

Sunday School.

LESSON XII—June 18, 1911.

The Downfall of Samaria.—2 Kings 17:1-18.

Commentary.—I. The reign of Hoshea (vs. 1-4). Hoshea—The name is the same as that of the prophet Hosea, and the name by which Joshua was at first called, and means "salvation." Hoshea had conspired against Pekah, king of Israel, had slain him (2 Kings 15: 30), and probably after a few years' struggle secured the kingdom. Nine years from B. C. 730 to B. C. 721. 2. Did Evil.—As all his predecessors had done, not as the kings... before him. Perhaps he heeded the words uttered by the prophets, yet the kingdom was ripe for destruction and his moral superiority over former kings could not save the nation. 3. Shalmaneser.—The son of Tiglathpileser and his successor. He made Israel tributary to Assyria. 4. Found conspiracy in Hoshea.—The king of Assyria made a final feeble effort to throw off the Assyrian yoke by making an alliance with So (or Shebek or Sabaco), which act brought the wrath of Assyria upon Israel. Bound him in prison—it is very common with the Hebrew writers to record the results of an expedition before the details are told; and as verse six implies that Hoshea was king when Samaria was taken, and verse one declares that he reigned in Samaria nine years, we adopt the opinion that his imprisonment was subsequent to the capture of Samaria, and when he was no longer king.—Whedon.

II. Israel taken into captivity (vs. 5, 6). Throughout all the land.—The king of Assyria was determined upon a thorough subjugation of Israel, and therefore made the cities of low importance than Samaria. Besieged it three years.—The city must have been well fortified and well provisioned to be able to withstand the powerful Assyrian army for that length of time. 6. Took Samaria.—It seems from the records that the city was not taken by the Assyrians during the reign of Shalmaneser, but in the beginning of the reign of Sargon, his successor.—Com. Bible. Placed them in Halah.—On the Euphrates in northern Mesopotamia, not far from Nineveh. On the Harbar. The river of Gozan (R. V.). The river Harbar is now known as Khabor, which flows through Gaugamela. In the cities of the Medes.—The captives were scattered, some being taken far east of Assyria to Media. These deportations of a whole population, with their women and children, their wagons and flocks, are depicted on Sargon's series of tablets in his splendid palace at Khorsabad.—Jarrar. Sargon's records show that he carried into captivity 27,250 persons.

III. The cause of Israel's downfall (vs. 7-18). 7. For so it was, that.—And it was so, because.—R. V. Israel had sinned.—The cause of Israel's overthrow is stated briefly and pointedly. It was not because they were surrounded by enemies, but because of their sin. If they had kept themselves from sin, God would have kept their enemies away. Out of... Egypt.—This was the beginning of the remarkable series of deliverances which God wrought for His people. Feared other gods.—A violation of the first commandment. 8. Whom the Lord cast out.—The original inhabitants of Canaan were idolaters and they were driven out that the Israelites might occupy the land. 9. Did secretly.—They covered their idolatrous worship under the pretense that it was the worship of the true God. Built... high places.—God had appointed Jerusalem as a place for worship, but the people followed the practice of the heathen about them and established shrines on the hills in large numbers. From the tower.—Towers were erected in lonely places so that shepherds might protect their flocks. Tel expression means that they built high places everywhere, in lonely places as well as where there were many inhabitants. 10. Images and graves.—The images were stone pillars set up as objects of worship. The graves were wooden images of a goddess. The worship performed here was most impure. 11. Wrought wicked things.—The people of Israel had a knowledge of the true God, hence they were the more culpable for giving themselves over to the abominable practices of the heathen about them. God had chosen them to be His peculiar people, but they chose to be like the nations from whom the Lord had separated them. To anger.—This was not passionate anger, but indignation at sin. 12. They served idols.—The worship of the true God carried with it an observance of all the commandments and or-

dinances which He had given, while the worship of idols, as performed by the heathen and idolatrous Israel, gave license to every evil tendency. It is but natural for idol-worshippers to attribute to their gods their own depraved tendencies; and, having gods whose characteristics are debasing, they can worship such gods with ceremonies that permit them to carry out the wicked purposes of their own hearts.

