

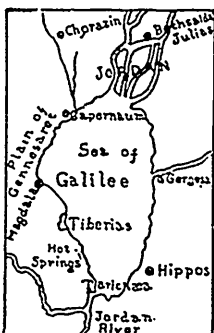
position in the army, with higher officers over me, can order my soldiers and servants hither and thither, how much more can so great a One as you command the disease to leave my servant.

10-13. Vs. 10-13 tell of Jesus' wonder at the Gentile centurion's faith, so much greater than that found in God's own people Israel, and His saying that the Gentiles who believe in Him will find a place in the kingdom of heaven, while the unbelieving Jews are cast out. V. 13 tells of the servant's cure.

III. PETER'S WIFE'S MOTHER.—14, 15. Come into Peter's house; in Capernaum, whither Peter seems to have moved from Bethsaida (see John 1: 44). This was before the Sermon on the Mount, and soon after Peter had been called to follow Jesus. (Read Mark 1: 16-31.) Sick of a fever. Luke, the physician, calls it (Luke 4: 38) "a great fever", such as was common in Capernaum owing to the near by marshes. Touched her hand; to show His sympathy and help her faith. Fever left her. Mark says (Mark 1: 31) "immediately". Ministered unto them. Not only the fever, but the weakness it usually leaves behind were gone,—a proof that the cure was miraculous.

IV. THE MULTITUDES.—16, 17. In the evening (it was a Sabbath, Mark 1: 21, 29) crowds of sick folk were brought to Jesus and received healing from Him. In this Matthew sees a fulfilment of the prophecy of Isa. 53: 4.

#### THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



On the shores of the Lake of Galilee, about 2 miles west of where the Jordan enters it, travelers of today see a small collection of huts, built amid some ancient ruins, and a convent kept by monks of the Franciscan order. The modern name of this place is Tell Hâm. Some two miles farther south, also on the water's edge, is a point known as Khan Minyeh. There is a difference of opinion amongst scholars

as to whether Tell Hâm or Khan Minyeh is the site of the ancient CAPERNAUM; but it is certainly the one or the other.

#### LESSON QUESTIONS

2 Who came to meet Jesus? Describe the disease of leprosy. How did the leper show his confidence in Jesus?

3, 4 Why did Jesus command the man not to publish his cure? To whom did He send him? For what purpose? Where in the Old Testament have we an account of the cure of a Syrian general who was a leper? (2 Kgs. 5: 1-14.)

5-13 Who came to Jesus in Capernaum? About whom did the centurion tell Jesus? What did Jesus offer to do? How did the centurion show his humility? How his faith? What had this centurion done for the Jews? (Luke 7: 5.)

14, 15 Into whose house did Jesus go? Who was sick there? What did Jesus do for her? How complete was the cure?

16, 17 Who came to Jesus for healing in the evening? How many of them did He heal? Of what prophecy was this a fulfilment?

#### FOR DISCUSSION

1. Leprosy as a picture of sin.
2. Jesus' power to help, though not present in bodily form.

#### A LESSON FOR LIFE

Suppose a proclamation were made, "There will be given away gold to anybody that likes to come. Let them bring a purse and it will be filled." Who would not bring the largest purse he could get,—a sack even? Now Jesus offers to us just as much blessing as we are willing to receive. If we have little, it is because we seek little. He stands ready to fill our lives to overflowing with the joys of His salvation.

Prove from Scripture—That healing is God's gift.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 49. Which is the second commandment? A. The second commandment is, Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

The Question on Missions—10. How many laborers are employed in Home Mission work in the Eastern Section? During the summer months there are between 80 and 90 laborers, including ordained missionaries, catechists and student teachers. Owing to lack of workers, many fields, in the winter months, are without services.

#### FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Describe the condition of the leper among the Jews .....
2. How did the centurion show his faith in Jesus? .....
3. What proved that the cure of Peter's wife's mother was complete? .....