

**I am His and He is Mine**

"I AM my Beloved's, and my Beloved is mine." Cant. 6. 3.

LOVED with everlasting love,  
Led by grace that love to know!  
Spirit, breathing from above,  
Thou hast taught me it is so.  
Oh, this full and perfect peace!  
Oh, this transport all divine!  
In a love which cannot cease,  
I am his and he is mine.

Heaven above is softer blue,  
Earth around is sweeter green;  
Something lives in every hue  
Christless eyes have never seen;  
Birds with gladder songs o'erflow,  
Flowers with deeper beauty shine,  
Since I know, as now I know,  
I am his and he is mine.

Things that once caused wild alarms,  
Can not now disturb my rest,  
Closed in everlasting arms,  
Pillowed on his loving breast.  
Oh, to lie forever here,  
Care and doubt and self-resign!  
While he whispers in my ear,  
I am his and he is mine.

His forever, only his!  
Who the Lord and me can part?  
Ah, with what a rest of bliss,  
Christ can fill a loving heart!  
Heaven and earth may fade and flee,  
First-born light in gloom decline,  
But while God and I shall be,  
I am his and he is mine.

**LESSON NOTES.****FIRST QUARTER.**

A.D. 28.] **LESSON VIII.** [Feb. 24

**THE GREAT TEACHER AND THE TWELVE.**

Mark 6. 1-13. Memory verses, 10-12.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

And they went out, and preached that men should repent. Mark 6. 12.

**OUTLINE.**

1. The Teacher, v. 1-6.
2. The Twelve, v. 7-13.

**TIME.**—28 A.D.

**PLACES.**—Nazareth and other villages in Galilee.

**EXPLANATIONS.**—*From thence*—From Capernaum. *His own country*—Nazareth. *The carpenter*—The phrase shows clearly the life Jesus had led here since boyhood. *Offended*—Angry that one no better by birth than they dared to teach. *A staff only; no scrip*—Simply the ordinary shepherd's crook, or perhaps walking-stick; but with no pouch or wallet for carrying provisions. *Sandals*—The ordinary shoes of Palestine. *Two coats*—That is, the under-garment was sufficient; the outer, which would impede travel, was to be left. *Shake off the dust*—That is, treat it as if it were a heathen city—even a particle of heathen soil was defiling. *Anointed with oil, etc.*—Oil was a very common medicament, and was used by these missionaries as a sign under which they wrought miraculous cures through Christ's power.

**TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.**

How are we taught in this lesson—

1. That work is honourable?
2. That people lose by not believing in Christ.
3. That it is dangerous to reject the message of Christ?

**THE LESSON CATECHISM.**

1. To what point did Jesus go before finally leaving Galilee? To his old home, Nazareth. 2. How did his towns-people receive him? They scoffed and rejected him. 3. What scornful question did they ask? "Is not this the carpenter?" 4. How did Jesus attempt to lighten his labours? By sending out the twelve. 5. What work did they perform in his name? "And they went out and preached," etc.

**DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.**—The missionary spirit.

**CATECHISM QUESTION.**

10. What does our Lord say of those who reject him?

He declares that they ought to believe in him; and that they would believe in him if they humbly and patiently listened to his words.

John viii. 46, 47. If I say truth, why do ye not believe me? He that is of God heareth the words of God; for this cause ye hear them not, because ye are not of God.

A.D. 29] **LESSON IX.** [Mar. 3

**JESUS THE MESSIAH.**

Mark 8. 27-38; 9. 1. Memory verses, 36-39.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me. Mark 8. 34.

**OUTLINE.**

1. The Christ, v. 27-30.
2. The Cross, v. 31-37.
3. The Kingdom, v. 38; 9. 1.

**TIME.**—29 A.D.

**PLACE.**—Country near Cesarea Philippi.

**EXPLANATIONS.**—*The Christ*—The Anointed, long expected to come to restore Israel to power and glory. *Tell no man of him*—That is, not to tell at that time, since his work was not yet accomplished, and it would only make an uproar, and increase the hostility of his enemies. *After three days*—Rather on the third day after the arrest he should rise. *Peter took him*—That is, laid his hand upon him as if in reproof. *Have seen the kingdom, etc.*—This is commonly understood to refer to the rising of Jesus from the dead when he came again with power.

**TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.**

How are we here shown—

1. That our Saviour needed to suffer for us?
2. That we must be prepared to suffer with Christ?
3. That our loss for Christ will prove to be our gain?

**THE LESSON CATECHISM.**

1. What confession concerning Jesus did Peter make? "Thou art the Christ." 2. What did Jesus then say he must suffer? Arrest and trial and crucifixion. 3. What did he say was the path which his disciples must also tread? "Whoever will come after me," etc. 4. What did he teach concerning the world and all it could give? That it was worthless. 5. What did he teach concerning the soul? That it was priceless. 6. What was his searching question? "What shall a man give?" etc.

**DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.**—The crucified Christ.

**CATECHISM QUESTION.**

11. What is his warning to them? That his word shall condemn them at the last day.

John xii. 48. He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my sayings, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I spake, the same shall judge him in the last day.

**HIDE ME FROM PAPA.**

"PLEASE take me home with you and hide me so papa can't find me."

The speaker of the above touching words was a little child just two years of age. She was endowed with unusual sprightliness and loveliness, both of person and disposition.

We had been visiting her mother, and on leaving had taken the dear little one to ride a short distance.

We said, "Now, Mary kiss us good-by; it is too cold to take you any farther." The little darling looked up with the most piteous expression, and clinging to me, said in her baby words, "O Lenny, please take me home with you and hide me so papa can't find me!"

O darling precious Mary! how my heart ached for you as I pressed you to my bosom! What visions of sorrow and cruelty your words called up!

How terrible it seemed that one so young and innocent should know so much of fear!

As I rode homeward the thought would again and again recur to me. Oh, that all who have helped in any way to make her father a drunkard could have heard that piteous appeal, could have seen those baby hands in raised entreaty, and her lips quivering with suppressed emotion! Surely the heart of the most hardened whisky dealer would have been reached and his silent, slumbering conscience awakened to a true sense of the terrible amount of wretchedness caused by the use of ardent spirits. O, think of it, barkeepers, and whisky-sellers of every grade!—think of your sad, sad work.

Here was a man who, when sober, was a kind and devoted parent, yet from the use of this curse of our land, had become so cruel and unkind as to inspire abject fear in his only child.

May all who read these few lines, and have encouraged the use of ardent spirits in any way, be warned in time, lest in the last day many women and little children shall say to them, "To you we owe the untold wretchedness and agony of our lives; our blood be upon your skirts."

**THE TOOLS OF ANIMALS.**

1. ANIMALS do not know enough to make their own tools as man can, and God has given them ready-made ones.

2. The tail of a fish is his sculling oar. He moves it first to one side and then the other, using his fins as balances to guide his motion. If the fish moves fast, and wants to stop, he straightens out his fins just as the rower of a boat does his oars.

3. A man makes a tool for drilling wood, but the woodpecker has a drill in his own bill, and when he drills holes in the trees in search of food, you can hear the click of his tool just as you would the man's.

4. The drill of the woodpecker has another tool inside, a sort of insect catcher. On the end is a bony thorn, with sharp teeth like barbs on a fish-hook. As he works and finds an insect, he opens the drill and sends out this barbed tongue, and draws it into his mouth.

5. Some animals have tools to dig with. The hen digs for herself and her chickens. The pig uses his snout and roots away under the mud. The elephant uses his strong tusks, and the queer underground galleries of the mole are made with the heavy claws with which he ploughs and digs.

6. The woodchuck, too, is a great digger. His hind feet are shovels to dig the hole where he lives, and the beaver uses his broad, flat tail as the mason does his trowel, spattering and smoothing the mud with it as he builds the walls of his cabin, while his sharp, powerful teeth are his saws, with which he gnaws off large branches of trees to build his dams.

7. There is no limit to God's power in supplying the needs of the creatures he has made.—*Exchange.*

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