

LESSON VIII.

CHRIST BEFORE THE HIGH PRIEST

May 21, 1899

John 18: 15-27. Commit to memory vs. 23-25. Compare Matt. 26:58-75; Mark 14: 54-72; Luke 22: 54-71.

15. Si'mon Pe'ter followed Je'sus, and so did another disciple: that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went in with Je'sus into the (1) palace of the high priest.

16. But Pe'ter (2) stood at the door without. Then (3) went out that other disciple, which was known unto the high priest, and spake unto her that kept the door, and brought in Pe'ter.

17. Then saith the (4) damsel that kept the door unto Pe'ter, (5) Art not thou also one of this man's disciples? He saith, I am not.

18. And the servan's and officers (6) stood there, who had made a fire of coals; for it was cold: and they (7) warmed themselves: and (8) Pe'ter stood with them, and warmed himself.

19. The high priest, (9) then asked Je'sus of his disciples, and of his (10) doctrine.

20. Je'sus answered him, I (11) spake openly to the world; I ever taught in (12) the synagogue, and in the temple, (13) whether the Jews always resort; and in secret (14) have I said nothing.

21. Why askest thou me? ask them which heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they know what I said.

22. And when he had (15) thus spoken, one of the officers which stood by, struck Je'sus with (16) the palm of his hand, saying, Answerest thou the high priest also?

23. Je'sus answered him, If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me?

24. Now An'nas (17) had sent him bound unto Caiaphas the high priest.

25. And Si'mon Pe'ter (18) stood and warmed himself. They said therefore unto him, Art (19) not thou also one of his disciples? He denied it, and said, I am not.

26. One of the servants of the high priest, being his kinsman whose ear Pe'ter cut off, saith, Did not I see thee in the garden with him?

27. Pe'ter (20) then denied again: and (21) immediately the cock crew.

Revised Version.—(1) Court; (2) Was standing; (3) So the other disciple spake; (4) The maid therefore, saith unto Peter; (5) Art thou also; (6) Were standing there, having made a fire; (7) Were warming; (8) And Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself; (9) Therefore; (10) Teaching; (11) Have spoken; (12) In synagogues; (13) Where all the Jews come together; (14) Spoke I; (15) Said this; (16) With his hand, Margin, Or, with a rod; (17) Annas therefore sent him; (18) Was standing and warming; (19) Art thou also; (20) Therefore; (21) Straightaway.

GOLDEN TEXT

He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
—John 1: 11

DAILY READINGS

M.—John 18: 15-27. Christ before the High Priest.

T.—Luke 22: 54-62. Peter's tears.

W.—Luke 22: 63-71. Before the Council.

Th.—John 8: 32-47. A challenge.

F.—1 Peter 2: 17-25. The sinless Saviour.

S.—Matt. 26: 31-35. Warning to Peter.

S.—Psalm 141. Prayer against temptation.

LESSON PLAN

CHRIST BEFORE THE HIGH PRIEST.

I. Peter's First Denial, 15-18.
In the palace of the high priest, and at the challenge of the damsel who kept the door.

II. The High Priest's questioning, 19-21.

Concerning His disciples and His doctrine, "Which," answered Jesus, "everyone already knows."

III. The Officer's Insult, 22-24.
A brutal attack (he was still bound with cords); a noble response.

IV. Peter's Second and Third Denials, 25-29.

At the challenge first of those who stood round the fire and then of a kinsman of Malchus.

TIME

From 1 or 2 o'clock till day-break Friday morning.

PLACE

The High Priest's palace

CATECHISM

Q. 60. How is the Sabbath to be sanctified?

A. The Sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days; and spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God's worship, except so much as is to be taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.

LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise, 97, (Ps.) 200, 263, 331, 554

CONNECTION

After the arrest of Jesus in the garden He was taken back to the city. The disciples in fear and confusion forsook Him. But two of them, Peter and John, found courage enough to return and follow to the court of Annas, where the preliminary trial was held.

EXPLANATION

15. And Simon Peter: The disciples had fled (Mark 14: 50); but Peter and another disciple, John, return and follow. **Was known . . . priest:** we are not know told what the nature of the acquaintance was. **The palace** or "court": the central open space around which an Oriental house was built. **High priest:** probably Caiaphas; who is

called high priest in v. 13. Annas, his father-in-law, once high priest, now deposed, probably had apartments in the residence.

16. Peter stood at the door. Not being acquainted, like John, he remained outside. **Spake unto her:** to secure Peter's admission.

17. Then saith the damsel. She