

GOLDEN TEXT

One thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see. John 9:25.

DAILY READINGS

M.—John 9:1-17. The man born blind.
T.—John 9:18-29. "One thing I know."
W.—John 9:30-41. The eye of faith.
Th.—Mark 8:22-26. The healing touch.
F.—2 Cor. 4:1-7. Blinded minds.
S.—2 Kings 6:8-17. Seeing the invisible.
S.—1 Cor. 2:7-16. Spiritual discernment.

TIME

Autumn of A.D. 29. Some time between the Feast of Tabernacles (October) John 7:2, and the Feast of the Dedication (December) John 10:22.

PLACE

Jerusalem, near one of the gates of the Temple or of the City.

CATECHISM

Q. 35. What is sanctification?

A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

LESSON PLAN

I. A Question, 1-5.

The disciples ask for whose sin the man was born blind.

II. The Miracles, 6, 7.

Jesus gives the blind man sight.

III. Testimony, 8-17.

The blind man testifies of his healer to his neighbors and to the Pharisees.

LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise—25; 76 (Ps. Sel.); 28; 252; 156.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Miss Moorcroft
Juniors—Count the miracles connected with blindness recorded in the Gospels.

1. Where may Christ have been? Whom does He see? What was Christ's feeling towards him?

2, 3. Who spoke to Jesus? What question asked? What did Jesus reply? Who allows suffering? For what purpose? (Heb. 12:6, 7; Rev. 3:19.)

4, 5. When did Christ say He must work? Why, then? How does He speak of Himself? (v.5.) Where are there references? (John 3:19; Rev. 21:23.)

6, 7. What means used by Christ in the miracle? Did He always use means? (Mark 10:51, 52.) What command did He give? With what result? Where was the pool of Siloam?

8, 9. What said by the man's neighbors? How did blind men frequently make their living? (Acts 3:1.) What was the opinion of others? What did the man himself say?

10-12. What three steps in the opening of his eyes? 13, 14. Before whom was the blind man brought? By whom? What day was it when he was healed?

15-17. What was the complaint of some of the Pharisees? What did others of them say? What was the man's own opinion? How was he treated? (v.34.) Who received him? (v.35.) To what was he led? (v.38.)

Seniors—1, 2. What was the three-fold affliction of the man in to-day's lesson? Why was blindness so common in the East? What false insinuation made against the man? What was the common opinion about suffering? (Job 4:7; 8:6.) Who thought the same? (Acts 28:4.) What are the different uses of affliction?

3, 4. What was Christ's verdict? When did He teach the same truth? (Luke 13:1-5.) What did He say when Lazarus was dying? (John 11:4.)

5. Who had prophesied about Christ? (Isa. 35:5; 42:7.) How was it fulfilled? (Luke 4:18-21.) In what sense is Christ the light of the world? (2 Cor. 4:6.)

6, 7. What virtue in the clay? Why used? Where was the man sent? What is the meaning of Siloam? Of what was the command a test?

8-11. What change noticed in the blind man? How can a greater change be effected in boys and girls? What investigation made by the neighbors? How

did this strengthen the man's faith?

13-17. What were the chief points in the procedure before the Pharisees? On what did they disagree? How did some reason? How, others? What did they do to the blind man? How was he blessed by Christ?

How was he blessed by Christ?
Bible Side Lights—John 9:1-17; Job 29:15; Ps. 146:8; Isa. 29:18; 42:7.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD—Ps. 27:1; Matt. 4:16; Luke 2:32; John 1:5, 9; 3:19; 8:12; 12:35, 36, 46.

THE SABBATH—Ex. 16:23, 25; 20:10; 31:12-17; Isa. 58:13, 14; Mark 2:27, 28.

A DIVISION—Luke 12:51; John 7:43; 10:19; 1 Cor. 11:18.

A PROPHET—Deut. 18:15; Acts 3:22; Matt. 13:57, 58; Luke 13:33; 24:19.

Gus Broughton
Practical Points—1. The heart may grow hard by frequent sight of misery. Perhaps the disciples had seen this poor, blind man so often that they were no longer touched by his blindness.

2. If we were as quick to look for sin in ourselves as in others, our lives would be purer and the world happier.

3. "Jesus, Thou Son of David, hear my cry!

For I am blind, and full of misery.

Mercy is Thine; have mercy, Lord, on me!

Touch Thou mine eyes, O give me now to see!"

—DR. JOHN JENKINS.

4. Is it not worth while to bear an affliction that God's power and grace may be shown in us? That is what has sustained many a martyr at the stake.

5. Jesus' life was ruled by "musts." A sense of duty, and especially duty towards His Heavenly Father, constrained Him. Shall we refuse to bear God's yoke, and persist in having nothing but our own way?

6. From the way some people live, one would think that they supposed their day would never end; they so waste or sin away the time. Yes, idleness is sin, too.

7. Simple obedience to Christ always brings its reward, no matter how impossible seems the task. (v.7.)

8. Read the whole chapter through and mark how sincere and honest and straightforward and courageous this poor man is. Surely the Holy Spirit of God had long been working silently in him and now his holy desires blossom out in faith in the Lord Jesus.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Why was this man born blind?

2. What does Jesus mean by "I am the light of the world"?

3. Give proofs of the man's honesty and courage.