

5 And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them.

Acts 14. 46: Paul and Barnabas ... said... seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. Acts 18. 6: And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook his raiment, and said unto them, Your blood be upon your own heads: I am clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.

6 And they departed, and went through the town, preaching the Gospel, and healing everywhere.

1 Thess. 2. 4: We were allowed of God to be put in trust with the Gospel. Rom. 15. 19: From Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyrium, I have fully preached the Gospel of Christ.

4. **Whatsoever house ye enter.** Elsewhere (Matt. 10. 11) we find the command that they were to inquire in each village who was "worthy," and with such find a home during their stay. **There abide.** They were not to spend their time in social visiting, nor to visit from house to house, as that would delay them in their mission, but to remain at one place during the day or two spent at each village, and accept such hospitality as the plain habits of the common people afforded. 5. God's workers have little time for worldly pleasures. **Thence depart.** When they should leave the people for another field of labour.

5. **Will not receive you.** They would find the influences of the Pharisaical party against them, in some places stirring up strife and opposition. 6. Those who work for God must expect to meet adverse influences and difficult fields and hard hearts. [Teacher, do not be discouraged in your work because of its trials.] **Shake off the very dust.** Removing their sandals they were to shake off the dust from them. Such was the custom of the stricter Pharisees when they entered the borders of Judea, after passing through a heathen country. **As a testimony.** As if freeing themselves from all contact with them, and of participation in their condemnation, which was sure to follow their rejection of Christ's message.

6. **Went through the towns.** In Galilee and Judea, passing by the Samaritans in the centre of the land. **Preaching the Gospel.** "Proclaiming the glad tidings;" the news of the coming of the Saviour and the speedy establishment of his kingdom. 7. The gladdest news to men is the message of salvation, which ought to inspire rejoicing and not sadness. **Healing everywhere.** Doing their Master's work of blessing to both body and soul. Their mission lasted for only a few months, perhaps a few weeks, for soon after we find the twelve once more with their Master in his journey.

#### GOLDEN TEXT.

**He sent them to preach the kingdom of God.** Luke 9. 2.

**Time.**—A. D. 28, in the second year of Christ's ministry, about eight months after Lesson XI.

#### LESSON HYMNS.

No. 717, *New Hymn Book*.

L. M.

On all the earth thy Spirit shower;  
The earth in righteousness renew;  
Thy kingdom come, and hell's o'erpower,  
And to thy sceptre all subdue.

Yea, let thy Spirit in every place  
Its richer energy declare;  
While lovely tempers, fruits of grace,  
The kingdom of thy Christ prepare.

Grant this, O holy God and true!  
The ancient seers thou didst inspire;  
To us perform the promise due:  
Descend and crown us now with fire!

o. 740, *New Hymn Book*.

7s.

Earth, rejoice, our Lord is King!  
Sons of men, his praises sing!  
Sing ye in triumphant strains,  
Jesus the Messiah reigns!

Power is all to Jesus given,  
Lord of hell, and earth, and heaven,  
Every knee to him shall bow;  
Satan, hear, and tremble now!

Angels and archangels join,  
All triumphantly combine,  
All in Jesus' praise agree,  
Carrying on his victory.

No. 744, *New Hymn Book*.

7s & 6s.

What though the spicy breezes  
Blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle,  
Though every prospect pleases,  
And only man is vile;  
In vain with lavish kindness  
The gifts of God are strewn:  
The heathen in his blindness  
Bows down to wood and stone.

Shall we, whose souls are lighted  
With wisdom from on high,  
Shall we to men benighted  
The lamp of life deny?  
Salvation! O salvation!  
The joyful sound proclaim,  
Till earth's remotest nation  
Has learnt Messiah's name.

#### HOME READING.

M. Preaching the kingdom. Luke 9. 1-6.

Tu. The twelve apostles. Matt. 10. 1-15.

W. The charge to the twelve. Matt. 10. 16-31.

Th. The reward of fidelity. Matt. 10. 32-42.

F. The preaching of the cross. 1 Cor. 1. 18-31.

S. The apostolic character. 2 Cor. 6. 11.

sa. The apostolic charge. 2 Tim. 4. 1-3.