

LESSON VI. (Sixth Single Voice.)

In the sixth lesson Paul shows us some of the results of believing that Christ did not rise from the dead: 1. "Our preaching is vain;" 2. "Your faith is also vain;" 3. "Ye are yet in your sins;" 4. "They which have fallen asleep are perished;" 5. "We are of all men most miserable." Paul then boldly declares: "Christ is risen from the dead," and this follows: 1. He is "the first fruits of them that slept." As on the day of Passover the high priest laid a sheaf of new wheat on the altar as a sign and pledge of the coming harvest, so the resurrection of Christ is a promise of ours. 2. To him has been given "all rule and all authority and power." 3. "He must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death."

LESSON VII. (Seventh Single Voice.)

In the seventh lesson Paul urges his Corinthian brethren to liberality, recalling to them how the Christians of Macedonia out of their poverty and persecution had sent a collection to the needy saints of Palestine. This liberal spirit was the result of first giving their own selves to the Lord. Christians should be liberal, because it is the grace which crowns faith and utterance and knowledge and diligence and love; and because we are thus following the example of the Lord Jesus Christ, who, "though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."

LESSON VIII. (Eighth Single Voice.)

Paul in his Epistle to the Ephesians urges them to study closely the character and words of Jesus. He tells them that if they imitate Christ there will be a change of companions, of conversation, and of manner of life. There will be a change of heart—"all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice; and be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

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LESSON IX. (Ninth Single Voice.)

Paul to the Colossians tells them how the elect of God should live. They should be merciful, kind, humble, meek, long-suffering, forgiving one another as Christ forgave them, having love to bind together all these graces, and peace to rule their hearts. They should give due attention to Scripture study and hymn singing, doing all in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Wives should be submissive and husbands should be loving, children obedient, fathers forbearing, servants

obeying not with eye service. "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men, knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance."

LESSON X. (Tenth Single Voice.)

James tells us that God is our Father, that he is a generous Father, giving us every good and perfect gift, and that he is an unchanging Father. "Wherefore let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath," laying aside all sin to receive the word, and being doers of the word as well as hearers. That man's religion is vain who bridleth not his tongue. "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

LESSON XI. (Eleventh Single Voice.)

Peter in writing to Christians calls them strangers because they are really citizens of heaven. He calls them God's own children, and, as such, heirs "to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away." He tells them they may be kept by the power of God, and though they are tried with fire, they will rejoice with joy unspeakable, because the end of their faith is the salvation of their souls.

LESSON XII. (Twelfth Single Voice.)

John, the beloved disciple, on the Isle of Patmos, on the Lord's Day had a blessed vision. He saw Jesus of Nazareth, no longer as a persecuted man, but as a glorious Lord, a living Lord, a Lord who had conquered death, a Lord who walks among the churches represented by the seven golden candlesticks, and who holds his ministers, called here his angels, in his right hand.

LESSON XIII. (Thirteenth Single Voice.)

The wise men who sought for Christ show us what spirit a seeker should have. He should be in earnest; *they* journeyed a thousand miles over a wild country. He should have faith; *they* trusted in the unseen and followed the little light they had. He should have the spirit of self-denial; *they* left all to find Christ, and when they found him they gave him all their treasure. A true seeker will be rewarded as were the wise men. He will have guidance; *they* were guided by a star. He will find the Christ; *they* saw the young child with Mary his mother. He will have joy; *they* rejoiced with exceeding great joy."

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