

The Sunday School

BIBLE LESSON

Abridged from Peloubet's Notes.

First Quarter.

CHRIST AT THE FEAST.

Lesson IX. February 26.—John 7: 14 28-37.

Study the whole chapter.

Commit Verses 28-31.

GOLDEN TEXT.

If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink, John 7: 37.

EXPLANATORY.

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION RESULTING IN NEW TRUTHS.

I. JESUS TEACHING IN THE TEMPLE.—V. 14.

The opposition of the rulers to Jesus was growing very intense, so that it was difficult for Jesus to accomplish much at Jerusalem (7:1). He therefore kept away from the capital and spent his time working in Galilee.

But when one of the three great feasts of the Jews came, he could go up with more safety, because there were so many strangers from Galilee and elsewhere that the rulers feared to make a disturbance when so many of his friends were near to defend him.

II. OPPOSITION BRINGS OUT THE AUTHORITY BY WHICH JESUS TAUGHT.—Vs. 28-31, including also vs. 15-27.

FIRST. Jesus was unlearned in the schools, how was he able to teach? His answer was that his teaching was not his own, but that of God. He was delivering a divine message. It was that fact which gave it power and truth and value (vs. 15, 16).

SECOND. There was a simple way by which they could test his teaching. "If any will test to do his will, he shall know" (v. 17). If one chooses, desires to do God's will, is in sympathy with God, he and he only can fully understand the teaching, for only thus is he in a condition to understand it. A selfish man cannot understand benevolence, a worldly man cannot understand the power of spiritual motives.

THIRD. The test of true teaching is whether the teacher seeks his own glory or that of him who sent him (v. 18). No one can teach the truth well if his aim is to be recognized as a brilliant teacher, or to gain place or honor. He must be absorbed in his work.

FOURTH. The rulers sought to kill Jesus (vs. 19-26). This opposition brought out an argument from the law of Moses, and the great truth of v. 24.

FIFTH. The opposition brought out knowledge of whence Jesus came, and who sent him (vs. 27-31).

28. THEN CRIED JESUS. The word translated "cried" signifies a loud expression of strong emotion. IN THE TEMPLE. The courts of the temple. YE BOTH KNOW ME, AND YE KNOW WHENCE I AM. You do indeed have a degree of knowledge about me, it is true. You know my appearance, my family, my home; and by my miracles you know that I am from God. I AM NOT COME OF MYSELF. I have a heavenly origin, and am the messenger of God. HE THAT SENT ME IS TRUE. Real, genuine, the one true God, WHOM YE KNOW NOT. You who are selfish, sinful, not pure in heart, you know about God, but you do not know him, his goodness, his love, his desire to save, his nature as light, and life, and love; hence you do not understand me and my mission.

29. BUT I KNOW HIM, and represent him. I have had every opportunity of knowing, for I have been with him, I am his messenger.

30. THEY SOUGHT TO TAKE HIM. They kept seeking, because he claimed to be the Messiah, and thus took ground against their claims and their teachings. BUT NO MAN LAID HANDS ON HIM, BECAUSE HIS HOUR WAS NOT YET COME. The time planned by God as the wisest and best. He had not yet finished his work, his teaching, his training of the disciples. The harvest must not be gathered before it was ripe.

31. AND MANY OF THE PEOPLE BELIEVED ON HIM. In contrast with the rulers who sought to kill him. The teaching of Jesus was not in vain. There was a bright side to his experience against the dark background of the opposition and hatred of the leaders. BELIEVED ON HIM. Believed that he was the Messiah, and trusted him as their Saviour and teacher. The faith may have been weak and imperfect, but it was sincere and so accepted. WILL HE DO MORE MIRACLES? signs. Had not Jesus proved himself to be the Messiah? Could anything more be expected of the Messiah when he came?

III. OPPOSITION SHOWING WHETHER JESUS WAS GOING. Vs. 32-35. 32. SENT OFFICERS. Because the murmuring or mutterings of the people divided in opinion made them think that it would be safe to arrest Jesus.

33. YET A LITTLE WHILE AM I WITH YOU. He lived six months longer among

them, offering them the opportunity of salvation for themselves and their nation. AND THEN I GO (withdraw, retire) UNTO HIM THAT SENT ME. He would return to his home and his Father, whence he came, and where he belonged.

34. YE SHALL SEEK ME. "He means, apparently, seek him whom you will find only in me; that is, the Messiah." You will seek me for help in your distress, when the awful judgments shall come upon you and your city, wars, and "famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes," and "great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world" (Matt. 24). Then they would seek him early and not find him. THITHER YE CANNOT COME. Because you do not seek aright, you do not desire the kingdom of God, and to be saved from your sins, but only to be delivered from trouble while in your sins.

35. THEN SAID THE JEWS. According to Lange, "The mocking malice of their reply rises in a climax of three clauses: (1) WHETHER WILL HE GO, THAT WE SHALL NOT FIND HIM? To Paradise? to God, who has done so much for our nation? Who could believe that we are not as much heirs of heaven as he is? (2) WILL HE GO UNTO THE DISPERSED (JEWS) AMONG THE GENTILES? Greeks, in the original, as representing the widespread Greek culture and influence. "Will seek his fortune among the Jewish dispersion among the Gentiles, with the less orthodox, less respectable and intelligent Jews?" (3) AND TRACH THE GENTILES? Gr., Greeks. Will he become the Prophet and the Messiah of the Gentile world? He had welcomed publicans and Samaritans, he had burst the narrow bonds of Jewish tradition, so that they imagined that he might go wholly over to the Gentiles if the Jews rejected him."

