LESSON I.

JESUS WALKING ON THE SEA

July 1, 1900

Matt. 14: 22-33. Commit to memory vs. 25, 27. Compare Mark 6: 45, 56; John 6: 15-21.

23 And straight way Je as constrained in a disciples to 'get into a 'ship, and to go before him unto the other side, 'swhile he sent the multitudes away.

23 And 4 when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into 'a mountain apart to pray; and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

24 But the 'ship was now in the midst of the sea, 'tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

25 And in the fourth watch of the night, *Je'sus went unto them, walking on the sea. 26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the

sea, they were troubled, saying, it is 10 a spirit; and they cried out for fear. 27 But straightway Je'sus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

28 And Pe'ter answered him and said, Lord, if it be of God.

22 And straightway Je'sus constrained his disciples thou, bld me come unto thee 11 on the water.

129 And he said, Come. And 12 when Pe'ter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water,

to go to Je sus.

30 But when he saw the wind 15 boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he 14 cried, saying,

Lord, save me.

31 And immediately Je'sus stretched forth his hand. and 16 caught him, and 16 said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

32 And when they were 17 come into the ship, the wind ceased.

83 Then they that were in the 6 ship 18 came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son

Revised Version—1 Enter; 2 The boat; 3 Till he should send; 4 After; 5 The; 6 Boat; 7 Distressed by the waves; 8 He came; 9 Upon; 10 An apparition; 11 Upon the waters; 12 Peter went down from the boat and walked upon the waters to come to Jesus; 13 Omit boisterous; 14 Cried out; 15 Took hold of him; 16 Saith; 17 Gone up into the boat; 10 Omit came and. TXPLANATION Connection—The feeding of the five thou- in the dim dawn moving up and down with

sand men (See Lesson XII., Second Quarter) the roll of the waves, might, indeed, seem excited high hopes. Disciples and people like a spirit. The disciples, like most people alike would make Jesus a King. (John 6: of their time, were superstitious. Had they 14, 15.) They thought He was another forgotten the storm of a few months before? Moses come back to feed them with manna. (Deut. 18: 15, 18.) To prevent their folly, and to get an opportunity for rest and communion with God, He sends the disciples and the multitude away.

22. Straightway; without any delay. Constrained. They did not wish to go; they were eager to see Him King. The boat (Rev. Ver.); a fishing boat, most likely. The Sea of Galilee was "covered with a gay and numerous fleet of 4,000 vessels, from ships of war down to fishing boats." The other side. Mark says (ch. 6: 45) "unto Bethsaida," John (ch. 6: 17), "toward Ca-pernaum"; to Bethsaida, at the mouth of the Jordan, on their way to Capernaum. Sent the multitude away. See "Connection" above.

23. Apart; privately, by Himself. pray. He sought refreshment from His Father in His disheartenment at the blindness of His disciples and the people.

24. In the midst of the sea; at this point about five miles across. They had gone less than three. (John 6: 19; the Greek "furlong" vas considerably less than ours.) Tossed; Rev. Ver., "distressed," literally, "tortured," by the waves. Contrary; from north or north-east. The Sea of Galilee is noted for its sudden and violent storms.

25, 26. Fourth watch; 3-6 a.m. He had prayed all night. (Luke 6:12.) He waited until the disciples felt their helpless-ness, before coming to their aid. Walking on the sea. No wonder they were troubled and "cried out for fear." His form, seen they had at least a glimpse of His real nature.

(Mark 4: 39.)

27. Straightway. Jesus is very pitiful. He hastens to cheer. It is I. They would

recognize the familiar voice.

28, 29. Peter answered him; poor, headlong Peter. (See Matt. 16: 22, 23; John 18: 10, 11.) Bid me come; an outburst of eager desire to be close to his Master, mingled with conceit and presumption. He said, Come. Jesus never refuses to allow anyone to come. Peter . . . walked on the water. How far, we do not know; but just so long as his faith held out.

30, 31. When he saw the wind. He took his eyes off Jesus, thought of the peril and not of the Almighty Lord and Master; a sure way to fail. It is only when beginning to sink that he learns where to look to. Lord, save me. What a sudden change from, "Lord, bid me come!" All conceit has been washed out by the waves. Immediately; Jesus always gives instant help. Stretched forth his hand; in answer to Peter's need, and to even his little faith. Notice how prompt and mighty Jesus is to save, and how gentle in reproaching. (Isa.

42:3.) 32, 33. The wind ceased; and without even a word from Jesus. His very presence calmed the storm. Worshipped him. They had had fresh proof of His pity (in His dealing with Peter) and of His power (in quieting the storm). The Son of God. Perhaps they were a little ashamed that they had