

III. THE AUTHORITY OF THE SEVENTY.—

13-16. Chorazin. Compare Matt. 11: 21. Its "ruins (about two miles from the site of Capernaum) look like mere rude heaps of stones." **Bethsaida;** near the entrance of the Jordan into the Lake of Galilee. **Tyrs and Sidon;** cities, whose wickedness is frequently referred to by the prophets. **Sitting in sackcloth and ashes;** a customary sign of grief, Jonah 3: 6. Sackcloth was made of the hair of goats and other animals. **Capernaum;** Jesus' own city after He began His ministry. **Exalted to heaven;** because of privileges enjoyed. **Thrust down to hell** (Rev. Ver., "Hades," the abode of the dead); be utterly destroyed. The guilt of rejecting Jesus' messenger is equal to that of rejecting Jesus, v. 16.

DAILY READINGS

M.—The mission of the seventy, Luke 10: 1-16. T.—Return of the mission, Luke 10: 17-24. W.—Mission of the apostles, Matt. 10: 5-15. Th.—The harvest, John 4: 31-38. F.—Laborers needed, Matt. 9: 32-38. S.—God's messenger, Jer. 1: 7-19. S.—Who will go? Isa. 6: 1-8.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, 454: 447; 52 (Ps. Sel.): 452 (from Primary Quarterly); 455.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 19.—What is the misery of that estate wherinto man fell? A. All mankind by their fall lost communion with God, are under his wrath and curse, and so made liable to all miseries in this life, to death itself, and to the pains of hell forever.

Prove from Scripture—That there is a day of judgment.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—Whither was Jesus journeying? Where was Perea?

1, 2 Whom did Jesus send before Him? What were they to do? Whom had Jesus sent before on a similar mission? What great need mentioned in v. 2? Who can supply it? What is our duty?

3-7 To what are the seventy compared? What were they forbidden to do? Why? What was the usual Eastern greeting on entering a house? How were the wants of the seventy to be supplied?

8-12 What two duties laid on the seventy? (v. 9). Who was their Example in both? How were they to act, if their message was rejected?

13-16 What cities are condemned? Why was their blame so great? Who deserve the severest punishment? (Ch. 12: 47, 48.)

Seniors and the Home Department—In what province did Jesus spend most of His ministry?

Where is His final departure from this province recorded?

1, 2 Why were the seventy sent forth in twos? Give other similar cases. What can we all do for missions?

3-12 How were the seventy to act "by the way"? By whom should those who preach the gospel be supported, and why? (1 Cor. 9: 14; Gal. 6: 6; 1 Tim. 5: 18.)

13-16 With what cities are those visited by our Lord compared? Why was the guilt of the latter greater? How does this teaching apply to us? (Heb. 2: 2, 3; 10: 28, 29.)

Seek-Further Questions—What success attended the mission of the seventy? What Old Testament parallel is there to their appointment.

Topics for Brief Papers (To be ready on the day of the Lesson)—1. The seventy and their "plan of campaign." 2. The part prayer plays in missions.

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. The Lord so arranged, doubtless, that each of the seventy had the companion best suited and most helpful to him. Happy are we, if we have a friend who is strong where we are weak, wise where we are ignorant.

2. Imagine a loyal son seeing an enemy reaping the golden harvest belonging to his father. How indignant the son would be! And how eager to drive away the enemy and help to gather the grain into the garner of its true owner. There is a great harvest of precious souls in the world. They belong to our Heavenly Father. Satan is striving to get possession of them. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, calls us to join Him in fighting against Satan and in saving the world.

3. The Highland clans were summoned to war by a cross of wood, charred at the point and dipped in the blood of a goat. This was passed from village to village and home to home, the name of the meeting-place being given by each man to the one who received it from him. It is from the cross of Christ, that the loudest call comes to love and serve Him.

4. Some one has said, that the Christian should be the gentlest of men, but he should be a man.

5. It is often our duty to speak strongly against wickedness. But the fire of our indignation against sin should never destroy our tenderness towards the sinner.

6. Penalty is proportionate to privilege.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What two missionary commands in vs. 1, 2?

2. The reward of receiving Christ's messengers?

3. The penalty of rejecting them?