mem. vs. 22-24.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee.—1 Kings 8. 27.

## CENTRAL TRUTH.

We should dedicate ourselves and all we have to God.

## DAILY READINGS.

M. 1 Kings 8. 1-21. Th. 1 Kings 9. 1-9.  
 T. 1 Kings 8. 22-33. F. 2 Chron. 5. 1-14.  
 W. 1 Kings 8. 54-66. Sa. 2 Chron. 6. 1-42.  
 Su. 2 Chron. 7. 1-22.

TIME.—The Temple was completed in November, B.C. 1005, seven and one-half years after it was commenced. The Dedication was in October, probably just before the last things were quite complete.

PLACE.—Jerusalem, within the Temple courts.

PARALLEL ACCOUNT.—2 Chron. 5-7.

THE DEDICATION CEREMONIES were of the most magnificent description. The relics of the old tabernacle were brought to Zion, then the ark was taken up, and a stately procession was formed, with Solomon at its head, accompanied by 4000 singers and musicians, arrayed in white, chanting the Psalms. They entered the court of the Temple. Solomon stood on a brazen platform near the great altar. The people from every part of the nation gathered around. Sacrifices were offered amid songs of praise and music; then a great cloud filled the Temple. Solomon stood up before the people on his brazen platform, then he knelt and lifted up his hands to heaven, and offered the dedicatory prayer, a part of which is assigned for the lesson to-day.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—24. *Who hast kept that thou promisedst*—As to Solomon's being king, and the building of the Temple. 25. *Therefore keep that thou promisedst*—i.e., The remaining promises as given in this verse. (2 Sam. 7. 12-16.) 26. *Verifid*—Proved true. 29. *That thine eyes may be open*—To see those who pray. 30. *Pray to ward this place*—Implying a faith in God, whose house it was, and in his promises. 31. *If any man trespass*—Here follow seven petitions for special cases of need. For the answer to the prayer, see 2 Chron. 7. 1-3, 12-14.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—The completed Temple.—The ceremonies of dedication.—Dedication of churches.—Of ourselves as Temples of God.—Solomon's prayer.—Its answer.

## QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—How long was the Temple in building? When was it completed? Have you read the "Daily Readings" for this lesson?

## SUBJECT: DEDICATION TO GOD.

I. THE DEDICATION CEREMONIES.—When did the dedication ceremonies take place? (1 Kings 8. 2.) At the time of what great feast was it? Who came to join in them? (1 Kings 8. 1, 2.) What great procession took place? What did they carry to the Temple? (1 Kings 8. 3, 4.) What is said of the singing and music? (2 Chron. 5. 12, 13.) What of the sacrifices? (1 Kings 8. 5, 63.) What took place in the Temple during the ceremonies? (2 Chron. 5. 13, 14, 1 Kings 8. 10-12.) Why should churches be dedicated to God? How should we dedicate ourselves as Temples of God? (Rom. 12. 1.)

II. THE DEDICATION PRAYER (vs. 22-36).—Who offered the dedicatory prayer? What posture did he take? (v. 54.) Does it make any difference what posture we take in prayer? How does the commencement of his prayer compare with that of the Lord's prayer? How did he plead the promises? In what sense could God dwell in the Temple? In what sense not? (v. 27.) What was the meaning of praying toward the Temple? Give an example of so doing years after. (Dan. 6. 10.) How many petitions for special needs are offered? (vs. 31-53.) What were these special needs? Should we likewise be definite in our prayers? Did

he pray for others besides himself? Did he pray for other nations than his own? (vs. 41-43.)

III. THE ANSWER.—What was the first answer to the prayer? (2 Chron. 7. 1-3.) How long did the festival continue? (1 Kings 8. 65, 66.) At the close of the festival what further answer was given? (2 Chron. 7. 10-22, 1 Kings 9. 1-9.) Will God always answer all true prayer?

## PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. Churches should be solemnly dedicated to God with prayer, praise, and rejoicing.
2. God's presence by the fire of His Holy Spirit will come into places truly dedicated to Him.
3. We should dedicate our bodies and souls to God as Temples of the Holy Spirit.
4. With those thus dedicated, God will come and abide.
5. The leaders in other things should also lead in prayer.
6. Our prayers should embrace the whole world.
7. They should be definite for the very things we need.

## REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School in concert.)

1. When was the Temple dedicated? *Ans.* In October, B.C. 1005.
2. In what way? *Ans.* By great sacrifices, by the assembly of all the people, with music and prayer, and a feast of 14 days' duration.
3. What was brought into the Temple? *Ans.* The ark and the furniture of the old tabernacle.
4. What part did Solomon take? *Ans.* He led the assembly in prayer.
5. How was the prayer answered? *Ans.* By God's special manifestation in the Temple.

B.C. 995.] LESSON VI. [Nov. 9.]

## THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON.

1 Kings 10. 1-13. Commit to mem. vs. 8, 9.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Behold, a greater than Solomon is here.—Matt. 12. 42.

## CENTRAL TRUTH.

They are wise who seek earnestly for the treasures in Christ, of which the half cannot be told.

## DAILY READINGS.

M. 1 Kings 10. 1-13. Th. 2 Chron. 8. 1-18.  
 T. 1 Kings 10. 14-29. F. 2 Chron. 9. 1-12.  
 W. Matt. 12. 42-43. Sa. 2 Chron. 9. 13-29.  
 Su. Matt. 2. 1-11.

TIME.—B.C. 995. Ten years after the Temple was finished.

PLACE.—(1) Jerusalem; (2) Sheba, i.e., Sabea, a very wealthy region in Southern Arabia bordering on the Red Sea. It was 1500 miles from Jerusalem.

PARALLEL ACCOUNT.—2 Chron. 9. 1-12.

INTRODUCTION.—After the completion of the Temple, Solomon exercised his genius in building palaces and public buildings, aqueducts and fortresses, extending his commerce, and organizing a splendid court. The story of his magnificence reached distant nations through his fleets, and people came from a long distance to see and to hear. Among them was the queen of Sheba.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—1. *Concerning the name of the Lord*—His fame in connection with the Lord's Temple, and the wisdom the Lord had given him. *To prove* (or test, try) *him with hard questions*—Enigmas, difficult problems, and also questions of religion and government. 2. *Much gold* (see v. 10.) 4. *Solomon's wisdom*—As shown in his works, splendid palaces, ivory and gold throne, commerce that extended from Spain to Egypt, the Temple, etc. 5. *The sitting of his servants*—The assembly of his high officers. *The attendance* (or service) *of his ministers*—His servants, attendants. *His ascent*—Connecting his palace with the Temple court. 9. *Blessed be the Lord thy God*—The Jewish rabbis say she became a worshipper of God. 10. *One hundred and twenty talents of gold*—Each talent was worth \$26,280. 11. *Navy of Hiram*—King of Tyre, a seafaring nation, whose sailors manned Solomon's ships. *Ophir*—Either a part of Arabia, near Sheba, or a part of India. 12. *Almug trees*—Perhaps sandal wood.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—Solomon's palaces.—His public buildings.—His fortresses and war-horses.—The splendor of

his court.—The queen of Sheba.—Sheba.—Ophir.—Almug trees.—The queen's presents to Solomon.—The search after the treasures of Christ.—The half can never be told.

## QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—How long after the completion of the Temple was the visit of the queen of Sheba? What had Solomon been doing these last ten years? Have you read the "Daily Readings" for this Sabbath?

## SUBJECT: THE SEARCH AFTER BETTER THINGS.

I. THE QUEEN OF SHEBA'S VISIT TO SOLOMON.—THE SEARCH (vs. 1, 2, 10).—Where was Sheba? How far from Jerusalem? What kind of a country was it? How did she hear of Solomon? What led her to make so long a journey? What did she bring with her? How much gold? (v. 10.) How much would this be in our money? What does Christ say of the queen of Sheba. (Matt. 12. 42.) To whom should we go to find wondrous blessings? Why should we take more pains to do this, than did the queen of Sheba?

II. WHAT SHE SAW AND HEARD.—THE FINDING (3-7, 11, 12).—How did Solomon first show his wisdom? (v. 3.) What kind of questions were these? What other proofs of his wisdom did she see? What is said of his literary works and knowledge? (1 Kings 4. 32-34.) Describe his palaces. (1 Kings 7. 1-11.) How did the Temple show his wisdom? Describe his throne. (1 Kings 10. 15-20.) What is said of his commerce? (vs. 11, 12; 1 Kings 9. 26-28; 10. 22.) Where was Ophir? What were almug trees? What is said of his chariots? (1 Kings 10. 26-29.) What is said of his attendants and court? What did the queen of Sheba say to all this? (v. 7.) What riches can we find in Jesus Christ? (Eph. 2. 7; 3. 8, 10.) What does Paul say of this? (Rom. 11. 33; 1 Cor. 2. 9.) Can those who have experienced Christ's riches make others understand the half of its blessedness? Why not? What hard questions do we ask of Christ that he answers?

