

TIME, PLACE, ETC.—A.D. 50. See Lesson I.

CONNECTING LINK.—The danger of worldly pleasure. James 4. 1-6.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Resist the devil*—Every wicked thought and feeling is Satan's temptation, and should be put away. *Flee from you*—Satan soon leaves those who do not encourage him. *Draw nigh to God*—By prayer and trying to be like Jesus. *Double-minded*—People who are trying at once to please others and to please God. *Be afflicted*—Be truly sorry for your wrong-doings. *Speak not evil*—Rather try to find something good to say of others. *Judgeth his brother*—By a fault-finding spirit toward him. *Judgeth the law*—Sets himself up as a judge by declaring what others should do. *One lawgiver*—The Almighty God and Judge. *We will go*—That is, saying this as if we could do as we please without God. *A vapor*—Life is like a cloud vanishing suddenly away. *Ought to say*—Or to think, even if we do not say it. *Ye rejoice in your boastings*—You boast in self, as if there were no God. *Knoweth to do good*—If any one knows what is right, but does not do it, he is doing evil.

LESSON HYMNS.

No. 168, Methodist Hymn-Book.

Sweet the moments, rich in blessing,
Which before the cross I spend;
Life, and health, and peace possessing,
From the sinner's dying Friend.

Truly blessed is the station,
Low before his cross to lie,
While I see divine compassion
Beaming from his gracious eye.

Here it is I find my heaven,
While upon the Lamb I gaze;
Love I much? I've much forgiven;
I'm a miracle of grace.

Here in tender, grateful sorrow
With my Saviour will I stay;
Here new strength and hope will borrow;
Here will love my fears away.

No. 169, Methodist Hymn-Book.

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Still it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more lustre to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there, that knows no measure,
Joys that evermore abide.

No. 98, S. S. Hymnal.

O land of rest, for thee I sigh.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. **Living as in God's Sight—as Our Friend**, v. 7-10. To whom should we be submissive? For what reason? What is it to draw nigh unto God? What promise is given to the prayerful heart? What preparation is needed? What help is promised to the humble?

2. **Living as in God's Sight—as Our Judge**, v. 11-12. What should be avoided in conversation? What is our duty toward each other? 1 John 4. 7. What do we become when we judge others? Who alone is our judge? What power belongs to him? What has Jesus said about judging others? Matt. 7. 2.

3. **Living as in God's Sight—as Our Guide**, v. 13-17. What warning is given about laying plans for the future? Of what are we always uncertain? What is a "vapor?" How is our life like a vapor? What ought we to say in all our planning? Who alone controls all our plans? Prov. 16. 9. What does neglect lead to? What should become?

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson do we find—

1. Encouragement to call upon God?
2. Warning against hasty judgment?
3. Reasons for trusting God fully?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.—(For the entire school). 1. To whom should we submit ourselves? To God. 2. How can we make the devil flee from us? By resisting him. 3. How can we get God to draw nigh to us? By drawing nigh to him. 4. What should we be in respect to the law? Doers, not judges. 5. To what is our life compared? To a vapor.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The supreme authority of God.

QUESTIONS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS.

1. **Living as in God's Sight—as Our Friend**, v. 7-10. How may we make God our friend? How must we act toward God's enemy, the devil? How should we regard our own sins? How may we be lifted up? GOLDEN TEXT.

2. **Living as in God's Sight—as Our Judge**, v. 11, 12. Who is our lawgiver and judge? How do men often try to make themselves judges? What is there wrong in such conduct? Why have we no right to do this? Is it ever right for us to criticize others?

3. **Living as in God's Sight—as Our Guide**, v. 13-17. What earthly purposes are here condemned? Why are such purposes wrong? What should we say and feel in our hearts? What definition of sin is here given? Name some sins of omission as evil as actual wrong-doings. How may we avoid these sins?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

What are here shown—

1. As errors to be shunned?
2. As characters to be sought?