

Lesson III.

JESUS AT WORK

January 20, 1918

BETWEEN THE LESSONS—Jesus leaves the Sea of Galilee and comes with his four disciples to Capernaum.

GOLDEN TEXT—We must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day.—John 9 : 4 (Rev. Ver.).

*Memorize Ps. 103 : 6, 7.

THE LESSON PASSAGE—Mark 1 : 21-34. Study Mark 1 : 21-45.

21 And they ¹ went into Capernaum ; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

22 And they were astonished at his ² doctrine : for he taught them as ³ one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

23 And ⁴ there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit ; and he cried out,

24 Saying, ⁵ Let us alone ; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth ? art thou come to destroy us ? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

25 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

26 And ⁶ when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, ⁷ he came out of him.

27 And they were all amazed, inasmuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What ⁸ thing is this ? ⁹ what new doctrine is this ? for with authority

Revised Version—¹go ; ²teaching ; ³having authority ; ⁴straightway ; ⁵Omit three words ; ⁶the unclean spirit, tearing him and crying ; ⁷Omit he ; ⁸Omit thing ; ⁹a new teaching ; with authority he commandeth ; ¹⁰Omit do ; ¹¹the report of him went out straightway everywhere into all the region of Galilee round about, ¹²came into ; ¹³Now Simon's ; ¹⁴raised ; ¹⁵Omit immediately ; ¹⁶sick ; ¹⁷with ; ¹⁸he.

commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they ¹⁹ do obey him.

28 And ²⁰ immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.

29 And ²¹ forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they ²² entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

30 ²³ But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and ²⁴ anon they tell him of her.

31 And he came and took her by the hand, and ²⁵ lifted her up ; and ²⁶ immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.

32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were ²⁷ diseased, and them that were possessed with devils.

33 And all the city was gathered together at the door.

34 And he healed many that were sick ²⁸ of divers diseases, and cast out many devils ; and ²⁹ suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS

M.—Jesus at work in Capernaum, Mark 1 : 21-34.

T.—Jesus at work in other towns, Mark 1 : 35-45.

W.—Jesus going about doing good, Acts 10 : 34-43.

Th.—Jesus anointed to heal and save, Luke 4 : 14-22.

F.—Jesus healing a leper, Luke 5 : 12-16.

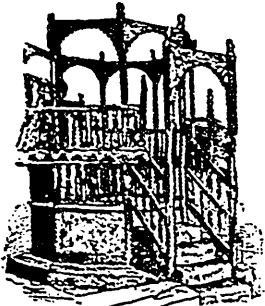
S.—Jesus giving rest, Matt. 11 : 25-30.

S.—Gratitude for his benefits, Ps. 103 : 1-13.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

I. IN THE SYNAGOGUE.—21. Capernaum. This was the present abode of Simon and Andrew.

Sabbath ; the first Sabbath after the call.



READING PLACE, SYNAGOGUE

synagogue. Luke 4 : 16 tells that it was the custom of Jesus to attend the synagogue. Much of Christ's early ministry took the form of synagogue teaching. Any one might be called upon by the ruler of the synagogue to expound, so that Jesus had had a regular and recognised way of speaking to the people. Luke 7 : 5 tells that the cen-

turion, whose servant Christ healed, had built a synagogue in Capernaum. Taught. Christ's method was always that of a teacher.

22. Astonished ; a very strong word, —astonished beyond measure. Mark gives the effect, not the substance, of the teaching. Doctrine ; teaching. Authority ; the striking feature of Jesus' teaching.

The scribes interpreted scripture by telling what this and that learned rabbi had said. Christ's message was directly from God through himself : "Verily I say unto you." Scribes ; a class of Jewish religious teachers.

23-26. Man with an unclean spirit. Luke describes him as having a spirit of an unclean devil. Let us alone. It is the evil spirit who speaks for himself and his fellows. What have we to do . . . ? The spirit recognizes the holiness of Christ's character and the gulf between them. To destroy us ; recognizes also the power of that character. Holy One of God ; recognizes also the personality of Jesus. Rebuked ; that is, rebuked the spirit, and with stern words. Hold thy peace ; "be muzzled," as a wild beast. Torn him . . . came out ; convulsed him, —reluctant but immediate and complete obedience.

27, 28. Amazed ; at the wonder of his power as at the wonder of his word before. Questioned ; discussed. What thing. They have nothing but questions and exclamations. With authority. There were people who pretended to drive out spirits (Acts 19 : 13), but they used long incantations and strange methods. Jesus gives a brief, masterful command. Immediately ; with lightning speed.

II. IN THE HOUSE.—29-31. House of Simon and Andrew. Andrew evidently lived with

* For the recitation of the Scripture Memory Passages in either Part of List IV., a Red Seal is added to the Diploma in Colors given for List III., and a Gold Seal for the verses of the other Part. For Form of Application, apply to Rev. J. C. Robertson, our General Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Confederation Life Building, Toronto.