

Luke 9 : 49-62—Memory Verses, 55, 56.

Golden Text—He that is not against you is for you.—Luke 9 : 50.



THE LESSON RETOLD

One day the disciple John came to Jesus saying, "Master, not long ago we saw a man casting out devils in Thy name, and because he did not belong to us, we forbade him doing so." But Jesus rebuked His disciple. "Forbid him not", He said, "such a man is not working against Me, but for Me."

Now the time had come for Jesus to go up to Jerusalem, to suffer and die for the sins of His people; so He and His disciples turned their steps in the direction of the Holy City. Now, as it happened, their way led through the country of the Samaritans. The Samaritans and the Jews hated one another.

So when some of the disciples hurried on before the rest of the party to find some house that would give them shelter, the

Samaritans would not allow them to come into their town, because they were Jews and on their way to Jerusalem. The disciples, James and John, were very angry because Jesus and His followers were refused admittance into the Samaritan village, and they said to Jesus, "Lord, may we not command fire to come down from heaven and burn up these wicked men, even as the prophet Elijah did to the company of soldiers whom a king once sent to take him by force?" But Jesus rebuked the disciples for showing a such revengeful spirit. "I am not come", He said "to destroy men's lives, but to save them."

So they traveled on still further to another village. And on their way a certain man came up to Jesus and said to Him, "Lord, I will follow Thee wheresoever Thou goest." "You do not know what you are promising so lightly", Jesus answered the man. "Even the little beasts of the field have holes in the earth to live in and the birds of the air have nests, but I have no place of My own on which to lay My head."

Afterwards another man came up to them, and Jesus, to test him, said, "Will you also follow Me?" But the man began to make excuses. "Lord," he said, "let me first go and bury my father." "The living are of more importance than the dead," Jesus answered; "go to them and preach of the kingdom of God."

Then another man broke in eagerly, "Lord, I will follow Thee, but let me first go and bid farewell to my friends at home." But Jesus saw that if he did this, he would likely be persuaded to remain at home, and warned him, saying, "No man who starts out on the right road, and turns back for any reason whatever, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Questions on the Lesson

1. About what did John complain to Jesus? 2. How did Jesus rebuke him? 3. What had Jesus now to do? 4. Through what country did their way to Jerusalem lie? 5. What did two disciples do? 6. Why did the Samaritans refuse them shelter? 7. What did the disciples beg permission of Jesus to do? 8. In what words did Jesus rebuke them? 9. What did a certain man say to Jesus? 10. What was Jesus' answer? 11. What did Jesus say to another man to test him? 12. What excuse did he give? 13. What was Jesus' reply? 14. What did another man promise? 15. How did Jesus answer him? 16. What is the Golden Text?