

A Charm.

EVERY gentle deed you do
One bright spirit brings to you
One more angel, watch to keep
By your pillow while you sleep;

Every gentle word you say
One dark spirit drives away:
Makes the clover in the grass
Whisper greetings as you pass;

—Virginia B. Harrison.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW.

A. D. 28] LESSON V. [Oct. 30

THE HARVEST AND THE LABOURERS.

Matt. 9: 35-38; 10: 1-8. Memory verses, 36-38.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Freely ye have received, freely give. Matt. 10: 8.

OUTLINE.

- 1. The Harvest.
2. The Labourers.

TIME.—28 A. D.

PLACE.—The country of Galilee and Capernaum.

RULERS.—Same as in Lesson I.

CONNECTING LINKS. We are now almost at the end of the second year of Christ's ministry. After the events of the last lesson, Jesus had once more gone to the home of his childhood, and there had attempted again to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom.

EXPLANATIONS.—Went about. Journeyed on foot, making the last tour of his loved province. Teaching. ... preaching. ... and healing. His work was one of use to some one wherever he went. Moved with compassion. Filled with compassionate, loving pity, since he knew so well their needs. They faint. They were jaded and worn, physically and spiritually. Sheep having no shepherd—Without a nation; without religious teachers; without the salvation which he would so gladly have given. The harvest. The spiritual harvest; the multitudes were ready if only they could be reached; he could not reach them, for his work was to die. Last sheep of the house of Israel. See Jer. 50: 6. The nation had for six centuries been called a nation of lost sheep.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

- 1. The Harvest.
In what respect were these multitudes like the ripening harvest?
What was their danger, except labourers were sent forth?
By what had they been prepared for spiritual ingathering?
Who were to be the reapers that the Lord of the harvest would send forth?
Why were the twelve, or the disciples, close at hand to pray for labourers?
What should be the effect of prayer on those who utter it?
On what other occasion had Jesus said, "The fields are white to the harvest"?
Did the harvest which Jesus had in mind end with his life?
What fact in the early history of the Church shows that this was a true saying of our Lord?
2. The Labourers.
Who were the first labourers?
How had these twelve been heretofore known?

Now that they are "sent," what does their historic name become?
To what did their number correspond?
What was, therefore, their first great mission?
What is there in the lesson that indicates the direction of their journey?
What power was given to them?
Was the power to raise the dead ever used?
What success attended this mission? Luke 10: 17.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

In this lesson is our model. Tiredless, earnest, helpful, pitiful, he went about doing good.
Here, also, is our mission. Behold the harvest. Pray for aid. Go. Work. Give. Here is my talisman for memory, "Freely ye have received."

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

- 1. There are four lists of the apostles: Matt. 10: 2-4; Mark 3: 16-19; Luke 6: 14-16; Acts 1: 13.
2. Commit to memory the list as given in Matthew.
3. Study the movements made by Jesus and the apostles from Lesson I. of this quarter to the present time. "This is important, for Jesus is now leaving Galilee."
4. Write the names of all who had come into such contact with Jesus that they ought to have been his firm disciples.
5. Find the first account of Peter, James, Andrew, and John meeting Jesus. Also the second account. Is this the third commission to these four?

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION. The missionary spirit.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

- 5. Is that the only lesson?
No; we learn the blessed truth that God is love; for it was his love that provided the Saviour for men.
John iii: 16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life.

A. D. 28] LESSON VI. [Nov. 6

CONFESSING CHRIST.

Matt. 10: 32-42. Memory verses, 37-39.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Whoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. Matt. 10: 32

OUTLINE.

- 1. Our Confession of Christ.
2. Christ's Confession of Us.

TIME.—28 A. D.

PLACE.—In Galilee.

RULERS.—Same as in Lesson I.

CONNECTING LINKS. This lesson follows immediately upon the last, being part of the discourse at the sending forth of the apostles.

EXPLANATIONS.—I shall confess me—Shall acknowledge me as Messiah and Saviour. Shall deny me—Shall refuse to acknowledge my claim. To send power—He is the Prince of peace, and through him peace shall come, but only after fierce conflict with sin. Sword. Christ's Gospel is aggressive, and must overthrow existing forms of unbelief and wickedness. For I am come to set a man at variance. Not as an actual purpose for the mere sake of making trouble; but that will be the natural result of my coming. That taketh not his cross—A figure borrowed from the familiar Roman punishment by which he was himself to die. He that fineth his life—He who preserves his earthly life. Shall lose it—Shall lose his spiritual life, if the former was saved by unfaithfulness. A prophet—Any religious teacher. One of these little ones—Referring to his disciples. Cup of cold water—The very smallest act of Christian love.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

- 1. Our Confession of Christ.
What does our Lord lay down as the principle upon which his recognition of us in heaven must depend?

What gain is implied as a result of Christ's confession of us before his Father?
What loss will attend the denial?
What does our confession make necessary for us to do?
How is Christ confessed in practical life?
How is Christ denied also in daily life?
What is to be the end for those to whom Christ says, "I never knew you?"

2. Christ's Confession of Us.

What is the Christian's confession, as found in the Apostles' Creed?
What is the absolute promise of Christ to him who confesses before men?
What do the Scriptures declare that Christ shall be at the last day?
What is meant by sending a sword on earth?
What has the history of Christianity been?
How will Christ show to those who serve his cause that he appreciates the service?
What parable further illustrates this thought? Matt. 25: 31-46.
What is one of the reasons why a believer should join the Church?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

What a privilege to be introduced at the last day to our heavenly Father by our friend Jesus of Nazareth. We can be.
How terrible to be compelled to turn away unrecognized. Some will be. Where will they go?
Can you solve the problem here suggested—loss and gain, here and there? How easy to serve Christ! Only a cup of cold water in the name of his disciple. And for little ones. O think of the little ones everywhere, every day; and Christ will accept the little gift to them. He has said it who is faithful.

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

- 1. Try to picture the scene where Jesus shall stand at the throne of God, and present, one by one, those who have confessed him. Get this as a real thing before your mind.
2. Write ten different ways in which Christ may be confessed in daily life: by the school-boy, the school-girl, the clerk, the traveller, the merchant, the father, the mother; think of three other illustrations.
3. Study all the warnings which Jesus gave his disciples in this charge. There are seven warnings. Can you find them?
4. If this lesson seems hard to understand, mark everything that is hard, and ask some one about it: father, mother, teacher, pastor. Ask till your want is satisfied.
5. Apply this lesson as a test to your own life, honestly, fearlessly, prayerfully.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The judgment.

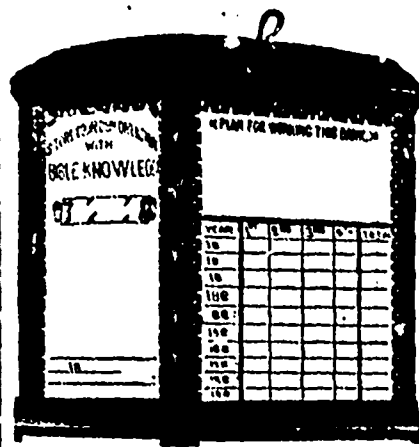
CATECHISM QUESTION.

- 6. Does the death of Christ then prove both the justice and the mercy of God?
Yes; in a most wonderful way the cross shows us God's hatred of sin and love towards the sinner.
Isaiah liii: 10. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief; when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.
Psalm lxxxv: 10. Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

C. L. S. C.

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Chautauqua Text Book, American History..... 0 12
American Literature. By Prof. H. A. Beers, A.M., of Yale College.... 0 70
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