

## LESSON VII—February 16th, 1896.

### The Great Helper. LUKE 7: 2-16.

(Commit to memory verses 14-16).

GOLDEN TEXT: "They glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us."  
Luke 7: 16.

PROVE THAT—Jesus is loving. John 11: 36.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 47. *What is forbidden in the first commandment?* A. The first commandment forbiddeth the denying, or not worshipping and glorifying the true God, as God, and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other which is due to him alone.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*. Nos. 5, 37, 228, 30.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday*. The Great Helper. Luke 7: 1-10. *Tuesday*. The Great Helper. Luke 7: 11-16. *Wednesday*. Life in Christ. John 11: 14-17. *Thursday*. A pitying Helper. John 11: 32-44. *Friday*. Faith in the power of Jesus. Matt. 9: 27-35. *Saturday*. Eternal life. John 10: 22-30. *Sabbath*. Spiritual life. Eph. 2: 1-10. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. The events in our lesson immediately followed the Sermon on the Mount. The scene of the first is Capernaum.

LESSON PLAN. I. Sickness Cured. vs. 2-10. II. Sorrow Comforted. vs. 11-16.

I. When Jesus had ended the sermon on the mount he was asked to come and heal a sick boy, the servant of a centurion, or captain in the Roman army. This captain was not a Jew but he was a good man and worshipped the true God. He had shewn his love for him by building a synagogue, or church, entirely at his own expense. He had heard about Jesus and believed on him, so, when his young lad, to whom he was much attached, <sup>1</sup> fell sick he asked the elders of the synagogue to go and ask Jesus to come and make him well. He did not go himself because he was a gentile and he thought it would be more respectful to Jesus if the elders would speak for him. But Jesus did not need any persuasion. He knew himself that the centurion was worthy. As they drew near to the house, the centurion sent friends to meet Jesus and say to him that he ought not to trouble himself to come any farther, he was not worthy to receive him under his roof, but just to say that the boy would be well and he knew that the disease would obey him, just as the soldiers obeyed his own commands. <sup>2</sup> Jesus was surprised <sup>3</sup> and pleased at such wonderful humility and faith and at once healed the boy.

Jesus can still heal and bless those for whom we pray.

II. The next day Jesus and his disciples came to a city called Nain, and as they drew near to the gate they met a funeral procession. It was a very large one for so many wanted to shew their sympathy for the poor widow whose only son lay in the coffin that they carried. Jesus always pitied the sorrowing <sup>4</sup> and as the procession came up he laid his hand on the bier so that the bearers would set it down. Then while everybody waited and wondered what he was going to do, he spoke to the dead body and said "Young man, I say unto thee, Arise!" To the astonishment and joy of all he that was dead sat up. The spirit came back to the body, and he was alive again. Jesus gave him back to his mother and all who saw the miracle, or heard about it, said that Jesus was a great prophet. <sup>5</sup> But we know that he was more than a prophet, he was the Lord of life himself. He is just as kind and compassionate now, as then. Although he does not restore our loved ones to life again, we believe that they are "safe in the arms of Jesus" and are waiting for us in heaven. <sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Job. 31: 15. <sup>2</sup> Luke 2: 13; Matt. 26: 53. <sup>3</sup> Mark 6: 6. <sup>4</sup> Mark 7: 34; 8: 12; John 11: 33-37. <sup>5</sup> ch. 8: 54; John 11: 43; 1 Kings 17: 21; 2 Kings 4: 35; Acts 9: 40. <sup>6</sup> ch. 24: 19; 9: 8, 19; John 3: 2. <sup>7</sup> John 5: 25-28.

LESSONS. 1. Liberality is a proof of love. 2. Jesus loves to be trusted. 3. Jesus sympathizes with sorrow. 4. Jesus is the resurrection and the life. 5. He bestows spiritual life and healing.