

l Col. iii. 10. And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.

h Eph. iv. 24. And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

g Gen. i. 28. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Q. 11. What are God's works of providence?

A. God's works of providence are, his most holy,^d wise,^e and powerful, preserving^f and governing all his creatures, and all their actions.^g

d Ps. cxlv. 17. The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.

e Isa. xxxviii. 29. This also cometh forth from the Lord of hosts, who is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in working.

f Heb. i. 3. Upholding all things by the word of his power.

g Ps. ciii. 19. His kingdom ruleth over all.

Mat. x. 29. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.

Q. 12. What special act of providence did God exercise toward man in the estate wherein he was created?

A. When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; ^h forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of death.ⁱ

h Gal. iii. 12. And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.

i Gen. ii. 17. But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Q. 13. Did our first parents continue in the estate wherein they were created?

A. Our first parents, being left to the freedom of their own will, fell from the estate wherein they were created, by sinning against God.^k

k Eccl. vii. 29. God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.

Q. 14. What is sin?

A. Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.^l

l 1 John iii. 4. Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

LESSONS AND GOLDEN TEXTS.

FIRST QUARTER.

Studies in the Gospel by Matthew.

Note.—The parallel and related passages mentioned in connection with the assigned lessons will, it is hoped, be studied in connection with the lessons, to give a better understanding of their force and meaning.

I. January 2.—JESUS AND JOHN. Matt. 3: 7-17. (Study Isa. 40: 1-5; Matt. 1 and 2; John 1: 19-34.) Commit vs. 13-17. *Golden Text*—This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Matt. 3: 17.

II. January 9.—JESUS TEMPTED. Matt. 4: 1-11 (Comp. Luke 4: 1-13 and Heb. 4: 14-16.) Commit vs. 4-11. *Golden Text*—For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted. Heb. 2: 18.

III. January 16.—BEGINNING OF THE MINISTRY OF JESUS. Matt. 4: 17-25. (Study also Matt. 4: 12-16 and John 1: 35-51. Commit vs. 17-20. *Golden Text*—The people which sat in darkness saw great light. Matt. 4: 16.

IV. January 23.—THE BEATITUDES. Matt. 5: 1-12. (Study the whole chap.) Commit vs. 3-10. *Golden Text*—Ye are the light of the world. Matt. 5: 14.

V. January 30.—HOW TO PRAY. Matt. 6: 5-15. (Read the whole chap.) Commit vs. 9-13. *Golden Text*—Pray to thy Father which is in secret. Matt. 6: 6.

VI. February 6.—OUR FATHER'S CARE. Matt. 6: 24-34. (Read Matt. 7.) Commit vs. 25, 26. *Golden Text*—He careth for you. 1 Peter 5: 7.

VII. February 13.—THE CALL OF MATTHEW. Matt. 9: 9-17. (Read chap. 9.)

Commit vs. 12, 13. *Golden Text*—Follow Me. Matt. 9: 9.

VIII. February 20.—THE TWELVE SENT FORTH. Matt. 10: 2-15. (Read chap. 10 and compare Luke 10: 1-20.) Commit vs. 5-8. *Golden Text*—Freely ye have received, freely give. Matt. 10: 8.

IX. February 27.—WARNING AND INVITATION. Matt. 11: 20-30. (Read the whole chap., and Luke 19: 41-48.) Commit vs. 23-30. *Golden Text*—Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matt. 11: 28.

X. March 6.—JESUS AND THE SABBATH. Matt. 12: 1-13. (Read Matt. 12 and compare Mark 2: 23-28 and Luke 6: 1-11.) Commit vs. 10-13. *Golden Text*—The Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath day. Matt. 12: 8.

XI. March 13.—THE WHEAT AND THE TARES—Matt. 13: 24-30, 36-43. (Read the whole chap.) Commit vs. 37-39. *Golden Text*—He that soweth the good seed is the Son of Man. Matt. 13: 37.

XII. March 20.—JOHN THE BAPTIST BEHEADED. Matt. 14: 1-12 (If used as a temperance lesson, read the account of Belshazzar's drunken feast. Dan. 5: 1-31.) Commit vs. 6-10. *Golden Text*—Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. Prov. 4: 23.

XIII. March 27.—REVIEW.—*Golden Text*—Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. Matt. 16: 16.