

# THE Teachers' Preparation Leaflet

LESSON 12.

SEPTEMBER 16th, 1894.

3rd QUARTER.

Jesus at Jacob's Well. John 4: 9-26.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst." John 4: 14.

COMMIT TO MEMORY verses 11-14. Children's Hymnal 55, 92, 44, 73.

PROVE THAT—Jesus knows all things. John 2: 24.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 94. What is baptism?

## DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.	SABBATH.
John 4: 5-15	John 4: 16-26	John 4: 27-42	Isa. 55: 1-7	John 7: 28-39	Rev 22: 1-7	Rev 22: 8-17

## NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS.

INTRODUCTORY. After his conversation with Nicodemus Jesus itinerated throughout Judea preaching, while his disciples baptized. Their baptism must have been substantially the same as that of John for the Christian church with its ministry and sacraments was not yet instituted. The Spirit had not come for our Lord was not yet ascended. Comparisons invidious to John were made owing to the large number of disciples now flocking to Jesus and accordingly he left that part of the country, not wishing to appear for a moment as the rival of his Forerunner, and we do not read that his disciples baptized any more converts during his earthly ministry. (Read the account of the magnanimous manner in which John received the news of our Saviour's popularity, ch. 3: 22-36.) Jesus took the direct route to Galilee, through Samaria, and came in the course of his journey to Sychar, the ancient *Sichem* (or Schechem), afterwards called *Flavia Neapolis*, now *Nablous*. Here Jacob had purchased a "field" on his return from Padanaram and had dug a well which remains to this day. By this well our Saviour rested himself while his disciples went into the town to procure fresh supplies of food. Meantime a woman came from the city with her water pitcher on her shoulder and Jesus, ever watchful for souls that were open to his teaching, asked a drink from her.

LESSON PLAN. I. Living Water. vs. 9-18. II. Spiritual Worship. vs. 19-26

I. LIVING WATER. 9. Woman of Samaria—i. e. "Samaritan woman" It is not likely that she lived in the city of Samaria, which was several miles away, but in the neighboring Sychar. Being a Jew—She knew this by his garb, or speech. The Ephraimite dialect was preserved in Galilee (Judges 12: 5, 6) and the test letter *sh* occurred in the word that Jesus used. For the Jews—An explanation added by John for the benefit of his gentile readers. For the cause of his enmity read 2 Kings 17: 24ff. "The Samaritan people was a mixture of five nations transported from the East by Esarhaddon to repopulate the kingdom of Samaria, the inhabitants of which his predecessor had removed. To the worship of their national gods, they united the divinity of the country, Jehovah. After their return from the Babylonish captivity, they refused the Jews their services for the rebuild-

ing of the temple. Being rejected, they used all their influence with the kings of Persia, to hinder the re-establishment of the Jewish people. They built for themselves a temple on Mount Gerizim. Their first priest was Manasseh, a Jewish priest who had married a Persian wife. They were more detested by the Jews than the gentiles themselves were. Samaritan proselytes were not received." (Godet.) This enmity gives point to the parable of the Good Samaritan.

10. The gift of God—Salvation, and that through acceptance of Christ. (Eph. 2: 8.) Christ himself is the gift of God. Isa. 9: 6; 42: 6; Rom. 8: 32; 2 Cor. 9: 15. Living water—Spring water (Gen. 26: 19 marg.) as opposed to cistern. Jesus uses the word in a double sense. The water he means is eternal life through reception of the truth. His words were spirit and life (John 6: 63.) compare Isa.

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