

Luke 17 : 11-19—Memory Verses, 17-19.

Golden Text—Were there none found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger?—Luke 17 : 18 (Rev. Ver.).



11 And it came to pass, as he went to Jeru'salem, that he passed through the midst of Samar'ia and Gal'ilee.

12 And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off :

13 And they lifted up *their* voices, and said, Je'sus, Master, have mercy on us.

14 And when he saw *them*, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,

16 And fell down on *his* face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samar'itan.

17 And Je'sus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where *are* the nine?

18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.

19 And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way : thy faith hath made thee whole.

THE LESSON RETOLD

One day Jesus was traveling along a road towards the big city of Jerusalem. He was going because a great feast day was near.

Presently ten men appeared in the way. The men were very wretched and miserable because they were ill.

Now the disease these men had was one of the most dreadful that came to that land. Sometimes it made people blind, sometimes it made them lame, always they were helpless. The illness was called leprosy.

In order to keep well people from taking this disease, those who had leprosy were sent out of their houses away from others. They were poor and lonely and suffering. They had to beg for a living.

The ten lepers must have heard of Jesus' wonderful power to heal the sick. When they saw Him they began to cry : "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us! Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

Jesus is always sorry for those who are ill. He was sorry for these ten poor men.

He said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests!"

No one who had suffered from leprosy, could be called healed and well till a priest

had examined him. As the men turned to go, they found that Jesus had healed them. The loathsome disease was gone!

A strange thing happened. Nine of those men forgot to come back and thank Jesus. Nine of those men thought only about the joy of being well. They forgot all about the One who had given them the great gift of health. They went on their way with never a "thank you!"

One of the men came back and kneeled at Jesus' feet. He told his Master of his gratitude. He praised Jesus and thanked Him.

Now the man who returned to thank Jesus belonged to the people of Samaria whom the Jews hated and despised. But Jesus never despised any one, and was always ready to welcome people of all sorts and to bless them. Should not we, too, feel kindly towards all people no matter where they come from and be eager to help them?

Jesus was grieved because the nine men did not care enough for Him to say "thank you." He said : "Were there not ten healed? Where are the nine?" And Jesus said to the man that he was not only healed of his disease, but also saved from his sins.