

"Child's Twenty-Third Psalm."

"The Lord is my shepherd and I am his lamb,
One of the smallest and weakest I am,
Yet by his bounty daily I'm fed,
In his green pastures tenderly led
Kind is my Shepherd and large is the fold
To which he calleth the young and the old,
In daylight or darkness, awake or asleep
When I have wandered away from his side
Into the paths which the sinning have tried,
He o'er each step of sin's rugged track
Patiently, lovingly guided me back,
Sometimes the way where he leadeth his sheep
Grows for my tired feet dark and too steep,
Then doth he lift me up close to his breast,
Bearing me onward to places of rest.
"He hath green pastures lying afar,
Needing no sunlight, needing no star;
There from his presence the lambs never stray,
Thither he guideth me nearer each day,
But nearer than meadows brightened by faith,
Lieth the valley of silence and death,
Seeing its shadows, yet fearless I am,
For the Lord is my Shepherd and I am his lamb."



SHEPHERD IN PALESTINE.

LESSON NOTES.

STUDIES IN THE LIFE OF JESUS.

LESSON IX.—AUGUST 26.

JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

John 10. 1-16. Memory verses, 9-11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.—John 10. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. The Sheepfold, v. 1-6.
 2. The Door of the Sheep, v. 7-9.
 3. The Good Shepherd, v. 10-16.
- Time.—A. D. 29.
Place.—The vicinity of Jerusalem.

LESSON HELPS.

1. "The sheepfold"—Usually a stone-walled enclosure, with a well-roofed pen at one end. "A thief"—What we would call a "sneak thief." "A robber"—A brigand.
2. "Entereth in by the door"—The shepherd must enter the same way as his flock. "There is not one salvation for the teacher and another for the taught." The seventh verse tells us that Jesus is "the door."
3. "Calleth his own sheep by name"—Asiatic sheep readily distinguish the voice of their shepherd, and sometimes each sheep has a name of his own, and knows it.
4. "They know his voice"—The true disciple lives in fellowship with the Master and hears his voice speaking in the silences of the soul.
5. "A stranger"—One of the "thieves and robbers." "Will flee from him"—Travellers in the East have often noticed that when they attempt to call the flock, using the words of the shepherd, the sheep will run from them.
6. "They (the Pharisees) understood not"—Their notions of the dignity of the priests and rabbis and the insignificance of the common people were radically different from the Christian conception of "pastor" and "flock."
7. "I am the door"—"Whosoever cometh to preach any other Gospel comes to rob the sheep of their Saviour and salvation."
"Before me"—Claiming precedence in rank or authority over me. "Robbers"—The Pharisees, who held Jesus in contempt because he belonged not to their schools, were brigands, ready to raven

- the flock of Christ. "The sheep did not hear them"—True Christians are not diverted from the Gospel by false teaching.
9. "I am the door"—There is no other door. "Pasture"—Food for the spiritual nature.
 10. The "thief" is the enemy of souls, whether as the false teacher or the persecutor.
 11. "The good shepherd"—Our beautiful and bountiful Care-taker and Provider. "Giveth his life"—Jesus sacrificed his life by living as really as he did by dying.
 12. "He that is a hireling"—This does not mean "he that is hired." The Bible tells us that "the labourer is worthy of his hire," and it is right and dutiful to pay wages to the men of God who "minister to us in holy things." "A hireling" is he that serves for hire, merely, and uses the church to forward his secular interests. "Whose own the sheep are not"—Who does not feel a personal responsibility for the sheep. "The wolf"—Any sudden emergency or danger. "Fleeth"—Deserts his sacred trust.
 14. "Know my sheep"—Know their every trial, weakness, hope, and fear, all the vicissitudes of their experience. "Known of mine"—Trusted in fully.
 15. "As the Father knoweth me"—This and what follows should run on without break from the preceding sentence: "I know mine, and mine know me, as the Father knows me, and I know the Father."
 16. "Other sheep I have"—His sincere but unsheltered followers in heathen lands. "One fold"—This should read "one flock." All alike must be brought into Christian fellowship.
- HOME READINGS.
M. Jesus the Good Shepherd.—John 10. 1-16.
Tu. Safety of the sheep.—John 10. 17-30.

- How is it typical of our heavenly home?
- Were an Eastern shepherd's duties attended with any danger or hardship?
- What can you tell of the shepherd's life among the sheep?
- What would be the condition of the sheep without him?
- How did the Jew regard the office of shepherd?
- How may Christ be likened to the Eastern shepherd?
- How will the true shepherd enter the fold?
- What did Christ say about those who enter any other way?
- Do the shepherd and the sheep enter the same door?
2. The Door of the Sheep, v. 7-9.
Who is the door to the heavenly fold? Is there any other way? Give a text outside of the lesson that proves this.
What kind of spiritual teachers were the Pharisees?
What do you understand by "came before me"?
 3. The Good Shepherd, v. 10-16.
What did Christ say was the purpose of those who "came not in his name"? Why did Christ come?
What do you understand by "life through Christ"?
What does he say of the Good Shepherd?
- What is the danger of following the wrong voice?
- Is there any such danger in these days?
- Has a false leader any love for the sheep?
- What do you understand by Christ's "knowing his own"?
- Will the-followers of Christ know his voice?
- What do you understand by the "other sheep which are not of this fold"?
- What shall there be at last? Verse 16.



"HE SHALL LEAD HIS FLOCK LIKE A SHEPHERD."

- W. False shepherds.—Ezek. 34. 1-10.
Th. Deliverance.—Ezek. 34. 11-19.
F. One shepherd.—Ezek. 34. 20-31.
S. Guiding and keeping.—Psa. 23.
Su. For us.—1 Pet. 2. 19-25.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. The Sheepfold, v. 1-6.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

- Where in this lesson do we learn—
1. That Jesus is the door of his sheep?
 2. That Jesus is himself the Good Shepherd?
 3. That the Good Shepherd giveth his life for the sheep?



BITS OF FUN.

"O dear!" said the principal of an unsuccessful bicycle academy. "Our school started with a good attendance, but it fell off!"

Uncle Sam—"Well, what have you got to say about paying that money? Speak out, man!" The Sultan—"You forget that I am the unspeakable Turk."

If you and I and owe and eye
And yew and aye (dear me),
Were all to be spelled u and i,
How mixed up we would be.

Indifferent—"The scientists," said the first mosquito, "are charging us with spreading malaria." "Never mind," said the second mosquito; "that won't increase our popularity."

Curious Old Lady—"How did you come to this, poor man?" Convict—"I was drove to it, lady." Curious Old Lady—"Were you, really?" Convict—"Yes, they brung me in the Black Maria, as usual!"

St. Peter—"Editor, eh? What good things have you ever done?" New Arrival—"I once took the blame for one of my own mistakes, instead of throwing it onto the intelligent compositor." St. Peter—"Go up head."

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