

"The Many-Voiced Sea."

BY META E. B. THORNE.

The west wind tapped at my window,
The dawn peeped shyly in
With the lowly regard of a lover
Who'd fain a fond glance win;
Quick I flung back the ornament,
And lo, before me lay,
Still dreaming, flushing in beauty,
The broad, unrippled bay.
But the sun's first beam awoke her;
As fled morn's twilight dim
I caught the reverent murmur
Of her praiseful, matin hymn.
"O radiant, O golden morning!
O sweet, glad summer sea!
O gracious, O loving Father"
I cried in ecstasy.

'Twas noon. On the rock-crested summit
Of a lofty cliff I stood,
And gazed with unspeakable wonder
At the awful magnitude
Of the tossing, turbulent billows,
Uplifting white brows of foam,
And beating with raging fury
At the base of this eyrie home.
Then clasping my helpless fingers,—
"O mighty, storm-driven sea!
From the blast of this wintry tempest
We are safe only, Lord, in thee!"

Hist! Hear ye the grief-laden moaning
Float through the twilight gray!
The mist of the autumn is hanging
All sombre above the bay.
And out of the vague, far distance
In low, deep undertone
Comes a piteous plaint of sorrow,
As of a world making moan.
"O earth, ever darkened with sorrow
O sad, sad, troubled sea!
But one Hand can still life's tempests—
His who in Galilee
Once hushed the throbbing billows
Christ's whisper 'Peace' to me!"

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN LUKE.

A.D. 28] LESSON VI. [May 11

FEEDING THE MULTITUDE.

Luke 9. 10-17. Memory verses, 16-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life.—John 6. 35.

TIME.—A.D. 28.

PLACE.—The northerly Bethsaida.

CONNECTING LINKS.—Soon after the preceding miracles, Jesus sent his twelve disciples through Galilee to proclaim the coming Christ. Meanwhile Herod sought Jesus; and when the apostles returned, Jesus took them with him into a lonely wilderness for the purpose of hiding from Herod.

EXPLANATIONS.

Privately.—Remotely. Desert place.—A deserted place, a wilderness. Received them.—Jesus had gone with great labour and toil into a remote region to avoid the crowds; but when they came with their suffering bodies and aching hearts, he received them as pleasantly as if he had longed for them. Of the kingdom Jesus could speak of nothing else. Healed them.—He helped every one he met who needed help. Send the multitude away.—That was such counsel as most men would give nowadays. They came here themselves, let them take the responsibility, and go and buy themselves food and bedding. By fifties.—In groups. Twelve baskets.—Each Oriental traveller carried such a little basket, and each of the twelve disciples found fragments enough to fill his.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. The Teachable Apostles, vs. 10, 12-15. From what journey had the apostles returned? See vs. 1-6. What report did they make to Jesus?

Why did Jesus then take them?
Why did he thus seek retirement? See vs. 6-9; and Matt. 14. 13
What request did the disciples make late in the day?
What had they with which to feed the people?
How many people were there?
What did Jesus command the disciples to do?

2. The Longing Multitude, vs. 11, 12, 16.
What act of the multitude showed their longing for Jesus?
What were they likely to lack in a desert place?

By whom was that lack in part supplied?
3. The Satisfying Saviour, vs. 11, 16, 17.
What two needs of the people did Jesus first satisfy?
With what did he satisfy their hunger?
What did he do before feeding the people?
By whom did he minister to the people?
What shows the abundance of the provision?
Who alone can satisfy our need? (Golden Text.)

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Where did Jesus take his apostles? "Into a desert place." 2. How did he act when the people followed him? "He received them, preached to them, and eased their sorrows." 3. What did the disciples advise as night came on? "To send the multitude away." 4. What did Jesus say? "Give ye them to eat." 5. What did he do? "Turned five loaves and two fishes into an over-supply for five thousand hungry people."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The sufficiency of Christ.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

6. What does the Gospel command? It contains the command of God to all men, everywhere, to repent of their sins and to believe in Christ.

Acts 17. 30; 1 John 3. 23.

A.D. 28] LESSON VII. [May 18

THE TRANSFIGURATION.

Luke 9. 28-36. Memory verses, 33-35.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.—Luke 9. 35.

TIME.—A.D. 28.

PLACE.—Unknown. Probably one of the foot-hills of Hermon.

