

LESSON NOTES

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS OF THE EPISTLES.

A.D. 66.] LESSON IX. [May 31.
PAUL'S CHARGE TO TIMOTHY.

2 Tim. 3. 14-17, and 4. 1-8. Commit to mem. vs. 15-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation.—2 Tim. 3. 15.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

The Bible is God's word, man's light and guide.

DAILY READINGS.

M. 2 Tim. 1. 1-18. Th. 2 Tim. 4. 1-22.
T. 2 Tim. 2. 1-26. F. 1 Pet. 1. 1-16.
W. 2 Tim. 3. 1-17. Sa. Deut. 11. 13-28.
Su. Rev. 2. 1-11, 26-29.

DATE.—The Second Epistle to Timothy was written about A.D. 66, just before the martyrdom of Paul.

PLACE.—It was written from Paul's prison at Rome, to Timothy, who was at Ephesus.

AUTHOR.—Paul, now 64 or 65 years old. After writing the first letter to Timothy at Corinth, Paul went to Nicopolis in Epirus, north-west of Greece, and spent the winter there. Then he went through Macedonia to Troas, and to Ephesus, where he was again made prisoner and taken to Rome. He was beheaded by Nero, probably in A.D. 66.—*Lewin.*

INTRODUCTION.—The Second Epistle is Paul's dying charge to Timothy. The words come to us with the power which belongs to the crowning experience of a long life, from one who stands like Moses on Pisgah looking back over all the past, and forward on the promised land, and brings us the combined wisdom of both.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—14. *Of whom thou hast learned them*—Of Paul, and his pious parents and teachers. 15. *Holy Scriptures*—Timothy in his childhood had only the Old Testament. 17. *Perfect*—Complete, having all his faculties and powers trained. *Thoroughly furnished*—Completely equipped, having all he needed for doing good works. 1. *The quick*—The living, those living at the coming of Christ. *At his appearing*—I charge by his appearing, because he is certainly to come. *And his kingdom*—For the time is coming when Christ will rule the whole world, and all nations be subject to him. 2. *Instant*—Urgent, intent. 3. *After their own lusts*—See Revised Version. The people would refuse to hear the truth, but seek teachers who would preach to please them, and not interfere with their sins. *Itching ears*—Ears desiring to hear pleasant things. 5. *Do the work of an evangelist*—One who does not merely care for one Church, but goes out after the lost. *Make full proof*—Fulfill, do the whole work of. 6. *Offered*—As a sacrifice to the Gospel, as a martyr. 8. *Crown of righteousness*—The prize given to those who have won righteousness, and gained a victory in the cause of righteousness. *The Lord*—Jesus. *At that day*—The day of judgment.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—Paul's life after writing First Timothy.—The Second Epistle to Timothy.—Studying the Bible in youth.—The Bible making wise unto salvation.—The inspiration of the Bible.—Its power in making good men.—Seeking false teachers.—Paul ready to be offered.—The race run.—The warfare ended.—The crown of righteousness.

QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—What account can you give of Paul's life after writing the first letter to Timothy? When was Second Timothy written, and where? What value attaches to it as the last words of Paul?

SUBJECT: THE WORD OF GOD.

I. EARLY TRAINING OF THE SCRIPTURES (vs. 14, 15).—In what things should Timothy continue? From whom had he learned them? How was this a confirmation of their truth? How early had he begun to study the Bible? What reasons can you give why we should begin its study very young? What can the Bible do for us? In what way? Why is it wise to seek salvation.

II. THE BIBLE GOD'S WORD (v. 16).—What is said here of the Bible? How does the new version read? What is meant by the Bible's being given by inspiration? What reasons can you give for believing the Bible to be the word of God?

III. THE WORK OF THE BIBLE (vs. 10, 17).—For what things is the Bible profitable? Meaning of "doctrine" here? What does it reprove? What does it correct? In what does it instruct? What kind of man does it make? For what does it fit them? Do these effects of the Bible appear in the history of the world?

IV. THE BIBLE TAUGHT (vs. 1-4).—What did Paul charge Timothy to do? By what solemn motives? How would these influence him to faithfulness? What is it to preach? Meaning of "instant?" What is meant by "out of season" here? What three things must he do in his preaching? Why with long suffering? Why with doctrine, or instruction? What kind of people would he sometimes find in the congregation? Is there any such danger now? What should be done about it? (v. 5).

V. THE TRIUMPH OF FAITHFULNESS TO THE SCRIPTURES (vs. 6-8).—What did Paul say of himself? What good fight had he fought? (Eph. 6. 12.) What race had he run? (Phil. 3. 13, 14.) What faith had he kept? What was to be his reward? Why is it called a crown of righteousness? When was it to be bestowed? Who may have a like reward?

