

Lesson VIII.

SPEAKING FOR CHRIST

August 25, 1918

Luke 12 : 8-12 ; Acts 1 : 1-8. *Scripture Memory Verse, John 6 : 14.

Golden Text—Every one who shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God.—Luke 12 : 8 (Rev. Ver.).



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8 Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God :

9 But he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God.

10 And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him : but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven.

11 And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say :

12 For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

Acts 1 : 1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Je'sus began both to do and teach,

2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen :

3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God :

4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jeru'salem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5 For John truly baptized with water ; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Is'rael ?

7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you : and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jeru'salem, and in all Jude'a, and in Samar'ia, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Our story to-day tells us about Jesus teaching his disciples to be brave in speaking about him. The Pharisees were very angry at Jesus because he had been telling them how wrong it is to be proud and trying to appear to be very good when in their hearts they were very bad. These enemies would have killed him if they had dared.

Jesus thought maybe the apostles might be afraid to say they belonged to him for fear his enemies might kill them also. So we see him in our picture with his disciples gathered around him. He is telling them they must not be afraid of anybody but God. They must fear God so much that they will be afraid to do anything that will displease him.

Jesus told the disciples that God takes care of everything he has made, even the little sparrows that are thought of so little value

that five of them were sold for two farthings, which was about half as much as one of our cents, and yet Jesus said that not one of these little sparrows was forgotten by God. Surely God would take care of them, for they are of more value than many sparrows.

Then he said, "Every one who shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God." This is our Golden Text.

Do you think it is very long and hard to understand ? It means that if you tell people you are a follower of Jesus, Jesus has promised to tell the angels of God that you are one of his friends, and they will take special care of all who are brave in speaking about him to others. Those who are not his friends need not expect that Jesus will tell the angels of God to take care of them. Jesus told his

* For correct recitation of any one year's Part of the Scripture Memory Passages of List II., at one sitting, a Card Certificate will be given, to be exchanged for Certificate in Colors when the three yearly Parts have been completed. The Card, with sample copy of List of Passages, may be had free of charge from Rev. J. C. Robertson, D.D., our General Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Confederation Life Building, Toronto.