13. Testified against Israel. The Lord sent messages repeatedly to this nation as well as to Judah in an effort to induce them to turn from their evil ways. They had the law, and therefore were not in utter darkness. Prophets... slightly in meaning came gradually to be applied to the same class of messengers. The prophet (Nabi) is one who bubbles forth like a fountain, or the one who speaks, but they both see and speak under divine influence.—III. notes. Ehijah, Elisha, Amos, Hosea, and Isaiah were among those who had warned the nations of Israel. 14. Would not hear. They were bent on pursuing their evil course and refused to listen to the words of entreaty and warning. One's responsibility is proportionate to the knowledge he has or has refused. Hardened their necks. The figure is that of oxen that set their necks firmly to go in the direction they desire, not to be turned by any efforts of the driver. Israel is frequently referred to as a stiff-necked people (Exod. 32:9; Deut. 10:16). Did not believe in the Lord. This laid the foundation for all their sins. They did not believe in God's prophets, but hardened to deceivers. 15-18. The people were charged with following after "vanity," which was understood to be "nothing," as the gods of the heathen are looked upon by worshippers of Jehovah. "They are nothing and could do nothing. Therefore to have regard unto them is of no avail, and their worshippers in consequence use prayer in vain to them."—Cam. Bible. In verse 16 and 17 there is a powerful arraignment of Israel's wickedness. They abandoned themselves to every idolatrous practice observed by the grossest heathenism. They sacrificed their children to the god of Moloch. "They sold themselves to do evil," as did Ahab (1 Kings 21:25). For all this evil the Lord "removed them out of his sight"; that is, he permitted them to be taken from their own land into a strange country and separated them from the temple and all the sacred associations dear to God's people. The kingdom of Judah, composed of the tribe of Judah, and portions of other tribes and the Levites, remained in Palestine.

Questions.—Who was the king of Israel at this time? To what heathen nation was Israel tributary? To what king did Hoshea apply for help? Why did Shalmaneser invade Israel and besiege Samaria? How long did the siege continue? What is the date of the fall of Samaria? Where were the people of Israel taken? Of what sins were the people of Israel guilty? What is meant by "images" and "graves"? What opportunities had Israel for turning to God? What is the result of persistent rebellion against God?

PRACTICAL SURVEY. Topic.—An historic review. I. Of a nation's opportunities. II. Of a nation's degradation. III. Of a nation's destruction. 1. Of a nation's opportunities. "Out of the land of Egypt." God keeps an exact account of man's advantages as well as of his sins and his temptations. When he day of retribution arrives he will produce the whole account. Egypt, the very power out of whose hand God wonderfully rescued his people, Hoshea employed to help him against Assyria. God guarded the kingdom of Israel two hundred and fifty years in patience and long suffering. He warned, threatened, taught, chastened and sent messengers to summon them to return. His anxiety to save them was very great. He anticipated their temptations by sending messages of warning and of guidance, but those who preached repentance were laughed to scorn or ill-treated and ignored. God's forbearance and mercy were very great. Whether men like it or not they can not escape God's claim upon them, yet if they fail to use their opportunities and privileges they will certainly be taken away. Calamity is never causeless. Israel was under covenant with God on the express condition of keeping his statutes, testimonies, commandments and judgments. A breach of their covenant with God was the special cause of their fall.

II. Of a nation's degradation. Upon Hoshea and his age there came down the corrupting influence of no less than eighteen princes, all of whom were steeped in wickedness. The whole nation had become completely immoral and idolatrous. Luxury, oppression, lewdness, drunkenness and idolatry prevailed. Ho-

sham and his people were not only inheritors of the corruptions of past generations, but they themselves became agents in propagating and perpetuating the wickedness. Hoshea began by making his way to the throne by conspiracy and murder. He trusted not in God, but in an alliance with Egypt. He relied on treachery, double-dealing and on clever intrigue to get him out of his difficulties. He played a desperate game. He learned how vain it was to make covenants with the ungodly and to neglect the true God. His end was disgrace, misery and imprisonment. The removal of all these evils is traced to Jeroboam's fatal step in setting up the two images of calves. His act had in it a principle which logically means the overthrow of the theocracy. One step in the wrong direction carried many others in its train, the consequences of which stretched far beyond the results immediately seen. Israel began with neglecting Jehovah and finished with the frightful sacrifices of divine worship they sank deeper and deeper into unbelief and superstition. III. Of a nation's destruction. When neither judgment nor mercy were regarded and the cup of Israel's transgression was full God "cast them out of his sight." The ten tribes sinned themselves into slavery and everlasting obscurity. They sinned away liberty, property, country and national existence. Crime ruined their kingdom. The outcome of two hundred and fifty years of idolatry was redistribution, stern, vigorously and crushing. Corruption had reached its height which made a crisis inevitable. Man's folly and blindness brought sin's bitter fruit. They who forgot God were themselves forgotten. They who studied to be like the nations were buried among them. They who would not serve God in their own land were made to serve their enemies in a strange land. They were torn from their own land, exiled from home, forced to eat "unclean" things in Assyria, their national existence extinguished, ruled by heathen, separated from one another, all because when they knew God they would not glorify him as God, but they gave his glory to dumb idols and defiled his land with their abominations and misused the gifts he had so richly bestowed upon them. Here is the beginning of the dispersion of Israel. Here is a solution warning against the neglect of God-given opportunities.—T. R. A.

