

he was come (1 John 3: 8). Wickedness only wants to be let alone. Every bad thought and desire is a demon in our heart which we should ask Jesus to cast out. The Holy One of God—(Ps. 16: 10). The demon knew who Jesus was better than the wise scribes and rulers, but that didn't make it any better. It is not enough that we learn about Jesus, we must love, trust and follow him. A demon is more at home in a bad heart than He would be. 25. Jesus spoke to the spirit and not to the man, shewing that there was really an evil spirit there. 26. Torn him—Thrown him down in convulsions. Manifesting his rage and spitefulness. We cannot expect a painless cure for sinful habits. Satan will struggle hard before he lets a sinner go, but it is worth all it costs to be free. 27. New doctrine—R. V. "new teaching." Such authority they had never heard of before, and the explanation of it must involve new truths. Had they been as wise as the demon they would not have been so much astonished. It was not wonderful that the Saviour of men should cast out "unclean," i. e. "unholy," spirits, but they were not willing to believe him to be the Messiah.

II. IN THE HOME. 28. See Matt. 4: 23-25; Luke 4: 38-39. 29. Simon and Andrew—They were from Bethsaida (John 1: 44), but had removed to Capernaum. 30. Sick of a fever—Luke tells us that it was "a great fever." The marshy shore of the lake was very unhealthy. Anon—the same

word as is translated "immediately," and "forthwith" 31. He took her by the hand—Had he spoken it would have been enough, but he wished to shew his kindness and sympathy. She would feel encouraged to try and rise when his hand clasped hers. She ministered—went about performing the duties of hospitality. This shews the completeness of the cure, for such fevers generally leave the sufferer very weak for a long time.

III. AMONG THE AFFLICTED. 32. When the sun was set—The Sabbath was over at sunset. Besides, the cool of the day was the best time to bring out the weak and sick. 33. All the city—A general way of speaking. It means a great crowd composed of the friends of the sick and others who came out of curiosity. Jesus had probably returned to his own house, for he had one there, see ch. 2: 1, 15. 34. He healed many—i. e. he healed all that came to him (Matt. 8: 16). "He laid his hands on every one of them" (Luke 4: 40). Because they knew him—Luke says that they "knew that he was the Christ" (Luke 4: 41). The time for the full disclosure of that truth was not yet come, besides he did not wish testimony from such a quarter. This is the story of a Sabbath in the life of Jesus. What a pattern for us. The morning hours spent in the house of God; religious instruction elevating the mind and purifying the heart and deeds of love and mercy filling its leisure moments. A day of sacred rest but not of lazy idleness.

To the Scholar.—Study the lesson carefully, turning up the marginal references and reading the "Daily Portions." Then close your Bible and try to answer in writing the questions following *without accepting aid from any quarter* after you have begun to write. Then bring this leaflet to Sabbath School with you on the day of its date. If you cannot come, fill out the blank and send the leaflet (with the answers written out) to your teacher by some friend, or by mail, and you will receive credit for the work done as if you had been present. If your excuse is satisfactory, you will not lose in record of attendance.

- 1.—Why were the people astonished at the teaching of Jesus? (4)
- 2.—What miracle did he perform in the synagogue? (4)
- 3.—Whom did the evil spirit say that Jesus was? (4)
- 4.—What effect did this miracle have upon the people? (4)
- 5.—Whom did Jesus next heal and how was the completeness of her cure shewn? (4)
- 6.—Why would not Jesus permit the evil spirits to speak? (5)

Name, _____

Dear Teacher,—Please excuse my absence from Sabbath School to-day, I cannot come because I have read the "Daily Portions" and answered the questions as well as I could. I have committed to memory verses in addition to the Golden Text, and Questions in the Catechism and have recited them to I was at church

I send with this my Weekly Offering of _____ cents.