

Sunday School.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON NO IV.
JULY 24, 1904.

Jehoshaphat's Reform—2 Chron. 19:1-11.

Commentary—I. A severe reproof, (vs. 1-3). This chapter is entirely additional Kings, and is of great interest. It deals with these matters only; the rebuke addressed to Asa he had both an example and an object lesson. For the greater part Asa had followed the Lord, but the time came after all of the peace and prosperity that he had enjoyed, that he joined with the Syrians against Baasha, and the Lord strongly rebuked him by the mouth of the prophet Hanani.

The King reprimanded. Evil example, powerful inducement to do wrong, especially where there is a disposition in that direction. Jehoshaphat made an alliance with the wicked Abah against the Syrians, as his father had joined with the Syrians against Israel. Christians must be careful how they join with the ungodly in association, in business, and in domestic relations. Many a man has been ruined spiritually by joining societies, the tendencies of which are worldly and even anti-Christian. It is a dangerous thing to disobey the injunction of the apostle, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers."

Destroying Idolatry. Jehoshaphat appears to have received the reproof of the prophet in a very different manner from that in which his father Asa had received it. His message to him, for his disbelief from the account no ill treatment of Jehu. But we notice that the king went at once to the work of improving the condition of his people. Those who highly esteem and adore friendliness, pleasure, fame and self, bring to themselves spiritual death. They lose the favor of God. As Jehoshaphat removed Idolatry from Judah so we must tear the idols from our hearts and worship God alone.

A great principle is here laid down. God's people should not give the hand of fellowship to the wicked or assist them in any of their ungodly doings. And love them, etc.—James says, "Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (1 Cor. iv. 4). What would we conclude if those whom we supposed to be our friends should join themselves to our enemies and show a fondness for those who were bent on our downfall. John says, "Love not the world," etc. (1 John ii. 15, 16). Therefore is wrath. The prophet does not tone down or minimize matters. "Faithful are the wounds of a friend but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful." Upon these—He was plainly told that the consequences of his sin would fall upon him and his people with crushing force. "And is not the wrath of God upon all those alliances which His people form with the ungodly, whether they be social, matrimonial, commercial or political?"—Clarke.

3. Nevertheless—"The seer has for Jehoshaphat words of encouragement, words of encouragement as well as words of blame, and reminds the king that in taking away the groves he had shown the true theological spirit, which would not fail to be recognized and blessed of God. And this pride of blame and praise inspired the king to attempt further reforms."—Terry. Groves—The Archaic images.

II. Judges appointed—vs. 4-7. Again. This refers to his previous reforms described in chapter 17. Beersheba. This was the southern extremity of Judah, Mount Ephraim. The kingdom of Judah was bounded on the north by the mountains of Ephraim. Jehoshaphat traveled the whole length of his kingdom and examined everything himself "to see that judgment and justice were properly administered among the people." Broke them back. Many probably had gone into idolatry when they saw their King to intimate with idolaters, therefore he put forth every effort possible to rescue them and bring them back to the true religion. Those who truly repeat of sin do all in their power to repair the damage they may have done to others.

5. Set judges. The king appointed local magistrates in all the principal cities, according to the directions of the law (Deut. xv, 18-20), so that justice might prevail.

order that justice might prevail judges were appointed throughout all the fenced cities. These were within easy reach of all, and what could not be secured under the former arrangement could be enjoyed now.

Appellate Courts. At Jerusalem two courts appear to have been established; one for the settlement of questions pertaining to ecclesiastical matters, and the other pertaining to civil and criminal cases—David S. Warner.

FIFTEEN YEARS AFTER.

Father and Son Separated at Johnstown, Met at Atlantic City.

Atlantic City, N.J., July 18.—After a fifteen years' separation, believing each other dead, Richard Paget and his son, Herbert, met in this city last night under dramatic circumstances. They were separated in the Johnstown flood, and both were severely injured.

unable to find his boy the father could not stand the strain he was undergoing, and after a vain search decided to return to his old home in Scotland.

When Herbert Paget was permitted to leave the Altoona Hospital, he went at once to Johnstown, where he tried to get some trace of his father. He was unable to do so. Being left to his own resources, he went to Denver, where he worked for several years. The last four years he has been employed by a mining concern of Battle Creek, Mich. Last April they sent young Paget to Bolivia, South America, to superintend the installation of engines and look after their mining interests there. The elder Paget, after the effects of the great flood had gradually worn away, resumed business in Edinburgh, was successful and is now wealthy.

