

Lesson XII.

THREE QUESTIONS

September 18, 1910

Matthew 22 : 34-46. Study Matthew 22 : 15-22, 34-46—Memory Verses, 37-39.

Golden Text—Render therefore unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's; and unto God the things that are God's.—Matthew 22 : 21.

thy footstool?]

45 If Da'vid then call him Lord, how is he his son ?

46 And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any man from that day forth ask him any more questions.

34 But when the Phar'isees had heard that he had put the Sad'ducees to silence, they were gathered together.

35 Then one of them, *which was a lawyer*, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying,

36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law ?

37 Je'sus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

38 This is the first and great commandment.

39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

41 While the Phar'isees were gathered together, Je'sus asked them,

42 Saying, What think ye of Christ ? whose son is he ? They say unto him, *The son of Da'vid*.

43 He saith unto them, How then doth Da'vid in spirit call him Lord, saying,

44 The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies

THE LESSON RETOLD

The Pharisees sent some of their disciples to Jesus, as He was teaching in the temple, to ask Him whether the Jews should pay taxes to the Romans or not. Now the Romans ruled over the Jews at this time. The Pharisees thought, that, if Jesus should answer, "No", the Romans would look upon Him as a rebel, and, if He said, "Yes", the Jews would be angry with Him. But Jesus answered the question so that no one could find fault with Him.

After this, some of the Sadducees came, asking Jesus a puzzling question, which showed that they did not believe in a life after death. But Jesus said to them, "If there is no future life, why then did God say to Moses, 'I am the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob' ? For these men were dead long before. But God does not allow those whom He loves and who trust Him, to remain under the power of death." The Sad-

ducees, when they heard this, were put to silence.

Then the Pharisees took counsel together once more, and sent one of their number, a teacher of the laws of Moses, to Jesus, to ask Him this question, "Master, which is the first, or principal one, of all God's commandments ?"

Jesus answered, "'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." By this Jesus meant, that all the other commandments in the Bible were included in these ; for if we obey the first, we shall do all our duty to God, and if we obey the second, we shall do all our duty to those about us.