

QUESTIONS.

1. Who should be the child's first teacher?
2. Give one text to prove that all were expected to read and write.
3. Give one reference showing that there were schools in Israel.
4. Who were the teachers? Name the text-book used.
5. Who organized the highest schools in Israel, and what are they called?
6. What great prophet established three schools? Name the schools.
7. Who succeeded him?
8. Prove that they engaged in industrial work.
9. Name some things that they studied. See paragraph 9.
10. What can be said about the Spirit of God in these schools? Name one text.

LESSON LVIII.

TITHES—CONSECRATED MEANS TO PAY THE LORD'S SERVANTS.

1. The Lord has ordained that those whom he has chosen to preach the gospel of the kingdom are worthy of their meat and hire, or wages. Matt. 10:10; Luke 10:7; 1 Cor. 9:13, 14.
2. God has also devised a plan whereby means are to be provided by which to pay his servants. Num. 18:21; Heb. 7:1, 2.
3. The following is, in brief, God's plan for providing this money:
 - (a) The earth and everything in it is the Lord's, because he created it. Ex. 19:5; Ps. 50:10-12; 1 Cor. 10:26.
 - (b) The Lord permits man to occupy the earth and use everything in it, on condition that they pay him rent for the use thereof. Luke 19:12, 13; Matt. 25:14, 15, 24-27.
 - (c) God charges a rent of 10 per cent of all increase for the use of his property, and this tenth is to be holy to the Lord. Lev. 27:30-34.
4. This tenth was to be brought to the storehouse or treasury; but where this was not done, some were appointed to collect it. Mal. 3:10; Neh. 12:44.
5. God calls it robbery to withhold the tithe. Mal. 3:8.

6. There is a blessing promised to those who pay a faithful tithe, but a curse upon those who withhold it. Mal. 3: 8-10.

7. The only charge brought against the one who had received the one talent was that he had not paid rent or tithe for the use of it, and therefore he was punished. Matt. 25: 14, 15, 18, 24-30.

Note.—The parable of the talents in Matt. 25: 14-30 refers primarily to temporal means; this is evident from the following: "The parable of the talents has not been fully understood. This important lesson was given to the disciples for the benefit of Christians living in the last days. And these talents do not represent merely the ability to preach and instruct from the Word of God. The parable applies to the temporal means which God has entrusted to his people." Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 1, page 197.

8. Faithful persons were appointed as treasurers of the Lord's tithe, and these distributed the tithes to priests and others who served in the sanctuary. Neh. 13: 5, 12, 13; Num. 18: 21.

QUESTIONS.

1. Of what are God's faithful ministers worthy?
2. What was given to those who ministered about holy things?
3. What right has God to require all to pay a tenth of their increase?
4. To what place was the tithe brought?
5. What is promised them who pay a faithful tithe?
6. State the result of not paying the Lord his tenth.
7. What is the withholding of tithes called? Give one text.
8. Why was the one who received one talent doomed to destruction?
9. Who was appointed to have charge of the tithes and to distribute them?

LESSON LIX.

TITHING IN ALL AGES.

1. Since tithing is based on the right of ownership, and since God, by virtue of creation, owns the earth and all in it, therefore it follows that man ought to pay rent for the use of his property till God gives man possession of the earth at the end of probation, according to his promise. Rom. 4: 13; Gal. 3: 29; Matt. 25: 34.

2. It will furthermore be necessary to pay tithes as long as God has his chosen servants to preach the gospel of the kingdom, whom he pays out of the tithing fund. 1 Cor. 9:13, 14; Num. 18:21.

3. Tithing was obligatory in the patriarchal age; for we find that Abraham and Jacob paid tithe. Gen. 14:18-20; 28:20-22.

4. It was likewise obligatory upon Israel before Christ. Lev. 27:30, 32; Num. 18:21.

5. Christ taught that all ought to continue to pay a faithful tithe, even of garden herbs; hence the tithing system is binding during the Christian dispensation. Matt. 23:23.

6. The New Testament ministers were supported upon the same plan as the Levites; viz., by the tithe. 1 Cor. 9:13; 14; Num. 18:21; Heb. 7:8.

