

preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

As He explained to the people, that He Himself was the Saviour of whom He had been reading, they were filled with astonishment and wonder. "Why," they said, "how can such a thing be possible? We have known this man all our lives. He, the son of Joseph the carpenter, calling Himself the Messiah!" And they were offended at Him.

Now, Jesus knew that they were also much dissatisfied because He had not shown His power in Nazareth by some such miracle as He had done at Capernaum, in healing the nobleman's son. And feeling their distrust of Him, He said with deep disappointment, "It is said, a prophet is never honored by his own people and country. Remember Elisha and his work for those outside His own nation, how he helped the widow of Sarepta, and Naaman the Syrian leper, who, though heathen, showed more faith towards God's messenger in the time of sickness and famine, than did the suffering and starving Israelites themselves."

At the very mention of "heathen" and "lepers," the angry and jealous Nazarenes now rushed upon Jesus in fury, and dragging Him from the synagogue to the top of the hill upon which their town was built, and which Jesus must often have climbed as a boy, they would have thrown Him over the precipice to be killed upon the rocks beneath. But Jesus hid Himself among the crowd, and leaving Nazareth, where he had been so cruelly received by those who should have been His best friends, He made His home in Capernaum.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Where did Jesus go the first Sabbath after He returned to Nazareth? 2. What did the ruler of the synagogue ask Him to do? 3. Why were His old neighbors anxious to hear Jesus speak? 4. What book was handed to Him? 5. Whose words did He read? 6. What were they about? 7. What did He say of Himself? 8. Why were the people of Nazareth surprised at Christ's claim? 9. For what were they most offended in Him? 10. What had Jesus done at Capernaum? 11. Why did

He say it was easy for Elisha to help the widow and the leper? 12. What did the people of Nazareth try to do to Jesus? 13. How were they prevented from killing Him? 14. Where did Jesus go? 15. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Hymn

The Great Physician now is near
The sympathizing Jesus;
He speaks the drooping heart to cheer:
O, hear the voice of Jesus. Amen.
—Hymn 544, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—69. What is the danger in using images or pictures in the worship of God? We may come to worship the image or picture instead of God.

SHORTER CATECHISM—4. What is God? A. God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth. 5. Are there more Gods than one? There is but One only, the living and true God.

SOMETHING TO DRAW

How wicked it was of the people of Nazareth to wish to throw the Saviour down from the top of a hill; and it was all the worse



because He felt so kindly towards them. Is it not very wrong in us, also, to shut out of our hearts the One who loves us so much and has shown to us so great kindness?

I Have Learned Today
THAT JESUS HAS A MESSAGE FOR ME