

Lesson X.

*JESUS THE HEALER

March 6, 1910

Between the Lessons—Ch. 8. 1 really belongs to ch. 7, and describes how, when Jesus descended from the Mount of Beatitudes, the crowds followed Him.

GOLDEN TEXT—Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.—Matthew 8 : 17.

Memorize vs. 2, 3. THE LESSON PASSAGE—Matthew 8 : 2-17.

2 And, behold, there came ¹ a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

3 And ² Je'sus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will ; be thou ³ clean. And ⁴ immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

4 And Je'sus saith unto him, See thou tell no man ; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Mo'ses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

5 And when ⁵ Je'sus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him.

6 And saying, Lord, my servant lieth ⁶ at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

7 And ⁷ Je'sus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

8 ⁸ The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof ; but ⁹ speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

9 For I ¹⁰ am a man under authority, having ¹¹ soldiers under me : and I say to this ¹² man, Go, and he goeth ; and to another, Come, and he cometh ; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth ¹³ it.

Revised Version—¹ to him ; ² he stretched forth ; ³ he saith ; ⁴ And the ; ⁵ only say the word ; ⁶ also ; ⁷ the ; ⁸ sons ; ⁹ forth ; ¹⁰ Omit and ; ¹¹ that hour ; ¹² lying sick ; ¹³ him ; ¹⁴ Omit that were ; ¹⁵ a ; ¹⁶ Isaiah ; ¹⁷ diseases.

Daily Readings—(Courtesy, I.B.R.A.)—M.—Jesus the Healer, Matt. 8 : 2-17. T.—The word of power, Mark 1 : 21-31. W.—The healing touch, Mark 1 : 32-45. Th.—Ten lepers cleansed, Luke 17 : 11-19. F.—Importance of faith, Mark 10 : 46-52. S.—Prophecy of healing, Isa. 35. S.—Praise for healing, Ps. 103 : 1-18.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

I, THE LEPER.—

2. Behold, there came ; not as Jesus was descending from the mountain (v. 1), but probably several months earlier. A leper. His disease was loathsome, contagious and incurable, save by divine power. The leper, amongst the Jews, was obliged to dwell alone, or in company only with others suffering from the same malady, to wear a covering on his upper lip and, when any one approached him, to cry, "Unclean, unclean". Worshipped him ; prostrated himself on the ground. Lord ; that

is, Master or Rabbi. The word does not prove that the leper thought Jesus to be divine. If thou wilt. The poor sufferer leaves all to Jesus, which it is always safe to do ; He will not fail to do what is best. Thou canst. Jesus had done so many marvelous things (Mark 1 : 28-34), that the leper

10 ¹³ When Je'sus heard ¹⁴ it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Is'ra'el.

11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and ¹⁵ west, and shall sit down with A'braham, and I'saac, and Ja'cob, in the kingdom of heaven.

12 But the ¹⁶ children of the kingdom shall be cast ¹⁷ out into ¹⁸ outer darkness : there shall be ¹⁹ weeping and gnashing of teeth.

13 And Je'sus said unto the centurion, Go thy way ; ²⁰ and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And ²¹ his servant was healed in ²² the selfsame hour.

14 And when Je'sus was come into Pe'ter's house, he saw his wife's mother ²³ laid, and sick of a fever.

15 And he touched her hand, and the fever left her : and she arose, and ministered unto ²⁴ them.

16 ²⁵ When the even was come, they brought unto him many ²⁶ that were possessed with devils : and he cast out the spirits with ²⁷ his word, and healed all that were sick :

17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by ²⁸ Esai'as the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our ²⁹ sicknesses.

4. Touched him ; " moved with compassion ", Mark says (see Mark 1 : 41). I will. The ring of victory over disease in Jesus' words would awaken answering confidence in the leper. Immediately. There was no time for ordinary causes to bring about healing ; the cure was a miracle. Tell no man. Jesus would have no boasting from the cured leper. Shew . . . the priest ; before the priests should have time to hear that Jesus had cured the man, lest, out of spite, they should deny that he had been cured. The gift, etc. See Lev. 14 : 4-10.

II. THE CENTURION'S SERVANT.—5-9. Entered into Capernaum ; whither He had come from the Mount of Beatitudes. A centurion ; the commander of a hundred men in the Roman army. He was likely an officer in the army of Herod Antipas, ruler of Galilee, which was modeled after that of the Romans. Servant. The Greek word means either "servant" or "boy". Sick of the palsy ; a form of paralysis. Grievously tormented ; in great pain. Luke says (Luke 7 : 2) "ready to die". I will come, etc. Jesus does not wait to be asked for healing ; He offers it. Lord, I am not worthy. So highly did he think of Jesus and so humbly of himself. Speak the word only ; as a king bids his servants to do this or that. I am a man under authority, etc. "If I", the centurion would say to Jesus, "who hold a humble



A ROMAN CENTURION