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The Restoration of the Jews

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Guide Lessons.

LESSON I.

Theology and Testimony.

FIRST WEEK IN OCTOBER.

THE RESTORATION OF THE JEWS.

“And it came to pass that I Nephi spake much unto them concerning these things: Yea, I spake unto them concerning the restoration of the Jews in the latter days:

“And I did rehearse unto them the words of Isaiah, who spake concerning the restoration of the Jews, or of the house of Israel: and after they were restored they should no more be confounded, neither should they be scattered again. And it came to pass that I did speak many words unto my brethren. And they were pacified and did humble themselves before the Lord.” (I Nephi 15:19, 20.)

We are living in a day of fulfilment. We are seeing the culmination of many great and glorious things and the beginning of other things whose culmination will be vastly more glorious than the things of the present time.

As this is a woman's organization for which the lessons are being prepared perhaps there will be no objection to illustrating our point of fulfilment from the things that have occurred to give a larger life and fuller freedom to women.

It is near a century now since the first seminary opened its doors to women. It is lacking just eight years of a century since the first high school for girls was opened in Boston, amid a storm of opposition. It is considerably less than a century since Oberlin, the first college to open its door to women, saw fit to admit them, and yet today a woman may do work in practically every college in America and Great Britain.

It is now fifty years since women first obtained suffrage on an equal footing with men; but today in many European countries the women have suffrage and those who have not yet obtained it are making a vigorous fight. Sweden and France have recently introduced bills into their respective national assemblies asking for the enfranchisement of women. The United States is calling vigorously for the ratification of the federal amendment by thirty-six states, that the suffrage amendment may be written into the constitution.

So far as North America and Europe are concerned the fight for suffrage appears to be nearing its close.

Simultaneously, almost, the curtain goes down on Turkish rule in the East, freeing the land of promise of ancient Israel from the most cruel and persistently warlike people that this world has known since the advent of the Son of Man.

The peace pact recently signed by the allied nations and Germany, distinguished because of the great number of nations that took part in its making, has so disposed of Palestine that a new era lies before her, "the dawning of a brighter day majestic rises on the world."

And this new day was seen and prophesied of by both Lehi and Nephi and by Isaiah before their time.

If Great Britain is made mandate for Palestine, as many have believed she would be, because of her great experience and close proximity to Egypt, then we may know that the day of the gathering is at hand. Soon will the inspired prayer of Elder Orson Hyde be both prophecy and prayer. And as we anticipate this event do we not again see God moving in a mysterious way his wonders to perform?

It is said that fifty years ago the Emperor of Japan took for his slogan, "Japan shall know everything that is known by any other nation in the world." All well informed people know that Japan absorbed that slogan. She is one of the most advanced nations in the world today. And there is little that any other nation knows which Japan through her diligence has not acquired. So likewise have the Jews absorbed the learning of the world.

Palestine will realize as her children gather to rebuild, that they have brought knowledge from every clime where they have been scattered. What does Great Britain know that the Jew of the British Isles has not learned? What have France, Spain and Italy to give the world that a Jew or group of Jews have not absorbed?

Have Russia, Austria or Poland any strong national characteristic or gift that do not reflect themselves in the achievements of their Jewish subjects?

America, boasting of inventive genius and business insight, has many able representatives of her business ability among her Jewish citizens.

Like Shakespear's Shylock they have learned all things that their gentile neighbors know, but they will know even more than their instructors.

Shylock said, "the villainy you teach me will I practice, but I will better my instruction." It is to be hoped that in the rebuilding of Palestine those sons and daughters of the ancient Hebrews will practice only the good they have learned from their gentile brethren, bettering it with all the power God shall add unto them.

And are we not on the very threshold of the fulfilment of

great and mighty prophecy, prophecy uttered many centuries before the advent of Christ in the land of Jewish nativity, and again reiterated on this continent by Lehi and Nephi? .

Truly God doth nothing unless he reveals it to his servants the prophets, and truly were Lehi and Nephi inspired of Almighty God, for the prophecies they utter fail not.

QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS.

1. Discuss the proposition: We are living in a day of fulfilment, and tell of the culmination of some things not mentioned in the lesson.

2. Read in class Elder Orson Hyde's prayer offered on the Mount of Olives.

3. Show how it is both prayer and prophecy.

4. Give instances of Latter-day Zion being built up by persons gathering from many foreign climes.

5. Find out if you can who did the cabinet work on the tabernacle organ Salt Lake City. From what country did he come? Who built the organ? Musical part? From what country did he come?

6. From what country did Karl G. Maeser come?

7. In what land was John Hafen, the painter, born?

8. What might British Jews contribute to the building up of Palestine?

9. What might Italian Jews contribute?

10. What might Jews from the United States of America contribute?

LESSON II.

Work and Business.

SECOND WEEK IN OCTOBER.

LESSON III.

Genealogy.

THIRD WEEK IN OCTOBER.

FRENCH SURNAMES.

The history of France. The Catholic Church as a source of surnames. The Crusaders.

Not until after Caesar's time do we know anything about that rich country, which is called France. A people known as Gauls,