

Lesson VII. JESUS EXERCISING KINGLY AUTHORITY May 19, 1918

BETWEEN THE LESSONS—Soon after the last lesson Jesus healed two blind men near Jericho (see ch 10 : 46-52, compare Matt. 20 : 29-34 and Luke 18 : 35-43). Entering into Jericho, he pays a visit to Zacchaeus, a publican (Luke 19 : 1-10) and utters the parable of the Pounds, Luke 19 : 11-28. From Jericho he goes to Bethany, arriving there on Friday, March 31, A.D. 30, John 12 : 1. On Saturday evening the anointing by Mary took place (see ch. 14 : 3-9, and compare Matt. 26 : 6-13 ; John 12 : 2-11). On Sunday Jesus made his public entry into Jerusalem, paid a visit to the temple and returned to Bethany, ch. 11 : 1-11 (compare Matt. 21 : 1-11, Luke 19 : 29-44 and John 12 : 12-19). On Monday Jesus again went to Jerusalem. On the way the incident of the cursing of the barren fig tree took place. After cleansing the temple the master returned once more to Bethany (see ch. 11 : 12-19). Vs. 27-33 belong to Tuesday, when Jesus again went to Jerusalem.

GOLDEN TEXT—All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth.—Matthew 28 : 18 (Rev. Ver.)

*Memorize Matt. 5 : 15, 16. **THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Mark 11 : 15-18, 27-33. Study Mark 11 : 1-33.

15 And they come to Jeru'salem : and ¹ Je'sus went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold and ² bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold ³ doves ;

16 And ⁴ would not suffer that any man should carry ⁵ any vessel through the temple.

17 And he taught, ⁶ saying unto them, Is it not written, My house shall be called ⁷ of all nations the house of prayer ? but ye have made it a den of ⁸ thieves.

18 And the ⁹ scribes and chief priests heard ¹⁰ it, and sought how they might destroy him : for they feared him, ¹¹ because all the people was astonished at his ¹² doctrine.

27 And they come again to Jeru'salem : and as he was walking in the temple, there come to him the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders,

Revised Version—¹ he entered into ; ² them that ; ³ the ; ⁴ he ; ⁵ a ; ⁶ and said ; ⁷ a house of prayer for all the nations ; ⁸ robbers ; ⁹ chief priests and the scribes ; ¹⁰ for all the multitude ; ¹¹ teaching ; ¹² they said, ¹³ or who ; ¹⁴ Omit answered and ; ¹⁵ Omit also ; ¹⁶ from ; ¹⁷ should we say, From men ; ¹⁸ verily held John to be a prophet ; ¹⁹ Jesus and say, We know not ; ²⁰ Omit answering ; ²¹ tell I you.

23 And ¹³ say unto him, By what authority doest thou these things ? ¹⁴ and who gave thee this authority to do these things ?

29 And Je'sus ¹⁵ answered and said unto them, I will ¹⁶ also ask of you one question, and answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things.

30 The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or ¹⁷ of men ? answer me.

31 And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven ; he will say, Why then did ye not believe him ?

32 But ¹⁸ if we shall say, Of men ; they feared the people : for all ¹⁹ men counted John, that he was a prophet indeed.

33 And they answered ¹⁹ and said unto Je'sus, We cannot tell. And Je'sus ²⁰ answering saith unto them, Neither ²¹ do I tell you by what authority I do these things.

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS

M.—The triumphal entry, Mark 11 : 1-11.

T.—Jesus exercising kingly authority, Mark 11:12-26.

W.—Opposers silenced, Mark 11 : 27-33.

Th.—First cleansing of the temple, John 2 : 13-22.

F.—Christ's kingliness, Ps. 45 : 1-11.

S.—The coming of the king, Zech. 9 : 9-17.

S.—God's temples, 1 Cor. 3 : 16-23.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

I. CLEANSING THE TEMPLE.—15, 16. Went into the temple. From v 11, we learn that Jesus had visited the temple the previous evening and had "looked round about upon all things." Begun to cast out. He had cleansed the temple at the beginning of his ministry, (John 2 : 13-17), but the old evils had revived again. Them that sold. There was a marketplace in the outer court of the temple, where the pilgrims might buy sacrificial victims, incense, oil and wine necessary for the temple services, but the spirit of greed had crept in and made the whole thing unseemly. Tables of the moneychangers. Strangers had to exchange the Roman, Greek or Oriental money for the Jewish shekel, required for



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the temple tax, and were often defrauded in the exchange. That sold doves. Women coming to sacrifice and unable to provide lambs, might offer doves. Should carry any vessel through the temple. People, especially those carrying any burden, had formed the habit of making a short way through the temple area. This was a forbidden thing.

II. ASTONISHING THE PEOPLE.—17, 18. And

he taught ; the people who were watching him. Is it not written ; Isa. 56 : 7. Called of all nations the house of prayer ; a place where men might seek and find God's presence. Den of thieves ; literally, "a cave of robbers." The temple had become not simply a place of worldly business, but a place of

* For the recitation of the Scripture Memory Passages in either Part of List IV., a Red Seal is added to the Diploma in Colors given for List III., and a Gold Seal for the verses of the other Part. For Form of Application, apply to Rev. J. C. Robertson, D.D., our General Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Confederation Life Bldg., Toronto.