

bath, which was stormy and wet. "Well", said he, "we have been praying for the Holy Spirit to come upon us; and, for the world, I would not miss one day, for fear I might miss Him and the blessing."

Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed, v. 29. The late Dr. Arnold of Rugby, one of the most serious-minded and earnest of men, was suddenly summoned to meet death and judgment. In the midst of perfect health, he was attacked with spasm of the heart, and learned that, in a moment, he would be called into the infinitely holy presence of his Maker. As he lay upon his deathbed, still, thoughtful, and absorbed in silent prayer, all at once he repeated firmly and earnestly: "Jesus saith unto him, 'Thomas, because thou hast seen Me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.'" Death, for him, was robbed of its terror, because of his confidence in the risen Lord whom his eyes had not yet beheld.

Lesson Points

By Rev. J. M. Duncan, B.D.

Others can wish us peace: Jesus can give

it to us. v. 19.

Gladness, not gloom, is the atmosphere of the Christian life. v. 20.

Whoever has seen the Lord, is sent of Him. v. 21.

"If we are to be Christ's representatives, we must have Christ's life in us." v. 22.

Those who forsake the church, are likely to miss the Christ. v. 24.

The slowness of the disciples to believe that the Lord had risen, adds weight to the testimony they afterwards bore to this fact. v. 25.

Sometimes the sharpest rebuke of our requests is the granting of them. v. 27.

"Harsh faith, and wouldst thou probe those signs of woe?

O cruel fingers would ye prove God so?

Touch them lest thou shouldst doubt?
then have thy will:

But ah, thy doubting makes them deeper still." v. 27.

"The characteristic of Thomas is not that he doubted, but that he doubted and loved," v. 28.

The nineteen centuries of Christianity are proof not to be gainsaid that Christ is the divine Son of God. v. 31.

TEACHING HINTS

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades in the school.

For Teachers of the Older Scholars and Bible Classes

By Rev. W. H. Smith, Ph.D., Sydney, N.S.

These are the recorded appearances of Jesus:—(1) Mark 16: 9-11; John 20: 11-18; (2) Matt. 28: 9, 10; Luke 24: 9-11; (3) Mark 16: 12, 13; Luke 24: 13-35; (4) 1 Cor. 15: 5; (5) Mark 16: 14; Luke 24: 36-48; John 20: 19-23; 1 Cor. 15: 5; (6) John 20: 24-29; (7) John 21: 1-23; (8) Matt. 28: 16-20; Mark 16: 15-18; 1 Cor. 15: 6; (9) 1 Cor. 15: 7; (10) Luke 24: 49; Acts 1: 1-8; (11) Acts 9: 1-9; 1 Cor. 15: 8.

The Lesson considers only two of them, the details of which are given only by John.

1. *The revelation of Jesus to the shut-in disciples*, vs. 19-23. The news of Jesus' resurrection (v. 18; Luke 24: 13-35; 1 Cor. 15: 5) had been spreading, and His disciples had gathered together behind closed doors,

perhaps anticipating some harsh treatment from the authorities. They probably wished to determine what action should be taken. The room in which they were met proved to be the birthplace of the Christian Church. Note:

(a) Jesus' coming. The appearance was understood as miraculous. His resurrection body was not subject to the limitation of ordinary experiences. His salutation was the ordinary greeting. (b) The proof of His identity, v. 20. This is important, as it shows how carefully and even critically the evidence was considered. The joyful attitude of the disciples was the natural result of their knowledge of Jesus as risen. (c) Jesus' commission to the disciples. The manner of their work was to be as His, and it had the same divine sanction. The gift of the Holy Spirit was essential to the success of their work. V. 22 has been much discussed; but appears to mean that the disciples were given the right to speak with authority for Jesus. He laid