

the lesson in the simple outlines given weekly are for the sake of holding the story and the truths securely in mind, that they may be presented consecutively and clearly. Write them on the board, if scholars can read, but keep them in mind, or similar ones of your own, in order to give the entire story in its important parts.

## LESSON XII—June 18

### THE HEAVENLY HOME. (Temperance Lesson.) Rev. 22. 1-11

GOLDEN TEXT: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne." Rev. 3. 21.

#### Primary Notes



*Approach.* Point of contact, "overcoming." Did you ever see two boys try to see which was the stronger? Did you ever see a number of children take hold of hands and pull, to see which side could beat the other? The stronger ones beat, don't they, in such games? But did you ever see a scholar in school with a hard lesson sit down and study so hard and so long that by and by he got over all the hard parts? Did you ever set out along a road that was so full of rocks and stones and ruts and rough places that it was very hard indeed to walk over it? And did you keep on bravely, jumping and scrambling along, till by and by you got over the rough road? Now, all these things are called "overcoming." To overcome a hard thing is to beat it, no matter how hard it is. There are many things in this life that are not easy. Work is hard, lessons are hard, doing right is not easy, when we wish to please ourselves instead, and the hard things have to be overcome. We must beat them. If we don't they will beat us. The hardest things to overcome are bad habits. If we get in the way of doing wrong, and keep at it a long time, it is always hard to break off doing these things, and to beat or to overcome the bad habit. Really, the best way is to stop before we begin anything bad, for then it is not hard. The terrible habit of strong drink is one of the hardest to overcome, but it must be done.

Jesus, in this lesson, which tells us about our beautiful, glorious heavenly home, says that those who overcome shall sit with him in his throne. How wonderful, how wonderful! Isn't it worth while to overcome anything bad, to sit with Jesus in his throne? But we can't do that unless we are ready. Let us see, first of all, what this home is like. Let us see if we don't wish to go there, and then how we shall be ready.

*The Heavenly Home.* The message about this home comes through the same John who wrote down Jesus's message, "Fear not."

Describe this heavenly place, with its purer, its delicious fruits and leaves of healing, its nightless day, its happy service where those who serve shall see God's face, and the glory and beauty that shall last for evermore, where all shall be like kings and reign forever and ever, because they have overcome down here below and are ready to sit with Jesus in his throne. This just means to be with Jesus forever and ever where he is, far above everything down here, lifted up into light and joy that shall never, never end. When John had heard and seen these wonderful things in a bright vision he fell down to worship the angel who told him all, but the angel said, "Worship God."

*Getting Ready for This Home.* If you were going to a party you would not wear the dirty clothes in which you had played in the mud. You would feel so ashamed, if you went so, that you would be very unhappy.

Now, how can anyone be happy in such a pure, beautiful place as heaven if he is not ready for it? If he does not overcome the bad habits can he take them along? O, no. They will beat him if he does not beat them, and how unhappy it will make him then!

Think for a minute how strange and troubled, ashamed and sorry, a drunkard would be, going into God's holy heaven. Would he be willing, even if invited in, to come just as he was? No. Then this dreadful drink habit must be overcome.

You are not drunkards. You do not even know the taste of strong drink. How shall you overcome this, then? By not beginning. That is the best way, and this is the best time.

Then you ought to help those who have the bad habit to overcome it by God's help, for he will help them. You should do all you can to keep others from beginning what will have to be overcome at last.

*Thought about Jesus: He Will Help Me.* We all have something to overcome, that we



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