

II. The Lessons in Place.

The events of Lessons I, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and X took place, and their words were spoken, in or near to Jerusalem. The scene of Lessons II and III is Bethany; of Lessons XI and XII the Spiritual World (he to whom the visions of the last two lessons were granted being an exile on Patmos).

III. The Contents of the Lessons.

We have studied during this Quarter *Two Allegories* spoken by Jesus, in which he compares himself to the Good Shepherd and the Door of the Sheep (Lesson I), and to the Vine (Lesson VI). We have studied *One Miracle* wrought by him, in some regards the greatest of all his miracles (Lesson II). We have studied *Four Selected Events* which preceded the crucifixion (Lessons III, IV, V, and VIII). In Lesson VII we studied our Lord's *Intercessory Prayer*, in Lesson IX the *Crucifixion*, and in Lesson X the *Resurrection*. Lesson XI is a *Message* which shows the attitude of the risen Christ to his earthly followers; and Lesson XII describes in part the preparation he has made for them in his heavenly home. Lesson XII was selected as the quarterly *Temperance Lesson*. (April 23, our date for the study of the many of our classes took a special lesson for that day.)

IV. The Testimony of the Lessons.

The Golden Text for the Second Quarter is (very properly) identical with that of the First Quarter, John 20. 31. Each lesson is to be re-

garded, first of all, as a testimony or item of evidence that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. In the First Quarter's lessons such evidences were given by various people whom he had blessed by miracle or teaching. The lessons we now review derive much of their value from our Lord's testimony to himself. His own estimate of his character and work is given by his statement that he is at once the Door of the Sheep (the only means of entrance into the kingdom of God), and the Good Shepherd who giveth his life for the sheep (Lesson I); that he is the Vine of which we are the branches (Lesson VI); that he is one with the Father and purposes that we shall be one with him (Lesson VII). By the raising of Lazarus (Lesson II) he furnishes supreme evidence of his divine power, while by his attitude toward Mary at the supper at Bethany (Lesson III) and his acceptance of popular homage during the "triumphal entry" (Lesson IV) he shows his relationship to humanity. By washing the disciples' feet (Lesson V) he teaches the spirit of love which is the essence of the Christian religion. By both his silence and his words before Pilate (Lesson VIII), and by his death on the cross (Lesson IX), he manifests himself as the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world. Lesson X, far more convincingly than even Lesson II, shows his power over death, while Lesson XI gives his attitude at the right hand of the Majesty on high, caring tenderly for his earthly followers; and Lesson XII reveals their blessed destiny.

The Lesson Coin Thoughts

Lesson I

It is the life that is most valuable that is most willing to give itself up for another.

The life of love is always largest when it lives most for others.

Only a life of love can be really large.

He saves the most who makes the most sacrifice to save others.

He gains the most who gives the most.

Lesson II

God will give his sweetest secrets to us as soon as we can be trusted with them.

Is it not easily credible that Christ, who conquered death, can raise the dead?

It is as wonderful to sustain the living as it to raise the dead.

Some things are thoroughly credible which are thoroughly inconceivable.

It will be no more wonderful to resurrect a man than it was to create him.

Lesson III

He always does something worth while who does what he can.

Christ rated deeds by quality, not by quantity.

Power to do good grows by *doing*, not by *dreaming*.

The deeds of men may be done "in the body," but they are done *by* the soul.

We shall reap the deeds of yesterday in the harvests of to-morrow.

Lesson IV

He can never reach the goal who does not run in the "name of the Lord."

Only a great nature can sustain a great name.

A man must be a partaker of "the divine nature" before he can really do things in the divine name.

Lesson V

Only the lowliest heart is fit for the highest honors.

It is better for a large man to be in a little place than for a little man to be in a big place.

No man can be trusted on a throne who is untrustworthy on a footstool.

It is dangerous to trust *any* man who distrusts *every* man.

Kingliness is not in crowns, but in character.