IV. AMID OPPOSITION, THE INVITATION TO THE LIVING WATERS.—V. 37. IN THE LAST DAY. Either the seventh day or perhaps the eighth (Lev. 23: 36, 39). THAT GREAT DAY OF THE FEAST. "The whole week was full of excitement, the great altar smoking with whole burnt offerings of oxen, rams, and lambs, besides the solemnities of the morning and evening sacrifice, the Sabbath sacrifices, and countless private voluntary sacrifices and offerings of all kinds. Every available spot inside Jerusalem, and in the hollows and on the slopes round it, which, by a legal fiction, were counted holy ground, was covered with huts, or tabernacles, of wattled or interplaited twigs, set off by branches of trees, fronds of palms, and all kinds of ornamental greenery.

IF ANY MAN THIRST. Every man is full of thirsts, of longings and desires (See on Lesson V).

The war investigating commission has completed its labors and its report is now in the hands of the President.

General Maximo Gomez has agreed to refer to the Cuban Assembly at Marianao the American offer of \$3,000,000 to pay off the Cuban army, on condition of disbandment.

A Guaranteed Catarrh Cure.

Japanese Catarrh Cure—use six boxes—buy them at one time—apply exactly according to the directions—and if you are not cured see your druggist; he will arrange to pay you your money back. There's a positive guarantee with every box that Japanese Catarrh Cure will cure. No cure, you get your money back. Guarantee in every package. 50 cents at all druggists.

A Vancouver Policeman

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Mr. Thos. Crawford, Sergeant Vancouver Police force, writes: "I have been a great sufferer from catarrh, which I contracted over 17 years ago in Winnipeg. I tried many so-called catarrh cures, consulted physicians, catarrh specialists, and not one of them gave me more than a little temporary relief. About two years ago I tried Japanese Catarrh Cure, and since completing this treatment I have been permanently cured. I can highly recommend it—the first application relieved."

Sold by all druggists. 50 cents. Six boxes, guaranteed to cure any case of nasal catarrh, for \$2.50. A free sample sent to any person suffering from catarrh. Enclose 5 cent stamp. Address, The Griffiths & Macpherson Co., 121 Church St., Toronto.

Grippe Epidemic

Again Sweeping Over Canada With Unusual Virulence.

THE MOST VIOLENT ATTACK SINCE 1890, LEAVING BEHIND A HOST OF AFTER EFFECTS THAT MAKE LIFE MISERABLE.—PROMPT AND EFFECTIVE MEANS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO STRENGTHEN THE SYSTEM.

La grippe, now sweeping over this country in one of its periodic epidemics, is one of the most treacherous and difficult diseases with which medical science has to cope. It is in its after effects that it is particularly disastrous, and these assume many forms, prominent among which may be mentioned heart weakness, bronchial and lung troubles, nervous prostration, alternate chills and fever, a feeling of constant lassitude and an indisposition to either mental or physical exertion. Often the sufferer does not recover from the after effects of la grippe for months, and in cases of previously enfeebled constitutions and among those of advanced age, the number of cases terminating fatally is appalling.

Even after a mild attack of la grippe it is imperative that the system should be thoroughly toned up, the nerves strengthened and the blood enriched. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is the only medicine that can be depended upon for promptness and thoroughness in this emergency. These pills are a true blood feeder, bringing to the vital fluid the constituents that give it richness, redness and strength, thus driving out disease and acting as a tonic and bracer to the whole system.

Mr. Harry Dagg, a well known farmer living near Nings, bears testimony to the

great value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in removing the after effects of la grippe. The disease left him a victim to cold chills, violent headaches, dizziness and severe palpitation of the heart. Mr. Dagg says: "I finally went to Boissevain and consulted a doctor, who stated that the trouble was likely to develop into consumption. I was under his care for about three months, but was gradually growing weaker and unable to do any work. At this stage one of my neighbors advised me to give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a trial, and as my case was critical I determined to give them a fair trial, and purchased a dozen boxes. Before the third was used there was good evidence that they were helping me, and before the dozen boxes were used I was as strong and vigorous as I had ever been, and I can heartily recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for the manifold troubles that follow an attack of la grippe.

If you have suffered from an attack of la grippe procure a supply of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills at once, and they will put you right. Insist upon getting the genuine, as imitations never cured anyone. If your dealer does not keep them, send direct to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., and they will be mailed postpaid, at 50c. a box or six boxes for \$2.50.

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it cures and cures for ever weak lungs, bronchitis, consumption and all other throat and lung diseases by absolutely obliterating the cause.



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To prove the efficacy of this cure, 3 bottles are offered free to any sufferer. All that is necessary is to put your name, postoffice and nearest express office on a post card, and mail it to The T. A. Slocum Chemical Co., Limited, 179 King Street West, Toronto, Ont., stating you saw this free offer in The MESSENGER AND VISITOR, when the three bottles will be sent you at once.

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