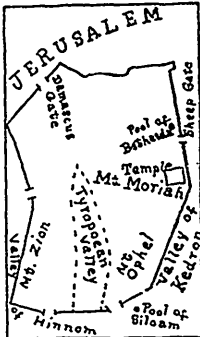


obedience, immediate reward.

III. MARVEL.—8-12. The neighbors. The man had gone home when he was cured. Said, etc.; hardly able to believe that one born blind could have had his sight restored. **Some.. This is he.** These were certain that it was the same man. **Others.. He is like him.** The opening of his eyes would so change the man's appearance, that some would not recognize him as the same man. **I am he.** All doubts are scattered by the man's own testimony. **How were thine eyes opened?** They were eager to know the cause of this marvel. **A man.. called Jesus, etc.** Jesus means "Saviour", and from what misery He had saved this man! **Where is he?** Our Lord's miracles were like church bells, calling people to Himself. **I know not.** How like ourselves, to forget the Giver, while enjoying His gifts!

Vs. 13-41 record the Pharisees' examination into the miracle, the casting of the man out of the synagogue, and his becoming a disciple of Jesus.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



THE POOL OF SILOAM. now known as the Birket Silwan, is in the Kidron valley, a little to the south-east of Jerusalem. It is a rectangular reservoir, 58 feet long, 18 broad, and 19 deep. Josephus speaks of the water as being sweet and abundant. On the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles, water from the spring supplying the pool was poured on the temple altar. Because

of the healing of the blind man of the Lesson, the pool is held in high honor by Jews, Christians and Mohammedans. From the very early days of Christianity, it has been believed that the waters possess healing properties, especially in the case of eye diseases. In 1880, an inscription was discovered in a tunnel connected with the pool. It proved to be written in pure Hebrew, and is supposed to date from the time of Ahaz or Hezekiah.

LESSON QUESTIONS

For what feast had Jesus gone up to Jerusalem? Where had He been teaching? How had the Jews shown their hatred towards Him?

1-3 Where did Jesus find the blind man? How long had he been blind? How did he get his living? What question did the disciples ask? What did the Jews believe was always the cause of suffering? Why, did Jesus say, this man had been born blind?

6, 7 What does Jesus say that He and His disciples must do? What does God intend regarding every kind of evil? What does He call us to do? What reason for diligence does Jesus give? What does He call Himself? What did Jesus do to the man's eyes? What did He bid the man do? What was the result?

8-12 What opinions were expressed by the man's neighbors?

How was the discussion settled? Tell how the man became a believer in Jesus.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1. The good that may result from suffering.
2. Sin as blindness.

A LESSON FOR LIFE

The sky and trees and flowers—all this beauty is blotted out for the blind. That is a calamity sad enough: far sadder, when the love God is shining all about us, and we cannot see it. But this soul-blindness need not last for a moment longer. We have but to come to Jesus, and He will give us inward sight. Then a whole new world of loveliness beyond compare will flood our souls with joy.

Prove from Scripture—*That suffering is not always the result of sin.*

Shorter Catechism—Review Questions 11-19.

The Question on Missions—11. Where do those trained in our Industrial Schools find employment? Christian workmen cannot get much work from the people round about them. They are forced to seek work in large cities, under non-Christian employers, where they are under evil influences, and compelled to work on Sunday. Thus the Mission has to employ as well as train them.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What wrong belief about suffering did Jesus correct?
2. What means did He use to cure the blind man; and why?
3. How did the Pharisees treat the healed man? How did Jesus treat him? ...