

and further declared to be "the Kenites that came of Hemath, the father of the house of Rechab."

It is fairly deducible therefore that the "sons of Rechab" were a sept of the Kenites, and that the latter were a tribe of religious and of course literary men living distinct from other peoples. A reference to the first chapter of the book of Judges will show that the father-in-law of Moses, who was "priest of Midian," was himself a Kenite. The Rechabites were plainly Kenites, and a distinct class.

The Hebrew term R'K'13 or Rechab is used in the Bible to signify a vehicle, the driver of a vehicle and so by figure of speech, the vehicle of learning. Its derivative, Mercaba, has the same meaning. This epithet *Rechab* is applied in turn to Elijah and Elisha as the *Ab* or Superior of the Prophets. The term *Pharisee* is also added in Hebrew style as having a similar meaning. When Elijah passes from sight Elisha mourns him crying: "My Father, the *rechab* or chariot of Israel and its *pharisee*." King Joash in turn mourns Elisha in the same terms.

In Nebemiah viii. 8 we find the verb *pharis* used to denote making the meaning distinctly understood.

It seems plain therefore that the Pharisees were teachers of the law, and as a body they were austere, exact, but gentle toward the unworthy and unfortunate. Many to be sure were insincere, but they did not represent the whole. The teachings accredited to Jesus, and even the "Lord's Prayer" were to a great degree, not to say entirely, repeated from the sayings of Rabbis and the invocations in the synagogue. Honor to whom honor is due.

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A SIGN.

I wished of God a sign,
To give my heart relief,
Some token of His love,
For all mankind in grief.

I watched the budding leaves,
Unfolding to the light,
The rainbow 'cross the sky,
Storm blackness breaking bright.

Flutter, and bum, and stir,
Of bird and leaf and tree ;
A sparkling beam, the brook and stream,
Life songs so fair and free.

The wondrous toil of man
For all our daily need ;
Love's art and work ; our hope
A higher life to lead !

And so the sign was given :
The "still small voice of God" ;
I heard on every side,
And saw the blossomed rod.

FLORENCE PEORIA BONNEY.