## THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE-SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1898.

Sunday School Lesson for July 3.

# The Kindom Divided. 1 Kings XII: 16-25.

# BY J. E. GILBERT, D. D., LL. D.,

With commendable prudence

## · Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

ram.

of the Hebrew monarchy B. C. 575, one hundred and twenty years after its foundation, was not the result of any sudden outburst of passion. What appears in today's lesson as the cause was in reality but the occasion. The tribe of Judah and the double one of Joseph (Ephriam and Manasseh), whose pre-genitors were specially favored in the blessing (Gen. xlix, S-12, 22-25) were most numerous and therefore most powerful pose of God (verse 17).

of all the twelve tribes. Judah numbered seventy six thousand and Joseph eightyfive thousand. In the conquest of Canaan Judah headed the column (I Chron. v, 2), but Joseph's sons claimed larger possessions in the land. Besides, there was a marked difference in character. Hence, there was the germ of dualism in the nation. After Saul's death the two tribes formally separated under two kings (II Sam. ii. 4-11), but after seven years the revolted tribes returned to Judah, And this was a proof that the prerogative could be obtained only by the suffrages of the sovereign people, It may be that the splendor of David's rule aroused local prejudices and strengthened the spirit of opposition.

that his presence would exasperate all who saw him. It is not surprising, there-REPELLION .- Upon the death of his father, Rehoboam repaired to Scheehem, Israel assembled to make him fore, that he was stoned to death (verse king (verse 1). That andent city, about which clustered many memories, was a favorable place for this purpose. Sithoboam hastened to Jerusalem, the rightful seat of his government, the only place uated in the tribe of Ephriam, thirty-four miles north of Jerusalem, it had been of personal security.

from the days of the conquest (Josh. xxiv, 1, 25), the center of union, Doubt-CORONATION .- It would seem that after the events just narrated-the rejec-tion of Rehoboam by the elders of the ten tribes at Shechem, the murder of Adaram the base less it was hoped there to conciliate the northern tribes who were restless under Adoram the tax-gatherer the flight of Rethe burdens of Solomon's reign, and who now determined to secure a promise of relief before installing the son. Jerohoboam-every one returned to his home, What had happened was announced to all boam appeared as their leader and advo-Israel. It thus became known to the great body of the people that Jeroboam had returned from Egypt, and immedihad been in the service of Sol omon; and the prophet had predicted his elevation to the throne (1 Kings xi, 2°-31). Compelled to flee for safety to Egypt he had received many favors, and his return from his retirement and chosen to be king of the new nation (verse 29). was most opportune at that critical time. Rehoboam's atswer showed ther was no thus formally set up a government of their own, under a man who belonged to them, who had shown his interest in hope for reform under the new administration, andtration, and with one voice the ten tribes refused to accept him-re-fused the allegiance which eighty years them, who had demonstrated his ablidbefore their fathers had gladly presented to his illustrious grandfather (II Sam, v, had been wronged and made a fugitive, ented who had been declared by prophecy as They declared that they had no inthe first occupant of the tew throne. Jeheritance in David. The call went forth to the people to return to their homes will of the people. The government es-tablished was a kind of democracy in and the son of David was told to took his own affairs (verse b).

f American Declaration of Independence, BOUNDARIES -Thus in a single day a new nation was established, to be known afterward as Israel. It embraced the people and territory of Asher, Naphtah, Zebulon, Issacher, Ephriam, Mannasch Subjugation .- The ten tribes evidently selieved that they had a right to refire rom a contract in which they had voluneast and west, Dan, Gad and Reuben. It tarily entered. The power to make involved the right to repeal (II Sam. v. 1). But Rehoboam considered that during lay on both sides of the Jordan from the Mediterran an on the west to an irre-gular line dividing it from Syria on the the two previous reigns the common east, while at the north it reached within a few miles of Damascus. What retreasure and blood of the monarchy hall seen so expended for the defense and mained of the empire of David and Solo-mon lay to the south, a territory not more than half the area of the other. thought, moreover, that he had a Divine right and hence a duty to defend his right, bounded on the cast by the Dead Sea, and on the west by the Mediterranean, but He determined to subdue the rebels. One more poulace and wealthy. This kingdom was called Judah. Its outhern limits were lost in the sards of Arabia hard on hundred and eighty thousand warrio's were assembled, the whole fighting force being three times that number, as against eight hundred theusand in Israel toward Egypt. The kingdom of Judah was composed of three tribes, or rather toward Egypt. The kingdom of Judan was composed of three tribes, or rather two, Judah and Simeon, insimuch as Lit-tle Benjamin, after Saul's death, was gradually merged in Judah, losing all tribal government. Two nations, de-

