

LESSON IX.

CHRIST AT THE FEAST

Feb. 26, 1899

John 7: 14, 26-37. Commit to Memory vs. 26-31. Study the whole Chapter.

14. (1) Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught.

26. (2) Then cried Jesus in the temple as he taught, saying, Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not.

29. (3) But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath sent me.

30. (4) Then they sought to take him; (5) but no man laid hands on him, because his hour was not yet come.

31. (6) And many of the people believed on him, and said, When (7) Christ cometh will he do more (8) miracles than these which this man hath done?

32. The Pharisees (9) heard that the people murmured such things concerning him: and the (10)

Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take him.

33. Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me.

34. Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am thither ye cannot come.

35. Then said the Jews among themselves, Whither will (11) he go that we shall not find him? will he go unto the (12) dispersed among the (13) Gentiles, and teach the (13) Gentiles?

36. What manner of saying is this that he said, Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come?

37. (14) In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

Revised Version.—(1) But when it was now the midst; (2) Jesus therefore cried in the temple, teaching and saying; (3) I know him, because I am from him, and he sent me; (4) They sought therefore; (5) And no man laid his hands; (6) But of the multitude many believed; (7) When the Christ shall come; (8) Signs; (9) Heard the multitude murmuring these things; (10) Chief Priests and Pharisees; (11) This man; (12) Dispersion; (13) Greeks; (14) Now on the last.

GOLDEN TEXT

"If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."—John 7: 37.

DAILY READINGS

M.—John 7: 1-18. Divided opinion.

T.—John 7: 14-27 } Christ at the
W.—John 7: 28-37 } feast.

Th.—John 7: 40-52. Enemies defeated.

F.—John 8: 19-20. Boldness in teaching.

S.—John 8: 21-30. Convincing words.

Sa.—Rev. 23: 18-17. Free invitation.

LESSON PLAN

CHRIST AT THE FEAST.

I. IN THE TEMPLE, 14.
In the midst of the feast; Teaching the crowd.

II. WHENCE HE WAS, 26, 29.
Publicly proclaimed ("cried in the temple"); From God.

III. HOW HE WAS REGARDED, 30-32.
The rulers would have taken Him, but they dared not; Many believed on Him; Officers sent to arrest Him.

IV. WHITHER HE WAS GOING, 33-36.
To Him who had sent Him; Out of their reach; A puzzle.

V. WHAT HE HAD TO BESTOW, 37.
The Water of Life.

TIME

Autumn of A.D. 29. Feast of Tabernacles.

PEACE

Jerusalem; The Temple.

CATECHISM

Q. 50. What is required in the second commandment?

A. The second commandment requireth the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath appointed in His word.

LESSON HYMNS—559, 199, 126, 549, 183.

CONNECTING LINKS

Jesus had not been to Jerusalem since the feast mentioned in John 5:1. If that feast was a Passover, He was absent 18 months; if Tabernacles, 12 months: if Purim, 7 months. His brethren urged Him to go up to this Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:8-4). The "Jews" (probably the rulers) were waiting for Him, no doubt to arrest Him, if possible. (v. 11) The people were divided in their opinion of Him (v. 12). The common thought of all was, "Will He come?" In the midst of the feast week He suddenly appeared in the Temple and began to teach, as was His wont.

EXPOSITION

I. In the Temple, 14.

V. 14. "*Midst of the feast*," the third or fourth day. The Feast of Tabernacles was held from the 15th to the 21st of the seventh month. An eighth day was added by law (Lev. 23: 34-36). It was a very joyful feast. The people lived in booths made of the branches of trees to commemorate the life in the wilderness (Lev. 23: 42, 43). "*In the Temple*," probably Solomon's porch. The verses 28-36 give us a part of His

teaching concerning His origin and mission, and His approaching departure.

II. Whence He was, 26, 29.

V. 28. "*Cried*," implies elevation of voice and strong emotion. He is deeply stirred by their gross misconception of Him. "Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am." The words are to be taken with verse 27. They claim to know all about Him, and that, therefore, He cannot be the Messiah, whose origin