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. *The Bible makes us wise unto salvation*: (1) By showing our sin, our need, our danger; (2) by showing us what we can be,—holy, happy, children of God, heirs of heaven; (3) by teaching us the way to these things; (4) by giving us motives for seeking them; (5) by the Holy Spirit it reveals. 2. *Proofs that the Bible is inspired*: (1) The good men who wrote knew they were inspired; (2) Christ's promise (John 16. 13); (3) Christ's testimony to the Old Testament; (4) the purity of its morals; (5) its wise plan of salvation; (6) miracles; (7) prophecies fulfilled; (8) its harmony with science; (9) its unity although written in 3 languages by 36 persons, during 1500 years; (10) its adaption to our needs; (11) its effects; (12) experience of its truth.

REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School in concert.)

1. How does the Bible make us wise unto salvation? (Repeat Practical Suggestion No. 1.) 2. What are some of the proofs that the Bible is inspired? (Repeat Practical Suggestion No. 2.)

A.D. 62-64.] LESSON X. [June 7.
GOD'S MESSAGE BY HIS SON.

Heb. 1. 1-3, and 2. 1-4. Commit to mem. vs. 1. 1-3.

GOLDEN TEXT.

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation.—Heb. 2. 3.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

We should give most earnest heed to God's message to us by his Son.

DAILY READINGS.

M. Heb. 1. 1-14. Th. Heb. 4. 1-16.
T. Heb. 2. 1-18. F. Heb. 5. 1-14.
W. Heb. 3. 1-19. Sa. Heb. 6. 1-20.
Su. Heb. 7. 1-28.

DATE.—The Epistle to the Hebrews was written probably A.D. 62-64.

PLACE.—Somewhere in Italy (Heb. 13. 24), perhaps at Rome.

AUTHOR.—Unknown. Some attribute it to Paul, others to Apollon or Barnabas. Many believe it to be Paul's ideas put into form by some friend, as Luke.

FOR WHOM WRITTEN.—To the Jews of Palestine first, and also to all Jews.

ITS SUBJECT.—The revelation of Christ superior to all former revelations from God.

INTRODUCTION.—Without preface or salutation. The author states in the first three verses the subject of this letter.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—1. *At sundry times*—In divers portions, some at one time, some at another, during 1500 years. 2. *In these last days*—The last age of the world, the times of the Messiah. 3. *The brightness of his glory*—The effulgence by which, as the sun by its rays, God's glory is seen by men. *Express image of his person*—Of his substance, his nature. Christ showed what God is. *Purged our sins*—By his atonement, and his teaching and power. 4. *Being made*—As mediator, the God-man. *By inheritance*—Because he is a son. *Excellent name*—Higher honour, dignity, the name Son of God, Lord of all. 5. *Thou art my Son*, etc.—Quoted from Ps. 2. 7, Septuagint Version.

"Son" is used here in the highest sense, not merely a spiritual child. *And again*—2 Sam. 7. 14. Spoken first of David's son, but fulfilled perfectly only in David's greater son, the Son of God. 6. *And again*—Rather, when he again bringeth; spoken of the coming of Christ in his kingdom on earth. *He saith*—Deut. 32. 43; Ps. 97. 7 (Septuagint Version). If the angels worship him, he must be their superior. He must be divine, or the worship would be idolatry. 7. *His angels spirits*—Or winds. He employs the angels as winds or lightnings to do his will. They are servants. 1. *We should let the word slip*—We should drift away from them. 4. *God bearing them witness*—By doing wonders, in attestation of the words, which only God could do.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—The Epistle to the Hebrews.—Former revelations from God.—The superiority of the revelation by Christ.—Christ as the express image of God.—Christ the Son of God.—Christ superior to angels.—Reasons why we should give heed to Christ's message.—The great salvation.—The danger of neglect.—Why men neglect it.

QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—What is known about the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews? When and where was it probably written? To whom? What is its subject?

SUBJECT: GOD'S MESSAGE BY HIS SON.

I. SUPERIOR TO ALL OTHER REVELATIONS (vs. 1, 2).—To whom had God spoken in former times? Through whom? In what manner? Does it make any difference to us through whom we have the message provided it is from God? What newer and better revelation has been given to us? Meaning of "these last days?" How did Christ bring this message from God? How was he specially fitted to reveal God's will to us?

II. THE SUPERIORITY OF THE MESSENGER (vs. 2-8).—In what sense is Christ God's son? How is greatness shown by his works? (John 1. 1-3.) What is meant by Christ being "the brightness of his glory?" By the express image of his person? How would this enable him to reveal God to us? (John 14. 9.) What did he do for us? Where is he now? In what is he superior to the angels? What name is referred to? How does this greatness of the messenger give value and authority to the message? How is his superiority to the angels proved through the Bible? Meaning of v. 7.

