

Only a Soldier True.

BY M. LOUIS SWART.

Only a soldier who
Answered his country's call,—
With loyal heart to do his part
For his country—that was all

Only a mother who
Stood where the transport lay,
Breathing a prayer that God would care
For her son when far away

Only a parting word
A last wave of the hand,
The shore-line paled the troop—
For the far-off southern land

Only a soldier brave,
Whose courage does not fail,—
The danger grows, charging his foes,
Facing the leaden hail

Only the Mauser's song—
It spoke of death to him!—
He faintly hears his comrades' cheers,
As the soldier's eyes grow dim

Down on the Natal plain,
A little rounded head—
No cross, no stone, where unbeknown
He sleeps his long, last sleep.

Only the long, long weeks
Of waiting and suspense,
Of hopes and fears, of sighs and tears,
Of agony intense.

Only a woman who
Over the death-list leans,
With reeling brain, (O God the pain!)
One of ten thousand scenes!
Dorchester, Ont.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE LIFE OF JESUS.

LESSON V.—APRIL 29.

JESUS AND JOHN THE BAPTIST.

Luke 7: 18-28. Memory verses, 22, 23.

GOLDEN TEXT.

He hath done all things well.—Mark 7: 37.

OUTLINE.

1. The Messiah Tested by His Works, v. 18-23.

2. The Greatest of Prophets and the Least in the Kingdom, v. 24-28.

Time.—Probably the early summer of A.D. 28.

Place.—Jesus in Galilee; John the Baptist in prison at Machaerus, near the Dead Sea.

LESSON HELPS.

19. "Calling unto him"—He was at that time in prison on account of the hatred of Herod's wife. "He that should come"—The Jews in every age had expected a Messiah or Anointed One to appear as their king and deliverer, for whose coming they looked forward with great hope. "Look we for another"—The question was asked, perhaps, to obtain answer to John's own doubts, and also to encourage the faith of his disciples.

21. "Plagues"—Diseases. "He gave sight"—By these miracles he showed that he had divine power and was sent by God.

23. "Not be offended"—Who shall not fall into sin by misunderstanding and doubting Christ.

24. "A reed"—John's firm, strong character is contrasted with a trembling reed. When the wind of popular applause, on the one hand, blew fresh and fair, when the storm of Herod's rage, on the other hand, grew fierce and blustering, John was still the same, the same in all weathers.

25. "Raiment"—Clothing. "Apparelled"—Clad. A reference to John's manner of living (Matt. 3: 4).



DR. COKE.

27. "Prepare thy way"—John prepared the way for Christ by proclaiming repentance and leading the nation to righteous living.

28. "Not a greater"—John was the greatest of prophets, because what others foretold in the distance he proclaimed as at hand; and in true nobility of character he was surpassed by none. "Least in the kingdom"—Any believer in Christ, however low his station. "Greater than he"—In that disciples have all that John foresaw. Our privilege as Christians is greater than that of the prophets, since we know more of Christ than did David or Isaiah.

HOME READINGS.

M. Jesus and John the Baptist.—Luke 7: 18-28.

Tu. Testimony of works.—John 10: 31-42.

W. Fourfold witness.—John 5: 30-39.

Th. Gabriel's message.—Luke 1: 13-22.

F. The forerunner.—John 3: 22-36.

S. A preacher of righteousness.—Matt. 21: 23-32.

Su. Prophecy fulfilled.—Matt. 11: 2-14.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. The Messiah Tested by His Works, v. 18-23.

What John was this?

Where was he at this time?

What was his question?

Who is meant by "he that should come"?

How did people look forward to the coming of Christ?

What example may we find in their spirit?

To what event should we look forward in the same spirit? Acts 1: 11.

Did Jesus give a direct answer to John's question?

How did he answer in action?

What answer did he send in word?

What did these miracles prove?

Where had these miracles been foretold concerning Christ? Isa. 35: 4-6.

What did Jesus say about the poor?

How was this a proof that he was the expected One? Isa. 61: 1, 2.

What blessing did he pronounce?

How may we receive this blessing?

2. The Greatest of Prophets and the Least in the Kingdom, v. 24-28.

When did Jesus give this testimony?

What question did he ask?

With what did he contrast John's character?

For what did he praise John in verse 24?

To what did he refer in verse 25? Matt. 3: 4.

What did he say that John was?

How did John prepare the way for Christ?

Wherein was John the greatest of the prophets?

Whose privilege is higher than John's?

Wherein do we enjoy higher privileges?

How should we regard them?



HEALING THE AFFLICTED.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Where in this lesson are we encouraged—

1. To tell our fears and troubles to Christ?

2. To find our faith strengthened by Christ?

3. To realize our privileges in Christ?

Jonathan and John.

BY CHARLES G. D. ROBERTS.

Should Jonathan and John fall out
The world would stagger from that bout;
With John and Jonathan at one
The world's great peace will have begun.

With Jonathan and John at war,
The hour that havoc hungers for
Will strike, in ruin of blood and tears,—
The world set back a thousand years.

With John and Jonathan sworn to stand
Shoulder to shoulder, hand by hand,
Justice and peace shall build their throne
From tropic sea to frozen zone.

When Jonathan and John forget
The scar of an ancient wound to fret,
And smile to think of an ancient feud
Which the God of the nations turned to good.

When the bond of a common creed and
speech
And kindred binds them each to each,
And each in the other's victories
The pride of his own achievement sees,—

How paltry a thing they both will know,
That grudge of a hundred years ago,—
How small that blemish of wrath and
blame

In the blazonry of their common fame!
—The Century.

That is All.—"Who defrays the expenses of the Government of the so-called Filipino Republic?" asked Spatts. "There are none now," replied Bloombumper, "except Aguinaldo's running expenses."

"Did you say that boy of yours was ambitious?"

"Ambitious! Well, I should say! Why, that boy does nothing but sit around all day and think of the great things he's going to do."

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