

showing what other fruits will be. So, Jesus rising first showed forth our resurrection.)

Thought about Jesus: He will Send Me on His Errands. (Illustrated.)

Thought for Teachers. In presenting this lesson make death seem like a sleep, as free from terrors and as sweet. Do not suggest any terrors whatever, and do not dwell at all upon the sleep, after using this as an approach, but dwell upon the waking. Just as Jesus woke we shall wake after the quiet sleep. O so rested and so glad, to live forever.

LESSON XI—June 11

THE MESSAGE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

Rev. 1. 10-20

GOLDEN TEXT: "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore." Rev. 1. 18.

Primary Notes



Approach. There was once a prince who wished to send word to his people about something he wished them to know and to do. There were many who loved him, scattered far and wide. He did not wish to go and visit each one himself, but

this message was very important. He would send it by those he could trust. So he gave the message to those messengers who could be trusted to give it exactly as it was given to them. These messengers were not to speak their own words, not to tell their own story, but were to speak only of the prince and speak only for him. So they went to carry the word everywhere, and wherever they went with the message it was just as if the prince himself had come, for it was his word that was brought to the people.

The message is always the important thing. The messenger must give that, and not tell anything that he has made up himself.

To-day we hear about a wonderful message. It is from Jesus. Once Jesus walked among men as a man with them, but now he lives in heaven. One time after he went home he wished to send a message to his people on earth. He chose a good messenger who could be trusted, and gave him the message.

The Messenger. The messenger was John. John loved Jesus so much when he followed his Lord down here in this world, and Jesus loved John so much that this man is called "the beloved disciple." But there were some who did not love John, because they did not love John's Master, and so, at last, when he was an old man, they sent him away to an island called Patmos, to live by himself away from home and

friends, so that they could not hear his preaching any more.

But though John was in that lonely island he was not alone. He knew Jesus was near, and at last he heard the voice of Jesus speaking to him.

It was on the Sabbath day that Messenger John received this word which he was to tell to others. He could not go to his own church, but he could pray to the Saviour where he was, and this he did with all his heart. It was then that the message came. We may be pretty sure that if Jesus means to give us a message he will do it when we are thinking about him, studying his Word, singing his praise, or speaking to him in prayer. We must not only talk to Jesus, but we must listen, to hear what he has to say to us.

The Message. The Voice that came to John was like the sound of a trumpet. It called him to listen. It told him to write down what he heard, in a book, for it was to be a message to seven churches that needed to know the Word of God. Then John turned to see the Voice, and behold a wonderful vision of seven golden candlesticks, and a wonderful Being in shining robes, with seven stars in his right hand. Again the Voice spoke, and John listened. These burning lights stood for the seven churches that were to give light to all around. These seven stars in Jesus's hand were the ministers of these churches, that he was holding and keeping. Then came the wonderful words to the frightened John, who was surprised and afraid before all this light and glory. "Fear not," the Voice said: "I am he that liveth and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore."

It was the risen Jesus that was speaking. He died, but he rose again to be alive for evermore. Who could be afraid now, with this risen, living Saviour?

"Write," came the word again to John. And John wrote, and here we have it, in God's Book, kept for us till this day.

Thought about Jesus: He Has a Message for Me. Emphasize this message: "Fear not, for Jesus lives forever." Then show how the mes-



sage must be carried to others. Whoever receives the message must be a messenger.

Thought for Teachers. The subdivisions of