GIFTS TO KING.

South Africa Sends Birds and Beasts in Plenty as Coronation Presents.

Cape Town, June 12.—A hundred and twenty cages and crates littered the quay alongside which the Comrie Castle lies previous to her departure to-morrow. They are all labelled "His Majesty King George's Game Collection." Some had come 1,000 or more miles from the north, others from the east and west, and they contained live animals and birds as representative of South Africa as has been possible. Not one of the animals was purchased, and they all may be regarded as coronation gifts to the King from South Africa.

A mountain zebra and foal—the case was included in the Cape collection—went on board. One case, which contained what the label described as "Sitatunga"—a sort of "bok"—was marked "Presented by Lewanika." There was another containing "Spur-winged geese," the donor being given as "Letitia Lawanika."

The Cape sent a very varied collection. There was a blesbok, a bushbuck, a steinbok, a blaauwbok, Egyptian geese, Cape partridges, rock pigeons, black-tailed jackals, ground squirrels, a porcupine, baboon and puff adder, with several corbairs and other snakes. The Orange River Colony sent rock rabbits, a porcupine and some black-tailed jackals, with other animals. The contribution from Natal included an owl, velvet monkeys, a springbok, a baboon, a python, a leopard, a tortoise and a cockatoo. Northwestern Rhodesia sent a beautifully marked leopard among its collection. Allowance has been made for a voyage lasting 28 days. The provisions provided for the animals include 2,250 pounds of oat hay, 2,250 pounds of lucerne, 800 pounds of crushed mealies, 1,000 pounds of mealies, 300 pounds of oats, 600 pounds of chilled mutton and various quantities of sweet potatoes, pollard, crushed oats, carrots, fresh eggs, rock salt and bird seed.

KING'S VISIT.

May Come to Canada on His Way to Coronation in India.

Montreal, June 12.—A special from Ottawa to-day says: "It is reported here, from a reliable source, that a visit will be made to this country by His Majesty King George. The King will visit Canada en route for India, where he will be crowned as Emperor. His Majesty will visit all important cities in the Dominion during his journey across the country, and will sail for India from Vancouver." Should this report prove to be true, the event it forecasts will make King George's reign epochal, establishing, as it would, the precedent of the Sovereign of the Empire visiting the outlying portions of the British dominions after his accession.

King George will tour Canada before the end of this year, for he is to arrive in Bombay on Dec. 2, and make his State entry into Delhi on Dec. 7. He is to be crowned on Dec. 12. Plans have been made to enable one hundred thousand persons to see the ceremony. The King is to reach Calcutta on Dec. 30.

If the reciprocity deadlock materializes the parties will probably endeavor to have the general elections over before the coming of His Majesty.

The journey from Paris to Tokio soon will be shortened from 15 to less than 12 days by the completion of a new railroad in Manchuria.

MARKET REPORTS.

TORONTO MARKETS.

FARMERS' MARKET. The receipts of grain on the street to-day were 600 bushels. Wheat steady, with sales of 300 bushels at 84 to 86c. The latter for cereal, and 100 bushels of goose at 82c. Oats are firm, with sales of 200 bushels at 43 to 44c.

Hay in moderate offer, with sales of 18 loads at \$17 to \$18 a ton for the best, and at \$13 to \$14 for No. 2. Straw nominal at \$14 a ton. Dressed hogs are firm, with quotations ruling at \$8.75 to \$9.25. Wheat, white... \$0.84 \$0.86 Do., red, bush... 0.81 0.82 Do., red, bush... 0.85 0.86 Oats, bush... 0.43 0.44 Peas, bush... 0.80 0.80 Barley, bush... 0.60 0.60 Hay, choice, ton... 16.00 18.00 Do., No. 2, ton... 10.00 12.00 Straw, per ton... 14.00 0.00 Dressed hogs... 8.75 9.25 Butter, dairy... 0.20 0.25 Do., inferior... 0.17 0.19 Eggs, new-laid, dozen... 0.20 0.22 Chickens, lb... 0.18 0.20 Spring Chickens... 0.30 0.35 Turkeys, lb... 0.21 0.23 Apples, bbl., second... 3.00 5.00 Potatoes, bag... 0.95 1.00 Beef, hindquarters... 11.00 12.00 Do., forequarters... 6.50 7.50 Do., choice, carcass... 9.00 10.00 Do., medium, carcass... 8.00 9.50 Mutton, prime, per cwt... 8.00 10.00 Veal, prime, per cwt... 10.00 11.00 Lamb, cwt... 12.00 13.00 Spring lambs, each... 4.00 7.00