INTRODUCTION .- The dismemberment | scendants of Abraham, established in the fernment which was well established. while that of Jeroboam was lately formed. Or he may have considerd his army better equipped. This is indeed the land promised as the home of the chosen people, the one at the north with its mountains and lakes, the other at the south with its fertile valleys and beautiful cities-so begins a new period in sacred history, the unfolding and out-come of which reveal the utilmate pur-

third proof of Rehoboam's folly, an evidence of his weakness. INTERVENTION.-"There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations." He casteth down one and set-teth up another, and turns and over-

HOMICIDE .- The rejection by the ten turns for the accomplishment of his purtribes left the two tribes as the only subjects of Rehobicam. We are not inpose (Psalm lxxv, 7). True, human pride and ambition enter in to shape the course formed where or when or by what cere-monies they recognized him as their king. But before leaving Sheehem, which of events, but the Almighty overrules to bring to pass what is pleasing to Him. He had determined to divide the king-dom, as a punishment upon the posterity was in rebel territory, he determined upon an exercise of authority, perhaps to test the spirt of the peope. He sent out Adoof Solomon (I Kings xi, 11). Jeroboam was God's servant, announced in adin adwho was over the tribute, demandvance, raised up and qualified for the hour. The preparations for war in Judah ing the payment of taxes, a custom common in castern countries, as a mark of loyalty to the new monarchy. This act were contrary to God's purpose and plan. A message to that effect was given to Shemalah, the man of God (verse 22), and was one of supreme folly. The subject of taxation had been discussed, causing a breach, and ought not to have been menhe hastened to deliver it to Rehoboarn (verse 23), and the nation. The word was mandatory, ordering the warlors to distioned again unti time should allay the excitement and ill-feeling. Besides, the perse to their homes, and a cessation of man sent to collect had been charged with that business under David (II, Sam, xx, 24), and Selomon (I Kings, iv, 6), so all prepartion for war. For once a foolish king became wise. He bowed sub-missively to the word of God. The inde-

pendence of Israel was recognized with-out the shedding of blood (verse 24).

STRONGHOLDS .- The war cloud having been scattered Jeroboam began the task of organizing his government and providing for the public defence. Here he displayed ability as a statesman and military leader. The kingdom was in two parts, and he recognized the necessity of meeting the needs of both sections so as to preserve unity. Establishing his capital at Shechem he fortified the city so that it might resist the attack. Thus the seven tribes west of Jordan were se-cure. This done, he crossed the Jordan and fortified Penuel, on the river Jabbek

in the tribe of Gad, as a center for the ately there began popular movement in his behalf. As by one voice he was called three tribes. Penuel was the scene of Jacob's wrestling (Gen. xxxii, 24-32), showing that it was on the route hetween Damascus to Egypt. Gideon visited the place, showing tha it was an important strategic point (Judges vill, 17). By these two cities, with their military stores, Jeroboam felt himself able to reby his service under Solomon, who tain the confidence of his own people and to defend them against Syrians, Jews and all foreigners.

oboam had no claim-he was not of royal CONCLUSIONS .- From a human standescent. But he came to power by the point this revolution was a most deplorable event. People of one blood, one language, one religion, a common origin and nirit, illustrating at least our principle destiny, were suddenly divided into two nations lying side by side, subjected afterward to jealousy, discord and fra-

ternal war. Oppressed before with the expense of government, the support of armies, the erection of public buildings, they must afterward bear double the burden. Able for nearly a century to re-sist all encroachment from without they were enfected by their division, made helpless before the heathen, and finally carried into exclusion. But is arried into captivity. But it was the Lord's doing. He saw that a growing state ruled by a line of wicked kings would be an obstacle to his cause. He could use the divided kingdom, each part to watch and chastise the other. could even work through his scattered people in distant lands to disseminate a knowledge of the true God. He could so weaken the civil power as to exalt the re-ligious teacher, and make the prophet

by the English government guaranteeing a Canadian loan of \$18,090,000, on the understanding that Canada abandoned all claims on account of the Fenian raid.

