

WHAT TIME IS IT?

What time is it?

Time to do well.

Time to live better,

Give up that grudge,

Answer that letter.

Speak that kind word to sweeten a sorrow;
Do that good deed you would leave till to-morrow.

Time to try hard

In that new situation,

Time to build upon

A solid foundation.

Giving up needlessly changing and drifting,
Leaving the thousands that ever are shifting.

What time is it?

Time to be thrifty.

Farmers take warning,

Plough in the springtime,

Sow in the morning;

Spring rain is coming, zephyrs are blowing,
Heaven will attend to the quickening and growing.

What time is it?

Time to be earnest,

Laying up treasure;

Time to be thoughtful,

Choosing true pleasure;

Loving stern justice, of truth bring fond,
Making your word just as good as your bond.

Time to be happy,

Doing your best;

Time to be trustful,

Leaving the rest,

Knowing in whatever country or clime,
No'er can we call back one minute of time.

BREVITIES.

"PATRICK, were you a minor when you landed in America?" asked the naturalization officer. "No, your honor; I was a bricklayer."

"JOHN," said the teacher, "I'm very sorry to have to punish you." "Then don't; I'll let you off this time," responded John.

The Hindoos are said to pray to 300,000,000 gods. No wonder that praying machines are popular in the east.

Five thousand dead bodies are sent to the New York morgue every year, and 4,500 of them are the victims of intemperance.

THE Duke of Westminster has contributed £100 to the fund for completing the buildings of the London Temperance Hospital, situated in the Hampstead road.

THE Nashville *Broadaxe* has a rum-seller's department, edited by John Barleycorn. Its device is the skull and crossbones and its motto, "We vote as we pray." Good enough.

"AND you have taken the teetotal pledge, have you?" said somebody to an Irishman. "Indeed I have, and I'm not ashamed of it, either." "And did not Paul tell Timothy to take a little wine for his stomach's sake?" "So he did; but my name is not Timothy, and there is nothing the matter with my stomach."

A good old Quaker gentleman, after listening to the extravagant yarns of a young man as long as he could, with patience, said to him: "James, thee knows I never call any one bad names; but if I were asked by the mayor who was the biggest liar I knew, I should come to thee and say, 'James, the mayor wishes to see thee.'"

BISHOP PECK of the Methodist Episcopal Church is confined to his house, and much of the time to his bed, but is enjoying in perfect peace the twilight of a happy old age, expecting soon to pass away. Bishop Peck has recently given all his property to Syracuse University, preferring to dis-

pose of it thus by his own act during his lifetime than to leave it by his will. He recently said to a friend who visited him, "I have an ambition to die without anything, for I am going to where I shall have infinite riches of a kind that will suit me better than any of these material things." He has since died.

A LESSON FROM A PUMP.

I WAS in Cologne on a very rainy day, and I was looking out for similes and metaphors, as I generally am, but I had nothing on earth to look at in the square of the city but an old pump, and what kind of a simile I could make out of it I could not tell. All traffic seemed suspended, it rained so hard; but I noticed a woman come to the pump with a bucket. Presently I noticed a man come in with a bucket, nay, he came with a yoke and two buckets. As I kept on writing and looking out every now and then, I saw the same friend with the often-buckets and the blue blouse coming to the same pump again. In the course of the morning I think I saw him a dozen times. I thought to myself, "Ah, you do not fetch water for your own house, I am persuaded; you are a water-carrier; you fetch water for lots of people, and that is why you come oftener than any body else." Now there was a meaning in that at once to my soul, that inasmuch that I had not only to go to Christ for myself, but had been made a water-carrier to carry the water of everlasting life to others, I must come a great deal oftener than any body else.—*C. H. Spurgeon.*



Search the Scriptures.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

B. C. 1451.] LESSON II. July 8.

PASSING OVER JORDAN.

Josh. 3. 5-17. Commit to memory vs. 7-9.

GOLDEN TEXT.

When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee, and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee. Isa. 43. 2.

