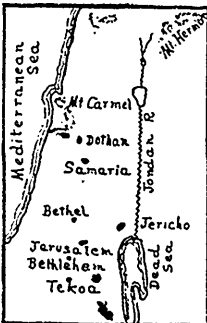


promptly and completely they had done her will. **Naboth is stoned . . . dead** ; and his sons with him (see 2 Kgs. 9 : 20), so that there would be no heir to his property.

II. JEZEBEL'S TRIUMPH.—15, 16. Jezebel said to Ahab ; flushed with triumph at the success of her plan and cruelly heedless of the fate of her victims. **Arise, take possession** ; every obstacle having now been swept away. **Ahab heard . . . Naboth . . . dead.** The king neither asked nor cared how this had been brought about : he was concerned only with the gratification of his own wish. **Rose up** ; sprang from his couch (see v. 4) with joyful alacrity. **To go down** ; from Samaria, which stands over 1,000 feet higher than Jezreel. **To take possession** ; of the vineyard so basely won by lying and injustice and murder.

III. AHAH'S DOOM.—17-20. The word of the Lord ; whose eye had been on the royal murderers all the while and with whom they now had to reckon. **Elijah the Tishbite** ; the stern, outspoken prophet, not afraid to face the king. **Go down to meet Ahab.** This was more than the king had bargained for,—he had got his vineyard, but he got Elijah along with it. **In the vineyard** ; meeting the king at the very gate. **Hast thou killed . . . taken possession ?** It was evident that the king had taken possession of the vineyard ; it was just as certain that he was a murderer. On the rest of v. 19 see ch. 22 : 37, 38. **Hast thou found me, O mine enemy ?** his enemy because the very sight of the prophet makes the king certain that his sin will be punished. **I have found thee** ; to tell thee of thy sin and its doom. **Sold thyself** ; for this vineyard,—surely a foolish and wicked bargain.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



Naboth's vineyard was near Ahab's palace in JEZREEL. Most of the vineyards in Palestine are found on hillsides. They are not fenced off, but to protect the vines from foxes, jackals, and especially from human robbers, watchmen are stationed in commanding positions, sometimes on round towers. To frighten away animals, also, a single cylindrical stone is set up, or a pillar, 3 or 4 feet high, is made of several stones. Such pillars, whitewashed so as to be seen at night, are a marked feature in a Palestinian landscape.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. How did Jezebel get Naboth's vineyard for Ahab ?

2. In what manner was Naboth's death brought about ?

SIGN NAME HERE

LESSON QUESTIONS

11, 12 Where did Naboth live ? Who were the "elders and . . . nobles ?" What command had they received from Jezebel ? How had the command been sent ? How was it shown to have Ahab's authority ? What was the purpose of the fast ? Explain "set Naboth on high." What plot did a company of Jews form against Paul ? (Acts 23 : 12-15.)

13, 14 Of what was Naboth accused ? How was Naboth put to death ? Describe the death of Stephen. (Acts 7 : 54-60.) To whom was the news of Naboth's death sent ?

15, 16 What news did Jezebel bring to Ahab ? What did she bid him do ? How did he respond ? Explain "go down."

17-20 With what crime did Elijah charge Ahab ? Why did Ahab count Elijah his enemy ? For what had Ahab sold himself ? What is worth more than the whole world ? (Mark 8 : 36, 37.)

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Is it wrong to desire what does not belong to one ?
2. Is it ever right to take away human life ?

A PRAYER

Lord God, be with us to-day, in our going out and our coming in, in our rising up and our lying down. Be with us as we meet with those about us, in our own home and in the homes of others. Guard our thoughts and our deeds so that we may live among these to Thy glory. Keep us from wronging others. Deliver us from evil, and save us through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Prove from Scripture—*That we should deal honestly.*

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 30. *How doth the Spirit apply to us the redemption purchased by Christ ?* A. The Spirit applieth to us the redemption purchased by Christ, by working faith in us, and thereby uniting us to Christ in our effectual calling.

The Question on Missions—(Fourth Quarter. **WHAT THE WOMEN OF OUR CHURCH ARE DOING FOR MISSIONS)**—1. What is the special work of our women for missions, and how is it carried out ? Work for women and children. The women's missionary societies, in both Eastern and Western Sections of the church, have this in charge. There are Presbyterian Societies in most of the Presbyteries and Auxiliaries and Mission Bands in most of the congregations.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise : 457 (Supplemental Lesson), 252, 262, 100 (Ps. Sel.), 171 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY), 251.