In every instance where an indem. nity has been exacted, save in the case of the Turko-Russian war of 1877, a portion of the vanquished power's territory has remained in military occupation by the victor at the expense of the defeated nation until the money has been paid. No indemnity beyond the cession of

territory was exacted from Denmark at the close of the war of 1864, and the same thing may be said of Austria at the time of her defeat by France and Italy in 1859.

The Sultan was forced by the powers to reduce his claims of \$50,000,000 upon bankrupt Greece to \$10,000,000 at the close of the war last year, and there is no doubt that some efforts will be made, at any rate by the continental governments of the Old World, to inthe United States to take into, consideration the apparently impoverished condition of Spain when the moment comes for demanding an indemnity of war. The American authorities, however, will do well to bear in mind that while the Spanish treasury itself is to all intents and purposes insolvent, the people at large are far from poor. Indeed, those who know the country best are aware that there is almost as much hoarded wealth at the present moment in Spain as there was at the close of the war of 1871 in France.

## MARING FIRECRACKERS.

### Interesting Information Concerning a Great Chinese Industry.

Consul General Goodnow at Shanghal has made a report to the state department in regard to the firecracker industry which contains much interesting information. During the past year 26,705,733 pounds of firecrackers, valued at \$1,584,151 in gold, were exported from China, mainly from the province of Kwangtung. Most of the merchandise was shipped to New York, only a small portion going to England and other countries

The exports represent, however, only a small fraction of the amount manufactured and used in China. There are no large manufactories. The crackers are made in small houses and in the shops where they are sold. In the latter places the proprietor of the shop his wife (or wives) and children do the work. The consul general says no record is kept of the number made and sold, and no estimate is possible of their cost.

"The use of crackers." says the consul general, "is universal in China, and has been as far back as history records. It is most probable that in the beginning they were used to frighten away evil spirits. Now they are most frequently an expression of good feeling or of ceremonious compliment. They are used at weddings, births and funerals; at festivals; religious, civil and military ceremonies; at New Year; to salute persons about to make a journey. and in fact, on all occasions out of the ordinary routine.

"In making crackers only the cheapest kind of straw paper which can be produced in the immediate locality where the crackers are made is used for the body of the cracker. A little finer paper is used for the wrapper. The powder is also of the cheapest grade and is made in the locality where used. For the fuse a paper (called "leather" in Shanghai) is used, which is imported from Japan and is made from the inner lining of the bamboo. In other places a fine rice paper is used, generally stiffened slightly with buckvheat-flour paste, which the Chinese



DR. E. GREWER Old Post-Office Building, Cor. Spruce St., and Penn Ave., Scranton. Pa and will now remain permanent-ly at his home office. THE DOCTOR IS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVA-NIA. FORMERLY DEMONSTRA-TOR OF PHYSIOLOGY AND SUR-GERY AT THE MEDICO-CHIR-URGICAL COLLEGE AT PHIL-ADELPHIA. HIS SPECIAL-TIES ARE CHRONIC, NER-VOUS, SKIN, HEART WOMB AND BLOOD DISEASES. The doctor and his staff of English and German phaicians make a specialty of all form of Chronic Nervous Diseases, Skiz, Womb, Blood Diseases. Including Epileptic Fits. Convulsions, Hys teria, St. Vitus' Dance, Wakefulness, BRAIN WORKERS, both men and wo-men, whose nervous systems have been broken down and shattered from over-work, no matter from what cause, can be restored by my method. All who call upon the Doctor from now of will receive advice, examination, ser-vice and examination free. Dr. Grewer s nigh standing in the State will not allow him to accept any incurable cases. If they cannot cure you they will frankly tell you so.

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tell you so.

Diseases of the Nervous System.

