

A. D. 27.]

LESSON III. HEALING OF THE LEPER.

[Jan. 20.

Authorized Version.

Revised Version.

Mark 1. 35-45.

[Commit to memory verses 40, 41.]



35 And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

36 And Simon and they that were with him followed after him.

37 And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee.

38 And he said unto them, Let us go therefore, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth.

39 And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.

40 And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

41 And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and said unto him, I will; be thou clean.

42 And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.

43 And he straitly charged him, and forthwith sent him away:

44 And said unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, show thyself unto the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

45 But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter. Insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.

35 And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose up and went out, and departed into a desert place, and there prayed after him. And Simon and they that were with him followed after him; and they found him, and say unto him, All are seeking thee. And he saith unto them, Let us go elsewhere into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for to this end came I forth. And he went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee, preaching and casting out devils.

40 And there cometh to him a leper, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And being moved with compassion, he stretched forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will: be thou made clean. And straightway the leprosy departed from him, and he was made clean.

43 charged him, and straightway sent him out, and saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, show thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing the things which Moses com-

manded, for a testimony unto them. But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to spread abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.

INDUCTIVE NOTES.

I. Study of General Features.

Sec. 1. Recall definition of go-pel, (a) and (b), Lesson II, Section 1. Sec. 2. Read the lesson and ascertain, (a) chief person, (b) his acts. Sec. 3. Underscore the words in each division which describe the acts of the chief person thus: (1) "Departed," ver. 35, and "preached throughout all Galilee," ver. 39; (2) "Saith, Be thou clean," ver. 41; (3) "Was without in desert places," ver. 45. Sec. 4. Study the connections between divisions (1), (2) and (3). In (1) where is Jesus preaching? ver. 39. In (3) where is he? ver. 45. What led him to forsake towns and synagogues? Was it not what the man in ver. 45 did? Do you see then how necessary (2) is to explain (3)? Sec. 5. Now join to (1) the ten or more subordinate circumstances of time, occasion, result, which belong to it, thus: Before daylight Jesus arose, left Simon's house and "departed" from Capernaum into a place where there were no houses, and engaged in prayer. When Simon and others found him there he explained that he wished to preach in other towns; "And he preached throughout all Galilee." Connect in the same way with (2) and (3) the subordinate circumstances that belong to them. Combine (1), (2), and (3) with all their circumstances in one sentence, and write it down. Sec. 6. Study the connection of this lesson with the two preceding ones. Note in vers. 22, 27, 28, 31, 37 a gradual increase of popular interest in Jesus. Observe in ver. 45 a climax of interest, people not merely attending synagogue preaching in towns and cities, as in ver. 39, but tramping in great crowds far into the open country to hear him. Sec. 7. If you detect the natural sequence from Lessons I to II and of II to III you will enjoy combining the facts of the three lessons in a single statement, somewhat as follows:

After the forerunner had prepared the people for the Messiah's advent, Jesus came, and when he had been fitted for his work, by baptism, the descent of the Spirit, and temptation, he began to preach in Galilee. In the presence of four chosen disciples at Capernaum, he taught, and wrought miracles which so astonished the people

II. Study of Details.

[Read parallel passages, Luke 4. 42-44; 5. 12-14; Matt. 4. 23, 24; 8. 2-4.]

I. Jesus Begins a Tour of Preaching and Healing (vers. 35-39). **35. Before day.** In Greek, "while it was still night." **Rose.** From the exertions of the preceding day he may have been too weary to sleep. Why this detail of time? Does not what Simon said (ver. 37) explain? **Went out.** Of Simon's house, all the rest being asleep. **Departed.** From the town, carefully threading the dark and silent streets. He would have to climb a considerable hill immediately on quitting the town. The hills are rocky there. **And there.** Mark thinks of this place as contrasted with the one he had left. He would be secure from interruption. **Prayed.** In Greek, "began to pray," or "continued in prayer." He had much in his heart, doubtless, to pour out before his Father (Luke 6. 12). Did you ever notice Luke tells us of more instances of Jesus's praying than the other evangelists? **36. Simon.** Why especially named? Is it because he was the host, that were with him. That is, in the house. Three at least. Any others? (Luke 4. 42.) **Followed after.** When they awoke and discovered that he was missing they probably searched the town, and then scoured the open country. **37. And say.** The Greek is vivid; Mark hears Peter speaking the words again. **All are seeking thee.** The whole town is awake; people came very early to the house, and now are out in all directions looking for thee. Doubtless some who had witnessed the cures the evening before had lain awake musing over the strange things (Luke 5. 26) they had seen. What better opportunity for teaching could he desire? Ought he to leave the eager multitudes? Note Luke's additional detail (4. 42). "The multitudes sought after him and would have stayed him that he should not go from them." **38. Saith unto them.** In reply, let us go. Not, let me go. Why? (Ver. 17.) What did he say to the multitudes? (Luke 4. 43.) Capernaum now is all agog with excitement about the miracles. Not till some time has elapsed will they listen to the teaching which the miracles confirm. See chap. 2. 1, 2. **That I may preach.** Luke, "good tidings of the kingdom of God." Later (chap. 6. 12) they too should