

SABBATH, October 11.—**LESSON II.—The Evil Spirit Cast Out.**—Mark ix. 17-29.

Leader. 17. And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;

School. 18. And whosoever he taketh him, he teareth him; and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.

L. 19. He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me.

S. 20. And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.

L. 21. And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.

S. 22. And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him; but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.

L. 23. Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

S. 24. And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

L. 25. When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him,

S. Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

L. 26. And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead.

S. 27. But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.

L. 28. And when he came into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out?

S. 29. And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.

TOPIC—The Need of Faith.

Golden Text—And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.—Mark ix. 24.

OUTLINE:

- I. THE FATHER'S PLEA, v. 17, 18; John iv. 47.
- II. THE DISCIPLES' WEAKNESS, v. 18, 19; Num. xiv. 11, 22; Matt. xvii. 16, 19-21; Luke ix. 40; John xx. 27.
- III. THE BOY'S DISTRESS, v. 20-22; Mark v. 3-5; Luke viii. 29; John v. 5, 6.
- IV. THE FATHER'S FAITH, v. 22-24; 2 Kings xx. 5; 2 Chron. xx. 20; Matt. ix. 28; xvii. 20.
- V. THE MASTER'S POWER, v. 25-27; Isa. xxxv. 5, 6; xlii. 13; Zech. iii. 2; Luke iv. 41.
- VI. THE MASTER'S SECRET, v. 28, 29; Matt. xvii. 19, 20; Eph. vi. 18; James v. 15.

QUESTIONS, &c.—Who alone can cast out evil spirits? Are we ever possessed with an evil spirit? What does the TOPIC reveal in regard to the cure? Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT. What great event immediately preceded this transaction?

1. *The Father's Plea*—
Where was this father?
To whom did he come?
What did he call Jesus?
Why did he come?
What was the matter with the boy? v. 18, 22.
2. *The Disciples' Weakness*—
What did the disciples fail to do?
Had they received power to do this miracle? Mark iii. 7-15.
Why had they failed? Matt. xvii. 20.
How did Jesus rebuke them?
3. *The Boy's Distress*—
What was the conduct of the child when brought to Jesus?
How long had he been thus afflicted?
What prayer did the father now offer? v. 22.
4. *The Father's Faith*—
Did this prayer show any lack of faith in Jesus?
What was Jesus' answer?
What was the father's response?
Have you come to Jesus with this plea?
How may we have saving faith? Eph. ii. 8; Heb. xii. 2.
5. *The Master's Power*—
Upon whom was this power exercised?
What was the effect?
What did Jesus do to restore the lad?

Home Readings.

- M. Mark ix. 17-29.
Tu. 1 Sam. xviii. 5-16.
W. Matt. xvii. 14-21.
Th. Luke ix. 37-42.
F. 1 Sam. xvi. 14-23.
S. 1 Sam. xviii. 5-16.
S. Mark v. 1-18.

6. The Master's Secret—

- What did the disciples desire to know?
What was the Master's reply?
Was this a rebuke to the disciples?

Where, in this lesson, are we taught—

1. The duty of parents to bring their children to Jesus?
2. That even children are exposed to great suffering in this world?
3. That none but Jesus can help?
4. That faith can work wonders?
5. That our power for good is limited by our faith?
6. The necessity and advantage of prayer?

LESSON HYMN.—P. M.

God of my salvation, hear,
And help me to believe;
Simply do I now draw near,
Thy blessing to receive.
Full of guilt, alas! I am,
But to thy wounds for refuge flee:
Friend of sinners, spotless Lamb,
Thy blood was shed for me.
Standing now as newly slain,
To thee I lift mine eye;
Balm of all my grief and pain,
Thy blood is always nigh.
Now as yesterday the same
Thou art, and wilt forever be:
Friend of sinners, spotless Lamb,
Thy blood was shed for me.

QUESTION AND ANSWER.

6. Have these Ten Commandments any particular name?

The particular name by which these Ten Commandments are called is the Moral Law, as in substance containing all the moral duties required of all mankind in the Scriptures; and they are called the moral law also, to distinguish them from the laws given by God to the children of Israel respecting the ceremonies of religious worship, and their political duties, which were chiefly binding upon the Israelites only.