

Lesson X.

BARTIMÆUS AND ZACCHÆUS

September 2, 1906

Luke 18 : 35 to 19 : 10. Commit to memory vs. 42, 43. Read Matthew 20 : 30-34 ; Mark 10 : 32-52.

GOLDEN TEXT—The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.—Luke 19 : 10.

35 And it came to pass, ¹ that as he was come nigh unto Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the way side begging :

36 And hearing ² the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant.

37 And they told him, that Je'sus of Nazareth passeth by.

38 And he cried, saying, Je'sus, thou son of Da'vid, have mercy on me.

39 And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace : but he cried ³ so much the more, Thou son of Da'vid, have mercy on me.

40 And Je'sus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him : and when he was come near, he asked him.

41 ⁴ Saying, What wilt thou that I ⁵ shall do unto thee ? And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight.

42 And Je'sus said unto him, Receive thy sight : thy faith hath ⁶ saved thee.

43 And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God : and all the people, when they saw ⁷ it, gave praise unto God.

Ch. 19 : 1 And ⁸ Je'sus entered and passed through Jericho.

2 And, behold, ⁹ there was a man named Zacchæus,

Revised Version—¹ as he drew nigh : ² a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant ; ³ out the more a great deal ; ⁴ Omit Saying ; ⁵ should ; ⁶ made thee whole ; ⁷ entered and was passing through ; ⁸ a man called by name Zacchæus ; and he was a chief publican ; ⁹ crowd ; ¹⁰ on before ; ¹¹ Omit and saw him ; ¹² He is going in to lodge ; ¹³ wrongfully exacted aught of any man, I restore fourfold ; ¹⁴ To-day ; ¹⁵ forasmuch : ¹⁶ come.

which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.

3 And he sought to see Je'sus who he was ; and could not for the ⁹ press, because he was little of stature.

4 And he ran ¹⁰ before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him : for he was to pass that way.

5 And when Je'sus came to the place, he looked up, ¹¹ and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchæus, make haste, and come down ; for to day I must abide at thy house.

6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.

7 And when they saw ¹² it, they all murmured, saying, ¹³ That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.

8 And Zacchæus stood, and said unto the Lord ; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor ; and if I have ¹⁴ taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore ¹⁵ him fourfold.

9 And Je'sus said unto him, ¹⁴ This day is salvation come to this house, ¹⁵ forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham.

10 For the Son of man ¹⁶ is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

Time and Place—March, A.D. 30 : Jericho, not long after the last Lesson.

Connection—Jesus has left Perea and is approaching Jerusalem for the very last week of His ministry.

I. JESUS AND BARTIMÆUS.—35-37. He (Jesus) drew nigh (Rev. Ver.) unto Jericho (the city of palm trees, Deut. 34:3); having crossed the Jordan

Ver.); eager to know what was happening. Jesus of Nazareth. At this name a sudden hope would flame up in the blind man's heart. This wonderful Healer could give him sight !

38, 39. Thou son of David ; a title of the promised Messiah, who was to open the eyes of the blind, Isa. 29 : 18 ; 42 : 7. Have mercy on me. How his whole heart went into that cry for help ! Rebuked him ; to save the great Teacher from being troubled by this insignificant blind beggar. Cried out the more (Rev. Ver.) ; kept on shouting louder than before. Compare the widow's importunity in Lesson VIII.

40-43. Jesus stood ; quick to hear, eager to help. Commanded him to be brought. Totally blind, he could not find the way alone. What wilt thou ? A door is set wide open. Lord . . . my sight. A whole world of desire and trust and hope is in this cry. Receive thy sight ; a royal command, opening up the beautiful world to eyes before unable to see it. Thy faith ; taking, as with outstretched hand, the great gift. Saved thee ; from all the misery of blindness. Note the four results of this miracle, in v. 43.

II. JESUS AND ZACCHÆUS.—Ch. 19 : 1-5. Passing through Jericho (Rev. Ver.) ; on the way up to Jerusalem, about seventeen miles away. Zacchæus . . . a chief publican (Rev. Ver.) ; one of the tax-gatherers for the Roman government, a class hated and despised among the Jews. Rich ; perhaps through dishonesty, v. 8. Sought to see Jesus ; doubtless with desire after a better life. Note Zacchæus' two hindrances, the press (crowd),



Sycamore Tree
(A Tree with Fruit like Figs)

from Perea. Blind man ; Bartimæus by name, Mark 10 : 46. Begging. In those days there was almost no way for a blind man to earn a living. Hearing. Where sight is lacking, the other senses are often wonderfully quick. A multitude (Rev. Ver.) ; a great procession going to Jerusalem for the approaching Passover. Inquired, etc. (Rev.