

LESSON X—March 8th, 1896.

True Love to One's Neighbor. LUKE 10: 25-37.

(Commit to memory verses 26-27).

GOLDEN TEXT: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind: and thy neighbor as thyself." Luke 10: 27.

PROVE THAT—We should love one another. 1 John 4: 11.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 50. *What is required in the second commandment?* A. The second commandment requireth the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath appointed in his word.

LESSON HYMNS—*Children's Hymnal.* Nos. 12, 36, 237, 118.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* True Love to One's Neighbor. Luke 10: 25-37. *Tuesday.* Samaritans despised. John 4: 1-9. *Wednesday.* The law to Israel. Lev. 19: 9-18. *Thursday.* The royal law. James 2: 1-9. *Friday.* Divine compassion. Matt. 5: 38-48. *Saturday.* Overcome with good. Rom. 12: 9-21. *Sabbath.* Love, the chief. 1 Cor. 13. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. The intervening history includes Matt. 18: 15-36; Luke 9: 57-62; John 7: 11; 10: 21, and Luke 10: 1-24. The parable of the Good Samaritan was probably spoken in Perea, the district beyond Jerdan, as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem to the Feast of the Dedication. (Luke 9: 51). There are no parallel passages, the parable occurs in Luke only.

LESSON PLAN. I. A Great Question. vs. 25-29. II. Answered by an Example. vs. 30-37.

I. When Jesus was at Jerusalem at the Feast of Tabernacles one came to him asking him a very important question—"What shall I do, to inherit eternal life?"¹ He thought that if he could do some great thing there would be no doubt about his being saved, but he wanted to know what that great act of obedience, meriting heaven, was. Jesus told him to look in his Bible and see what it said.² He seems to have studied the book well for he gave the answer which stands in our Shorter Catechism to the question, "What is the sum of the Ten Commandments?" Can you give it?³ God asks of us our sincere love and service. If we give our hearts to him we give everything, for it is easy to try to please those whom we love. Then if we love God, really, we will love, and be kind to, everybody. Jesus told the man that his answer was correct and that if he loved God with all his heart and his neighbor as himself, he would be saved at last. "But," the man said "the question that troubles me is, who is my neighbor? There is a great difference of opinion about this⁴ and I would like to know what you think?"

II. In reply Jesus tells one of the most beautiful stories that was ever made. A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and, at a lonely place, robbers attacked him and beat him, and took everything, even his clothes, from him, leaving him lying on the road bleeding and unconscious. Bye

and bye a priest came along going up to Jerusalem, and when he saw the poor man lying there, instead of hastening to help him and get him to some place of safety where his wounds might be cared for, he just turned his head away and hurried on, for fear the robbers might be hiding near by and kill him too. Then a levite came a little while after and he did the same thing. Neither of them wanted to be troubled, the poor man might have died for all they cared. But next a Samaritan⁵ passed by riding on an ass, and when he saw him he stopped and went up to him where he was lying, and got water and washed the blood off his wounds and rubbed oil over them to soften and heal them, and poured a little wine down his throat to revive him. Then he threw his own cloak around him and set him on the ass while he walked beside helping him to sit on until they came to an inn. There he had the man put to bed and watched by him until next morning. He could not stay longer but gave the innkeeper some money and told him to be kind to the wounded man and he would pay all the cost when he came next time. "Now," Jesus said, "which of these three,—the priest, the levite and the Samaritan—was most neighbor-like?" Of course, that question was easy to answer? Everybody is our neighbor whom we can help in any way. We are to love everybody and do good whenever we have the chance.

¹ Ch. 18: 18; Matt. 19: 16; Mark 10: 17; Acts 16: 30. ² Gal. 3: 24. ³ Deut. 6: 5; 10: 12; Lev. 19; Rom. 13: 9; Gal. 5: 13, 14; Jas. 2: 8; 1 John 4: 16; Matt. 22: 37-40. ⁴ Lev. 19: 18; Matt. 5: 43, 44. ⁵ John 4: 9; 8: 48; Luke 9: 53.

LESSONS. 1. Jesus is very patient with inquirers. 2. The Bible is a complete guide to duty. 3. The essence of religion is love. 4. We should love God supremely. 5. We should do a kindness to others whenever possible. 6. Be always "neighborly."