

another in their eagerness to touch him for healing. Compare Mark 5: 28-30; Luke 6: 19. **Plagues**—The Greek word means "a whip" or "scourge," and our word plague comes from another meaning "a stroke." All sickness should be regarded as coming from God either as judgment or discipline. Job 5: 17; Ps. 89: 30, 32; Mic. 6: 9; Heb. 12: 6, 7.

II. **Fell down**—The demon acted through the bodies of the persons possessed by them. They prostrated themselves in unwilling homage as soon as ever they got sight of Jesus.

12. **Straitly**—R. V. "He charged them much," "strictly," "earnestly." He did not wish testimony from them. His enemies would say that he was in league with them to deceive the people. (Matt. 9: 34; 12: 24; Mark 3: 22).

II. THE CHOSEN TWELVE. 13. **The mountain** (R. V.)—Luke tells us that he went there for solitude and prayer and that he continued all night in prayer (Luke 6: 12). The place pointed out by tradition is the "Horns of Hattin," a double peaked elevation not far from Capernaum and a few miles east of the Sea of Galilee. **Whom he would**—John 15: 16, 19.

14. **Ordained**—"Made" or "appointed." There was no special ceremony such as we now employ in "ordaining." Luke adds "whom he also named apostles" (6: 13).

Twelve—To correspond with the twelve tribes of Israel. A new, spiritual Israel is now to be called into a spiritual kingdom. **That they should be with him**—To be trained by his teaching and moulded in character by companionship with him. They only will grow like Jesus who live near to him in thoughts and prayers. **That he might send**

1—What did the Pharisees plot against Jesus? (3)

2—Who were the Herodians? (4)

3—Where did Jesus go, and who followed him? (3)

4—What miracles did he work? (4)

5—For what purpose did he ordain the apostles? (5)

6—Learn their names and write them down. (6)

Name

Dear Teacher,—Please excuse my absence from Sabbath School to-day, I cannot come because I have read the "Daily Portions" and answered the questions as well as I could. I have committed to memory verses in addition to the Golden Text, and have recited them to Questions in the Catechism and I was at church cents.

I send with this my Weekly Offering of

them forth—The word "apostle" means "one sent forth." They soon received a special mission (6: 7), but their real work began after the day of Pentecost.

15. **Power**—R. V. "authority." This was given them in order to prove that he had sent them.

16. **Peter**—"A rock." He gave him this name when he first called him. John 1: 42.

17. **Boanerges**—Perhaps they were so named because of their fiery zeal, of which we have instances in Mark 9: 38; 10: 37; Luke 9: 54.

18. **Bartholomew**—"Son of Tolma," generally supposed to be the same as Nathanael. John 1: 45. **Matthew**—Also called Levi (Mark 2: 14) son of Alphaeus and brother of the James mentioned afterwards. **Thaddeus**—called also *Lebbaeus* (Matt. 10: 3) and Jude, or "Judas not Iscariot" (John 14: 22). He wrote the Epistle of Jude. **Simon the Canaanite**—R. V. "Canaanæan," a Hebrew word which is translated by Luke for his gentile readers as "Zelotes" or "the Zealot" (Luke 6: 15; Acts 1: 13). The Zealots were a fanatical sect who sought to resist the Roman rule by fair means or foul. Some of them were united in a secret society to murder prominent Romans and Jewish traitors. When Simon became a follower of Jesus he saw the folly and wickedness of such methods.

19. **Iscariot**—from *Kerioth*, a village of Judah. He was the only apostle who was not a Galilean. **Betrayed him**—The evangelist cannot name him without remembering his brand of infamy. **And they went into a house**—That is, they returned home to Capernaum. Mark omits the sermon that followed, commonly called 'The Sermon on the Mount.'