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Having this day qualified as executor of the estate of W. H. Stallings, deceased, late of Franklin county, this is to notify all persons holding claims against said estate to present the same to me on or before the 23rd day of June 1912 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons owing said estate will please come forward and make immediate settlement. This June 23rd, 1911.
J. C. BOWEN, Ex'r.

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Commissioners Sale of Land
Under and by virtue of an order of sale made by the Superior court of Franklin County in that special proceedings entitled Kenneth W. Edwards et al vs. Mrs. Sallie J. Wilson et al, the undersigned, commissioner will, on Monday, the 4th day of Sept. 1911, at 12 o'clock, at the court house door, in Louisburg, offer for sale to the highest bidder at public auction, that valuable and desirable tract of land situated in the county of Franklin, State of North Carolina, adjoining the lands of Benjamin Griffin and others and bounded as follows: On the east by the lands of Benjamin Griffin, on the north by the lands of Jas. Harper, on the west by the lands of L. Sills, Harvey Wood and others and on the south by the lands of Isaac Wheelers, containing one hundred acres, more or less. Terms of sale, one half cash and balance on a credit of twelve months, deferred payment to bear 6 per cent per annum interest from date of sale, or the whole payable in cash at the option of the purchaser. This 4th day of August, 1911. A. C. ZOLLICOFFER, Wm H. RUFFIN, Commissioners

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson IX.—Third Quarter, For Aug. 27, 1911.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Jer. xxxix, 1-10. Memory Verses, 9, 10—Golden Text, Num. xxxii, 23—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

We have come to the end of the story of Judah for the time being, for when in captivity their history ceases during that period. Thus the 573 years of Acts xiii, 17-21, from the exodus to the building of the temple, perfectly agrees with the 480 of I Kings vi, 1, by subtracting the ninety-three years of the captivities in Judg. iii, iv, vi, xiii; so also the whole period of the present age of Israel's rejection of Christ, which comes in between the sixty-nine weeks and the seventieth week of Dan. ix, 25-27. Every believer should lay to heart that all time spent out of fellowship with Christ is time lost.

The ten tribes had been carried captive in the ninth year of their King Hoshea, which was about the sixth year of Hezekiah, king of Judah. The Lord had borne with Judah about 130 years longer, sending them prophet after prophet and giving them such good kings as Hezekiah and Josiah, but they were incorrigible. "They mocked the messengers of God and despised His words and misused His prophets until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people till there was no remedy. Therefore He brought upon them the king of the Chaldees . . . to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah" (II Chron. xxxvi, 15, 17, 21).

The account of this siege of Jerusalem, with the capture of Zedekiah and many of his people, is recorded in Jer. lli and II Kings xxv, and more fully in those two chapters than in our lesson chapter. There were at least two very strange things in connection with this siege and the capture of Zedekiah. Ezekiel was a captive in Babylon, hundreds of miles distant, and yet without telephone or telegraph or wireless he was told to note the very day the siege began and set it forth by an object lesson to the captives at Babylon (Ezek. xxiv, 1-3; Jer. lli, 4). He was told to tell the captives that the king would be carried to Babylon and die there, yet he would not see Babylon (Ezek. xii, 13). This is explained by verse 7 of our lesson. The time and manner of the flight of the king and his men of war from the city, according to verse 4 of our lesson, were also seen by the prophet in Babylon and set forth before the people by an object lesson (Ezek. xii, 1-13). The capture of Zedekiah by night helps to make more real that the darkness and the light are both alike to Him with whom we have to do; that we cannot escape Him when He wants us; that it is impossible to hide from Him (Ps. cxxxix, 1-12).

We think of Jonah and his capture and second commission and also of Num. xxxii, 23. "Be sure your sin will find you out." On the other hand, consider how safe we are when God hides us. Think of Moses in a cleft of the rock with God's hand covering him, of Elijah hidden by the brook Cherith and at Zarephath and of Jeremiah and Baruch hidden from Jehoiakim! If we are true believers we may well rejoice that our life is hid with Christ in God (Col. iii, 3). From the murder of Abel to the present time and on to the time when he shall be shut up for a thousand years the devil's motto seems to be "Kill, kill!" See his dread work in verse 6 of our lesson. Yet the murder of Zedekiah's sons bears no comparison to the murder of the Son of God in the presence of Mary, His mother. These men and all others die because of their own sins. He died for the sins of the whole world.

Some were carried captive to Babylon for their good, like Daniel and his friends, Ezekiel and others, but Zedekiah and his companions were carried captive as a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse. This was shown to Jeremiah in the vision of the two baskets of figs (Jer. xxiv). It is not true concerning every one that "all is for the best," but it is true concerning all who are redeemed by precious blood; that all things are for their good that they may become in their daily life more like Jesus Christ (Rom. viii). So the city was taken and burned, and the walls were broken down and the people carried into captivity for seventy years, as the Lord had predicted by Jeremiah (chapter xix, 10). The mountains remained as before, and it is written, "As the mountains (not the walls) are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about His people from henceforth even forever."

The captain of the guard left in the land some of the poor of the people who had nothing and gave them vineyards and fields (verse 10), reminding us of Zeph. iii, 12, "I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the Lord." One feature of the coming kingdom will be kings' special care of and favor to the poor and the needy (Ps. lxxii, 1-4, 12, 13). Jeremiah was still a prisoner when the city was taken (xxxviii, 28), but the captain of the guard (the chief of the executioners—margin verse 9) received orders from the king of Babylon to look well to him, do him no harm, but do whatever Jeremiah might desire (verses 11, 12; chapter xl, 2-5). Thus, was fulfilled the Lord's promise to Jeremiah in chapter i, 18, "I am with thee, saith the Lord, to deliver thee."

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