

Lesson XI.

JESUS HEALS A MAN BORN BLIND

March 15, 1908

John 9 : 1-12. Study John, ch. 9—Memory Verses, 10, 11.

Golden Text—I am the light of the world.—John 9 : 5

1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents : but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day : the night cometh, when no man can work.

5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Silo'am, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

8 The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

9 Some said, This is he : others said, He is like him : but he said, I am he.

10 Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Silo'am, and wash : and I went and washed, and I received sight.

12 Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not.

THE LESSON RETOLD

In this Lesson Jesus is again in Jerusalem. One day, as He was leaving the temple with His disciples, they passed a man who had been born blind. His disciples asked Jesus about the man. "Master", they said, "we have been taught that children are born blind or lame because of some sin of their own or of their parents. Now, whose sin was it that caused this man to be born blind?"

"This man's blindness", replied Jesus "has been caused by no sin of his own or of his parents, but it has happened, so that all men might see this day how great and wonderful are the works of God. It is to heal sufferers such as he, that I must use that wonderful power which God has given me. And I must do God's work even on this day, although it be the Sabbath. I am like one who cannot leave his task till the night comes when no man can work. The night is coming soon to Me, when I shall cease from all such

labors, as a workman does at the close of the day. As long as I am in the world I must be the Light of men, so that none may be left to walk in darkness."

Then Jesus stooped down to the ground and made clay of the dust. With this He touched the eyes of the blind man, and said, "Go now, and wash it off in the Pool of Siloam". The man had such faith in Jesus, that he went immediately, and as soon as he had washed he could see.

None of his neighbors could believe that a man who had been born blind could ever be made to see, and they began to dispute amongst themselves whether this could really be the same person.

"Yes, I am the one who was born blind", insisted the man. "How did you get your sight then?" asked a number at once. And when the man had told them how it had been done, they asked, "Where is this Jesus?" But the man could not tell them.