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**J. P. Winston.**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL.**

Lesson V.—Third Quarter, For July 30, 1911.

**THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.**

Text of the Lesson, II Chron. xxxiv, 14-33—Memory Verse, 21—Golden Text, Ps. cxix, 11—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

We are still in the reign of good King Josiah, and the heart of this lesson is a book, the book of the law of the Lord by Moses, a book concerning which we read in Josh. 1, 8, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein, for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." It is also written of the blessed man in Ps. 1, 2, "His delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law doth he meditate day and night."

No one rejoiced more than Jeremiah over the finding of this book, for he said, "Thy words were found, and I did eat them, and Thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart, for I am called by Thy name, Lord God of hosts." David could say, "I rejoice at Thy word as one that findeth great spoil" (Ps. cxix, 162). If our hearts are right with God nothing in all the world will be so precious to us as the word of God. Not only will our hearts burn within us when the Spirit opens to us the Scriptures, but there will be a boiling or bubbling up as we hear of things touching the King (Luke xxiv, 32; Ps. xlv, 1).

There is but one principal person in all the book from Genesis to Revelation, even the one who said: "Lo, I come—in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God! Yea, thy law is within my heart" (Ps. xl, 7, 8). It was for Him that Josiah was king, sitting upon His throne as His representative (I Chron. xxix, 23; II Chron. ix, 8), and the finding of this book must have been to Josiah like a special message from Jehovah. It was in connection with the repairing of the house of the Lord that the book was found, and we are reminded of Hosea vi, 3, "Then shall we know if we follow on to know the Lord." Josiah was earnestly doing the best he knew when by this book the Lord revealed Himself more fully. It is by His word that the Lord always reveals Himself (I Sam. iii, 21). He is the Living Word, and He reveals Himself to us by His written word, in which we see Him and know Him.

When the king heard the words of the book as they were read to him by Shaphan, the scribe, he rent his clothes, for he saw therein his sin and the sin of his people and that great wrath from the Lord was upon them because they had not kept the word of the Lord to do after all that was written in the book (verse 21). There was a prophetess in Jerusalem named Huldah, and to her they went to inquire of the Lord concerning these matters. Let all believing women be encouraged by this and by the remembrance of Priscilla instructing Apollos and by the fact that the first resurrection message was given by the Lord Jesus to a woman and that the first proclamation of the gospel in Europe was at a woman's prayer meeting and also by the story of Phillip's daughters and by Ps. lxxviii, 11, Rev. Ver., to let the Lord use them as His witnesses as He may lead. The seeming prohibitions in several places refer to order instead of confusion, and to this day in some of the eastern churches the women babble in time of service and even call their husbands by name and ask questions which ought to be asked at home instead of disturbing the congregation. Let all who are taught of the Lord hold themselves ready to teach others at every opportunity, for if ever there was a time when true witnesses were needed it is now, when women as well as men are being so used by the devil against the truth.

How grand to hear this woman of God say, "Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, tell ye the man that sent you to me" (verse 23). To a true servant of the Lord He is all, and to please Him is everything; men are nothing except they glorify God. See the Lord's commendation of Josiah in verse 27, and note his tender heart, his humility and true penitence, and note in Isa. lvii, 15, that He who dwells in the high and holy place also dwells with him who is of a humble and contrite spirit.

Josiah promptly gathered priests and Levites and all the people, great and small, and read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant, and there they made a covenant before the Lord to serve Him as He required with all their heart and soul, and all the days of Josiah they departed not from following the Lord, the God of their fathers.

In such men as Jeroboam and Ahab and Manasseh we see how much evil one man can do and how far-reaching the results, but in such men as Hezekiah, Jehoshaphat, and Josiah we see what God can do through even such imperfect men if only sincerely obedient to Him. As this is our last study of Josiah, we must not fail to notice his great passover, the like of which had not been seen in Israel since the days of Samuel (chapter xxv, 18). That leads on to the passover which our Lord Jesus so greatly desired to keep with His disciples and to its future fulfillment in His kingdom (Luke xxii, 15, 16).

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It is An Internal Disease And Requires An Internal Remedy.

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It sometimes happens that long sermons mean a short pastorate.

If a man happens to be good looking he thinks that will carry him through.

You can't tell what is going to come out until the investigating committee gets through.

The honeymoon is on the wane when the bride stops telling things and begins to ask questions.

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