

SUNDAY SCHOOL. THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

LESSON VIII.—February 19. GOLDEN TEXT.

I am the bread of life.—John 8: 35.

THE SECTION.

includes the whole chapter, the miracle of the loaves, and the discussions which grew out of it.

PLACE IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST.

In the third year of His ministry. A little beyond the middle of the great Galilean ministry, nearly all of which is omitted in John.

HISTORICAL SETTING.

Time—Just before the Passover, April, A. D. 26. The Passover began that year April 16, about a year after the last lesson.

Place—The plain of Bethsaida, belonging to Bethsaida (Luke 9: 10), a "desert" place, a short distance south-east of Bethsaida, on the north-east shore of the Sea of Galilee.

John the Baptist had been beheaded a short time before, in March.

CHRIST FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND.—John 6: 1-14.

Compare Matthew 14: 12-21; Mark 6: 31-44; Luke 9: 10-17.

1. After these things Jesus (a) went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias.

2. And a great multitude followed Him, because they (b) saw His miracles which He did on them that were (c) diseased.

3. And Jesus went up into (d) a mountain, and there He sat with His disciples.

4. And the Passover, (e) a feast of the Jews, was (f) nigh.

5. When (g) Jesus then lifted up His eyes, and saw a great company come unto Him, He saith unto Philip, Whence (h) shall we buy bread, that these may eat?

6. And this He said to prove him: for He Himself knew what He would do.

7. Philip answered Him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little.

8. One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said unto Him, There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?

9. And Jesus said, Make (i) the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So Jesus took the loaves, and gave thanks, and brake them, and gave unto the disciples. And they did eat, and were filled: and there remained twelve baskets full of fragments.

10. And Jesus said, Make (j) the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So Jesus took the loaves, and gave thanks, and brake them, and gave unto the disciples. And they did eat, and were filled: and there remained twelve baskets full of fragments.

11. And (k) Jesus took (l) the loaves, and when He had given thanks, He (m) distributed to His disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down: and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

12. When they were filled, He said unto His disciples, Gather (n) up the fragments, that we may not lose anything of them. And they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with fragments of the five barley loaves which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

13. Then (o) those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that (p) Prophet that should come into the world.

REVISION CHANGES.

Ver. 1. (a) Went away to fit other side.

Ver. 2. (b) Behind, the signs, (c) Sick.

Ver. 3. (d) The mountain.

Ver. 4. (e) The feast of the Jews, (f) nigh.

Ver. 5. (g) Jesus therefore, lifting up, seeing that a greater multitude cometh. (h) Are we to buy.

Ver. 6. (i) Jesus therefore. (k) Distributed to them that were set down.

Ver. 7. (l) The broken pieces that remain over.

Ver. 8. (m) So. (n) Up. (o) Broken pieces from. (p) Onst and above.

Ver. 9. (q) When therefore the people saw the sign which He did, they said, (r) This is the Prophet.

LIGHT ON THE TEXT.

About a year of the ministry of Jesus intervened between the last lesson and this, the events of which are recorded in the other Gospels. Toward the last the apostles were sent all over Galilee to preach and to heal. Then suddenly, like a flash from a far-distant cloud, came the news that John the Baptist had been beheaded by Herod Antipas in the prison of Caesarea. This was in March. The disciples hastened to Jesus (Mark), probably at Capernaum.

1. After these things—Spoken of in our last lesson. The interval was about a year. Over the sea of Galilee—From the western side, probably near Capernaum. He had just heard that Herod Antipas had beheaded John the Baptist. This was in March. The disciples hastened to Jesus (Mark), probably at Capernaum.

2. And a great multitude followed Him, because they (b) saw His miracles which He did on them that were (c) diseased.

3. And Jesus went up into (d) a mountain, and there He sat with His disciples.

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