

"In the face of such a spectacle they passed." (Grotius.) They abandoned him as heartlessly as one who would cross the road to avoid him. This is the only passage in the N. T. in which a Levite is mentioned.

33. Samaritan—(John 4: 9; 8: 48). The Jews despised and hated the Samaritans, and they returned these feelings heartily (Luke 9: 53). The lesson is made the more striking by making the benefactor one of this nationality.

34. Oil and wine—These were customary remedies. The wine would cleanse the wounds and the oil would help to heal them. Inn—"This is the only place where an inn, as we understand the word, a house for the reception of travellers kept by a host, as distinguished from an empty caravanserai, is mentioned." (Alford.) Took care of him—dressed his wounds, fed him and waited upon him.

35. Two pence—a *denarius*, or "penny," was equal to about 17 cents, but its purchasing power was equal to \$1.50 of our money now. He took the money out of his girdle. I will repay thee—The "I" is emphatic. He was not to ask the unfortunate man for any remuneration. Notice his considerate kindness. He did not even hint that the innkeeper ought to make a special case of this, and reduce his charges almost to nothing.

36. Which . . . was neighbor—This gives quite a different turn to the question. Not, "who is my neighbor and therefore has claims upon me?" But "What is the neighborly spirit which I ought to display?"

37—Had Jesus at first answered "A Samaritan is your neighbor," the lawyer would have

had any number of good reasons for denying it. But his prejudice is disarmed and his conscience touched by the beautiful story. Anyone is your neighbor who needs kindness at your hand. Had the lawyer been in the mood in which he began the interview he might have parried the question, but the pathos of the parable has subdued and solemnized him; so when Jesus bade him go and practice the virtue his conscience approved, he had no heart for further fencing, but went away profoundly impressed with the wisdom and moral authority of Him whom he had tried to puzzle." (Bruce.)

Jesus Christ the Good Samaritan—(1) "The human race is the man fallen among thieves, robbed of his hope, his character, his righteousness, his joy, his heaven; sick unto death through sin. (2) The robbers are Satan and his emissaries—all who mislead and tempt. (3) Those who pass by on the other side are all those religions and societies which are unable to save men; which give good advice, but give no power to practice it; which point to heaven but cannot shew the way; which say "be good," but cannot forgive the past nor renew the heart. Self-righteousness, formalism, infidelity, godless education pass by on the other side. (4) Jesus himself is the ideal Good Samaritan. He had compassion; he came to man; he bound up his wounds at infinite cost; he poured upon him health, and comfort, and strength; he bore his burdens of sin and sorrow; he brought him to his church, "the Palace Beautiful"; he cares for him to the end, restoring him to perfect spiritual health." (Peloubet.)

SUMMARY AND REVIEW.

Love is the topic of our lesson. Love to God showing itself in love to man. No one *can* love God as he desires to be loved who does not love Jesus, who is the "express image of his person." "We love Jesus, we shall love all whom he loved. This lawyer wanted to know what person he was bound by the law to treat kindly. Jesus shewed him that love does not restrict itself by the claims which it cannot evade, but is ready to lavish its kindness wherever a needy object presents itself. The answer to the lawyer's question was found in his own breast, not in the external relations of life. Not "who is my neighbor?" but "what is it to be neighborly?" As you place the following on the board, elaborate the ideas naturally suggested. The second list follows the successive acts of the Samaritan.

WHAT MUST I DO ?

THOU SHALT

ALL
FOR
JESUS

Heart
Soul
Strength
Mind



Pity
Help
Kindness
Unselfishness
Generosity
Goodwill

Freely,
Cheerfully
for
Everybody

"Love is the fulfilment of the law."