

Lesson X.

THE GREAT COMMANDMENTS

September 6, 1914

Mark 12 : 28-34, 41-44. Study Mark 12 : 28-44—Memory Verses, 29-31.

Golden Text—Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind ; and thy neighbour as thyself.—Luke 10 : 27.



28 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all ?

29 And Je'sus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Is'rael ; The Lord our God is one Lord :

30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength : this is the first commandment.

31 And the second is like, *namely* this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

32 And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth : for there is one God ; and there is none other but he :

33 And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love *his* neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

34 And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him *any* question.

41 And Je'sus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury : and many that were rich cast in much.

42 And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing.

43 And he called *unto him* his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury :

44 For all *they* did cast in of their abundance ; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, *even* all her living.

THE LESSON RETOLD

A man who had studied and studied till he knew a great deal, came to Jesus in the temple to ask a question. He was called a scribe, and he knew many things about the law. He thought that his question was a very hard question.

The scribe said to Jesus, "Which is the greatest of all the laws?" Now this was a question about which the Jews disputed a great deal among themselves.

Jesus answered, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the **greatest** commandment."

Again Jesus said: "The second is this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

There is none other commandment greater than these."

The scribe understood what Jesus said. He answered: "Master, I know that is the truth. There is but one God. We should give Him our hearts and our lives. And we should love our neighbors as ourselves. To do these things is more pleasing in God's sight than all the gifts which can be offered. There is no gift that can be worth more than love to God and love to our neighbor."

Jesus was glad that the scribe answered so wisely. He said, "Thou art not far from the kingdom of God."

As Jesus sat in the temple, He saw the people give their money offerings. One