

## Fourth Quarter : Studies in the Lives of Peter and John

LESSON FOREWORD—This Quarter we study the lives of the two greatest of the disciples of Jesus. Jesus found them simple fishermen and, by his companionship, fitted them for discipleship and apostleship. They were men of many weaknesses, but the patience and sympathy and love of Jesus awakened and quickened the best that was in them.

# Lesson I. JOHN AND PETER BECOME DISCIPLES OF JESUS

October 5, 1919

## THE LESSON PASSAGE —John 1 : 29-42.

29 The next day John seeth Je'sus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

30 This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me : for he was before me.

31 And I knew him not . but that he should be made manifest to Is'ra'el, therefore am I come baptizing with water.

32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

33 And I knew him not : but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples ;

36 And looking upon Je'sus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God !

37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Je'sus.

38 Then Je'sus turned and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye ? They said unto him, Rab'bi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou ?

39 He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day : for it was about the tenth hour.

40 One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was An'drew, Si'mon Pe'ter's brother.

41 He first findeth his own brother Si'mon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messi'as, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

42 And he brought him to Je'sus. And when Je'sus beheld him, he said, Thou art Si'mon the son of Jo'na : thou shalt be called Ce'phas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—Jesus saith unto him, Follow me.—John 1 : 43 (Rev. Ver.).

SENIOR AND HOME DEPARTMENT TOPIC—The Claims of Christ Upon All Men. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL—Mark 2 : 13-17 ; John 1 : 43-51 ; Acts 2 : 37-42 ; 16 : 13-34.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED



ST. PETER

### I. THE BAPTIST'S TESTIMONY.

—29 - 34.

*The next day*; the day after John had told the Pharisees plainly that he was not the Messiah. *Behold the Lamb of God*. Now he declares who is the Messiah, pointing to Jesus. John

*before me*; greater than I in person, character and mission. *He was before me*. The Messiah was an eternal, pre-existent being. John's acknowledgment of the greatness of Jesus is complete, but it takes none of John's greatness from him. *I knew him not*. John, of course, had known Jesus, but it was only through revelation that he came to know the fullness of his personality. *He should be made manifest*. John's mission was to declare what had been revealed to him concerning Jesus. *Baptizing with water*. John's ministry was wholly preparatory. Baptism with water symbolized the cleansing from sin that was necessary to prepare for Christ's coming. *I saw the Spirit . . . like a dove*. This took place at Christ's baptism. *Baptizeth with the Holy Ghost*. John's baptism symbolized cleansing, Jesus created the cleansing power.

35. 36. *Two of his disciples*. These were John and Andrew. *Jesus as he walked*; coming from the wilderness temptation. *Behold*. Not to the crowd only, but to his own followers, John points

describes the Messiah as Lamb, not King, indicating that he is a sin-bearer and sufferer. *Preferred*