

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 a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

3 And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

4 And Jesus 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 Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him.

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

7 And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

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

9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth 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 Omitt and; 11 that hour; 12 lying sick; 13 him; 14 Omitt that were; 15 Isaias; 16 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

could not doubt His power. Make me clean; fit once more to associate with his fellow men.

3, 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

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

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