

**BETWEEN THE LESSONS**—This Lesson from Luke follows immediately on Lesson X. (Matt. 18 : 1-14), in which Jesus taught a lesson on ambition and the childlike spirit by means of a little child. In the Lesson of last Sabbath He taught the disciples the duty of and reason for forgiveness. Now He gives a lesson on the spirit of intolerance. The scene is on the way from Capernaum, through Samaria, to Jerusalem.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—He that is not against you is for you.—Luke 9 : 50 (Rev. Ver.).

Memorize vs. 55, 56. **THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Luke 9 : 49-62.

49 And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name ; and we forbad him, because he followeth not with us.

50 <sup>1</sup> And Je'sus said unto him, Forbid him not : for he that is not against <sup>2</sup> us is for us.

51 And it came to pass, when the <sup>3</sup> time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jeru'salem,

52 And sent messengers before his face : and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he <sup>4</sup> would go to Jeru'salem.

54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we <sup>5</sup> command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, <sup>6</sup> even as Elias did ?

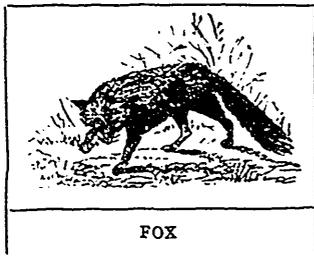
55 But he turned, and rebuked them, <sup>7</sup> and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

56 <sup>8</sup> For the Son of man is not come to destroy

**Revised Version**—<sup>1</sup> But Jesus ; <sup>2</sup> you is for you ; <sup>3</sup> days were well-nigh come ; <sup>4</sup> were going to ; <sup>5</sup> bid fire ; <sup>6</sup> Omit rest of verse ; <sup>7</sup> Omit first clause of verse ; <sup>8</sup> Omit five words ; <sup>9</sup> Omit Lord ; <sup>10</sup> The ; <sup>11</sup> heaven ; <sup>12</sup> But he said ; <sup>13</sup> Leave the ; <sup>14</sup> to bury ; <sup>15</sup> own dead ; <sup>16</sup> publish abroad ; <sup>17</sup> first suffer me to bid farewell to them that are at my house.

**Daily Readings**—(Courtesy, I. B. R. A.)—M.—For or against, Luke 9 : 49-62. T.—Confession or denial, Luke 12 : 4-12. W.—"Almost", Acts 26 : 19-28. Th.—A wise decision, Josh. 24 : 14-22. F.—Willingly offered, 1 Chron. 29 : 6-13. S.—All for Christ, Matt. 19 : 23-30. S.—Our Intercessor, John 17 : 4-13.

### THE LESSON EXPLAINED



I. TWO REBUKES OF INTOLERANCE.—49, 50. John answered. John seldom appears in any prominent way in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and

Luke, and only on this occasion is he the sole spokesman. Casting out devils. He was doing work sanctioned by Christ's practice. In thy name. A true work of Christ in Christ's name. Evidently persons outside of the inner circle of the disciples had been deeply influenced by Christ, so that they had begun to work. We forbad him. The Greek implies that the prohibition had been obeyed. Because he followeth not with us. John does not say, "followeth not Thee." It is separation from the band, not from Jesus, that is the offence. John, who became the great apostle of love, is here a narrow sectarian. Not against . . . for us ; the true work and the true spirit, these are the all important things. Paul could rejoice even when the gospel was preached from envy and strife (Phil 1 : 15).

51-56. The time was come ; Rev. Ver., "the days were well nigh come." Received up ; into heaven. Set his face ; resolutely, for hard things were to come before the ascension. Messengers ;

men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.

57 And <sup>9</sup> it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, <sup>9</sup> Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

58 And Je'sus said unto him, <sup>10</sup> Foxes have holes, and <sup>10</sup> birds of the <sup>11</sup> air have nests ; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

59 And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

60 <sup>12</sup> Je'sus said unto him, <sup>12</sup> Let the dead <sup>12</sup> bury their <sup>12</sup> dead ; but go thou and <sup>16</sup> preach the kingdom of God.

61 And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee ; but <sup>17</sup> let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.

62 <sup>1</sup> And Je'sus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

from among His disciples. Before his face ; for advance preparation. Village of the Samaritans ; near the border. Pilgrims from Galilee often passed through Samaria to the feasts at Jerusalem. Make ready ; prepare lodgings. Did not receive ; prompt, decided rejection,—a protest against the temple at Jerusalem and its worship. They had a rival temple (see John 4 : 20). James and John, surnamed "Sons of thunder" by their Lord (Mark 3 : 17), they answer to their name. Command fire ; in swift revenge. As Elias did ; 2 Kings 1 : 10. What manner of spirit ye are of. The suggestion evidently expressed the disciples' dislike of the Samaritans, rather than their love of the Master. Another village ; another village of another kind, that is, a Jewish village : the journey through Samaria is given up.

II. THREE KINDS OF FOLLOWERS.—57-62. Went in the way ; Jerusalem-wards and cross wards. A certain man. Matthew (ch. 8 : 19) says a scribe, an unlikely disciple. I will follow thee ; he desires to be a personal follower. Foxes have holes. The scribe had evidently concluded that Jesus was the promised Messiah. He was dreaming of a golden future. Jesus lays before him all that is involved—sacrifice, privation. Nests ; lodging places. Hath not where . . . head ; not a complaint, only a warning to him who does not count the cost. Another ; a different type of man. Follow me. This man was hesitating. Jesus encouraged him, as He discouraged the first. To go and bury my father ; does not mean that the father was dead at the time. He desired to stay at home till his father should die. He