

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE WRITINGS OF JOHN.

A.D. 30.] LESSON VI. [August 8.

GENTILES SEEKING JESUS.

John 12. 20-36.

Commit vs. 23-27.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.—John 12. 32.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

Jesus glorified through his death on the cross, to be the Saviour and King of the world.

DAILY READINGS.

M. John 12. 17-36. Tu. John 12. 37-50. W. V. 24; 1. Cor. 15. 24-48. Th. V. 25; Matt. 10. 24-42. F. V. 27; Matt. 26. 31-45. Sa. V. 31; Matt. 25. 31-46. Su. V. 32; 1. Cor. 1. 13-31.

TIME.—Tuesday, April 4, A.D. 30. Two days after the last lesson.

PLACE.—Jerusalem, probably in the Gentile court of the temple.

INTERVENING HISTORY.—Matt. 21. 12 to 23. 39; Mark 11. 12 to 12. 44; Luke 19. 45, to 21. 4.

INTRODUCTORY.—After the triumphal entry, our last lesson, Jesus returns to Bethany for the night. Monday morning he goes again to the temple, cleanses it from those who were desecrating it by merchandising, and again goes back to Bethany for the night. Tuesday morning he returns to the temple, and has a very busy day, in the midst of which occurs the lesson for today.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—20. *Greeks that came up to worship*—Proselytes, who adopted part of the Jewish religion. 21. *See Jesus*—In a private interview, like Nicodemus. 23. *The hour that the Son of man should be glorified*—By his death and resurrection. His crucifixion and atonement were necessary to his work of saving men, and causing the kingdom of heaven to come, which was his glory. 25. *He that loveth his life, etc.*—He that makes the things of this world first will lose them. 27. *What shall I say*—Read the next sentence as a question. *Shall I say Father, save me from this hour?* the hour of his death agony. No, for his whole mission had been preparing for this hour. 28. *I have glorified it*—By all he had done for the Christ, in sending him to the earth, in the power of working, etc. 31. *Now is the judgment of this world*—The hour that determines the conflict between good and evil, and by which evil is condemned to overthrow. 32. *Lifted from the earth*—On the cross. *Will draw all men*—Attract all. His atonement on the cross is the attracting power by which the world will be drawn to God.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—The intervening history.—The desire to see Jesus.—The hour of Christ's glorifying, etc.—Loving our life, and hating it.—Ver. 27.—The judgment of the world.—The attractions of the cross.—The objections of the people.

QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—Where did Jesus go Sunday evening after his triumphal entry? (Matt. 21. 17.) What did he do the next day? (Mark 11. 12-19) What did he do on Tuesday? When and where did the events of this lesson take place?

SUBJECT: JESUS GLORIFIED.

I. BY THE ACCESSION OF GENTILES (vs. 20-22).—Who came to see Jesus? How far had they gone in the true religion? To whom did they apply? Could they not see Jesus anywhere without asking permission? What did they want? Was this the beginning of the calling of the Gentiles to Christ's kingdom?

II. BY HIS DEATH ON THE CROSS (vs. 23-28).—What did Jesus say to them? What hour had come? How was Jesus glorified by his death on the cross? How had the people tried to glorify him? (See last lesson.) Could they understand how he could die on the cross and yet be glorified? (v. 24) By what illustration did he explain his meaning. What is meant by "loving life" and "hating life" in v. 25? What would be the results of these two courses? What is it to follow Jesus? How will his followers be rewarded? What comforts and help in the fact that we shall be with Jesus? (Rom. 8. 17; John 3. 2.)

III. BY A VOICE FROM HEAVEN (vs. 27-30).—What troubled Jesus? What two prayers were suggested to him? Which one did he make his own? Why was this difficult? How were his words confirmed? How had God glorified Jesus? What opinions did the people have about this voice?

IV. BY THE ATTRACTIONS OF THE CROSS (vs. 31-36).—How had the judgment of the world come? What is meant by the "prince of this world" being cast out? What was it to "be lifted up"? What would be the effect? What is there in "Christ crucified" to draw men to him? What warning did Jesus give the people? How was it applicable to them? How to us?

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. Every one should desire to see Jesus as he is, divine, holy, a saviour, a helper, the truth, ready to forgive, full of love.
2. This life must be subordinate to religion, and right, and duty, in order to make the most of life.
3. The way to serve Christ is to follow his example and his precepts.
4. Even in the best of men there are severe conflicts of the soul.
5. The victory is in seeking first the kingdom and then the glory of the Father.
6. "Christ crucified" attracts the whole world by the heroism, love, duty, danger of sin, forgiveness from God, hope of heaven, revealed by the cross.
7. The power of the church and of the teacher is in proportion to their experience and teaching of a crucified and risen Redeemer.
8. Now is the accepted time.

REVIEW EXERCISE.

6. Who sought to see Jesus? Ans. Certain Greeks who had accepted the Jewish worship.
7. What did Jesus teach them? Ans. That he must die in order to attain his glory as the Saviour and King of the world.
8. How did he apply this to his disciples? (Repeat v. 25.) 9. How were his sayings confirmed? Ans. By a voice from heaven.
10. What did he say about the power of his cross? (Repeat v. 32.)

A.D. 30.] LESSON VII. August 15.

JESUS TEACHING HUMILITY.

John 13. 1-17.

Commit vs. 13-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.—John 13. 17.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

The Christian should imitate his Master in humble service for the good of men.

