

# Primary Department.

HELPS FOR TEACHERS OF LITTLE FOLKS, BY MR. & MRS. G. H. ARCHIBALD, MONTREAL.

## LESSON X.—September 4th, 1898.

### THE DEATH OF ELISHA. 2 Kings 13 14-25.

I. GOLDEN TEXT : " Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Psa. 118 : 15.

II. PREVIEW THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER. God's good gifts.

III. PREVIEW THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY'S LESSON. Peace, life and death.

#### IV. REVIEW :

1. What made the servant of Elisha afraid ?
2. What did Elisha pray for ?
3. What did the young man see ?
4. How were they delivered from the enemy ?

V. SYNOPSIS : Our lesson to-day brings us to the end of a great life. Following closely upon that of his predecessor, Elijah, the life of Elisha has been greatly used by God in bringing the nations back to himself. The dynasty of Ahab was a thing of the past. That of Jehu had taken its place. A period of nearly fifty years has intervened since our last lesson. Elisha was over eighty years of age, and had been a prophet for over sixty years. During his last sickness, he was visited by the King of Israel, who lamented over his sickness, and was bidden to shoot the arrows toward the enemy as a symbol of victory, with God as their leader. The man of God was indignant with the king for having stayed his hand so quickly, for each stroke was symbolic of a victory over Syria. The second division of our lesson is one of these remarkable stories in the history of Elisha. When the body of a man was let down into Elisha's grave and it touched his bones, he revived, and stood upon his feet. After the record of this instance we have four verses of history 22-25 added to our lesson.

#### VI. SUGGESTIVE STEPS :

The power of influence, would seem to be the thought we want to teach to-day. It is a sort of a review lesson, and we should now show the life of Elisha as a whole.

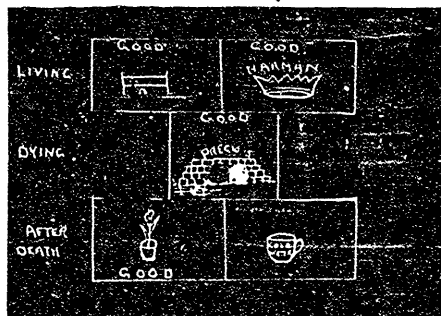
1. Living. 2. Dying. 3: After death.

1. There are two kinds of people in the world.

1. Those who make the world better for their having lived in it. 2. Those make it worse, I am sure we want to be like the first.

2. Tell the story of a boy who, while he lived was always doing kind things. One time when some wicked boys had upset the apple woman's stand, he helped her to gather the apples, and spoke kind words to her. Soon after the boy died. In the mind of the poor woman he lived, for many years, and again, and again, and again she told of his good deed to her. Here was a boy whose influence lived after he died.

3. Elisha seemed to be doing good to people all the time. Review some of the lessons. See how much the children have learned about the prophet, and as they tell some of the stories make a rough sketch, and keep writing the word Good, Good, Good. It was a good thing for Elisha to live.



4. Tell of Elisha's death. People who live well, need not be afraid to die. The same angels who took care of Elisha and his servant at Dothan, we are sure were at his bedside when he died. God is watching when his children die. It is a good thing to die or a bad thing? We will see what the Golden Text says about it.

5. Teach the Golden Text. Let us write up over the tomb of Elisha the word Good. The teacher may add the word Precious if the idea of death is emphasized, and it is felt that such teaching will be wise, and helpful.

6. Continue the story of Elisha, and tell how his very bones brought the dead man back to life. This will not be so with us, but like the boy and the apple woman the good deeds