

SABBATH, July 20.—**LESSON III.—The Baptism of Jesus.**—Matt. iii. 13-17.

Leader. 13. Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.

School. 14. But John forbade him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

L. 15. And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffice it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.

S. 16. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water:

L. And, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: [Mark i. 10; Isa. xi. 2, xlii. 1.]

S. 17. And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. [Ps. ii. 7; 2 Pet. i. 17, 18.]

TOPIC—The Son of God fulfilling his Father's law.

Golden Text—And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.—Mark i. 11.

Home Readings.

M. Matt. iii. 13-17.
T_w. 1 Sam. x. 1-13.
W. Mark x. 32-45.
Th. Gen. viii. 1-14.
F. John x. 1-15.
S. John xlii. 3-17.
S. Acts viii. 20-40.

LESSON SCHEME.

BIBLE SEARCHINGS:

2 Kings ii. 6, 7.	Luke iii. 21, 22.	John i. 26, 27.
Luke xii. 50.	Isa. xlii. 1.	1 Cor. i. 17.
John i. 15, 23.	2 Kings v. 10.	Heb. vii. 7.
Acts xix. 3.	Luke xxii. 27.	Acts i. 5, 11, 10.
Heb. ii. 17.		

[Read also Mark ii. 1, 4-11; Luke iii. 1-17.]

Outline:

- I. THE BAPTISM AT THE JORDAN, v. 13-15;
- II. THE DESCENT OF THE SPIRIT, v. 16;
- III. THE VOICE FROM HEAVEN, v. 17;
- IV. THE WELL-BELOVED SON, v. 17.

Recite *Title, Topic, Golden Text, Selected Verses, and Outline.*

1. Who was John? Was he a relative of Jesus? Why is he sometimes called "the forerunner?" Where was John baptizing? Who came to John to be baptized? v. 13. What was John's reception of Jesus? v. 14. What had John told the multitude about Jesus in v. 11?

What was Jesus doing during his baptism? [Luke iii. 21.] How old was Jesus at this time? [Luke iii. 23.]

What was the difference between John's baptism and the Lord's? [Acts i. 5.]

2. What remarkable event occurred at the baptism? v. 16.

Did any one see this besides Jesus? [John i. 29-34.]

In what form was the Spirit seen by Jesus and John?

Does the Spirit of God still visit men?

How may we receive the Spirit? [Luke xi. 13.]

3. Recite *Golden Text.*

Whose voice was this?

To what did this voice bear testimony? [To the divinity of Jesus.]

4. What did the voice say? [v. 17.]

When was this language repeated? [Matt. xvii. 5.]

What did John call Jesus soon after? [John i. 29.]

May we be well pleasing to God? [Heb. xiii. 21; Col. iii. 20.]

May we be called the sons of God? [John i. 12; 1 John iii. 2.]

Where are we taught in this lesson—

1. That the great are made greater by serving Christ?

2. That heaven is opened by prayer?

3. That humility becomes the disciples of Jesus?

4. That real baptism is of the Holy Ghost?

5. That the greatest blessings come to us by prayer?

TUNE—"Woodstock," C.M.

How blest are they who always tread

The pure and perfect way!

Whose feet, by God's commandment led,

Can never go astray.

As thou our souls hast charged and bound

Thy precepts to fulfil,

So, would that all my steps were found

Where points thy holy will!