

Second Quarter : Some Great Teachings of the Bible

Lesson XIII. REVIEW—RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE June 29, 1919

TO MAKE READY FOR THE REVIEW—Read over each lesson carefully, and see that you know by heart the Lesson Title, Golden Text, and Lesson Plan. Review your Shorter Catechism (Questions 51-60)

GOLDEN TEXT—I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with my whole heart.—Psalm 86 : 12 (Rev. Ver.)

Read Philippians 3 : 7-14.

THE LESSONS FOR THE QUARTER

"The Scriptures principally teach," says our Shorter Catechism, "what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man." In other words, the Bible teaches us what we are to believe and what we are to do. Some of the main things which we are to believe and do, are dealt with in the lessons for the Quarter, hence the title, "SOME GREAT TEACHINGS OF THE BIBLE." Lesson I. brings before us the great truth that God is our Father. In Lesson II., Christ is presented as the world's Saviour, and Lesson III. proclaims the great fact of his resurrection. The gift of the Holy Spirit is the subject of Lesson IV. Thus Lessons I. to IV. are concerned with the three persons of the Trinity. The remaining lessons of the Quarter deal with man. Lesson V. teaching that man was made in the image of God ; Lesson VI. showing how that image was defaced by sin ; Lesson VII. pointing to the source of man's salvation in the grace of God ; Lessons VIII. and IX. setting forth the way in which man receives salvation ; and Lessons X., XI. and XII. describing some of the fruits of a saved life.

LESSON I. GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MATT. 6 : 24-34.

Jesus teaches that we can only live rightly when we serve God, trust God, seek God. He illustrates these three duties by use of the slave, the bird, the flower. Why worry, he says, when worry is thoughtless, helpless, needless? Fight for life's big things. Trust for life's little things.

LESSON II. CHRIST THE WORLD'S REDEEMER, JOHN I : 35-51.

Look at Jesus the world's redeemer. Strong men point to him. Weak men come to be made strong. Good men come to be made better. Prejudiced men come to be made fair minded. Loving men come bringing those they love. Christ's love is a mighty magnet, drawing all men to him.

LESSON III. THE MEANING OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION, MATT. 28 : 1-10.

What is the shining angel's message for sorrow clouded hearts? All that Christ was on earth, he is for ever :—forgiving the guilt of sin, saving from the power of sin, meeting with chosen friends, sending messages to weak friends, giving marching orders and forever leading the way.

LESSON IV. WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES FOR US, ACTS 2 : 1-8, 14-18.

Stop, look, listen! Wonders are here! People with one mind. People with many tongues of fire. Other people marveling at such people. God's spirit has come according to promise. Some wise people said, "wine," but Peter boldly says, "not wine, but God's coming, promised long ago."

LESSON V. THE DIGNITY AND WORTH OF MAN, GEN. 1 : 26-28, 2 : 7-9, EPH. 4 : 20-24.

We find a garden and a cross in this lesson. The garden is God's first meeting place with man, whom he has created and placed there. The cross is the second meeting place where man receives in Christ what he lost in the garden—dominion over himself and favor with God.

LESSON VI. THE NATURE AND RESULTS OF SIN, GEN. 3 : 1-13.

A subtle serpent, a simple woman, this is how the story begins. Listening, looking, desiring, talking, sharing, hiding, excusing—these are the steps in the tragedy. The promises of sin are always beyond its performance. The prohibitions of God are always for our welfare.

LESSON VII. THE GRACE OF GOD THE SOURCE AND PLEDGE OF OUR SALVATION, EPH. 2 : 4-10 ; TITUS 2 : 11-14.

Grace is the free gift of God. It comes to us in Christ. Our spiritual fortunes are bound up in Christ. His victories are ours. His resurrection is ours. Grace is a divine work as well as a gift. It works in us, self-denial, sobriety, righteousness, godliness, in this world and the hope of a coming Saviour.