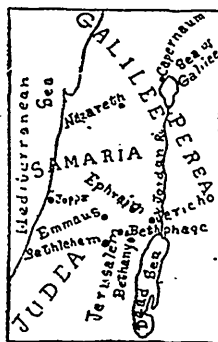


save as well as the Jews. Christ claimed them as his own, though they had not yet heard of him. **Then also I must bring;** to himself as their Saviour: one of Jesus' blessed "musts." It was the Father's will; it was his will, too, 1 Tim. 2: 4-6. **They shall become one flock, one shepherd** (Rev. Ver.). The people of Christ, of whatever country or church, are one brotherhood, following one master. Therefore doth my Father love me; because he was in such sympathy with the Father's loving purpose, that he was willing to die in order to carry it out. **Take it again.** This was needed to complete his work of redeeming men. **I lay it down of myself;** a free surrender in obedience to God, and out of love to men. **Commandment . . . of my Father.** Though a prince and conqueror, Jesus sets us an example of humble obedience.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



The East, including Palestine, is, and has ever been, the land of sheep. Job had 14,000 sheep (Job 42: 12), and Solomon sacrificed 120,000 at the dedication of the temple, 1 Kgs. 8: 63. In the northern part of Samaria lay the Plain of Dothan, where Joseph's brothers fed their flocks (Gen. 37: 16, 17), and where there is still the best of pasture. There are rich pasture lands also in the neighborhood of Bethlehem. In the Negeb, or

South Country of Judea, the traveler may see countless sheep and cattle. Thousands of sheep and lambs may also be seen on the Plains of Moab across the Dead Sea to the east.

LESSON QUESTIONS

- 7-9 What does Jesus call himself in v. 7? What does this mean? Before which of the "seven churches" did Jesus set an open door? (Rev. 3: 7, 8.)
- 10, 11 What title does Jesus use of himself in v. 11? What contrast is there between the Good Shepherd

and other shepherds? What between him and the thief? What is Jesus' gift to his people? Show that the life of believers is secure. (John 10: 28, 29.) What mark of the Good Shepherd is given in v. 11? How alone could Jesus give life to his people?

12-15 What is meant by "an hireling?" What does the hireling do when the wolf comes? Whom does the hireling represent? Mention a second mark of the Good Shepherd. How intimately does Jesus know his followers? What does the Good Shepherd give for his sheep?

16-18 Who are the "other sheep?" What did Jesus say he must do for these? Explain "one flock," "one shepherd." Where did Jesus pray that his disciples might be one? (Ch. 17: 20, 21.) Why does the Father love Jesus? Why did Jesus lay down his life?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Is it always cowardly to avoid danger?
2. Should we lay down our lives for others?

A PRAYER

Saviour, we thank thee that thou art our shepherd, that thou knowest us by name, and that thou dost hear us when we call for thee. Teach us the richness of our inheritance. Show us how to take full advantage of thy gifts to us. Bless to us the lesson we have been studying this week, and save us from the sin of rejecting thee. Show us what thou dost desire of us, and make us eager to do it. For thy name's sake. Amen.

Prove from Scripture—That salvation is through Christ alone.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 90. How is the word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation? A. That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation, and prayer; receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practise it in our lives.

The Question on Missions—3. How has the work at Neomuch grown? A small dispensary in rented rooms has given way to a fine hospital and dispensary, with branch dispensaries in other places. Instead of one missionary there are two, with several nurses and other assistants. Many patients travel long distances for hospital treatment.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. How only can we enter into the kingdom of God?

2. What blessings are promised to believers?

3. How did Jesus prove himself to be the Good Shepherd?

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