

Lord's will. He must be crucified unto the world. "A Christian," said Luther, "is a Crucian."

Ashamed of me, v. 38. When Gladstone was a young man, he rose and left a dinner table where a doubtful story had been told.

He was not ashamed of the purity of the Christ he followed.

Rather was he ashamed of the sins his Master condemned. Let our lives be such that Christ will not turn from us in shame on the great day!

When he cometh, v. 38. What a glad day that will be for all those who are humbly

trusting and faithfully serving their Lord. For has He not promised (Rev 3:22) that they will sit with Him in His throne, their foes at last overcome? Theirs will be a

**A Hope to
Hearten**

share, in some glorious fashion, in His victory, and joy, and dominion. A hope, this, to cheer the discouraged, and hearten them to press on in the race, whose prize is thus in full view. This is the bright side of the shield. His own is the fault if the dark side, picturing the fate of the unfaithful, need be turned to any one of us. Jesus offers joy. Man makes his own misery.

TEACHING HINTS

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades in the school.

For Bible Class Teachers

Have you ever tried to get the class to break up a lesson into parts or sections? Make the experiment with this one.

Help them to obtain a clear conception of the remoteness of Caesarea Philippi from the ordinary sphere of our Lord's labors. Why did our Lord not enter the town? Repeat the fact that our Lord is no longer habitually teaching in public; why? Perhaps you should suggest the importance of this incident by asking if a greater event in our Lord's ministry can be named than this confession. (The confession marks one chief stage in our Lord's career, and with it a second stage opens, marked by the direct announcement of His death.)

Take up the different answers given by the people to the question, who Jesus was, and weigh their significance. Observe, no one says the Messiah. Why not?

What now was the opinion of the disciples? "Thou art the Christ." What led Peter to make this acknowledgement? Why is it called so frequently "the great confession?" Why does it form an epoch in the history of the twelve? Why did our Lord attach such immense importance to these words? Because they prove that He had not lived fruitlessly; He had accomplished His purpose; His personal disciples were sure that, in spite of all appearances to the contrary, in spite of their own pre-

judices and prepossessions, He was the Christ.

Why were the disciples forbidden to say that Jesus was the Christ? Just because the crowd understood one thing by the term, and He another. They thought of a political, He of a religious, Messiah.

Why is the first explicit assertion of our Lord's death made after this confession? What is the relationship between the two facts? Not till the disciples were certain that Jesus was the Christ could He speak openly to them regarding His death. Try to get the class to understand the shock the disciples felt when our Lord spoke in this way. Go carefully over the various elements in the prediction of the death, asking for an explanation of each. Contrast this statement with what must have been in the minds of all the disciples, who thought of the Messiah as reigning, and not as dying. How natural, then, the language of Peter! Natural, but presumptuous and false! Hence the just severity of the rebuke. What is meant by Satan?

Proceed to show in this third part of the lesson the meaning of the "things of men." The lesson is given, not only to His disciples, but to others also who were waiting on His teaching. Self-denial is the law of the Christian life. What is it to take up the cross? Help the class to understand what these words meant for the Speaker, and what they mean for us. The cross must be taken up; why? Explain the paradox, "To save life is to lose it; and to lose it is