

ⁿ 1 Thes. 1, 6. And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost.

^o Rom. 1, 16. I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation unto every one that believeth.

Q. 90. How is the word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?

A. That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence,^p preparation,^q and prayer;^r receive it with faith^s and love,^t lay it up in our hearts,^u and practice it in our lives.^w

^p Prov. vii, 34. Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.

^q 1 Pet. ii, 1. Wherefore, laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil-speaking. ^r 2. As new born babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby. ^s Heb. iv, 18. Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.

^t 2 Thes. ii, 10. They received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

^u Ps. cxix, 11. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

^w James 1, 25. But whose looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Q. 91. How do the sacraments become effectual means of salvation?

A. The sacraments become effectual means of salvation, not from any virtue in them, or in him that doth administer them;^x but only by the blessing of Christ, and the working of his Spirit in them that by faith receive them.^y

^x 1 Cor. iii, 7. So then, neither is he that planteth anything, neither he that watereth, but God that giveth the increase.

^y 1 Pet. iii, 21. The like figure whereunto even

baptism doth also now save us, (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God.) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Q. 92. What is a sacrament?

A. A sacrament is a holy ordinance instituted by Christ, wherein, by sensible signs, Christ, and the benefits of the new covenant, are represented,^z sealed, and applied to believers.^a

^z Gen. xvii, 10. This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you, and thy seed after thee; Every man-child among you shall be circumcised.

^a Rom. iv, 11. And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had, yet being uncircumcised.

Q. 93. Which are the sacraments of the New Testament?

A. The sacraments of the New Testament are, Baptism,^b and the Lord's supper.^c

^b Mark xvi, 16. He that believeth, and is baptized, shall be saved.

^c 1 Cor. xi, 23. For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you. That the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, etc.

Q. 94. What is baptism?

A. Baptism is a sacrament, wherein the washing with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost,^d doth signify and seal our engraving into Christ, and partaking of the benefits of the covenant of grace,^e and our engagement to be the Lord's.^f

^d Mat. xxviii, 19. Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

^e Rom. vi, 3. Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ, were baptized into his death

^f Rom. vi, 4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

LESSONS AND GOLDEN TEXTS.

FIRST QUARTER.

1. Jan. 3.—CHRIST'S ASCENSION. Acts 1: 1-14. Commit vs. 7-9. (Read the remainder of the chapter.) *Golden Text*—While he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. Luke 24: 51.

2. Jan. 10.—THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVEN. Acts 2: 1-13. Commit vs. 1-4. (Study also vs. 14-31.) *Golden Text*—They were all filled with the Holy Ghost. Acts 2: 4.

3. Jan. 17.—A MULTITUDE CONVERTED. Acts 2: 32-47. Commit vs. 38, 39. *Golden Text*—The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off. Acts 2: 39.

4. Jan. 24.—THE LAME MAN HEALED. Acts 3: 1-16. Commit vs. 13-16. *Golden Text*—His name through faith in his name hath made this man strong. Acts 3: 16.

5. Jan. 31.—THE BOLDNESS OF PETER AND JOHN. Acts 4: 1-14. Commit vs. 10-12. (Read also vs. 15-31.) *Golden Text*—There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4: 12.

6. Feb. 7.—TRUE AND FALSE GIVING. Acts 4: 32 to 5: 11. Commit vs. 32, 33.

Golden Text—Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. 1 Sam. 16: 7.

7. Feb. 14.—THE PRISON OPENED. Acts 5: 17-32. Commit vs. 29-32. (Read vs. 12-32.) *Golden Text*—We ought to obey God rather than men. Acts 5: 29.

8. Feb. 21.—THE FIRST CHRISTIAN MARTYR. Acts 6: 8-15; 7: 54-60.) Commit vs. 57-60. (Read chaps. 6 and 7.) *Golden Text*—Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. Rev. 2: 10.

9. Feb. 28.—THE DISCIPLES DISPERSED. Acts 8: 1-17. Commit vs. 5-8. (Read also vs. 18-25.) *Golden Text*—They that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word. Acts 8: 4.

10. March 7.—THE ETHIOPIAN CONVERT. Acts 8: 26-40. Commit vs. 29-31. *Golden Text*—Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. Acts 8: 35.

11. March 14.—SAUL, THE PERSECUTOR CONVERTED. Acts 9: 1-12, 17-20. Commit vs. 17-20. (Read vs. 1-31.) *Golden Text*—This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all ac-