

Lesson II.

GREATNESS THROUGH SERVICE

July 12, 1914

BETWEEN THE LESSONS—The Lesson, taken from Mark's Gospel, continues the story of Jesus' journey towards Jerusalem.

GOLDEN TEXT—The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.—Mark 10 : 45.

Memorize vs. 43-45. **THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Mark 10 : 32-45. Read Luke 18 : 15-30.

32 And they were in the way going up to Jerusalem; and Jesus¹ went before them : and they were amazed, and² as they followed, they were afraid. And he took again the twelve, and began to tell them³ what things should happen unto him,

33 *Saying*, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be delivered unto the chief priests, and⁴ unto the scribes; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him⁵ to the Gentiles:

34 And they shall mock him, and shall⁶ scourge him, and shall⁷ spit upon him, and shall kill him: and⁸ the third day he shall rise again.

35 And⁹ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came unto him, saying, Master, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall¹⁰ desire.

36 And he said unto them, What would ye that I should do for you?

37¹¹ They said unto him, Grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and¹² the other on thy left hand, in thy glory.

38 But Jesus said unto them, Ye know not what ye ask :¹³ can ye drink of the cup that I drink

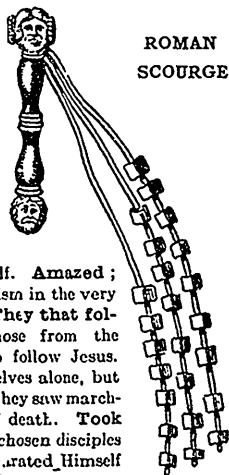
Revised Version—¹ was going; ² they that followed were afraid; ³ the things that were to happen; ⁴ Omnipotent; ⁵ unto; ⁶ spit upon; ⁷ scourge; ⁸ after three days; ⁹ there came near unto him; ¹⁰ saying unto him; ¹¹ ask of thee; ¹² And they; ¹³ one on; ¹⁴ Are ye able to drink the cup that I drink; ¹⁵ or to be baptized; ¹⁶ are able; ¹⁷ The cup that I drink ye shall drink; and; ¹⁸ or; ¹⁹ is for them; ²⁰ hath been prepared; ²¹ moved with indignation concerning; ²² And; ²³ lord it over; ²⁴ over them; ²⁵ it is not so; ²⁶ would become great; ²⁷ would be first among you; ²⁸ verily the.

Daily Readings—(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association, Mr S. C. Bailey, Hon. Secretary, 56 Old Bailey, London, England.)—M.—Greatness through service, Mark 10 : 32-45. T.—A mother's mistaken ambition, Matt. 20 : 20-23. W.—Sacrifice and its reward, Luke 18 : 28-34. Th.—A great servant's example, John 1 : 19-28. F.—Christ's self abasement, Phil. 2 : 1-11. S.—An object lesson, Mark 9 : 30-37. S.—Christ's example, John 13 : 1-17.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

I. A GREAT ANNOUNCEMENT.—32. In the way; the highway in Perea east of the Jordan leading to Jericho. Going up to Jerusalem; "up" because Jerusalem was built on hills, and also because it was the capital of the country. Jesus and His disciples had joined the caravans of pilgrims going to Jerusalem for the Passover which was near at hand. Jesus was going before (Rev. Ver.); like a leader heartening his soldiers by choosing the place of danger himself. Amazed; at the majesty and heroism in the very appearance of Jesus. They that followed (Rev. Ver.); those from the crowds who ventured to follow Jesus. Afraid; not for themselves alone, but as well for Jesus whom they saw marching into the very jaws of death. Took again the twelve; His chosen disciples from whom He had separated Himself as He moved on in advance.

33, 34. Behold; introducing Jesus' third prediction of His sufferings and death (see ch. 8 : 31 and ch.



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9. 30-32). Delivered; betrayed. Judas, one of His own disciples, was to do this. Chief priests, and scribes; two classes representing the Sanhedrin, the chief Jewish council before whom Jesus was to be tried. Condemn him to death; judge Him deserving of death, though they could not inflict the death penalty. Deliver him to the Gentiles; the Roman authorities who ruled over Palestine and who alone could carry out a death sentence. Mock... spit upon... scourge... kill (Rev. Ver.); an exact description of what happened (see ch. 15 : 15-20). After three days... rise again (Rev. Ver.); and so prove Himself the conqueror of His foes.

II. AN AMBITIOUS REQUEST.—35-38. James and John; with Salome their mother (see Matt. 20 : 20). Sons of Zebedee. See ch 1 : 19, 20. Sit right hand... left hand. These were the chief places of honor beside a king, the right hand having the precedence. In thy glory; the kingdom which Jesus came to set up. The two disciples pictured this as an earthly kingdom. Drink of the cup; endure what Jesus would have to endure. Baptized with the baptism; a description of Jesus' sufferings as an overwhelming flood.

39, 40. We can; and they afterwards did, for James was the first of the twelve to suffer a martyr's death (Acts 12 : 2), and John outlived the rest, spending a long life in suffering and work for the master. To sit on... right hand... is for them for whom...