SUGAR MARKET. Sugars are quoted in Toronto, in bags, per cwt., as follows: Extra granulated, Redpath's... \$4.70 do. St. Lawrence... 4.70 do. Acadia... 4.65 Imperial granulated... 4.55 Beaver granulated... 4.55 No. 1 yellow, Redpath's... 4.30 do. St. Lawrence... 4.30

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto dispatch: Trade is good and brisk this morning, with sheep a little better than they have been. Heavy cattle are also selling well, while hogs show about the same price. There were 132 calves, 1,540 cattle, 688 sheep, 2,900 hogs, 254 calves. Export cattle, \$6.10 to \$6.25; export bulls, \$4.75 to \$6.10; butchers' cattle, \$5.90 to \$6; do. bulls, \$4.75 to \$6.10; butchers' cows, \$4.75 to \$6.25; feeding steers, \$5.40 to \$5.60; feeders, short keep, \$5.00 to \$5.80; stockers, \$5 to \$5.25; milkers, \$4 to \$7; springers, \$4 to \$7; canner, \$2 to \$2.25; calves, \$6 to \$8; sheep, ewes, \$3.75 to \$4.25; spring lambs, \$5 to \$6.25; yearling lambs, \$6 to \$6.50; bucks and ewes, \$3 to \$3.50. Hogs, f.o.b., \$6.50; do., fed and watered, \$6.80.

OTHER MARKETS.

WINNIPEG WHEAT MARKET.

Prev. Close. Open. High. Low. Close. Wheat—100% 101 101% 100% 100% July... 89% 89% 89% 89 89% Oats—July... 37% 37% 37% 37% 37%

CHEESE MARKETS.

Kingston, Ont.—At the Frontenac Cheese Board meeting on Thursday afternoon 715 boxes of white and 990 of colored were boarded. Sales were made at 11-11-1/2. Vankleek Hill, Ont.—One thousand seven hundred and eighty-four boxes of cheese were boarded to-day. All sold at 11-11-1/2. Brockville, Ont.—Four thousand three hundred and twenty-seven boxes of cheese, of which 2,287 were colored, were registered for sale at to-day's Cheese Board. The bidding opened at 10-1-4, and calls were made at from 10-1-2 to 11-3-8. The ruling figure was 11-1-4, which almost cleared the board. On the street 11-1-4 ruled, and 8,000 boxes were sold on a basis of this price. Belleville, Ont.—At the weekly Cheese Market, 2,290 boxes of white cheese were boarded. Nearly all sold on the board at 11-11-1/2 and 11-1-8.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

Chicago, June 8.—Cattle—Receipts estimated at 5,000; market, steady and shade higher. Beef, \$15.15 to \$15.25; steers, \$14.75 to \$15.25; stockers and feeders, \$13.50 to \$15.25; cows and heifers, \$12.40 to \$15.80; calves, \$5 to \$7.50. Hogs—Receipts estimated at 21,000; market, 6c higher; light, \$6.35 to \$6.52 1-2; mixed, \$6.35 to \$6.52; heavy, \$6.20 to \$6.12 1-2; pigs, \$6.55 to \$6.10; bulk of sales, \$6 to \$6.10. Sheep—Receipts estimated at 10,000; market, slow; natives, \$3 to \$4.50; yearlings, \$4.35 to \$6.30; lambs, native, \$4.25 to \$6.80; western, \$4.25 to \$7.15.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK.