A feeling kept urging him to return again to this country for a visit.

The voyage did not agree with him, and he came to Atlantic City.

He was accompanied to this country by Mr. and Mrs. John Macbermott, of Edinburgh.

Young Paget returned to the United States, from South America, met a party of friends in New York, and arrived in the city last Friday. Unknown to each other, father and son were passing Young's pier, when their attention was attracted by a man announcing a "thrilling and spectacular reproduction of the Johnstown flood, and both went into the hall where the performance was given.

The performance was too much for the elder man, who created considerable excitement by weeping aloud and begging to be taken from the theatre. The performance was stopped, the lights turned out, and as the old man was being assisted from the house he passed his son in the aisle.

"Father, oh, father, is it you?" cried his son.

"My son, my son," feebly cried the old man, and then fainted in his boy's arms.

Mr. Paget was taken to a private office, and was soon restored to consciousness.

"We would rather you wouldn't say more about this meeting," said Herbert Paget. "Father and I want to enjoy our new found happiness by ourselves. I cannot tell you how we feel about it, we only ask to be left alone." Father, Mr. and Mrs. Macbermott and I intend to go straight to St. Louis. What our plans in the future shall be have not as yet materialized. We haven't thought of that. Why should we?"

PRACTICAL SURVEY.

Jehoshaphat's greatness. From that. Why should we?"

BRITISH AND GERMAN ARBITRATION TREATY.

Diversity of Opinion Regarding King Edward's Latest Deal With the Emperor of Germany.

Eighty Thousand Men Involved in the Strike and Many Branch Industries Affected.

Unless the Dispute is Settled by Arbitration, a Prolonged Labor War May Result.

London, July 18.—The announcement that an arbitration treaty between Germany and Great Britain was signed yesterday by Foreign Minister Lansdowne and Count Wolff-Metternich, the German Ambassador, comes as a complete and not altogether pleasant surprise to the English press and public. It was against just such an agreement that the Spectator and other powerful organs urged the Government prior to King Edward's visit to Emperor William at Kiel. By the papers which echoed that warning the news of the signing of the arbitration treaty is swallowed either with palpable dislike or with ill-concealed disappointment.

The only whole-souled appreciation comes, curiously enough, from Opposition papers.

The Daily News, the Government's most bitter opponent, warmly congratulates King Edward upon his latest achievement. The Liberal Daily Chronicle and the Morning Leader follows suit, while such a staunch mouthpiece of the Government as the Daily Telegraph devotes half of its editorial on this subject to expression of the belief that the Anglo-German treaty cannot compare in importance with the convention concluded with France. These expressions are used with much effect in the editorials of the Government organs, in order to offset the fear, not expressed by the Morning Post, that the French public may entertain, in view of the present development, grave doubts of British sincerity in the recent Cambon-Lansdowne treaty.

The Daily Telegraph, undoubtedly voicing official opinion here, says Bismarck's principle of "tourjous en vedette" will still remain a necessary motto at Wilhelmsburg, but it must remain the vital idea under all circumstances of our own admiralty.

The Standard, while not taking the treaty as an outcome of King Edward's visit to Kiel, says that it is an appropriate sequel to that meeting. With a few such sentences, the Standard proceeds to dilate on the stability and advantages of the Anglo-French entente.

The Times, somewhat strangely, makes no comment on the Anglo-German treaty.

Scope of Treaty.

July 18.—The first step toward peace between the seven big packing companies and their 50,000 striking employees was taken to-day, when President Michael Donnelly, of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters' and Butchers' Union of North America, held a conference with representatives of the packing houses in which the strike was called. These are indications that the conference will open the way for a settlement of the strike.

Both sides are in favor of a peaceful settlement upon an equitable basis, and it is believed that an arrangement will be made for the men to return to work pending an adjustment of the differences.

That this manner of settlement will be accepted by both sides appears probable. J. Ogden Armour for the employers and Michael Donnelly for the workers have agreed to declare a truce arbitration.

The head of the union, in council with President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, was advised to make terms at once if he could secure what he deemed fair consideration.

It is understood that in the conference the union leaders will insist that all strikers be reinstated. Another point on which the labor men will lay stress will be that a wage scale for each class of workers in the packing plants be agreed on. This brings up one of the original differences. The packers have maintained that any contract made should not include the unskilled workers.

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