

## Lesson VI.

## DARKNESS AND LIGHT

February 8, 1914

**BETWEEN THE LESSONS**—There is no break between the Lesson for last Sabbath and to-day's.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—Look therefore whether the light that is in thee be not darkness.—Luke 11:35 (Rev. Ver.).

**Memorize v. 23. THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Luke 11:14-26, 33-36.

14 And he was casting out a devil, and it was dumb. And it came to pass, when the devil was gone out, the dumb spake; and the people wondered.

15 But some of them said, He casteth out devils through Beelzebub the chief of the devils.

16 And others, tempting him, sought of him a sign from heaven.

17 But he, knowing their thoughts, said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and a house divided against a house falleth.

18 If Satan also be divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand? because ye say that I cast out devils through Beelzebub.

19 And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your sons cast them out? therefore shall they be your judges.

20 But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, ye no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you.

21 When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace:

22 But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils.

23 He that is not with me is against me: and he

**Revised Version**—which was; 2 man; 3 multitudes marvelled; 4 By Beelzebub the prince of the devils casteth he out devils; 5 And if Satan also is divided: 6 by; 7 then is the; 8 Omit is; 9 the; 10 fully armed guardeth his own court; 11 his whole armour; 12 The unclean spirit when he is gone; 13 passeth; 14 waterless; 15 turn back; 16 is come; 17 evil; 18 becometh worse; 19 lamp; 20 cellar; 21 the stand; 22 enter; 23 thy; 24 thine; 25 Omit therefore; 26 it is; 27 Look therefore whether the light that is; 28 therefore thy whole body; 29 it shall be wholly full; 30 lamp with its bright shining doth.

**Daily Readings**—(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association, Mr. S. C. Bailey, Hon. Secretary, 56 Old Bailey, London, England.)—M.—Darkness and light, Luke 11:14-26. T.—Darkness and Light, Luke 11:29-36. W.—The true Light, John 1:1-13. Th.—Walk in the Light, 1 John 1:1-10. F.—The Light of the World, John 3:16-21. S.—The self deceived, Isa. 5:20-25. S.—"As children of light," Eph. 5:6-16.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED



A HEAVY ARMED SOLDIER

I. A WICKED ACCUSATION.—14-16.

Casting out a devil (Rev. Ver. Margin, "demon"); one of the evil spirits on whom the Lord's time laid the blame of all bodily ills and all kinds of wickedness. Dumb; so called because it made the man dumb. Matthew (see Matt. 12:22) says "blind" also. The people

destruction of Beelzebub's followers (see 2 Kgs. 1:3, 10-12). This was like our Lord's second temptation in the wilderness, Matt. 4:5-7.

II. A CONVINCING ANSWER.—17-20. Knowing their thoughts; by His divine power of reading men's hearts. Kingdom divided; the members of it fighting against one another. House . . . against a house; a family in which there is division. If Satan (the same as Beelzebub) . . . be divided, etc.; as he would be if Jesus were his servant and yet was casting out the demons which were his subjects. Your sons; those amongst the Jews who pretended to cast out demons by repeating certain magic words. With the finger of God; by God's power. The kingdom of God. Jesus, by destroying the power of Satan, was making way for God's kingdom.

21-23. A strong man; a description of Satan. Keepeth his palace; that is, the palace of Beelzebub, "lord of the mansion" (see on v. 15). A stronger; that is, Christ, who is mightier than the prince of demons. All his armour; that is, the demons or evil powers and influences by which Satan works mischief in the world. These Jesus overcomes. Divideth his spoils; the souls taken captive by Satan, and especially those from whom Jesus drove out demons. V. 23 declares that, in the contest between Jesus and Satan, every one must be on one side or the other. There is no middle ground.

24-26. The unclean spirit; like the one which

wondered. They thought that no power could work such a cure. Through Beelzebub. The name likely means "lord of the mansion," that is the pit which is the home of the demons. Tempting him; trying to persuade Him to defend Himself by doing something unworthy. A sign from heaven; like Elijah's