

Lesson V.

JESUS THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD

February 2, 1908

John 3: 14-21. *Commit to memory vs. 14-16. Study John 3: 1-21.

GOLDEN TEXT—For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3: 16.

14 And as Mo'ses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:
15 That whosoever believeth ¹ in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth ² in him should not perish, but have ³ everlasting life.

17 For God sent not ⁴ his Son into the world to ⁵ condemn the world; but that the world ⁶ through him might be saved

18 He that believeth on him is not ⁷ condemned: ⁸ but he that believeth not ⁹ is condemned already,

Revised Version—¹ may in him have eternal life; ² on; ³ eternal; ⁴ the; ⁵ judge; ⁶ should be saved through him; ⁷ judged; ⁸ Omit but; ⁹ hath been judged; ¹⁰ judgment, that the; ¹¹ the light; for their works; ¹² ill; ¹³ and cometh not; ¹⁴ works; ¹⁵ have been.

LESSON PLAN

I. A Universal Provision, 14.

II. A Universal Offer, 15-17.

III. A Universal Requirement, 18-21.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association.)

M.—Jesus, the Saviour of the world, John 3: 1-21.
T.—Born of God, 1 John 5: 1-13. W.—A new creature, 2 Cor. 5: 14-21. Th.—Flesh and spirit, Rom. 8: 1-10. F.—The brazen serpent, Num. 21: 4-9. S.—The Gift of love, 1 John 4: 4-14. S.—Great love, Rom. 8: 31-39.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 85. *What doth God require of us, that we may escape his wrath and curse due to us for sin?* A. To escape the wrath and curse of God due to us for sin, God requireth of us faith

because he hath not believed ² in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

19 And this is the ¹⁰ condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved ⁴ darkness rather than ¹¹ light, because their deeds were evil.

20 For every one that doeth ¹² evil hateth the light, ¹³ neither cometh to the light, lest his ¹⁴ deeds should be reproved.

21 But he that doeth ⁴ truth cometh to the light, that his ¹⁴ deeds may be made manifest, that they ¹⁵ are wrought in God.

in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communiceth to us the benefits of redemption

The Question on Missions—5. What Bible training is given? Every class in school spends at least one hour a day in Bible study. In the Orphanages special attention is paid to this, and extra time given to it outside of school hours. There are special classes for training Bible teachers, and these are attended by children of the higher grades.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, 34 (Supplemental Lesson); 129; 183; 76 (Ps. Sel.); 80 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 148.

Special Scripture Reading—Eph. 3: 14-21. (To be read responsively or in concert by the whole School.) It is expected that each scholar will have his or her Bible, and so be prepared to take part in this reading, which may form part of the opening exercises of the School.

EXPOSITION

By Rev. Professor H. A. A. Kennedy, D. Sc., Toronto

Time and Place—The spring of A. D. 27; Jerusalem.

Connecting Links—While Jesus remained in Jerusalem during the Passover celebration, which extended over seven days, He attracted the attention of various inquirers by His teaching and healing. During this period He wrought a number of unrecorded miracles (see ch. 2: 23 and compare chs. 3: 2; 4: 45; 20: 30). So deep an impression did these mighty deeds make upon many, that, for a time, they believed on Him as the Messiah. But their faith was shallow and unsteadfast, and Jesus knowing this, did not give them His confidence, ch. 2: 24, 25.

I. A Universal Provision, 14.

The most remarkable among the inquirers drawn to Jesus was a Pharisee and member of the Sanhedrin, Nicodemus. Jesus' miracles had profoundly impressed him, and yet he hesitated to admit that he was inclined to believe on this Teacher. He came to Jesus to learn more of Him and

His teaching, choosing a night hour for the visit, probably for fear of his fellow Sanhedrists, who were unfriendly to Jesus. Our Lord goes to the root of the matter, by declaring that for the understanding of divine realities and as a condition of entering His kingdom a new nature is indispensable, which is mysteriously produced by the Spirit of God. Nicodemus is greatly puzzled by this teaching. Jesus deliberately affirms that He alone, as Son of God and Son of man, is able to reveal these mysteries, vs. 1-13.

V. 14. Jesus had just declared (vs. 12, 13), that the "Son of man" alone can make known "heavenly things"; that is God's way of saving men from spiritual death and imparting to them the new life. He now tells Nicodemus what this way is. As *Moses lifted up the serpent*. See Num. 21: 6-9. The serpent of brass was a symbol of God's power over the fiery serpents which were doing hurt to the Israelites. Through

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Leaflets are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. Their recitation leads to the obtaining of a beautiful Certificate or Diploma.