

IV. THE WORD WITNESSED TO.—14, 15. And the Word was made flesh. Jesus was truly man, as well as truly God. (S. Catechism, Ques. 22.) Dwelt ("tabernacled") among us; as Jehovah dwelt in the tabernacle (tent) among the Israelites, Ex. 25: 8; 2 Sam. 7: 6. Beheld his glory; the beauty of the Saviour's character, here likened to the outward sign of God's presence among the Israelites, Ex. 40: 34, 35. The only begotten of the Father; God's true and only Son (compare Luke 1: 35; Heb. 1: 3). Full of grace and truth. We deserve nothing, Christ brings blessing—that is "grace." We are ignorant, He brings knowledge of God and eternal life—that is "truth." John... cried, saying, etc. Compare Matt. 3: 11.

16-18. All we. To the Baptist's witness is now added that of all Jesus' followers. Received... grace for grace; grace corresponding to each grace of His, or grace upon or added to grace (compare 2 Pet. 1: 5-7). Moses... Jesus Christ. Both made God known, the one partially, the other fully. With v. 18 read Matt. 11: 27.

DAILY READINGS

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

M.—Christ the Life and Light of men, John 1: 1-18. T.—The Word of life, 1 John 1: 1-7. W.—The Light of life, John 8: 12-20. Th.—Faith and life, John 5: 19-24. F.—Life by Christ, 1 John 5: 9-13. S.—Walk in the light, John 12: 35-47. S.—The Light of heaven, Rev. 21: 19-27.

Prove from Scripture—That believers are children of God.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 57. Which is the fourth commandment? A. The fourth commandment is, Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy. [For the Fourth Commandment in full, see Exodus 20: 8-11 or in the Shorter Catechism itself.]

The Question on Missions—1. What is a missionary? A missionary means one who is sent, as Jesus Christ was sent by His Father in Heaven, and the apostles were sent by Jesus.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, 418 (Supplemental Lesson), 475; 16 (Ps. Sel.); 128; 576 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 203.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Jan. 15. Name the four Gospels? About whom do they chiefly speak?

1-5 What is meant by "the beginning"? Who

"was" then? Why is Jesus called "the Word"? To whom is He equal? What great work did He do? What does He give to men? What keeps men from seeing His glory?

6-11 For what purpose was John the Baptist sent? Who was the "true Light"? Who alone can save us?

12, 13 What is meant by receiving Jesus? What right does He give to those who receive Him?

14-18 What did his followers see in Jesus? Of what is He "full"? Who can tell us all about God?

Seniors and the Home Department—What do we find in the first three Gospels? What is John's purpose in his Gospel?

1-5 Show from these verses that Christ the Word (1) is eternal; (2) is equal with God; (3) has creative power. Give similar teaching by Paul (Col. 1: 15-17; Heb. 1: 2, 3.)

6-11 What does Paul say that Christ gave up for us? (Phil. 2: 5-8.) What parable pictures the Jews' rejection of Christ? (Matt. 21: 33-45.)

12, 13 How do we become children of God? What does John say elsewhere about the sonship of believers? (John 3: 1, 2.)

14-18 Show that we are saved by grace. (Eph. 2: 8.) What epistle teaches that Christ is greater than Moses? (Heb. 3: 3.)

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. Christ was the first great beginning of thinking and we shall do well if we have Him with us in the beginning and all through every plan and hope of our lives.

2. There are words of anger, of hate, and of fear. Christ is the Word of God, and He is a word of love.

3. It is the mighty Son of God who made us, for He made all men. It is He alone who can make us anew, and He will so do, if we are but willing to be re-made.

4. A true light is one which burns brightly and constantly, and which will lead all who follow it to safety and home. Jesus is the true Light to lead us on the pathway to God and heaven.

5. The line is sharply drawn between those who receive and those who reject the Saviour, and we stand on the one side or the other.

6. What a joy it is to be able to declare a good thing, to shout it out and tell it to everybody! Jesus came to declare the Father, to let everyone know Him, to tell His love to all who would listen.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. How is "the Word" described?

2. Give John the Baptist's witness to Christ.

3. Two ways of treating the Saviour?