

What Became of a Lie.

First, somebody told it, Then the room wouldn't hold it, So the busy tongues rolled it Till they got it outside, When the crowd came across it Till it grew long and wide.

From a very small lie, sir, It grew deep and high, sir, Till it reached the sky, sir, And frightened the moon; For she hid her face, sir, At the dreadful disgrace, sir, That had happened at noon.

This lie brought forth others, Dark sisters and brothers, And fathers and mothers— A terrible crew; And while headlong they hurried, The people they flurried, And troubled and worried, As lies always do.

And so, evil-boded, This monstrous lie goaded, Till at last it exploded In smoke and in shame; While from mud and from mire The pieces flew higher, And hit the sad liar, And killed his good name.

—Mrs. M. A. Kidder.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

A.D. 30] LESSON X. [MARCH 4

CHRIST'S LAST JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM.

Matt. 20. 17-29. Memory verses, 17-19

GOLDEN TEXT.

The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. Matt. 20. 28.

OUTLINE.

- 1. The Self-denying Saviour. 2. The Self-seeking Disciples.

TIME.—30 A.D.

PLACE.—On the journey from Perea to Jerusalem.

RULERS.—Same as before.

CONNECTING LINKS.—The time for the passover feast draws near. It must be spent in Jerusalem. The set hour of prophecy is at hand. With steadfast purpose Jesus began the journey. The lesson tells the story.

EXPLANATIONS.—Going up to Jerusalem—Jerusalem was very high above the valley of the Jordan. The traveller literally went up. Took the twelve apart—Into seclusion from the company. He gives them thus an opportunity to withdraw from his service if they would. Son of man—Jesus himself. Deliver to the Gentiles—That is, the Romans. scourge and crucify—Two parts of the Roman punishment for malefactors. Mother of Zebedee's children—Mother of James and John. Right hand and left hand—These were the posts of honour under a king. Baptized with the baptism—That is, undergo the ordeal through which I am to pass; this cannot be read, "immersed with the immersion that I am immersed with."

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

- 1. The Self-denying Saviour. What time have we reached in the life of Jesus? Why did he take the disciples apart and tell them of his coming death? How many previous announcements had he made of it? By what power was he to be executed? Of what were these powers then the representative? What great principle did he lay down concerning human life? 2. The Self-seeking Disciples. What evidence that the women who attended Jesus so often were at this time with him?

What was the name of the mother of James and John? What did this mother and the sons plainly expect was soon to come? What did this mother mean by this request? What reason could lead these sons to expect such an honour? What was the meaning of Christ's answer to the two? What was the meaning of the answer to the ten? How is the Roman Catholic dogma of Peter's primacy affected by this whole story?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

The last journey. What a wonderful Saviour. Thoughtful for his own. vs. 17, 19. Attentive to their earthly prayer, v. 21. Loving in his rebuke, vs. 22, 23. Full of compassion for their weakness, v. 25. A sacrifice for the world, v. 28. The last journey. What weak and sinful followers. Two, selfish in the extreme. v. 21. Ashamed to make the request alone. v. 20. Forgetful of the sadness which was weighing on the Master. Ten, self-righteous and indignant. How like men of to-day and Jesus. He is the same, yesterday, to-day, and forever.

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

- 1. Trace the route of Jesus. 2. Learn the position of Jericho in reference to Jerusalem. 3. Find how many times James and John had been specially honoured with confidence by Jesus. 4. Find evidence in the lesson that Christ could foresee the future. 5. Write a list of all words that need explanation. See if they are explained in the Explanations given above. If not, take the list to your class, if you cannot find out about them before. 6. Be sure to commit to memory vs. 17-19.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What did Jesus tell the twelve should befall him in Jerusalem? That he should be betrayed. 2. By whom would he be condemned? By the chief priests and scribes. 3. How would he meet death? He would be scourged and crucified. 4. What caused indignation among the disciples? The request of James and John. 5. What did they ask? To be first and second in his kingdom. 6. What did he say was the purpose of his own life? "The Son of man came not," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Redemption.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

12. What blessing does he pronounce on believers? To Peter he gave it thus: Matthew xvi. 17. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. John xx. 29.

