

"In my own heart love had not been made wise
To trace love's faint beginnings in mankind.
To know we hate is but a mask of love."

Every teacher will fail who trusts to knowledge, and makes no provision for an all-absorbing affection. We require to have our heart kindled at the sacred fire of divine love, and constantly to look up to Jesus Christ, who is the spring of all enduring power. Man, a teacher needs to pray, "Create in me a clean heart!" Dr. Stalker draws a beautiful illustration of this from the life of Prof. Tholuck, of Germany. When he was converted, this famous teacher decided that he would strive to influence for good all the students who came to Halle for their training. He made himself personally acquainted with the members of his class, invited them to walk to his home, and visited them in their lodgings. He regularly spent four hours out of his busy professional day in this manner. But his reward was very great, for hundreds of students acknowledged him as their spiritual father. When a friend asked Tholuck the secret of his life, he replied, "I have but one passion, and that is Christ." Thus the secret of this teacher's influence was his heart abounding in love to Christ and all who bore the image of God. It is the secret of influence for all of us. Paul said, "I am become all things to all men"; that is, I use art; he also said, "and this I do for the Gospel's sake," and, "the love of Christ constraineth me," that is, I put my heart into it.

Truro, Nova Scotia

The Land of the Gospels

By Rev. J. S. Conning

It is a frequent charge against the teaching that usually obtains in the Sabbath School that it is for the most part vague and indefinite. In the desire to make the instruction distinctly religious, little attention is given to the study of essential facts. For lack of this necessary groundwork much of the teaching fails of its purpose; it is not

associated in the minds of the scholars with things actual and familiar.

The lessons of the current year are from the four Gospels. If the facts of Christ's life are to be grasped and retained by the pupils, some definite instruction must be given in the geography of Palestine. Geography is the peg upon which we can most conveniently hang our historical facts. The reason why so much of our history "falls in a heap" is because we do not make as much use as we should of this admirable help. Our newspapers, in representing the events occurring at the seat of war, are careful to furnish a map, so that the daily narrative may be followed intelligently. There is a similar need in dealing with the course of events in the life of our Lord. Every scholar of ten years of age and upwards ought to be as familiar with the location of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Capernaum, as they are with the location of Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, or Winnipeg. They should be made familiar with the outline of the land of the Gospels, the position of its mountains, streams and seas, and its political divisions in the time of Jesus. Ignorance on such matters is inexcusable in any well-conducted Sabbath School.

In itself Palestine is the most fascinating of all lands. No country in the world possesses such remarkable physical features. Though only 140 miles long by about 40 miles wide, its climate embraces every gradation of temperature from the cold which crowns Mount Hermon with perpetual snow to the torrid heat of the Jordan valley. As one has said: "Palestine wears winter on her head, spring on her shoulders, summer in her bosom, and the riches of autumn lie scattered at her feet." It is this wide range of climate that "secured that the revelation which was to go forth from Palestine to the whole world would embody a range of natural experiences which would fit it for all countries and populations; for its imagery and modes of thought must necessarily be colored by its composition in a land which was, in fact, an epitome of the habitable world."