

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

A. D. 29.] LESSON V. [Jan. 29.

PETER CONFESSING CHRIST.

Matt. 16. 13-23. Commit to mem. vs. 15-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. Matt. 10. 32.

OUTLINE.

1. The Christ Confessed.
2. The Christ Followed.

TIME—29 A. D.

PLACE.—Caesarea Philippi.

EXPLANATIONS. *Into the coats* Into the country adjoining. *Flesh and blood* No merely human teaching or knowledge could have produced this thought. *Upon this rock*—This is one of the great battle-fields between Romanism and Christianism. It probably means, upon this rock-like confession that I am Christ. *Build my church* The first mention of the church is separate from the synagogue. *The gates of hell* The kingdom of Satan. *The keys of the kingdom* A probable allusion to the apostolic office and vocation in the church. *And whatsoever thou shalt bind*—For this difficult passage consult a commentary. *Peter took him*—That is, laid his hand upon him as in reproach. *Son of man coming in his kingdom*—This perhaps means that they should see his glory before their death. They did at the triumphal entry, crucifixion, and ascension.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where, in this lesson, are we taught—

1. That Jesus is the Son of God?
2. That Jesus died and rose again?
3. That Jesus lives forever?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What did Jesus call himself in his question? The Son of man. 2. What did Peter call him in his answer? The Son of God. 3. What did Jesus, just after this, tell them would happen to him? That he would be put to death. 4. What did Jesus say must be the portion of his followers? Self-denial, cross-bearing, and sometimes death. 5. What did he say would be the final reward of every one who had confessed and followed him? "Whosoever therefore shall confess," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Service and sacrifice.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

7. In what other ways did he show this? By the heavenly wisdom, the authority and the graciousness of his teaching. Luke iv. 22; John vii. 46; Luke xxiv. 32; Mark i. 22.

A. D. 29.] LESSON VI. [Feb. 5.

THE TRANSFIGURATION.

Matt. 17. 1-13. Commit to mem. vs. 4-5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son; hear him. Luke 9. 35.

OUTLINE.

1. The Three Disciples.
2. The Two Saints.
3. The One Saviour.

TIME—29 A. D.

PLACE.—Mount Hermon.

EXPLANATIONS.—Six days—Matthew and Mark say definitely six. Luke says, "about an eight days." Six full days between the day of Peter's confession and the day of the descent from the mountain make the two accounts agree. *A high mountain*—Probably Mount Hermon, and not Mount Tabor, as sometimes still maintained. *Transfigured*—Changed in figure or in the appearance of his figure. *Three tabernacles*—Three arbors or three forest tents. *Bright cloud*—Not an ordinary cloud of mist lighted, but doubtless the same as the pillar of cloud of the wilderness, showing the real presence of God. *The vision*—Not dream; but miraculous sight, or spectacle.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where, in this lesson, are we taught—

1. That death does not end all?
2. That we shall know each other in heaven?
3. That Jesus is our only Saviour?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What wonderful scene is described in our lesson? The transfiguration of Christ. 2. When did it occur? Six days after Peter's confession. 3. Where did it occur? On a high mountain peak. 4. Why did it occur? To show forth Christ's glory. 5. Of what would the exhibition of his glory convince the disciples? That he was the Son of God. 6. What did the voice from the cloud also tell them? "This is my beloved Son; hear him."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Immortality.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

8. And what was the last and greatest proof? His rising from the dead, as he himself foretold.

John ii. 18, 19, 21. The Jews therefore answered and said unto him, What sign showest thou unto us, seeing that thou dost these things? Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. . . . But he spake of the temple of his body.

Acts ii. 32. This Jesus did God raise up, whereof we all are witnesses.

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