Montreal.—At the Canadian Pacific live stock market the offerings this morning were 500 cattle, 200 sheep and lambs, 825 hogs and 800 calves. There was no important change in the condition of the market for cattle, prices being fairly well maintained on account of the fact that the supply was not large, and the demand was ample to take care of it. The attendance of buyers was fairly large, and a good trade was done. Choice steers sold at 6 1/2c; good at 5 1/2c to 6c; fairly good at 5 1/2c to 5 3/4c; fair at 4 1/2c to 5c, and common at 4 1/4c to 4 1/2c per pound. There were some thousand cows among the offerings, and good, and a fairly active trade was done. Sales of selected lots were made at \$6.75; very heavy weights at \$5.75, and stage and sows at \$5 to \$5.25 and \$5.50 per 100 pounds, weighed off cars. Supplies of small meats were rather large for which the demand was good and more active. The tone of the market was steady, and values were unchanged, with sales of old sheep at \$4 to \$6; spring lambs at from \$3.50 to \$5, and calves at from \$2 to \$6 each. At the Montreal Stock Yards west end market there were 256 cattle, 200 sheep and lambs, 900 hogs and 850 calves. The market was fairly active for all lines, and the prices realized were much the same as those quoted, with the exception of hogs, which sold a trifle higher, at \$6.55 per 100 lbs., weighed off cars, for selected lots.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal.—There was a good demand from Bristol for Canadian Western



Mme. J. B. Renaud
Montreal

Terrible Eczema for 25 Years Cured by Cuticura Remedies

"I have been treated by doctors for twenty-five years for a bad case of eczema on my leg. They did their best, but failed to cure it. My own doctor had advised me to have my leg cut off, but I said I would try the Cuticura Remedies first. He said, 'try them if you like but I do not think they will do any good.' At this time my leg was peeled from the knee down, my foot was like a piece of raw flesh and I had to walk on crutches. I bought a cake of Cuticura Soap, a box of Cuticura Ointment and a bottle of Cuticura Remedy. After the first two treatments the swelling went down and in two months' use of the Cuticura Remedies my leg was cured and the new skin grown on. The doctor could not believe his own eyes when he saw that Cuticura had cured me and said that he would use Cuticura for his own patients. But for the Cuticura Remedies I might have lost my life. I am truly grateful for the wonderful cure that Cuticura wrought. I have many grandchildren and they are frequent users of Cuticura and I always recommend it most highly as a sure and economical cure for skin troubles." (Signed) MME. J. B. RENAUD, 277, Montpelier St., Montreal.

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166 KILLED.

Fatal Effects of the Earthquake at Mexico City.

Mexico City, June 12.—One hundred and sixty-six persons were killed, seventy-five wounded and property worth \$100,000 was wrecked yesterday by an earthquake which shook the Mexican capital and injected a note of tragedy into what was to be a day of pure rejoicing over the arrival of Francisco I. Madero, Jr. The property loss estimate is based on calculations made by engineers and contractors. Little of the loss is covered by insurance. More than half the dead accounted for were soldiers. They were caught beneath the falling walls of the artillery barracks in San Cosma. Another place where the earthquake took its toll of death in considerable numbers was at the city power plant of the street car company. There six persons were killed and six wounded. In the barracks where the soldiers were killed, twelve women also lost their lives. They were the wives of artillerymen, who have the privilege of the barracks, an old structure. Seventy-two soldiers were sleeping in the house. The bodies of 30 have been recovered. Three are missing and sixteen are wounded, a few severely.

JAPS BEATEN.

Formosan Tribes in Revolt Annihilate Force Sent Against Them.

Victoria, B. C., June 12.—News was brought by the steamer Kamakura Maru yesterday of the annihilation on May 8th of a Japanese force in Formosa by the rebels against whom the Japanese have been campaigning for the last three years. It seems that three tribes which made peace were incited to fresh rebellion by two tribes which remained obdurate. Forty men of a force sent against the Formosans, were ambushed and after fierce fighting, but ten escaped. The dead were mutilated, their heads being carried off by the head hunters. Inspector Ikemoto, who commanded the party, was found with his head missing, and a broken sword hilt clutched in his hand.

MUNICIPAL FARM.

Toronto dispatch: The purchase of the Russell farm on Yonge street for the purposes of the proposed Municipal Industrial Farm was decided on by the civic Property Committee yesterday. The farm, which comprises 378 1/2 acres, and is situated on the east side of Yonge street, a mile and a half south of the village of Richmond Hill and twelve miles north of Bloor street, is well wooded. The price is \$60,000, or \$102.00 an acre.

WAS A MASON

But He Was Also a Christian and Lifer Fined.

Montreal, June 12.—Judge Delorme, rendered justice to-day in the case of L. A. Caron against Joseph Brgin, publisher of La Croix. The defendant is condemned to pay \$50 as exemplary damages and \$50 costs. The action was entered because La Croix had published the name of L. A. Caron as being a Mason, and in the 15th article that all the Masons were worshippers of the devil, and the enemies of the Deity. Mr. Caron claimed that he was a good Christian, though a Mason, and his position was upheld by the court.

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