

International S. S. Lessons.

September 23. Daniel I, 3-20.

This passage, intended for the quarterly temperance lesson, even more fully illustrates vegetarianism and occultism. Daniel and his three friends were better astrologers and magicians by ten times than any in the Chaldean realm, and they attributed the fact to abstinence from animal food and fermenting drinks. This is really an essential to occult development, and although denied by moderns, even those who believe in the Bible, may be proven by anyone who will make the trial. Unfortunately those who assert the existence of such powers to-day are classed as greater frauds in proportion to the earnestness of their statements. In the missionary lesson, Isaiah xi. at verses 2 and 3, statements are made concerning occult faculties which in the belief of to-day are absurd. Theosophy teaches with Isaiah that there are higher faculties than the sight of the eyes or the hearing of the ears.

September 30. Review.

The Kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye and believe the good news. Mark i, 15. The Kingdom of God is within you, inside you, says Jesus, and the possibility of knowing that consciously is greater now and until the close of the cycle in 1897-98 than until the recurrence of the harvest time again. The great teachers always come at the end of certain cycles. See John iv, 35.

October 7. Luke IV., 16-30.

This utterance of Jesus was the assertion of his office as a Messiah. The statement of His mission as He Himself viewed it, the declaration elsewhere that He came to save His people from their sins—not from the results of sin—and the various incidents that lead up to this first public claim, the temptation, the baptism, the calling of the disciples, the miracle of Cana, the cleansing of the temple, the interview with Nicodemus and with the woman at the well, and the raising of the nobleman's child, all go to firmly establish the mystical character of Jesus, as all these are symbols of the mystical development of the initiate. It is beginning to be recognized that the church never taught the doctrine of substitutional sacrifice, but that the office of the Christ is a far grander, as a far more holy and divine mission.

October 14. Luke V, 1-11.

Joshua and Jesus are mystically the

same and Joshua was the son of Nun or the fish. The fish was the symbol of the Christ in early Christian times and the sign Pisces, the fish, was the sign of the Messiah. "There shall no sign be given you but that of Jonah and the whale," the man and the fish symbols. The fish gods of various religions are all connected with the Saviours of the sign Pisces. Vishnu is the Hindu fish avatar. Dagon was the fish god of the Philistines. In our day the episcopal mitre represents the head of a fish. So the apostles, the saviours, are to be fishers of men. James, Peter and John are said by the Hermetists to typify respectively Pythagoras, the preacher of works in the body, Gautama, the preacher of understanding in the mind, and Jesus, the teacher of love in the heart. Compare verse 11 with Matt. x. 37-38 and Luke xiv. 26-27

Plan of Publication.

We issue 5000 copies of THE LAMP, and intend to distribute them monthly in one of several districts into which we have divided Toronto.

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We are not printing THE LAMP to make money, but we hope to get enough to pay expenses from subscriptions and advertisements. All surplus will be devoted to increasing the size of our editions.

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Does the road wind uphill all the way?

Yes, to the very end.

Does the journey take the whole long day?

From noon till night my friend?

—Christina Rossetti.