DAILY READINGS.

M. John 13 1-17. Tu. Matt. 24. 1-18. W. Matt. 25. 1-12. Th. Luke 22. 1-13. F. Luke 22. 14-30. Sa. Matt. 23. 1-13. Su 1. Pet. 5. 1-11.

TIME.—Thursday evening, April 6; at the Passover feast.

PLACE.—An upper room in Jerusalem.

INTERVENING EVENTS.—Matt. 24. 1. to 28. 20; Mark 13. 1. to 14-17; Luke 21. 5. to 22. 30; John 12. 37-50.

INTRODUCTION.—Soon after the last lesson, Jesus left the temple, and declared that it was to be destroyed. He goes towards Bethany, and on the Mount of Olives foretells the destruction of Jerusalem (Matt. 24); utters the parables of Matt. 25. He spends the night (Tuesday) at Bethany, and also the next day (Wednesday). Then he sends his disciples to the city to prepare for the Passover, and Thursday afternoon they all go to the city and celebrate the Passover.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—1. *Now before the feast*—Just before. *He loved unto the end*—He did not stop in his work of atoning love, though agony and death stood in the way. 2. *Supper being ended*—Better, supper being in progress; during supper. It was at the very beginning. *Judas to betray him*—Even the traitor's feet he would wash, so great was his love. 3. *Jesus knowing, etc.*—While conscious of his greatness and power, he did the work of a servant. 4. *He riseth from supper*—The occasion was the strife of Luke 22. 24-30. *Garments*—Outer garments or cloak. 5. *Poureth water*—Into a basin. The feet were not put into a basin, but the water was poured over them. *Wash... feet*—This was the servant's work, but they, having no servant, should have done it for one another; but each one was unwilling to take this lowly place. The feet could be easily washed, because they reclined at the

table with their feet outward from the table. 8. *If I wash thee not*—(1) If you do not yield to my judgment; (2) if you are not cleansed from your pride and self-seeking. *No part with me*—In my kingdom, my character, my work. 10. *He that is washed*—Bathed; a different word from the other "washed" in these verses. He that is bathed at home needs only to wash off the stains the feet have gained by walking here, and he is all clean. He that is truly converted, born of water and the Spirit, needs afterwards but to have the stains of daily life washed away. 14. *Wash one another's feet*—Imitate the spirit of this command, and do the humblest service for others.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—Inter-vening events.—The Passover meal.—Order of events at this meal.—The contest for superiority.—Jesus washing his disciples' feet.—In what way we are to imitate his example.—v. 7, v. 10.

QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—How much time between the last lesson and this? Where did Jesus spend this time? What were some of the things he said? (Matt. 24 and 25.)

SUBJECT: HUMBLE SERVICE FOR OTHERS.

I. THE LAST SUPPER.—Where did Jesus and his disciples eat their last Passover meal together? (Luke 22. 8-13.) On what day of the week was this? How long before his crucifixion? How were people arranged at an oriental supper? What chapters of John were spoken by Jesus at this meeting? (Chap. 14-17.)

II. THE STRIFE WHO SHOULD BE GREATEST.—What contest arose among the disciples when they came together? (Luke 22. 24-30.) What was the occasion of this strife? What other contest something like this had occurred a few months before? (Luke 9. 46-48.)

III. JESUS REBUKES THEIR SPIRIT BY WASHING THEIR FEET (vs. 1-5).—How did Jesus "love his own unto the end"? How should "supper being ended" be translated? What trial did Jesus have now? (v. 2.) What comfort? (v. 3.) What did Jesus do for the disciples? How could this be done while at the meal? What was the need of washing feet at such a time?

IV. PETER OPPOSES (vs. 6-11).—Who objected to what Jesus was doing? Why? What was Jesus' reply? Does Jesus often say the same words to us when he gives us hard duties or trials? Why could he have no part with Jesus unless he was washed? What did Jesus mean in v. 10? Do we need daily cleansing, even though our hearts have been cleansed in Jesus' blood?

V. JESUS EXPLAINS HIS ACT (vs. 12-17).—In what relation did Jesus stand to them? What did he tell them to do? (v. 14.) Are we literally to wash each other's feet? In what ways may we follow this example of Jesus? In what ways do many break his command here given? What is the promise to those who humble themselves? (Matt. 5. 3; Luke 14. 14.) Why are those happy who do as he here bids them?

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. Self-seeking is one of the commonest occasions for strife.
2. Seeking for honour and the highest places is one of the greatest temptations.
3. Jesus' whole life sets us the example of humility and lowly service for others.
4. Our usefulness and power as Christians depends on our following our LORD in welcoming the poor, in ministering to the wants of the needy.
5. We should continually be looking out for opportunities to do good, and rejoice in the lowliest work for others.
6. Love transfigures and ennoble the lowliest service.
7. We should do our smallest duties from the highest motives.

REVIEW EXERCISE.

11. Where did Jesus eat his last Passover? Ans. In an upper room in Jerusalem, with his disciples. 12. What occurred at the beginning of the feast? Ans. A strife arose among the disciples as to who should be greatest. 13. How did Jesus rebuke them? Ans. He took water and washed the feet of his disciples. 14. What did Jesus command them to do? Ans. (Repeat v. 14.) 15. What did this mean? Ans. That we should not seek honour, but to do the humblest service for others.

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