

## LESSON VII—February 16th, 1896.

### The Great Helper. LUKE 7: 2-16.

(Commit to memory verses 14-16).

GOLDEN TEXT: "They glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us." Luke 7: 16.

PROVE THAT—Jesus is loving. John 11: 36.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 47. *What is forbidden in the first commandment?* A. The first commandment forbiddeth the denying, or not worshipping and glorifying the true God, as God, and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other which is due to him alone.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*. Nos. 5, 37, 228, 30.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday*. The Great Helper. Luke 7: 1-10. *Tuesday*. The Great Helper. Luke 7: 11-16. *Wednesday*. Life in Christ. John 11: 14-17. *Thursday*. A pitying Helper. John 11: 32-44. *Friday*. Faith in the power of Jesus. Matt. 9: 27-35. *Saturday*. Eternal life. John 10: 22-30. *Sabbath*. Spiritual life. Eph. 2: 1-10. (*The 1. B. R. A. Selections*).

### HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. The events in our lesson immediately followed the Sermon on the Mount. The scene of the first is Capernaum.

LESSON PLAN. I. Sickness Cured. vs. 2-10. II. Sorrow Comforted. vs. 11-16.

2. Centurion—A captain in the Roman army, commanding a company of 100 men. For other centurions see Luke 23: 47; Acts 10: 11; 27: 43. Servant—"slave." Matthew calls him his "boy." Dear—"precious." He loved him very much. (Job 31: 15). Matthew tells us that he was paralyzed and suffered severe pain. (Matt. 8: 6). Ready to die—R. V. "at the point of death." 3. Sent unto him the elders (R. V.)—He was too modest to come himself, and thought that Jewish rulers ought to speak for a gentile like himself. 4. Instantly—R. V. "earnestly." 5. Himself built us our synagogue (R. V.)—He seems to have believed in the true God, without becoming a Jew altogether. Travellers tell us that the ruins of what was probably this synagogue may be seen. 6. I am not worthy—"By saying that he was unworthy, he showed himself worthy of Christ's entering, not within his walls, but within his heart." (Augustine). 7. Say the word—R. V. as he did for the nobleman at Capernaum. (John 4: 46-54). He believed that the healing power came from Jesus' authority over disease and death. My servant—literally "my boy." He here uses the familiar and affectionate term for a young personal attendant. 8. Just as he himself obeyed his superior officers and the soldiers him, so Jesus had at his command those who would do his bidding, and drive away disease and death. (Luke 2: 13; Matt. 26: 53). 9. John 3: 2).

He marvelled at him—The only other place where Jesus is said to have been astonished is Mark 6: 6. See the words added in Matt. 8: 11-13. 10. Whole—The disease was cured from the moment that Jesus spoke the word, "As thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee."

11. Nain—(*Lovely*), 25 miles from Capernaum, and not far from Endor. If our Saviour set out early in the morning he would reach it about noon. 12. The only son—The word implies that he was the only child. Much sympathy was shewn for the lonely widow mother. Compare John 11: 19. 13. Weep not—"Dry thy tears." Jesus was always touched at the sight of human suffering (Mark 7: 34; 8: 12) and bereavement. (John 11: 33-37). 14. Touched the bier—The body was carried in an open hand barrow. Coffins were not used. This was a signal for the bearers to stand still. Arise—It requires no effort for Jesus to perform the most wonderful miracles (ch. 8: 54; John 11: 43). Compare 1 Kings 17: 21; 2 Kings 4: 35; see also Acts 9: 40. The same voice will one day call forth all the dead from their graves (John 5: 25, 28). 15. Sat up and began to speak—Shewing that he was completely restored. 16. A great prophet—They could not see that Jesus was the Messiah, but they believed him to be a prophet like those of the olden times (ch. 24: 19; 9: 8, 19; John 3: 2).

LESSONS. 1. Liberality is a proof of love. 2. Jesus loves to be trusted. 3. Jesus sympathises with sorrow. 4. Jesus is the resurrection and the life. 5. He bestows spiritual life and healing.