A.D. 30] LESSON XI. [MARCH 11

CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM.

Matt. 21. 1-16. Memory verses, 9-11

GOLDEN TEXT.

Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Psa. 118. 26.

OUTLINE.

- 1. The Son of David. 2. The Temple of God.

TIME.—30 A.D.

PLACES.—Jerusalem and Bethany.

CONNECTING LINKS.—The last lesson closed with the entrance into Jericho of the company with Jesus on their way to the passover at Jerusalem. Here two memorable things had occurred. He had given sight to two blind men, and had dined at the house of Zaccheus, whose conversion is one of the most wonderful stories of the whole history. The journey continued, till, reaching Bethany, Jesus and the twelve paused for rest. Here on the Sabbath night, or the night after the Sabbath, as we should say, at a supper given in his honour, he was anointed by Mary, the sister of Lazarus, as he reclined at table. The next day the

advance to Jerusalem once more began, and the wonderful scenes of our lesson occurred.

EXPLANATIONS. Into the village over against you—The village just out of our route, Bethphage. Spoken by the prophet—This prophesy is in Zech. 9. 9; read it. Daughter of Zion—Jerusalem, or the people of Jerusalem; a poetic expression for all the Jews. Hosanna—A Hebrew word or phrase which means, "give thy salvation." Blessed is he that cometh—This phrase, from Psa. 118. 26, was the usual term of welcome to the pilgrims to the passover on their entrance to Jerusalem. Them that sold and bought—In the court of the Gentiles was the temple market where things needed for the service were sold, such as incense, oil, wine, doves, etc. The wonderful things—Rather, things that filled them with wonder that he should dare to do as he had.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

- 1. The Son of David. To what week in our Lord's life have we come? What day of the week was marked by the triumphal entry? What ceremonial was necessary to fulfil prophecy? What wonderful exhibition of faith do two disciples make in this scene? Was the triumphal procession like or unlike Oriental ceremonies connected with coronations? What similar scene in Esther is suggested? What was the probable expectation of the multitude? What did the cry of the throng in v. 9 mean? Had such a song ever been heard before in Jerusalem? Did the crying cease when he entered the city? What classes and ages of people took part in it? 2. The Temple of God. What was the effect of all this on the Jewish priesthood? Was it necessary that Christ should come in this way to his temple? What did he find in the temple? Why were people allowed to sell and buy in the temple? What would be a reason why this custom would be unholy? When he had driven out the traders, who took their places? What was the testimony that the multitude could give as to who he was?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Here is wonderful obedience. Jesus said to two disciples "Go—do." They went and did. Have you anything that the Lord needs, and will you give it when he calls? He needs you. He calls now. To the great multitude he was simply "Jesus the prophet." What is he to you? Is he "Jesus the Christ?" How many buy and sell to-day, as they sit in God's house, their hearts full of the world.

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

- 1. Search out the authority for saying that two days were occupied in this lesson. 2. Read Mark and Luke for their account. 3. Study out all that had happened since the last lesson. 4. Write ten questions whose answers will tell the whole story of the lesson. 5. Search out all the Scriptures that were fulfilled in this scene. 6. Read the story of Mordecai.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. At whose home in Bethany did Jesus spend his last Sabbath? In that of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. 2. What good example did two disciples set for us as they went on toward Jerusalem? They did as Jesus commanded. 3. What did the multitudes cry as they entered the city? "Hosanna to the Son of David." 4. What was the effect (upon his enemies) of the honour shown to Jesus? "They were sore displeased." 5. What ought to be the language of our hearts as Christ draws near to us to-day? "Blessed be he that cometh," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The coming of Christ.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

- 13. How does our Lord teach us his religion? By his word and by his Spirit. 14. What is his word? The Scriptures of the Old and the New Testaments, which are the sacred books of the Christian faith.

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