

## LESSON NOTES.

## SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE WRITINGS OF JOHN.

## LESSON III.—APRIL 16.

## THE SUPPER AT BETHANY.

John 12. 1-11. Memorize verses 2, 3.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

She hath done what she could.—Mark 14. 8.

## THE LESSON STORY.

About a week before the passover Jesus and his disciples came up the steep, rocky road from Jericho. When they came to the heights of Olivet they turned aside to Bethany, and there Jesus rested in the home of Mary and Martha and Lazarus, whom he had called back from the grave. They were so happy to have the Lord with them again in Bethany that they made for him a supper. It was at the house of Simon, who had been a leper, and had been cured, perhaps, by Jesus. Lazarus sat at the table with them all, an Mary and Martha served. Mary took her own way to honor Jesus, their chief guest and friend. She brought an alabaster flask of liquid nard, a very precious ointment or perfume, a pound of which would cost three hundred dollars of our money, and poured it upon the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet afterward with her long hair. As the perfume was poured out the whole house was filled with the odor.

Judas had begun to show more and more the love of money that was his chief fault, and wondered why that money was not given to the poor, instead of being used to buy perfumes. He did not care for the poor, but he wanted to gather the money of the disciples into the bag that he carried. Jesus read his heart, but he did not read it aloud; he only told Judas to let her keep her costly ointment for the day when he should be buried. "The poor ye have always with you," he said, "but me ye have not always." What did his friends think of these words? They did not dream that the day of his burial was so near.

But the chief priests wanted to put both Jesus and Lazarus to death.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where was one of our Lord's homes? In Bethany.

Who were his friends there? Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.

What had Jesus done for Lazarus? He had raised him from the grave.

What did the friends of Jesus do for him? They made a supper for him.

What did Mary bring? A flask of costly perfume.

What did she do with it? She poured it on his feet.

What is said of Judas? He thought it a waste of money.

What did Jesus reply? That it was for his burial.

Did they understand this? No.

## LESSON IV.—APRIL 23.

## THE ENTRY OF JESUS INTO JERUSALEM.

John 12. 12-26. Memorize verses 12, 13.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.—Matt. 21. 9.

## THE LESSON STORY.

It was the next day after the supper in the house of Simon of Bethany when Jesus went up to Jerusalem with his disciples. He sent two of them before him to the little village of Bethpage, on the way, to get a young ass that was there, and on this he rode into Jerusalem, in the midst of a crowd of people who were on their way to the passover feast. Many also came to meet him, and among them a band of children bearing palm branches, and crying, "Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord." And the great multitude before and behind him went chanting over the road that winds around the Mount of Olives, and through the gates of the city into Jerusalem and to the temple. Even in the courts of the temple the children still sang "Hosanna." In olden times warriors rode horses, but kings and priests rode upon the white ass, which was a gentle and beautiful animal. Over the palm branches and the striped garments which the people spread before him Jesus rode a King indeed. Yet even his disciples understood very little about his kingship.

It was the only time that Jesus allowed himself to act as a king, but it was done that the Scriptures might be fulfilled. The Pharisees were very angry, and said, "Behold, the world is gone after him," and began to plot against him.

It was when some Greeks wanted to see Jesus, and Andrew and Philip were asking him if he would see them, that Jesus said some words about his coming death. He said a grain of wheat, if ever it is to spring up and bring forth fruit, must fall in the ground and die. To love one's life is to lose it, but to be willing to give up one's life in this world is to keep it unto life eternal.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

When did Jesus go to Jerusalem? Before the passover.

Who followed him? A multitude.

Who came to meet him? Another multitude.

Who were among them? Many little children.

What did they all sing? (Golden Text.)

What did they carry? Palm branches.

Where did the children sing later? In the temple.

## LESSON IV. (SPECIAL).—APRIL 23.

## EASTER LESSON.

Luke 24. 1-12. Memorize verses 6, 7.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

He is risen from the dead.—Matt. 28. 7.

## THE LESSON STORY.

Let us shut our eyes and think about the first Easter morning. Away behind the dark mountains of Moab a streak of pale, rosy light began to grow until the mountains become of a violet color. Through the dawning light some women who loved Jesus walked from their homes to his tomb in the garden of Joseph, carrying jars of spices, and linen to wrap around and embalm the body of Jesus. But the stone door of the tomb was rolled away, and the body of Jesus was not there. While they wondered, two men in shining garments stood by them, and as the women fell on their faces before them they said, "Why seek ye the living among the dead?" Then the angels told the women that he had risen, as he said he would do, and they helped them to remember something that he had told them about his death and rising again on the third day. Then they remembered.

The women hurried away to the other disciples then and told them what they had seen and heard. "It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them that told these things to the disciples." The disciples found it very hard to believe that their dead Master was alive again, but Peter, always the first to speak or act, ran all the way to the tomb to see if the story of the women could be true. He saw only the linen clothes that had been laid aside. In the gospel of John we hear that "the disciple whom Jesus loved" went with Peter, and was the first to reach the tomb.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where was the body of Jesus laid? In Joseph's tomb.

Who went to it early on the third day? Some women.

What did they take with them? Linen and spices.

Why? To embalm the body of Jesus.

What did they find? The stone door had been rolled away.

Who spoke to them? Two men in shining garments.

What did they say? "Why seek ye the living among the dead?"

Where was Jesus? He had risen from the dead.

What did the women do? They went and told the disciples.

Who came to the tomb? Peter and John.

Did they see the Lord? No.

Who saw and spoke with him? Mary Magdalene.