Diseases of the Nervous System. The symptoms of which are dizziness, lack of confidence, sexual weakness in men and women, ball rising in the throat, spots floating before the eyes, loss of memory, unable to concentrate the mind on one subject, easily stariled when spok-en suddenly to, and cui, distressed mind, which unfits them for performing the actual duties of life, making happiness impossible, distressing the action of the heart, causing flush of heat, depression of spirits, evil forebodings, cowardice, fear, dreams, melancholy, tire easy of com-pany, feeling as tired in the morning as when retiring lack of energy, nervous-ness, constipution, weakness of the limbs, etc. Those so affected should consult us immediately and be restored to perfect health. realth.

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SOME OF THE LARGER COSTS OF PEACE

Demands Upon Conquered Nations by Their Victors.

ENORMOUS INDEMNITY PAID BY FRANCE TO VICTORIOUS GER-MANY-WHATTHE UNITED STATES MAY EXPECT OF VANQUISHED SPAIN-WHILE IT IS A FOOR NA-TION, 1TS PEOPLE AT LARGE ARE RICH.

From the Globe-Democrat.

Hidden away in the most secret re cesses of that ominous-looking building at Berlin which is known as the headquarters of the staff 'department of the German army there are elaborate reports drawn up, concerning not only the military and naval resources of each one of the civilized countries of the world, but likewise on the subject of their financial resources, with a special view to the rating of the amount of the indemnity which they should be called upon to pay in the event of an unsuccessful war on their part with Germany. The United States. Great Britain, Russia and Spain all are carefully discussed with regard to this matter, and not only are the reasons set forth at length, but even the financial capabilities of each important city and town are set down to serve as a guide in the case of war requisitions being made upon them by a vietorious German commander.

It would be of great advantage were the Jameson raid. In the war of 1879the United States' authorities accorded I the time was twenty-eight weeks a glimpse of one of these reports which concerns Spain, for a considertroops into French territory to the able difference of opinion appears to surrender of Belfort. The German prevail in this country as to the troops engaged may be taken for pracamount of indemnity in money and in treal purposes as an even 1.600,000, the and that should be exacted by Amerland that should be exacted by America from the unfortunate Hidalgos. A ing 781,000 at the commencement of the brief sketch of the war indemnities war and 937,000 at its close. that have been exacted by the victors German losses are placed at 128,of international conflicts in recent 606, the killed alone numbering 29,000. times may, therefore, not only prove Cermany, therefore, received in cash of timely interest at the present junc-



sort of an indication as to the manner pictty good pay. in which these pecuniary damages PRUSSIA'S SPOILS FROM AUSTRIA from the defeated powers are rated, all the more as the exaction of war idemnities may be regarded as a pracfrom Austria and from her allies a tice of relatively modern origin, the war indemnity of \$41,750,000, besides \$4,750,000 requisitioned during the camvictors in former times having contented themselves with the surrender raign. This war lasted only a month.

of territory on the part of the defeated BILLION-DOLLAR INDEMNITY. Perhaps the most onerous terms ever imposed by a conqueror upon his defeated foe were those to which Germany subjected France in 1871, at the close of the historic conflict that cul-

did not stand out for double the sum.

ture, but can likewise serve as some

Besides this, Prussia annexed lost. the kingdom of Hanover, the Duchy of Nassau and the electorate of Hesse-Cassel, in addition to Austria's share of the Duchies of Schleswig-Holstein. minated in the capitulation of Paris. It was due to the intervention of Rus-They consisted in the cession of the sia that Japan was prevented from major portion of Alsace and Lorraine, including the great fortresses of

exacting an indemnity of analogous proportions at the close of her victor-lous war with China. She was com-Strassburg and Metz, and the payment of a war indemnity amounting to the pelled to content herself with a mere colossal sum of \$1,000,000,000. The enbagatelle of \$185,000,000, receiving intire civilized world was startled by the addition thereto the Island of Formosa, magnitude of this amount, and very and the Pescadores. The war lasted widespread doubts were expressed as about nine months, and \$0,000 troops to whether poor France, apparently crushed beyond recovery, would ever were engaged on Japan's side. The indemnity paid, therefore, was equivalent be able to pay it. But these appreto \$60 a week for each soldier of the hensions proved to be unfounded, and Mikado. the billion of dollars was paid with

