

HOME STUDY LEAFLET.

LESSON 11.

SEPTEMBER 9th, 1894.

3rd QUARTER

Jesus and Nicodemus. John 3: 1-16.

GOLDEN TEXT: "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3: 16.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VERSES 1-3. CHILDREN'S HYMNAL 26, 79, 144, 170.

PROVE THAT—We need new hearts. Ps. 51: 10.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 92. What is a sacrament? Quest 93. Which are the sacraments of the New Testament?

DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.	SABBATH.
John 3: 1-16	Nuin, 21: 4-9	Rom. 8: 1-11	2 Cor. 5: 14-21	Ezek. 36: 22-27	John 8: 28-40	Rom. 8: 31-39

NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS.

INTRODUCTORY. The connection of this narrative with the preceding chapter has been variously understood. Some regard it as an illustration of that penetrating insight into human nature just spoken of; others, of the kind of faith that Jesus accepts in contrast with that of the superficial believers from whom he held himself aloof. There is however, no such logical connection. The evangelist continues his account of the events connected with the first passover. The discourse is given at length because containing important doctrine and it occupies the same place in the gospel of John that the sermon on the mount does in that of Matthew. John may have been present and was able, with the help of the Spirit of inspiration (14: 16) to recall the words of our Lord concerning a doctrine which he had, at the time this book was written, preached for more than half a century. Nicodemus could not have been one of those who believed on Christ for the miracles alone and to whom he did not trust himself, for he takes him thoroughly into his confidence and utters to him in private some of the most important teachings that ever fell from his lips. Nicodemus ultimately becomes a disciple.

LESSON PLAN. I. The Timid Inquirer. vs. 1, 2. II. The New Birth. vs. 3-9. III. The Uplifted Saviour. vs. 10-16.

I. THE TIMID INQUIRER. 1. A man of the Pharisees—"A certain pharisee." This sect observed rigidly, all the requirements of the law. They taught that a Jew was saved just by being a Jew. Nicodemus—We know nothing more about him than is told us here and in ch. 7: 50; 19: 36. A Ruler—A lay member of the sanhedrim (ch. 7: 50). This was the supreme tribunal of the nation and held in great veneration.

2. By night—He was one of those referred to in ch. 12: 42. His visit at night may have arisen partly from a desire to have an uninterrupted private interview. He had not yet quite made up his mind and deemed it prudent to enquire further before committing himself. He had courage enough to attend Christ's funeral, but not enough to bear his cross. A teacher come from God—He acknowledges him as "the coming One" (Matt. 11: 3), an expression used only with reference to the Messiah, but is afraid to call him "the Christ." These miracles—were a proof that the worker of them was sent

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