7. Those who would use the tithes for themselves, ought to add one-fifth, or 20 per cent, when they pay it back to the Lord. Lev. 27:31.

8. When one pays a faithful tithe, he thereby says that God owns the earth and everything in it.

9. But when any one does not pay tithes he virtually says that God has no claims upon him, but that he himself owns all that he possesses, unless he believes that Satan's claim to own the earth is true and valid, in which case he ought, if honest, to pay Satan for the use of his property. Luke 4:5, 6.

10. During the Jewish dispensation we find that the Levites also received various offerings and gifts besides the tithes. Num. 18:8-19; Lev. 2:1-3; 7:9-14.

QUESTIONS.

1. How long will God justly require his servants to pay tithes?
2. How long will it be necessary to pay ministers of the gospel out of the tithes?
3. Give one text showing that the tithing system existed in the patriarchal age.
4. Name one text proving that the Jews were required to pay one-tenth of their increase.
5. Give reference which will prove Christ taught the duty to pay tithes.
6. What was required of them who would use the tithe for themselves?

7. Of what is the withholding of the Lord's tithe an evidence?
8. What is shown by paying a faithful tithe?
9. Did the priests receive anything else than the tenth for their service? If so, what was it?

LESSON LX.

SECOND TITHE AND OFFERINGS.

1. Besides the first tithe, which was all given to the Levites (Num. 18:21), Israel was required to give a second tithe, which was used as follows:

(a) Defraying the expenses at the yearly feasts. Deut. 12:17-19; 14:22-27.

(b) For offerings at the feasts. Ex. 23:14-17; Deut. 12:17-19.

(c) A portion of this second tithe was to be given to the Levite, the stranger and the fatherless. Deut. 12:19; 14:27-29; Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter LI, paragraphs 1, 2.

Note.—It would be a good plan if every Christian would consecrate a second tithe, which may be used for various kinds of offerings, gifts to the poor, missions, church schools, etc.

2. Means for the building of the tabernacle, or the temple, etc., was obtained by free-will donations. Ex. 25:1-8; 35-21, 29; Ezra 1:5, 6; 2:68, 69.

3. Money for the repairing of the temple was obtained through offerings. 2 Kings 12:4-12.

4. The running expenses of the temple were paid:

(a) Out of the atonement money that Israel had to pay when the census was taken. Ex. 30:12-16.

(b) But after the captivity, it was paid out of a yearly personal tax of one-third of a shekel, or eighteen cents. Neh. 10:32, 33.

5. In emergencies special plans were laid to raise money for various purposes. Acts 11:27-30; 1 Cor. 16:1, 2.

6. Likewise, we find it necessary in our day to devise various plans for raising money for various legitimate purposes.

Note.—Tithes and offerings belong to the remedial system inaugurated after the fall, and belong, therefore, to the new relations, and are represented by the fourth line on chart No. 1, which continues through the cross till the close of probation.

QUESTIONS.

1. What tithe was Israel required to give, besides the first, which was given to the Levites?
2. What yearly expenses were defrayed by the second tithe?
3. To what other use was it put?
4. Would it be equally as well now to pay a second tithe to be used in a similar way?
5. How was means obtained for building places of worship?
6. In what two ways do we find money raised to defray the running expenses of the temple?
7. How may such money be raised now?
8. Name other ways of raising money for benevolent purposes.

LESSON LXI.

REVIEW QUESTIONS ON LESSONS LV TO LX.

1. Who instructed man before sin entered the earth?
2. Name three classes of men ordained of God to teach since the fall.
3. What spirit will always guide a servant of God?
4. Give two other signs of a true minister of God.
5. What spirit will actuate a false teacher?
6. Name three unmistakable signs of a false teacher.
7. What will enable us to distinguish between the true and false teachers?
8. Who should be the child's first instructor?
9. Give one text proving there was a system of schools in Israel. See Lesson LVII, paragraphs 3-5.
10. What were the highest schools in Israel, and by whom established?
11. Relate something taught and practiced. Lesson LVII, paragraphs 9, 10.
12. What plan has God ordained for remunerating his own ministers? Lesson LVIII, paragraphs 1-4, 8.
13. Give three texts showing that the tithing system was binding in the patriarchal age, under the Jewish system, and during the Christian dispensation.