

Lesson I.

JESUS WALKING ON THE SEA

October 6, 1912

LESSON SETTING—Time, A.D. 26; place, the Lake and Plain of Gennesaret. This Lesson follows immediately the miraculous feeding of the five thousand.—Lesson XII, Third Quarter, Mark 6: 30-44. The people, excited by the miracle, seek to compel Jesus to be King.

GOLDEN TEXT—Straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.—Matthew 14: 27.

*Memorize vs. 49, 50. **THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Mark 6: 45-56. Read Matthew 14: 22-36.

45 And straightway he constrained his disciples to get into the ship, and to go to the other side before unto Bethsaida, while he sent away the people.

46 And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.

47 And when even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land.

48 And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them.

49 But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out:

50 For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid.

Revised Version—enter into the boat; before him unto the other side to Bethsaida; himself sendeth the multitude away: after he had taken leave of them; the boat seeing them distressed in; Omit and; on; he; they, when; Omit they; that it was an apparition; But he straightway spake with; Omit rest of verse; understood not concerning the loaves, but their; crossed over; to the land unto; moored to; the people; round about that whole region, and; on their beds; where-soever; into; into the; market places.

Daily Readings—(Courtesy, I.B.R.A.)—M.—Jesus walking on the sea, Mark 6: 45-56. T.—A cry in distress, Ps. 18: 6-16. W.—God's care of mariners, Ps. 107: 21-31. Th.—A storm-tossed ship, Jonah 1: 4-16. F.—Mightier than all, Ps. 65: 1-7. S.—Be of good cheer, Isa. 43: 1-7. S.—Peter's lack of faith, Matt. 14: 22-36.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED



FISHING BOAT, SEA OF GALILEE

I. THE MOUNTAIN, AND PRAYER.—45, 46. Straightway. There was danger in delay. Immediate action is necessary. Constrained. The multitude's offer of a crown seemed, to the disciples, to be a great opportunity for Jesus. They

will not leave unless they are forced. Unto the other side to Bethsaida (Rev. Ver.). It is better to read, as in many old Latin versions, "the other side from Bethsaida." Sent away the people; because He must refuse their crown, and because He wishes to be alone. Sent them away; Rev. Ver., "taken leave of them." His dismissal of the disciples is firm, but kindly and gracious. Departed into a mountain to pray. Loneliness meant companionship and communion with God.

II. THE SEA, AND RESCUE.—47-52. When even was come . . in the midst of the sea. There was darkness, storm, distant shores, and no Master. He saw them toiling. They were separated from, but not forgotten by, Jesus. Prayer to God did not make Him forgetful of His friends. Wind was contrary. The Sea of Galilee was subject to sudden and violent storms. The fourth watch; between 3 and 6 a.m. He cometh . . walking upon the sea. This is the first miracle of the Lesson. Would have passed by them; in order to test them, as He tested the two disciples at Emmaus when He made as though He would go further (Luke 24: 23). Supposed it had been a spirit; a ghost or apparition. And cried out. It seemed only an added cause for fear. And immediately he talked with them; the cry of fear answered swiftly by the voice of comfort. The wind ceased; the Master of the winds as well as the Master of fear. This is the second miracle of the Lesson. Sore amazed . . beyond measure. They cannot speak their wonder. They understood not concerning the loaves (Rev. Ver.) One miracle had not prepared the way for the next; they did not see that power over wind and wave belonged naturally to the Multiplier of bread.

III. THE LAND AND HEALING.—53-56. They came into the land of Gennesaret. The disciples and their Master did not land at Bethsaida (Luke 9: 10), nor Capernaum (John 6: 17), but at a place south of both, for they had been driven out of their course. This

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Leaflets are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. Their recitation leads to the obtaining of a beautiful Certificate or Diploma