III. THE EFFECT (vs. 8-13). What did the queen of Sheba say to Solomon? Does v. 9 show that she became a servant of God? What did she give to Solomon? What did he give to her? Why does God, who is infinitely rich, want us to give to Him? What does He give to us? In what respects is the queen of Sheba to be imitated?

## PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. The queen of Sheba teaches us how much pains we should take to go to Christ.
2. Christ has greater wisdom and riches and wonders of love for us to seek.
3. The half can never be told, but must be experienced to be understood.
4. Christ welcomes all who seek for Him.
5. He solves all the hard questions of life.
6. He receives our gifts when they express our feelings toward Him.
7. He confers infinitely richer gifts, — pardon, peace, strength, joy.
8. All the riches of the world cannot make us happy or good.

## REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School in concert.)

6. What did Solomon do after he had finished the Temple? *Ans.* He built beautiful palaces and cities.
7. In what else did he show his wisdom? *Ans.* In extending his commerce over the known world.
8. What is said of his court and surroundings? *Ans.* It surpassed all in the world.
9. Who came to see these things and hear his wisdom? *Ans.* The queen of Sheba.
10. What did she say to them? (Repeat vs. 6, 7.)

It is certain that the regeneration of India religiously must come from a native Church, and along the lines of Oriental thought.

To hate evil and to love truth come from two different sides of the brain. A man bates error with the bottom of his brain, he loves truth with the top of his brain, and a man is not necessarily, therefore, a wise leader, or safe for the Church to follow, because he storms against those whom he thinks are in error, and is active in Church troubles.

## A NEW BOOK!

—BY—

SILAS K. HOCKING.

## CALEB CARTHEW:

A LIFE STORY.

With a Steel Portrait of the Author.

12mo, cloth, 385 pages.

PRICE \$1.50.

## OTHER WORKS

BY THE

SAME AUTHOR.

ALL FULLY ILLUSTRATED AND BEAUTIFULLY BOUND IN CLOTH.

Plain Edges, 75cts.; Gilt Edges, 90cts.

Reedyford; or, Creed and Character. With original illustrations. Gilt edges, 90 cents.

Ivy; A Tale of Cottage Life. 12mo. Price, 75 cents. "Mr. Hocking's latest work is deserving of the widest possible circulation, and it may not be out of place to mention that in the attractive form in which it is issued, is eminently suitable for a School Prize or a Christmas Present."—*Birmingham Gazette*.

His Father; or, A Mother's Legacy. 12mo. Price, 75 cents. "A pathetic and interesting tale."—*Record*. "The publication cannot fail to do good."—*Plymouth Mercury*.

Her Benny. 12mo. Price, 75 cents. "Will touch the hearts of all who may read it."—*Nonconformist*. "The book is a capital one for boys, and its perusal will do any one good."—*The Methodist*.

Sea-Waif; A Tale of the Cornish Cliffs. 12mo, cloth, 75 cents. "A most interesting and touching tale. Its teaching has the right moral ring."

Alec Green. 12mo, cloth, 75 cents. "Will charm and also benefit youthful readers."—*Edinburgh Courier*. "A good readable book. The author has conveyed the lessons he wishes to teach in an interesting manner."—*Hampshire Advertiser*.

Dick's Fairy; A Tale of the Streets. 12mo, cloth, 75 cents. "The moral of this book is excellent."—*St. James' Gazette*.

Chips; A Story of Manchester Life. Sq. 16mo, 35 cents. "An interesting moral story suitable for boys and girls."—*Hullfax Courier*. "Well adapted for circulation among Sunday-school children."—*Manchester Courier*.

Poor Mike; A Story of a Waif. Sq. 16mo, 35 cents. The chief incidents in this story are strictly true. The author became acquainted with Mike in the manner indicated in the narrative, and had his story from his own lips.

These Books are well suited for S. S. Libraries, Prize Books, or Rewards.

WILLIAM BRIGGS,

78 &amp; 80 King Street East.

TORONTO.

C. W. COATES, S. F. HUESTIS,

Montreal, Que.

Halifax, N.S.