

THE Teachers' Preparation Leaflet

LESSON 6.

AUGUST 5th, 1894.

3rd QUARTER.

The Baptism of Jesus. Mark I: 1-11.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."
Mark I: 11.

COMMIT TO MEMORY verses 9-11. Children's Hymnal 23, 62, 63, 64.

PROVE THAT—We should confess our sins to God, 1 John I: 9.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 87. What is repentance unto life?

DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.	SABBATH
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Mark 1: 1-11	Matt. 3: 7-17	John 1: 15-28	John 1: 29-34	Acts 2: 36-41	Rom. 6: 1-11	2 Pet. 1: 16-21

To the Teacher—Do not credit any Scholar with having prepared the lesson who does not at least try to answer the questions. Take the leaflet home and assign a value to each answer, announcing the result on the following Sabbath. *Take, or send, the Leaflet to absent scholars.*

Always bring your Bible and Shorter Catechism to the Sabbath School.

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY.—Mark, writing for the gentile Roman, begins at once with the public ministry of Christ. Review the events of his life as far as we have read them. Assuming that Christ was thirty years old (Luke 3: 23), his baptism may have taken place in January, A. D. 27.

LESSON PLAN. I. The Prophets Foretelling. vs. 1-3. II. The Herald Proclaiming. vs. 4-8. III. The Spirit Descending. vs. 9-11.

I. THE PROPHETS FORETELLING. 1. The first verse stands as the title of the Gospel. The second and third may be compared to the quotations often placed on the title pages. Compare Matt. 1: 1, also the liturgical sentence often used before the reading of the scripture, "Here beginneth." Mark begins at once with the public life of Christ and this dates from his baptism. His notice of John is simply to introduce this event. Then first the gospel, properly speaking, began to be proclaimed in Jesus. **Gospel**—The good news which has the life and work of Jesus for its subject matter. **Jesus**—His personal name. **Christ**—"Messiah" his official title. **Son of God**—his essential nature. The second person of the Trinity.

2. The prophets—R. V. "in Isaiah." The quotations are from both Malachi and Isaiah, but since the latter is better known and oftener quoted, and his prophecy is the more important one, Mark mentions his name only. It is not at all likely to have been a mistake of memory. Mark was a Jew of Jerusalem and a companion in labor, first of Paul and then of Peter. In writing such an important work as his Gospel he would "verify his references." (Riddle.) **Behold I send**—Mal. 3: 1. Here the messenger is identified with John the Baptist, and the Angel of the covenant with Jesus. This prophecy is now fulfilled.

3. **The voice**—Isa. 40: 3-5. In Isaiah, Jesus is called God. This passage is quoted by all evangelists. **Prepare ye the way**—R. V. "make ye ready the way." The figure is drawn from the custom of oriental monarchs and great men. When one of these intends to travel from place to place, runners are sent out in advance to announce his coming and gangs of laborers are at once set to work to make the road passable. This is the only "statute