

The Primary Class.

Speak of the scribes as men who wrote the Bible as the Jews had it, there being no printed books in that day. They were fond of talking about it, and one of them, who had heard Jesus talking with some people, asked him, "Which is the first Commandment of all?" Let the class repeat the answer which Jesus gave. Jesus then told him of another commandment. What was that?

The Lesson has three points: 1. The unity of God; 2. Our love toward God; 3. Our love toward our neighbor. On the first point state that God is every-where, and all good people worship him. There is not one God for America, and another for Europe, and another for Africa, but only one for the whole world. Wherever you go you may feel at home when you pray, because you worship the same one God, who is every-where.

This one God we are to love. Ask why? Put the answers on the blackboard. If answers do not come readily draw them out by suggesting. Who made us? Who keeps us? Who redeemed us? Who treats us as a father does his children? etc.

If we love God we are to love every body he has made, especially our fellow-men. A neighbor is not simply a person who lives next door to us; every human being is our neighbor, and we are to do good to all that we can.

How we are to love is shown in the lesson: We are to love God with all our heart, and our neighbors as ourselves.

Whisper-Song.

Question.

Tell me what our Saviour
Says that we must do?
What will show to Jesus
That we love him true?
What will make us happy
All our journey through?

Answer.

Love the Lord with all thy heart,
Love thy neighbor, too.

Miscellaneous.

FREEMAN: Compendium of the Commandments, 696. PRAYER-MEETING TOPIC: "One God, one heart, one love." TEXTS: 1 John iv. 8; v. 3.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1874.

LESSON VII.—*Hypocrisy and Piety.* Mark xii. 38-44.

GOLDEN TEXT: Micah vi. 8.

Berean Notes.

I. GENERAL STATEMENT.

Here we have two trees side by side—the leafy, fruitless fig-tree—the scribe-character—

and the goodly olive-tree that yields fruit in the house of God under the shining light of the Sun of Righteousness. Compare: Matt. xxiii. 1-39; Mark xii. 38-44; Luke x. 45-47; xxi. 1-3.

II. NOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

In his DOCTRINES, that is, in the course of his remarks, instruction, teaching. The SCRIBES, 1. *Ambitious*—to receive the attention, salutation, promotion; 2. *Avaricious*—making all the money they could in the name of religion; 3. *Affected*—full of pretense and hypocrisy. They wore LONG CLOTHING in imitation of the priestly and of the royal robes; thus pretending to sanctity and aristocratic superiority. All outward. All for self-glorification. Whiteden sepulchres full dead men's bones.

Jesus at the temple and sitting OVER AGAINST THE TREASURY. The treasury into which sacrifice-offering were given by the people. 1. Jesus did not forsake the temple even though scribes patronized it; 2. He took a good place to judge of the nature and quantity of religious character in the hearts of men—near the "collection-baskets." He knew what gifts were returned and retained; 3. He did not disapprove of financial gifts and collections in the house of God. POOR WIDOW. Some old saint like Anna the prophetess. She did not know who was watching her. She 1. Gave something; 2. Gave all that she had; 3. Gave more than all the rest.

Jesus saw in the falling "mites" a heart's true love, and love gives weight to metal. It sometimes makes a mite outweigh a million.

A saint said: "O God, I have only two mites—a body and a soul."

CONTRASTS between the scribes and the widow. 1. Their religion was all outward—hers from within; 2. Theirs for human praise—hers for God; 3. Theirs exhausts widows' treasures to exalt themselves—hers gives all she has into God's treasury; 4. In them see lofty pride—in her lowly love.

Here is the difference between them

SELF-SEEKING.
SACRIFICE.

On their hearts might be written: TO THIS WORLD IN HONOR OF MYSELF. On hers: TO MY GOD.

What a gift she made that day. The story of the two mites has gone the world over, and quickened the benevolence of the Church in all