OUTLINE.

1. The Preparation. v. 5, 6.
2. The Promise v. 7-13.
3. The Procession. v. 14-17.

TIME.—B. C. 1451.

PLACE.—The river Jordan, near the head of the Dead Sea.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Sanctify yourselves*—Seek to fit themselves for God's presence by offerings and prayer. *The Lord will do wonders*—The work was God's, not their own. *Priests*—Sons of Aaron, who offered sacrifice. *The ark*—The chest containing the law of God, and over which God's presence was shown. *Pass over*—Not pass over the river, but to the front of the camp and the edge of the river. *Magnify thee*—God placed honour on Joshua, that the people would obey him. *Stand still*—They were to stand there until the people had gone over. *Hereby ye shall know*—By the wonders which God would work. *Traverse men*—The work of these men is given in chap. 4. 2-9. *Soles of the feet of*

the priests—They were barefoot while carrying the ark. *Shall be cut off*—The flow from above shall be stopped. *Stand upon an heap*—As if a dam stood across the river. *Overfloweth all his banks*—This was at a season when the river is much wider and deeper than during the rest of the year. *Far from the city Adam*—This should read, "Very far away, at the city Adam." *Salt sea*—The Dead Sea, into which the Jordan flows. *People passed over*—Walking across the bed of the stream. *Clean over*—Entirely over. The ark was carried over last of all.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where does this lesson teach—

1. That God is with his people?
2. That God can do wonders for his people?
3. That God's people need not fear to go where God leads them?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What river lay between the Israelites and Canaan? The river Jordan. 2. By what were the Israelites led to the river? By the ark of God. 3. What took place when the priests brought the ark to the edge of the river? The waters were cut off. 4. How did Israel pass over the river? On dry ground.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—God's care for his people.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

28. But what reason had men to kill him? Men had no just reason at all to kill Jesus Christ; but the teachers and rulers of the Jews hated his doctrine and reproofs, and were much enraged to see the people follow him.

B. C. 1451.] LESSON III. [July 15.

THE PLAINS OF JERICHO.

Josh. 6. 10-15; C. 1-5. Commit to memory vs. 15-15.

GOLDEN TEXT.

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days. Heb. 11. 30.

OUTLINE.

1. The Camp in Canaan. v. 10-12.
2. The Captain of the Lord's Host. v. 13-15.
3. The City of Jericho. v. 1-5.

TIME.—B. C. 1451.

PLACE.—The plains of Jordan, near Jericho.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Kept the passage in remembrance of their going out of Egypt.* Exod. 12. *At even*—On the evening before the day, not after. *Old corn*—The world old is not in the original and should be omitted. *Parched*—Roasted. *The manna*—On which they had lived for forty years, since leaving Egypt. *Fruit*—The crops, or whatever is grown. *A man*—One in the form of a man. *Captain of the host*—Chief or prince is the better meaning. *Worship*—Regarding this person as the Lord. *Loose thy shoe*—Eastern peoples have always taken off their shoes when we would take off our hats. *Priests in the temple served barefoot.* *Straitly*—Closely. *I have given*—The Lord gave, who has all power. *Compass the city*—March around it. *Trumpets of rams' horns*—Large trumpets used for the jubilee. *Seventh day*—Once each day for six days, and seven times on the seventh day. *The people*—The army. *Shall ascend*—Walk up over the ruins of the city.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where does this lesson show—

1. How God cares for his people?
2. How we should act while worshipping God?
3. How we may have power from God?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What city was before the Israelites when they entered Canaan? Jericho. 2. What did God command the Israelites to do? To march around Jericho for six days. 3. What did they do on the seventh day? They marched around Jericho seven times. 4. What did they do after the last march? They shouted with a great shout. 5. What then took place? The walls of Jericho fell down.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The power of faith.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

29. How did they lay hold of Jesus? The teachers and rulers of the Jews bribed Judas, one of his Apostles, to betray him into the hands of his officers; and he led them to his Master by night, and showed which was he by kissing him.

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