III. THE DUTY OF GIVING HEED TO THE MESSAGE (vs. 1-4).—What is the first reason for this duty? (v. 1.) What are "the things we have heard?" In what ways do people let them slip, or "drift away from them?" What is the second reason? (v. 2.) What word is meant? Are the promises and threatenings of the Old Testament certain to be fulfilled? How is it with God's laws as revealed in nature? What is the third reason? (v. 3.) In what respects is the salvation by Christ a great salvation? Why do men neglect it? What will be the result of neglect? What is the fourth reason? (vs. 3, 4.) How did God bear witness to the truth of Christ's words? How did the Holy Spirit bear witness? (Acts 2. 1-4; 43-47.)

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. *The Superiority of the Message*: (1) It came by the greatest being in the universe, who knew all things; (2) it came in human words; (3) it came by a perfect life and example; (4) it manifested the highest love of God.

2. *The Greatness of the Salvation*: (1) It was brought by the Son of God; (2) at the greatest cost; (3) it saves from the greatest evils,—sin and misery; (4) it brings the greatest blessings,—goodness and heaven; (5) it shows the greatest love of God; (6) it required great wisdom to plan; (7) it was proved by the greatest miracles; (8) it has done the most marvellous works in changing men.

REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School in concert.)

3. Wherein is the superiority of God's word through Christ? (Repeat Practical Suggestion No. 1.) Wherein is the greatness of his salvation? (Repeat Practical Suggestion No. 2.)

You keep the Sabbath in imitation of God's rest. Do so by all manner of means, if you like, and keep also the rest of the week in imitation of God's work.

WALL MAPS

FOR

Sunday-Schools.

Carefully compiled from the best Author-
ities and Latest Surveys.

GOOD AND CHEAP.

Names of Places are in Large, Clear
Letters, easily read at a Distance.

St. Paul's Travels. A new Map—
Size, 4 x 6 feet. On muslin, \$3 net, mounted
on rollers, \$1.50 net.

Paul's Travels. Part of Europe
and Asia, and by Colored Lines, showing the
Journeys of the Apostle Paul. On fine
white muslin, 25 x 41 inches, \$1.50 net,
mounted on rollers and varnished, 25 x 41
inches, \$2.00 net.

Palestine on the New Testament,
and Small Map of Jerusalem in one Corner,
shows all places mentioned in the New Testa-
ment. On fine white muslin, 28 x 41
inches, \$1.50 net; mounted on rollers and
varnished, 28 x 41 inches, \$2.00 net.

Palestine—Old Testament History.
shows all places mentioned in Old Testa-
ment. On fine white muslin, 28 x 41 inches,
\$1.50 net; mounted on rollers and varnished,
28 x 41 inches, \$2.00 net.

Travels of the Patriarchs from
the East to Canaan; and of the Apostles in
Asia Minor and Greece. Also,

Travels of the Apostle Paul.
(Same map). Mounted and Varnished, size
26 x 32, \$1.25 net.

Route of the Israelites from
Egypt to Canaan, and Ancient Jerusalem
and its Environs; also, Bible Lands and
parts of the Ancient World. Mounted on
Rollers, 26 x 32, \$1.25 net.

Journeys and Deeds of Jesus. On
a new map of Palestine, by Rev. E. P. Stott.
Mounted on Rollers and Varnished; size,
7 x 36, \$4.00 net; mounted on rollers and
varnished, 34 x 22, \$1.50 net; Pocket Size, folded
in cloth case, \$1.00 net.

Atlas of Scripture Geography,
containing 16 maps, with questions on each
map, \$0.30.

Map Illustrating St. Paul's
Travels. 118 x 80 inches, in fine white
Muslin. Price \$10.00 net.

Sunday-school Decorations

IN GREAT VARIETY.

Beautifully Illuminated Scripture Texts
on prepared cloth.

Banners, \$1.50 net.

Shields, \$1.25 net.

Ribbon Texts, \$1.25 net.

Short Scrolls, 45 cents.

Long Scrolls, \$1.50 net.

Sent for Lists.

LAPILINUM

or Blackboard Cloth, (46 inches wide) per
yard, net \$2, used by W. F. Crafts and
other Blackboardists.

IN THE HEART OF AFRICA

CONDENSED FROM THE WORKS OF
SIR SAML. W. BAKER, M.A., F.R.G.S.
With Map. Paper, 25 Cents.

READ THIS ABOUT THE SOUDAN AND KARTOUM.

The *Evening Gazette*, Boston: "Of special
interest at the present time are the chapters
on the SOUDAN and its capital, KARTOUM."

The *Traveller*, Boston: "The narrative,
as here presented, covers the entire journey
up the Nile, through the Soudan to Lake
Nyanza."

WILLIAM BRIGGS,
78 & 80 KING STREET EAST, TORONTO.
C. W. COATES, Montreal, Que.
S. F. HUESTIS, Halifax, N.S.