The Turko-Russian war of 1877 came such rapidity and with so little apparto a close with the treaty of San Stepent effort that Prince Bismarck and the ano, the terms of which were revised German authorities, past and present, by the congress of Berlin. They comhave never ceased to lament that they prised among other things, the surrender of the Porte's protectorate over This indemnity is worthy of special Roumania and Servia, the abandonnotice, for the reason that it greatly ment to Austria of Herzogovina and of Bosnia, the granting of independence exceeded the actual expense to which Germany was put by the war, and to Bulgaria and of autonomy to Rouvas, therefore, a punitive, or "moral mania. Finally the Sublime Porte was and intellectual damage," indemnity, forced to pay a war indemnity to Russia amounting to \$160,000,000. Russia some extent, such as President had at first demanded a much larger Kruger demanded from England for indemnity than that, however, for the costs of the war. She had insisted upom the entrance of the German on \$450,000,000, and for losses to Russian subjects and to Russian commerce \$251,000,600, a total of \$701,000,000. The indemnity finally awarded to her amounted to \$6.25 a week for each soldier engaged in the war. I may add that about half of this indemnity is The

still owing by Turkey to Russia. GREAT BRITAIN'S CLAIMS. Great Britain has received two inemnities of considerable amount from

China. The first, in 1840, was \$25,000,-00, but part of it went to compensate English merchants for oplum destroyed by the Chinese government, and the portion specifically claimed on account of the expenses of the expedition, just equaled the vote of credit. The secnd indemnity, in 1860, was about \$10,-000,000, or less than onethird of the vote of credit for the war.

The settlement of Canada's claim for indemnity for the Fenian raid from this country is noteworthy. By the first raid Canada lost six men killed and thirty-one wounded. She had to call 20,000 volunteers to arms. She also had to guard the frontier with 17,000 regulars and volunteers. Her farmers lost heavily, as the raid occurred at a busy time of the year, and she had to pay away a lot of money in pensions and gratuities. Yet the United States did not pay a cent compensation. The English government was so anxious even at that time to maintain friendly relations with the United States that it would not permit Canada to present any claim at Washington on the matter. Finally the matter was arranged

ay, adds to its inflammability "At Canton the ordinary size cracker \$5,000 for each man lost; on the whole, (1 1-2 inches long by one-fourth of an inch in diameter) costs one tael (62

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cents) for 10,000 for export. At Shang-Luring the war of 1866 Prussia took hai one tael will purchase 5,000 of the ordinary size, while the largest sell for \$5 per thousand. These prices are probably only a shade above the actual cost of manufacture. The small manu-Prussia had 437,000 men in the field facturers sell to Chinese compradores, and lost 11,000. The indemnity, ther--fore, gave her \$25 per week for each who buy as agents of foreign firms and ship the crackers in bundles to man's services, or \$4.250 for each man the seacoast, where they are packed in boxes which cost about four taels. (\$2.50) per hundred and hold 250,000 flreetackers.

"Aside from the fact that all the material used is native and produced where the crackers are manufactured, and that transportation does not enter into the cost, the wonderful cheapness of manufacture is accounted for by the kind of labor used and the wages paid. The items of cost of plant and interest on it are eliminated by the fact that the crackers are made in the homes of the workmen and in the shops where they are sold. The hours of labor are from 6 a. m. to 11 p. m., and there are seven working days in each week. Four-fifths of the crackers consumed in China are made by the families of those

who sell them, these people, of course, receiving no wages. Of the paid work, a very large proportion is done by women and children, who are paid by the piece. It is estimated that thirty wo men and ten men can make 100.000 crackers per day, for which work the women will receive 5 cents each and the men about 7 cents each. An apprentice is bound for four years, and during that time receives only his board At the end of that period he will receive, if he is a fairly good workman 150 cash per day, or 7 cents in United States money. An expert at the trade

200 cash per day, or 10 cents gold. Workmen at this trade receive about the average rate of wages paid here for common labor. The trade is considered unhealthy and dangerous, and therefore not desirable."

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