

learned the need of a new heart from the Old Testament, Jer. 31 : 33 ; Ezek. 36 : 25-27, Joel 2 : 28. **We speak that we do know.** Jesus here includes His followers, with whom the change of nature was a matter of experience. **Earthly things.** The change called the new birth takes place on earth. **Heavenly things ;** God's wonderful plan to save men by sending His Son. No one could have known this, had not Jesus revealed it. **No man hath ascended.** Only Christ knows the heavenly things spoken of. **Son of man ;** our loving Elder Brother. The name is used eighty times in the Gospels. **Came down from heaven ;** to reveal God's way of life to men.

III. A GREAT OFFER.—14, 15. Jesus now shows God's way of salvation. **As Moses lifted up the serpent ;** before the bitten Israelites, Num. 21 : 4-9. **The Son of man . . . lifted up ;** on the cross to die, God's plan for saving men. **God so loved.** Here is the secret of it all. **Whosoever believeth ;** Gentiles, as well as Jews. The offer is to all, Rev. 22 : 17. **Should not perish.** How sad, if any should perish, when God has done so much to save ! **Have eternal life ;** a life of blessedness here and in heaven forever.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—Jesus and Nicodemus, John 3 : 1-15. **T.**—Faith and life, John 3 : 16-21. **W.**—The brazen serpent, Num. 21 : 4-9. **Th.**—Born of God, 1 John 5 : 1-6. **F.**—A new creature, 2 Cor. 5 : 14-21. **S.**—Flesh and spirit, Rom. 8 : 1-14. **S.**—Spiritual knowledge, 1 Cor. 2 : 9-16.

Prove from Scripture—*That we are saved by faith.*

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 61. *What is forbidden in the fourth commandment ?* **A.** The fourth commandment forbiddeth the omission or careless performance of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, or doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words or works, about our worldly employments, or recreations.

The Question on Missions—5. How many were converted under the first day's preaching of the apostles ? About 3,000 were converted under Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2 : 4). Those were all Jews.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, 418 (Supplemental Lesson) 35 ; 107 ; 113 (Ps. Sel.) ; 120 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY) ; 125.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—What feast did Jesus attend ? How were many led to believe on Him ?

1, 2 Who came to see Jesus ? When ? Why at this time ? What did he believe concerning Jesus ? His reason ?

3, 6 What is required before we can enter the kingdom of God ? Whose power is needed ?

7-13 To what is the Holy Spirit likened ? Why ? Where might Nicodemus have learned the need of a new heart ? Who reveals God's plan to save men ?

14, 15 How does God save us ? What must we do ?

Seniors and the Home Department—Whither did Jesus go after the marriage at Cana ? What is Capernaum called ? (Matt. 9 : 1 ; Mark 2 : 1.)

1, 2 To what sect did Nicodemus belong ? His office ? What mistake did he make ? What encouragement have the timid ? (Isa. 42 : 3.)

3-13 The requirement laid down by Jesus ? The difficulty raised by Nicodemus ? In what respects does the Holy Spirit resemble the wind ? What signs accompanied His descent on the disciples ? (Acts 2 : 2, 3.)

14, 15 What Old Testament event referred to ? God's offer to us in Christ ? Whom does this offer include ? The danger of rejecting it ? (Acts 4 : 12.)

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. Jesus sees clear through one. There is no escaping His eye. Therefore, if we would live without shame, we must live so that there will be no wilful wickedness in us on which His eye may fasten.

2. At Niagara Falls over three hundred thousand horse-power of electricity is being developed—enough to run the machinery of many great cities. Yet no one can see the power. What it does, and the wires along which it is carried may be seen, but the power itself is invisible.

3. We begin to know, when we know that we don't know.

4. Some find the new birth a stumbling-block because they cannot tell when they were born again. Did it ever occur to you that the new birth may have come before you can recollect. If you live the new life, it is a proof that you have the new birth.

5. Luther called John 3 : 16, "The Little Bible." It is all there—God's love, God's plan ; what we are to do, what we may have. Learn it by heart, and especially say in all sincerity, "Lord, I believe," and so enter into life.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What was Nicodemus' error ?

2. What new light did Jesus give him ?

3. How are we to obtain everlasting life ?