

his rank, his splendor, his power, Christ turned that very day from the symbol of all this to seek His Kingdom by the way of sacrifice and death."—George Adam Smith.

The appeal to the heroic. No English statesman was more successful than the great Pitt, in inducing the British people to submit willingly to great taxation in order to bring national enterprises to a successful issue. And it was noticed (says the historian, Lecky) that unlike all previous statesmen he seemed to take a strange pleasure in rather exaggerating than attenuating the pecuniary sacrifice he demanded. So Christ does not hesitate to say, "If thou wouldst follow me,

thou must deny thyself and bear the cross." vs. 24, 25.

It chanceth once to every soul,
Within a narrow hour of doubt and dole,
Upon Life's Bridge of Sighs to stand,
"A palace and a prison on each hand."
O Palace of the rose-heart's hue!
How like a flower the warm light falls from
you!
O Prison with the hollow eyes!
Beneath your stony stare no flowers arise.
O Palace of the rose-sweet sin!
How safe the heart that does not enter in!
O blessed Prison walls! how true
The freedom of the soul that chooseth you!

TEACHING HINTS AND HELPS

After tracing His journeys between the last lesson and this on the map (See Connecting Links), begin with,

I. JESUS' TWO QUESTIONS, vs. 13 - 15. "Whom do men say? Whom do ye say?"—the first leading up to the second. Show the reason for each guess. Well-directed questions let in the light. Jesus is anxious that the disciples should see clearly.

II. SIMON PETER'S ANSWER, v. 16. Swift and straight as an arrow from the string. Explain the range of the answer—"the Christ"—"the Son of the living God"—the divine and divinely-anointed Saviour. Mark, too, the still longer range embraced in the two titles—"the Son of man," v. 13, and "the Son of God." It needs them both to set forth Jesus Christ in His fulness.

III. JESUS' REPLY, vs. 17-19; which embraces (1) a benediction; (2) a promise. Blessed, indeed, he who, like Peter, has revelation from God. This is the chief proof-text for the Pope's claim, as Peter's successor, to primacy in the Church of God. The claim falls through because (a) no one can show that the Pope is Peter's successor; and (b) if the text proves any special privilege or power for Peter, it proves too much, for in Matt. 18: 18 and John 20: 23, the same power is given to the others. Explain the power of the "keys" as in "Exposition," and show how every true believer possesses it.

IV. THE CAUTION HE GIVES, v. 20. The people are not ready for the message.

V. THE UNFOLDING OF HIS PLANS, v. 21. An epoch indeed. For the first time the Cross and the open grave—the two great monumental and fundamental facts are brought to view. It is like a general unfolding to his trusted officers his plan of campaign.

VI. THE REBUKE OF HIS DISCIPLE, vs. 22, 23—the hasty, froward Peter, so bitterly disappointed by the programme, because so worldly; savoring of the things of men and not of God.

VII. THE CONDITIONS OF HIS SERVICE, vs. 24-26; cross-bearing, utter denial of self, utter sacrifice of life on His altar, with its infinite gain of life saved unto life eternal.

Questions for Juniors—13, 14. Where does Jesus now come? Where was Caesarea Philippi? After whom named? What question asked? By what name does Jesus speak of Himself? What opinions held about Christ? 15, 16. What personal question asked? Who was a leader among the disciples? Why? What reply made by him? When did he receive the name "Peter"?

17-19. What did Christ see in Peter's answer? How had Peter known? Give meaning of name "Peter." How is the Church represented? Who the architect? Who the foundation stone? (Eph. 2: 20; Rev. 21: 14.) Who held the keys? When

See Lesson I

See I