

but to fulfill it, came the Saviour. Have you noticed that group near him, intently listening while he is earnestly speaking? Some of them may still wear on the arm the phylacteries that are fragrant with choice sprays of that holy growth, the Pentateuch. "We wear and keep the law," is the proud conviction of these men. Others have come from the copying of the law, and they are very learned and grave and good, in their own opinion. "We copy and keep the law," is their complacent thought. But hark! How the great preacher's voice rings out clear and echoing, "Except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven!" They have gone, the holy wearer of phylacteries and the complacent copyist of the law. Another goes away, a man with an unhappy, unforgiving face. The sermon makes him uneasy. He has an offering to make at Jerusalem soon. He has already planned what a splendid gift he will lay in the flames, astonishing priest and spectator. But he has an un-reconciled brother at home, and the preacher persists in speaking of him. "A more comfortable place at Jerusalem than here," says the offended and departing hearer. Still another goes away. This man has an adversary, and he refuses to be at peace with him. As the preacher speaks, this hearer recalls the features of a trial in which he may be interested. There is the seat of the judge, grave and astute and pompous. The accused is before him. The witnesses testify. The judge condemns. The officer seizes and bears away the prisoner. Day after day there is a sad face at the prison-window, all because of an implacable spirit.

"I will go home," says the hearer; "I don't like this preaching."

Primary and Intermediate.

LESSON THOUGHT. God looks at the heart.

INTRODUCTORY. A very little skill with the crayon will enable one to make something like a mountain with fire coming from the top. Now by make the tables of stone. Lead the thoughts of the children back to the day when God gave the law from Sinai. Tell that this was many hundreds of years before Jesus preached the sermon on the mount.

To be taught: 1. That love is higher than law. 2. That God wants the inside to be clean as well as the outside. 3. That there is only One who can make us clean all through.



1. Print Law in faint letters on the board. Ask where the law is to be found. Call for some or all of the commandments. Had Jesus come to put away the old law? Teach that he had come to show how necessary it is to obey the law, and to teach men how they could obey it in a way to

please him. Print "Love" in very bold letters, in such a way as to cover yet not destroy the word Law. Illustrate. Nelly loved to play in the water. One day it had been raining, and there was a little pool of clear water in the yard. How Nelly wanted to play in it! Mamma said "No." This was law. Nelly loved the water, but she loved mamma better, and love was larger than law. Show that she might have obeyed from fear of punishment. But she obeyed because she loved the one who gave the law, and that was the true keeping of the law.

2. Show an apple or other fruit, fair outside, but decayed at the heart. Tell that this is like one who makes the outward acts good, while the heart is bad. The Pharisees were like this. They kept the law in outward acts, but God could see pride and selfishness in their hearts, and he knew they did not keep it from love to him. Teach that pride and selfishness are not like God, and therefore cannot be where he is. Impress the necessity of getting rid of the evil in the heart, if we want to enter heaven.

3. Tell the story of a little girl who had a violent temper. She knew it was wrong, and tried hard to conquer it, but could not. Then she asked her mother to help her, but her wise, good mother could not conquer the bad spirit. After a long time, she was willing to let Jesus come into her heart, and then the bad spirit went away, because that spirit cannot live where Jesus is. Use this to impress the truth that the only way to overcome sin in the heart is to let Jesus come in whenever the wrong feeling rises up. Teach that he is so willing to come that a single word of invitation will bring him if it really comes from the heart. Ask children, with folded hands and bowed heads, to repeat the prayer,

"Saviour, teach me, day by day,
Love's sweet lesson to obey."

A. D. 28.]

LESSON IX. PIETY WITHOUT DISPLAY.

[Aug. 28.]

Matt. 6. 1-15. [Commit to memory verses 7-15.]



1 Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.

2 Therefore when thou doest *thine* alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:

4 That *thine* alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut the door, pray to thy Father

which is in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For *thine* is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.