

HOME STUDY LEAFLET

LESSON 1.

JANUARY, 7th, 1894.

1st QUARTER.

The First Adam. Gen. 1: 26-31; 2: 1-3.

GOLDEN TEXT: "So God created man in his own image." Gen. 1: 27.

COMMIT TO MEMORY—verses 26-28.

PROVE THAT—Man was created truly noble. Ps. 8: 5.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 82. Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?

DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.	SABBATH.
Gen. 1: 26-2; 3	Gen. 1: 1-13	Gen. 1: 14-25	Gen. 2: 7-17	Ps. 8	Acts 17: 22-29.	Ps. 100

Always bring your Bible and Shorter Catechism to the Sabbath School.

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY.—Our lesson begins another course through the whole Bible. How many of us will live to complete the six years occupied with it? Make a resolution, and ask God to help you to keep it, that as long as you live you will study the lesson and be in your place in the Sabbath School if you are able to get there.

Read over the story of Creation and note what was done on each day. (1) Light. (2) Atmosphere. (3) Dry land and vegetation. (4) Sunlight. (5) Fish and fowl. (6) Mammals and man.

I. LESSON PLAN. I. Man's Origin. vs. 26, 27. II. Man's Empire. vs. 28-31. III. Man's Sabbath. vs. 1-3.

I. MAN'S ORIGIN. 26. A solemn pause marks off the creation of man from that of the inferior animals. Let us make—To whom is God speaking? Three answers are given—(1) To Himself. It is the "plural of majesty," such as is used in royal proclamations (Isa. 6: 8). (2) To the other persons of the Trinity. (3) To the angelic host, as interested and sympathetic witnesses (Job 38: 7). 27. In our image—This cannot refer to physical form, for God is a Spirit (Luke 24: 39; John 4: 24), but doubtless the form was made to be not unbecoming such a being. See Ecc. 7: 28; Col. 3: 10; Eph. 4: 24; Jas. 3: 9. Other creatures were produced each "after its kind" or typical form,—man's essential prototype is God, not the man-like apes. This spiritual "image and likeness" makes man a creature infinitely above a mere animal (1 Cor. 11: 7). Hence the guilt of murder (Gen. 9: 6), and the folly of idolatry (Acts 17: 26, 29, 29). Let them have dominion—Man was set over the inferior creatures, but is answerable to his Maker and theirs for his treatment of them (Ps. 8: 6-8; Jas. 3: 7). Male and Female—i. e. one man and one woman (Gen. 5: 2; Mal. 2: 15; Matt. 19: 4, 6; Mark 10: 6).

II. MAN'S EMPIRE. 28. We have here the institution of the family with its tender and sacred relationships (Gen. 9: 1, 7; Lev. 26: 9; Ps. 127: 3; 128: 3, 4; 1 Tim. 4: 1-3), and man's warrant for making the powers and resources of nature minister to his advancement. 29-30. It does not follow from these verses that there were no birds or beasts of prey (see ch. 3: 21). Fossil remains of creatures that lived ages before Adam show marks of disease and violent death. Many animals, also, are so constituted that they could not live without animal food. But, directly or indirectly, the whole animal kingdom is supported by herbage. Many nations had the tradition that in the primitive world, animals did not prey upon one another, and this purely poetic view is used in Isa. 11: 6-9; 35: 9, 65: 25 to set forth the blessedness of Messiah's kingdom. 31. Very good—Six times a part of creation has been declared "good," now of the whole completed work it is said that it is "exceedingly good"—there is absolutely no evil