CONNECTING LINKS.—Immediately after the miraculous feeding of the multitude, Jesus informed his disciples that he must be killed and raised from the dead. The conversation was a memorable one. Eight days after it occurred, Jesus took his three most intimate friends up into a mountain, and the transfiguration took place. Matthew and Mark say "six days," reckoning the interval of time from the day in which the last incident occurred to the day mentioned in this lesson. Luke includes both these days as well as the days intermediate, and so counts eight.

EXPLANATIONS.

Peter and John and James. The three apostles whom Jesus always selected, as best able to understand his deepest experiences. Fashion of his countenance.—Even with ordinary men, tumultuous passions, like guilt, shame, hope, and love, modify the countenance and alter the attitude and gait of a man. Jesus was now experiencing the closest intimacy with the Godhead of which the human soul is capable, and his body was glorified by the excess of spiritual power. Glorified.—His very garments were ablaze with heavenly light. Two men.—Representative men: Moses stood for God's law; Elias for his prophetic revelations. In glory.—A part their garments still lingered the brilliance of heaven. Decence.—Going forth, passing away. Peter, and they that were with him.—Peter, et cetera. Such a phrase is one of many evidences of Peter's strong individuality of character. Wherever he goes he monopolizes attention. Heavy with sleep.—Intense feeling sometimes acts like an intoxicant, a soporific. When they were awake. This was no dream, they saw—that is, they recognized. Peter said.—Peter was always "saying" something. He was the natural spokesman for his less emphatic associates. Good for us to be here.—Good to remind. Three tabernacles.—Booths, places of shelter. He thinks only

of the holy trio who blaze before him. Such mean and unworthy mortals as himself and John and James might well spend their lives shelterless on that bleak mountain-top, if only the three immortals would remain. Not knowing.—He spoke at random. He was wild with delight. While he thus spoke.—The splendour of the heavenly vision was too great for mortals to long endure it. The cloud of God's mercy now overshadows them, and the magnificent vision is gone.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Three Disciples, vs. 28, 29.
What are the names of the three disciples?
Where did they go with Jesus?
For what purpose did they go?
What occurred as Jesus prayed?
Where did John afterward see Jesus in glory? See Rev. 1. 13-15.

2. Two Saints, vs. 30-32.
Who were seen talking with Jesus?
What is said of their appearance?
Of what did they converse?
What is said of the three disciples?
What did they see when awake?

3. One Saviour, vs. 33-36.
What did Peter say to Jesus?
When did he say this?
Why did he thus speak?
What suddenly occurred as he was speaking?
How were the disciples affected?
What did they hear from the cloud? (Golden Text.)
After the voice, whom did they see?
Did they tell what they had seen and heard?
What did Peter afterward say about this scene? See 2 Pet. 1. 16-18.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Whom did Jesus take into the mountain? "Peter, John, and James." 2. While he prayed, what happened? "He was transfigured with glory." 3. Who talked with him? "Moses and Elias." 4. About what did they talk? "His approaching death at Jerusalem." 5. What did Peter say? "It is good for us to be here." 6. What was spoken from the overshadowing cloud? "This is my beloved Son: hear him."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The divine glory of Christ.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

7. What does the Gospel promise? The Gospel is the promise of God to pardon, sanctify, and save from eternal destruction all who, according to his commands, repent and believe on his Son.

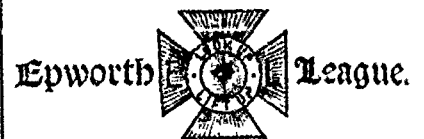
Take my Hand, Papa.

In the dead of night I am frequently awakened by a little hand stealing out from the crib by my side, with the pleading cry, "Please take my hand, papa!"

Instantly the little boy's hand is grasped, his fears vanish, and soothed by the consciousness of his father's presence he falls into sweet sleep again.

We commend this lesson of simple, filial faith and trust to the anxious, sorrowing ones, that are found in almost every household. Stretch forth your hand, stricken mourners, although you may be in the deepest darkness and gloom, and fear and anxious suspense may cloud your weary pathway, and that very act will reveal the presence of a loving compassionate Father, and give you the peace that passeth all understanding.

The darkness may not pass away at once, night may still enfold you in its embrace, but its terrors will be dissipated, its gloom and sadness flee away, and in the simple grasp of the Father's hand sweet peace will be given, and you will rest securely, knowing that the "morning cometh."



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