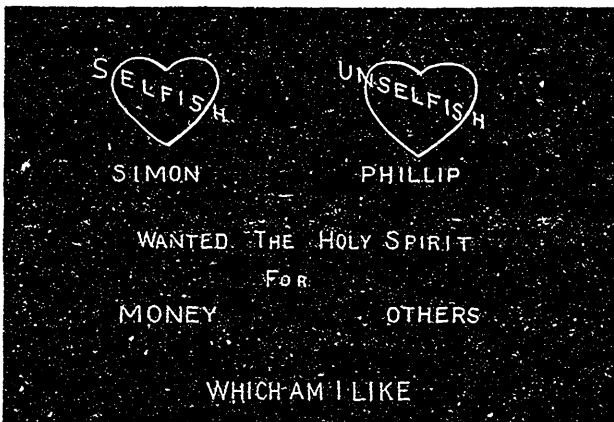


V. SYNOPSIS OF LESSON: The Holy Spirit overrules persecutions for the spreading abroad of his truth. At this time in the history of the church there arose a great persecution. Saul of Tarsus, figures prominently here, and becomes a leader against the Christian Church. The disciples were scattered abroad over the land, and went everywhere, first, preaching the Word—verse 4; second, preaching Christ—verse 5; third, preaching the kingdom—verse 12; fourth, preaching the gospel—verse 25; fifth, preaching Jesus—verse 35. Philip went down to Samaria, and there the people believed. After Peter and John went down and prayed for the people, the Holy Spirit fell upon them. One Simon, a sorcerer, professed to believe, but he could not have been a true believer, for he does not seem to have the same gifts as the others, and tried to buy them, but Peter rebuked him saying, “Thy money perish with thee,” etc., etc., verse 20-24.

VI. SUGGESTIVE STEPS IN TEACHING THE LESSON:

1. Have the Golden Text printed on the blackboard beforehand.
2. Begin by teaching the Golden Text.
3. Tell the story of Solomon’s wise choice that we learned about last Quarter. 1 Kings 3rd ch. (a) His dream. (b) God’s offer. (c) Solomon’s thought for others and his wise choice. (d) God’s pleasure at Solomon’s unselfishness. (e) God gave Solomon riches and honour for himself, because of his unselfish thought for others.
4. Tell the story of Philip going to Samaria. (a) He tells them about Jesus. (b) He performed many miracles—drove out unclean spirits—healed the lame man, etc. (c) The people believed in Jesus. (d) There was great joy in the city. As you tell this story, hold in your hand, and then pin to the blackboard under the word Philip, a heart as described in Lesson II., VI., 5.
5. Tell the story of Simon Magus. (a) He was a sorcerer. (b) He had great influence over the people—verses 9, 10. (c) His pretended belief of baptism. (d) His motive—He wanted the Spirit of Love so that he could do the wonderful miracles that Philip did. As you tell this story, hold in your hand, and then pin to the board under the word Simon, another heart, as before described.



6. Why was the love of the Holy Spirit in the heart of Phillip and not in the heart of Simon? Let us look into the hearts and see. That is what God does. He looks into our hearts. Draw out from the inside of the heart of Phillip a paper with the word “unselfish” printed upon it. Phillip wanted to help others, he was not always thinking about himself. How different with

Simon. He was selfish, he wanted to be great for his own sake, and God would not give him the Holy Spirit of Love.

7. Which am I like? Phillip or Simon? Let us bow our heads and while we are silent let us open our hearts so that the Holy Spirit of Love may live in every part, that we may be made unselfish and thoughtful for others.