

# SUNDAY SCHOOL BANNER

for  
TEACHERS  
AND  
YOUNG PEOPLE.

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## INTERNATIONAL BIBLE LESSONS.

SECOND QUARTER—STUDIES IN THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES.

APRIL, 1883.

NOTE—The Scripture verses to be committed to memory are indicated by an index [A] at the side.

A. D. 37.

### LESSON I.—SIMON THE SORCERER.

April 1.

Acts 8. 14-25.



14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John :

15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, *a* that they might receive the Holy Ghost :

*a* Chap. 2. 38.

16 (For *b* as yet he has fallen upon none of them : only *c* they were baptized in *d* the name of the Lord Jesus.)

*b* Chap. 19. 2 — *c* Matt. 28. 19; chap. 2. 38. — *d* Chap. 10. 48.

17 Then *e* laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

*e* Chap. 6. 6; Heb. 6. 2.

18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

20 But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that *g* the gift of God may be purchased with money.

*g* 2 Kings 5. 16; Micah 3. 11, 12; Matt. 10. 8. — *f* Chap. 2. 38; 11. 17.

21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter; for thy *h* heart is not right in the sight of God.

*h* Prov. 6. 16, 18; 11. 20; 12. 20; Isa. 44. 20; Jer. 17. 9; Rom. 8. 7; 2 Tim. 3. 5.

22 Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, *i* if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

*i* Isa. 65. 7; Dan. 4. 27; 2 Tim. 2. 25.

23 For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.

*j* Heb. 12. 15.

24 Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye *k* to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

*k* Gen. 20. 7; Exod. 8. 8; Num. 21. 7; Job 42. 8; James 5. 16.

25 And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the Gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

### GENERAL STATEMENT.

The persecution led by Saul of Tarsus only showed the vitality of the Church, and widened the circle of its influence. Hitherto gathered in a single city, it is now scattered broadcast over the land. All along the shores and among the mountains little churches begin to rise, like lights in a dark place. In the alien country of Samaria the labours of Philip were blessed with abundant results, and a multitude were led by faith. When the news of Samaritans among the disciples reached Jerusalem, there were mingled feelings among the believers, some rejoicing at the broadening progress of the way, others alarmed at the breaking down of old walls of separation. Peter and John were sent to look into the work among the Samaritans, and to organize the church if found worthy. They come, and witness the work of grace, and beseech from God the gifts of the Spirit upon it. As the new believers received the power from on high, and with it supernatural manifestations, there was one who saw in all the Spirit's working only the operation of some charm or magical in-