

## Lesson XI.

## THE FRIEND OF SINNERS

June 14, 1914

**LESSON SETTING**—The Lesson selects the parable of the Pharisee and Publican and the story of Zacchæus from the narrative of our Lord's journeying through Perea towards Jerusalem.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.—Mark 2 : 17.

**Memorize ch. 19 : 10. THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Luke 18 : 9-14 ; 19 : 1-10.

9 And he spake <sup>1</sup> this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and <sup>2</sup> despised others :

10 Two men went up into the temple to pray ; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as <sup>3</sup> other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12 I fast twice in the week. I give tithes of all that I <sup>4</sup> possess.

13 <sup>5</sup> And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote <sup>6</sup> upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14 I <sup>7</sup> tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other : for every one that exalteth himself shall be <sup>8</sup> abased ; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Ch. 19 : 1 And <sup>9</sup> Je'sus entered and <sup>10</sup> passed through Jericho.

2 And, behold, <sup>11</sup> there was a man <sup>12</sup> named Zacchæus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was

**Revised Version**—also ; <sup>2</sup> set all others at nought ; <sup>3</sup> the rest of men, extortioners ; <sup>4</sup> get ; <sup>5</sup> But the <sup>6</sup> Omit upon ; <sup>7</sup> say unto ; <sup>8</sup> humbled ; but he ; <sup>9</sup> he : <sup>10</sup> was passing ; <sup>11</sup> Omit there was ; <sup>12</sup> called by name Zacchæus ; and he was a chief publican, and he was ; <sup>13</sup> crowd ; <sup>14</sup> on before ; <sup>15</sup> Omit and saw him ; <sup>16</sup> He is gone in to lodge ; <sup>17</sup> wrongfully exacted aught of any man ; I ; <sup>18</sup> Omit him ; <sup>19</sup> To-day ; <sup>20</sup> forasmuch ; <sup>21</sup> came.

**Daily Readings**—(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association, Mr. S. C. Bailey, Hon. Secretary, 56 Old Bailey, London, England.)—M.—The friend of sinners, Luke 18 : 9-14. T.—The friend of sinners, Luke 19 : 1-10 W.—"He is our peace," Eph. 2 : 4-13. Th.—"Be clothed with humility," 1 Peter 5 : 1-7 F.—The merciful Saviour, Matt. 9 : 1-13. S.—A prayer for mercy, Ps. 79 : 8-13. S.—The sinner's Saviour, 1 Tim. 1 : 12-17.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED



JEW'S PRAYING SHAWL

**I. THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN**—9, 10. Trusted in themselves ; instead of trusting in God. Righteous ; good enough in their own estimation. Despised ; Rev. Ver., "set at nought," treated as if they were of no account. Went up ; to the temple hill, Mount Moriah, approached by a magnificent flight of steps. Into the temple ; that is, one of the temple courts : only the priests might enter the

temple itself. To pray ; probably at one of the regular hours of prayer, such as the sixth hour, 12 o'clock (Acts 10 : 9), or the ninth hour, 3 o'clock, Acts 3 : 1. A Pharisee. The Pharisees laid special stress on their separation from others. Publican—one of the hated tax collectors for the Roman government.

11, 12. Stood ; the usual Jewish posture in prayer (see 1 Sam. 1 : 26 ; Mark 11 : 25). Prayed . . with

rich.

3 And he sought to see Je'sus who he was ; and could not for the <sup>12</sup> press, because he was little of stature.

4 And he ran <sup>13</sup> 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, <sup>14</sup> 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 it, they all murmured, saying, <sup>15</sup> 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 <sup>17</sup> taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore <sup>18</sup> him fourfold.

9 And Je'sus said unto him, <sup>19</sup> This day is salvation come to this house, <sup>20</sup> forasmuch as he also is a son of A'braham.

10 For the Son of man <sup>21</sup> is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

**Revised Version**—also ; <sup>2</sup> the rest of men, extortioners ; <sup>4</sup> get ; <sup>5</sup> But the <sup>6</sup> Omit upon ; <sup>7</sup> say unto ; <sup>8</sup> humbled ; but he ; <sup>9</sup> he : <sup>10</sup> was passing ; <sup>11</sup> Omit there was ; <sup>12</sup> called by name Zacchæus ; and he was a chief publican, and he was ; <sup>13</sup> crowd ; <sup>14</sup> on before ; <sup>15</sup> Omit and saw him ; <sup>16</sup> He is gone in to lodge ; <sup>17</sup> wrongfully exacted aught of any man ; I ; <sup>18</sup> Omit him ; <sup>19</sup> To-day ; <sup>20</sup> forasmuch ; <sup>21</sup> came.

himself ; in reality praising himself, while pretending to worship God. God, I thank thee. God is named by way of compliment, but there is no thankfulness for something received, only boasting for something achieved. Not as the rest (Rev. Ver.) ; the whole Jewish world outside of his sect. Even . . this publican. "This is no longer to exalt, but to insult." Fast twice in the week ; on Monday and Thursday, while the law of Moses required fasting on only one day in the year, Lev. 16 : 29. Give tithes of all ; of small garden produce (see Matt. 23 : 23), as well as farm crops, to which the law of Num. 18 : 21 was limited.

13, 14. Publican . . afar off ; from the Pharisee, too humble to pray so near the holy man. Would not lift up . . his eyes ; dared not be bold or familiar in speaking to God. Smote ("kept smiting"). He was striking his breast again and again in agony because of his sin. Be merciful. His one great need is pardon. To me. The publican blamed only himself. A sinner ; literally, "the sinner," as if he were the one sinner in the world. (Compare 1 Tim. 1 : 15.) Justified ; his sins forgiven, his prayer answered and himself treated thereafter as righteous before God.

**II. JESUS AND ZACCHÆUS**—Ch. 19 : 1-4. Passing through Jericho (Rev. Ver.) ; having crossed the Jordan from Perea. Jericho was about 17 miles from Jerusalem and 5 or 6 miles from the Jordan. Zacchæus ; a Jewish name meaning "pure." A chief publican (Rev. Ver.) ; a supervisor of the tax collectors. Rich ; perhaps through dishonesty (see