

Sabbath School Department.

International Bible Lessons.

THE TYPES EXPLAINED.

Oct. 12.—Heb. 9: 1-12.

GOLDEN TEXT.

For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.—Heb. 10: 14.

EXPLANATION OF THE TEXT.

1. The comparison of the two covenants is carried on. (see ch. 8: 6-13.) THE FIRST COVENANT. "The former arrangement or dispensation given under Moses, and under which the Jews had lived till the time of Christ."

2. TABERNAACLE MADE. See Exod. 25 and 26. "The whole length of the tabernacle was about 55 feet, the breadth 18, and the height 18. The holy place was at the east, and the holy of holies at the west end of the sacred edifice."

3. THE SECOND VEIL. The first veil or curtain was at the entrance to the holy place, the second veil divided the two compartments from each other. It was this second veil which was rent at our Lord's Crucifixion. THE HOLIEST OF ALL. This compartment was a perfect cube, 18 feet in length, breadth, and height. See Rev. 21: 16.

5. 5. FURNITURE OF THE MOST HOLY PLACE. THE GOLDEN CENSER. It is disputed as to whether this means a censer or the altar of incense. I would think the former is meant. Censers were certainly used, Lev. 16: 12, 13. The altar of incense stood in the holy place near to the veil which separated it from the most holy. Rev. 8: 3, 5. THE ARK OF THE COVENANT. This was also made of shittim-wood; and was about 4 feet long, 2 1/2 feet broad, and the same in height. It was called the ark of the covenant, because in it were the two tables of the covenant or law of God. It was the most sacred of all the furniture of the tabernacle. You remember its capture by the Philistines, and its subsequent restoration. "For a thousand years the ark was preserved, but when Jerusalem was overthrown by the Chaldeans it perished."

6. Having shown what the tabernacle was, the apostle proceeds to show what was done in it.—Barnes, THE PRIESTS. The ordinary priests: ALWAYS, continually, day after day. THE FIRST TABERNAACLE. The holy place. ACCOMPLISHING, &c. The daily care of the lamps, and burning of incense, and the weekly change of the shew-bread.

7. The ordinary priest went into the holy place, only the high priest into the most holy; they went every day into the former, he only went once a year into the latter. It was on the day of atonement that the high priest entered. Exod. 30: 10. NOT WITHOUT BLOOD, &c. See Lev. 16: 1-16. ONCE EVERY YEAR. Only on one occasion; on that occasion, the day of atonement, he probably went in and out several times.

8-10. We have here the purpose of the service above named. THE HOLY GHOST THIS, &c. This that follows is what the Holy Ghost meant. THE WAY INTO THE HOLIEST OF ALL. The way of salvation, the way into heaven, God's presence, the true holy of holies symbolized by the holy of holies of the tabernacle. See John 14: 6. WAS NOT YET, &c. That there was salvation for man they knew by the promise of God, but the way and manner of it through Christ were not clearly apprehended under the old dispensation. 1 Peter, 1: 10-12. FIRST TABERNAACLE. Same as in v. 6.

9. WHICH. The first tabernacle. IN WHICH. During which time under the old dispensation. THAT COULD NOT MAKE, &c. Could not give pardon, peace, and purity. See references. These gifts and sacrifice were not the real things which could take away sin, but were only a figure, (type and promise) of Christ.

10. Leave out the words in Italics, which stood; they are not in the original. Read thus: In which time were offered both gifts and sacrifices, only imposed until the time of reformation, together with laws about meats, and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances. TIME OF RE-

FORMATION. When all these things will receive their true signification in the coming and work of Christ. Thus far in our lesson we have the tabernacle of the old dispensation, its services and design. Now comes the comparison of the new dispensation, with it, in which the great superiority of the latter is shown. OR THINGS TO COME. "The blessing of the gospel dispensation."—Barnes. GREATER AND MORE PERFECT TABERNAACLE. What does this refer to? Many answers are given to this question, e. g. "Christ's human nature, his holy life, the Church on earth, the whole world, the glorified body of Christ, &c. I will not venture an opinion. Whatever it is, it is not material, but spiritual, NOT MADE WITH HANDS, as contrasted with the Mosaic tabernacle.

12. BUT BY HIS OWN BLOOD. (1) The offering which Christ made was wholly for others; that of the Jewish priest for himself as well as for them. (2) The blood offered by the Jewish priests was that of animals; that offered by the Saviour was his own. (3) That offered by the Jewish priest was only an emblem of type—for it could not take away sin; that offered by Christ had a real efficacy, and removes transgression from the soul."—Barnes, THE HOLY PLACE; Heaven.

TOPICAL ANALYSIS. In this lesson attention is directed to the tabernacle and its services. v. 1 simply states that the old covenant, in addition to what has already been said about it, had its sanctuary and services. v. v. 2-5 contain a description of the tabernacle; 3-5, the most holy place and its furniture.

Next we have a reference to the services of the tabernacle. v. 6, the daily entrance of the ordinary priests into the holy place; v. 7, the annual entrance of the high priest into the most holy place, on the first day of atonement, 10th day of 7th month, (October).

Now follows a statement of the design of the tabernacle and its services. The design was two-fold. The Holy Ghost (the divine Author of it) intended that the tabernacle and its services should, by their character teach the people that there was something great to look forward to, which they could not as yet clearly apprehend, the opening up of the way into the true holy of the holies (v. 8). But they not only raised this expectation of redemption, they (the tabernacle and services) were a figure, parable, symbol shadowing forth the manner in which redemption would be accomplished. (v. 9) The explanation is added that all the old ceremonies were external in character, were only shadows of redemption and so had no real power to remove sin, and were only to last till the realities were set forth in Jesus Christ.

Lastly we have the great truth that Christ is now come, the substance of which that was the shadow, the real sacrifice of which that was the emblem. v. v. 11, 12. Here to we have a tabernacle, a greater and more perfect tabernacle, here too we have services, Christ the great high priest, by his own blood, entering once for all into the holy place.

Pen-Picture of Mr. Spurgeon

Dr. Hurst, of Drew Seminary, Madison, N. J. who is now travelling in Europe and has visited Spurgeon's Tabernacle in London, writes that "he is still the prince of preachers." Dr. Hurst heard him twenty-two years ago, when he was more impetuous and nervous, and still on trial before the world. He had every thing against him—the press, popular prejudice and suspicion, and all the closed places to popular favor. But he had gone on declaring like David that his strength was in God (Sam. 17: 45), and no one now doubts his power and worth. "He has Anglo-Saxon grit and pluck, and you might as well tell the thunder blast to stop as to attempt to control Spurgeon.

Dr. Hurst expected to see him getting old, but though he has given out energy enough for seventy he lacks considerably of fifty years, and bears those years remarkably well. His thick black hair has now some stealthy threads of gray. He wears a full beard, waddles just a little more than when he weighed less, and takes things much more quietly than in the storm and stress of younger days. Nevertheless, the doctor says one can see a change in Spurgeon. "He has not the decisive force of former years. He is as deep-sighted, has that same metallic ring of voice, and knows how to play on his audience with the old masterful skill, but lacks the cleaving and lifting power of the older days of adventure and initiative. He is far more proper than in former times. He seems to be more conscious of a critical atmosphere about him.

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