

LESSON VII—August 15th, 1897.

Abstaining for the sake of Others. I COR. 8: 1-13.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

When and where was *First Corinthians* written? What topics does it treat of? What is the special question referred to in the lesson?

1. Were Christians forbidden to partake of food that had been offered to idols? (Acts 15: 29; 21: 25). Was this prohibition out of deference to Jewish prejudices? (Num. 25: 2; Ps. 106: 28; Rev. 2: 14). Does Paul contradict the decree of the council? What creates real "uncleanness" in anything? (Rom. 14: 14).

2. Is modesty a mark of true wisdom? (1 Cor. 13: 8, 9, 12; Gal. 6: 3; 1 Tim. 6: 4).

3. Does love help us to know God? (1 John 4: 7, 8). Does Christ know his people? (John 10: 14).

4. Whom do idolators really worship? (1 Cor. 10: 20). On the vanity of idols read Isa. 41: 24; 44: 8, 9; Jer. 10: 14; Ps. 115: 4-8.

5. Does the Old Testament teach the fatherhood of God? (Mal. 2: 10). The absolute dependence of all things upon God. (Acts 17: 28; Rom. 11: 36). Christ alone is Lord of the conscience. (John 13: 13; Acts 2: 36; 1 Cor. 12: 3; Eph. 4: 5; Phil. 2: 11). Christ is the Creator (John 1: 3; Col. 1: 16; Heb. 1: 2) and Redeemer of his people (Eph. 2: 10; 2 Cor. 5: 17; Gal. 6: 14).

7. How should we act towards those with weak consciences? (1 Cor. 10: 28, 29; Rom. 14: 1; 15: 1). What danger is there in violating conscience? (Rom. 14: 23).

9. What danger in using liberty? (Rom. 14: 13, 17, 20; 1 Cor. 7: 19).

12. Against whom do we sin when we wound a weak brother? (Matt. 25: 40, 45; Mark 9: 41, 42; Acts 9: 4). What punishment was awarded to the drunkard in Old Testament times? (Deut. 21: 20, 21). How should Christians show their disapproval of drunkenness? (1 Cor. 5: 11). What is the drunkard's doom? (1 Cor. 6: 10; Gal. 5: 21).

LESSON VIII—August 22nd, 1897.

The Excellence of Christian Love. I COR. 13: 1-13.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

1. When did the gift of tongues first come? For what purpose was it given? (Acts 2: 11; 1 Cor. 14: 22). Give some other instances in which the Greek word "agape" is wrongly translated "charity" instead of "love" (Col. 3: 14; 1 Tim. 1: 5; 1 Pet. 4: 8; 2 Pet. 1: 7; Rev. 2: 19).

2. What three supernatural gifts are mentioned in this verse? Are prophecy and knowledge distinct gifts? (vs. 8; 12: 8-10). Mention some of the mysteries of the Bible (Matt. 13: 11; Rom. 11: 25; 1 Cor. 2: 7; Eph. 1: 9; 3: 3, 6, 5: 32; Col. 1: 27; 1 Tim. 3: 16). To what saying of Christ does Paul probably refer here? (Mark 11: 23).

3. How should almsgiving be performed? (Matt. 6: 1, 2). Is it specially commanded? (Matt. 19: 21).

4. Why does love cover sins? (Prov. 10: 12; 1 Pet. 4: 8). What harm does envy bring (Prov. 14: 30; 27: 4). How does God regard pride? (Prov. 8: 13; 11: 2).

5. Is courtesy a Christian duty? (1 Pet. 3: 8). Does Paul shew his appreciation of it (Acts 27: 3; 28: 7). Is a hasty temper sinful? (Jas. 1: 19, 20; Prov. 16: 32).

6. Who delight in evil? (Gen. 9: 20, 23; 10: 3; Rom. 1: 32). An instance of rejoicing in the truth (2 John 4).

7. With whom should we be patient? (Rom. 15: 1; 6: 2; 2 Tim. 2: 24). Why should we be hopeful, even of the worst men? (1 Tim. 1: 15, 16). Yet we must not speak lightly of sin (Prov. 17: 15). What reward to those who endure persecution patiently? (1 Pet. 4: 14, 16).

8. The transitory character of all earthly things? (1 Chr. 29: 15; Jas. 4: 14; Prov. 23: 5; 2 Pet. 3: 10).

9, 10. When will we know perfectly? (Isa. 60: 19; Jer. 31: 34; Eph. 4: 13).

11. What is meant by Christian maturity? (1 Cor. 3: 1; 14: 20; Heb. 5: 11-14). What is our duty? (Phil. 3: 12).

12. What is the effect of even dimly beholding Christ? (2 Cor. 3: 18). What shall be the effect of perfect vision? (1 John 3: 2).

13. What estimate did Christ place upon love? (Matt. 22: 36-40).