

## Lesson XII.

## LESSONS BY THE WAY

March 22, 1914

Luke 13 : 18-30. Study Luke 13 : 18-35—Memory Verses, 18, 19.

**Golden Text**—Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.—Matthew 7: 21.



18 Then said he, Unto what is the kingdom of God like? and whereunto shall I resemble it?

19 It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed a great tree; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it.

20 And again he said, Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God?

21 It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

22 And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem.

23 Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them,

24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you

not whence ye are:

26 Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.

27 But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.

29 And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God.

30 And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last.

## THE LESSON RETOLD

One day Jesus asked a question. He said, "What is the kingdom of God like? Shall I tell you what it is like?"

Then while the people stood about Him and listened, He said: "The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. It is one of the smallest of seeds. A man took it and planted it in his garden. The seed sprung up and grew. It grew into a great, strong, sturdy plant. It grew so large and strong, that the birds came and lodged in its branches. The tiny seed became a tree."

God's kingdom begins on the earth. Jesus was the gardener who planted it. It was like that tiny, tiny mustard seed, at first. But Jesus tended it and made it grow. Then He had a few helpers; just a few, only

twelve. But by and by more joined, and more till God's kingdom on earth grew larger. It grew and spread like the mustard plant.

Jesus also said that God's kingdom was like leaven or yeast. He told how a woman puts this into bread when she is baking, so that the bread may be made light. Now Jesus meant that, when people receive His teaching into their hearts it will change their lives and make them like Himself. And He wants His teaching to spread until it shall be in the heart of every one in the world.

The more helpers there are, the more Jesus' work will spread. I think you see what is meant: Jesus wants the story of God and His love to grow till it reaches over the whole, wide world. He wants every one