

Lesson I.

CHRIST'S TABLE TALK

April 5, 1914

BETWEEN THE LESSONS—The Lesson returns to the feast in the Pharisee's house already referred to in Lesson XI., March 22 (see vs. 1-6).

GOLDEN TEXT—Every one that exalteth himself shall be humbled; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.—Luke 14 : 11 (Rev. Ver.).

*Memorize vs. 13, 14. **THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Luke 17 : 7-24. Read Luke 14 : 1-6.

7 And he ¹ put forth a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief ² rooms; saying unto them,

8 When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the ³ highest room; lest ⁴ a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him;

9 And he that bade thee and him ⁵ come and say to thee, Give this man place; and ⁶ thou begin with shame to take the lowest ⁷ room.

10 But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest ⁸ room; that when he that ⁹ bade thee cometh, he may say ¹⁰ unto thee, Friend, go up higher; then shalt thou have ¹¹ worship in the presence of ¹² them that sit at meat with thee.

11 For ¹³ whosoever exalteth himself shall be ¹⁴ abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

12 ¹⁵ Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, ¹⁶ neither thy kinsmen, nor ¹⁷ thy rich neighbours; lest ¹⁸ they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee.

13 But when thou makest a feast, ¹⁹ call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind :

14 And thou shalt be blessed; ²⁰ for they cannot recompense thee : for thou shalt be recompensed ²¹ at the resurrection of the just.

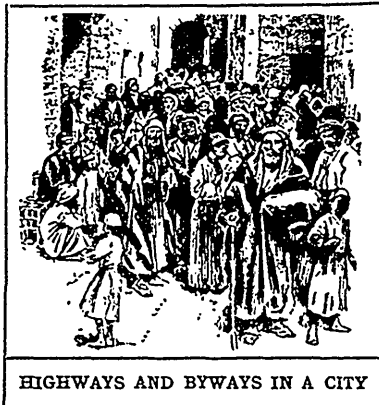
15 And when one of them that sat at meat with him heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed ²² art thou.

Revised Version—(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association, Mr. S. C. Bailey, Hon. Secretary, 56 Old Bailey, London, England.)—**M**.—Christ's table talk, Luke 14 : 7-14. **T**.—Christ's table talk, Luke 14 : 15-24. **W**.—The wise man's counsel, Prov. 25 : 1-7. **Th**.—The Golden Rule, Luke 6 : 27-38. **F**.—Humility exalted, Matt. 23 : 1-12. **S**.—Marriage supper of the Lamb, Rev. 19 : 4-10. **S**.—A gracious invitation, Isa. 55 : 1-7.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

I. CHOOSING THE LOWEST SEATS.—7-9. Parable. Here the meaning is a word picture with a lesson. Those . . . bidden; that is, to the Pharisee's house (see Between the Lessons). Chose (literally, "were choosing") . . . chief seats (Rev. Ver.). On a couch holding three, the middle place was the best, that on the right second, that on the left third. Some couches, too, were more honorable than others, as being nearer the host and chief guests or placed on a raised dais. A marriage feast (Rev. Ver.); a specially ceremonious feast, at which notice would have to be taken of the rank of guests.

10, 11. The lowest place; not with the thought of being called up higher: that would be the "pride



HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS IN A CITY

that apes humility." Go up higher. A better translation is "come up higher:" the host calls the modest but honored guest towards himself Glory in the presence of all (Rev. Ver.). The guests will see who it is that the host deems worthy of special honor. Exalteth . . . humbled (Rev. Ver.) . . . humbleth . . . exalted. The desire for a high place in Christ's kingdom is right, and to humble one's self in order to win that place is to do what Christ Himself did (see Phil. 2 : 5-11; Heb. 12 : 2).

II. INVITING LOWLY GUESTS.—12-14. A dinner; the meal taken by the Jews at midday. A supper; the chief meal of the day, taken about eight o'clock in the evening. Call not; "do not be continually

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Leaflets are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. Their recitation leads to the obtaining of a beautiful Certificate or Diploma.