

no healing power in the waters of Jordan. It was twenty-five miles away.

IV. AT THE JORDAN.—11-14. Naaman was wroth; because Elisha had treated him like any common man, and not like the great lord that he was. Behold I thought (read the whole verse). The way described was the way of the sorcerers and magicians. It would have been making a great deal of Naaman. But he must submit to God's way. Are not Abana and Pharpar . . . better? "Their water was brighter, clearer and colder than that of Jordan." His servants . . . spake unto him; and he wisely followed their good counsel. He . . . dipped himself seven times in Jordan. How eagerly he would examine himself after each dipping! The delay was a further test of his faith. His flesh . . . like . . . the flesh of a little child; even fairer and fresher than is usual in a grown man. He was clean. All the foulness of the disease was gone. So the precious blood of Jesus cleanses from sin, 1 John 1:7.

DAILY READINGS

M.—Elisha and Naaman, 2 Kings 5:1-14. T.—Gehazi's punishment, 2 Kings 5:15-27. W.—The ten lepers, Luke 17:11-19. Th.—Christ's touch, Mark 1:35-45. F.—"I went and washed," John 9:1-11. S.—Prayer for cleansing, Ps. 51:1-13; S.—Promise of cleansing, Jer. 33:1-9.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, 152; 151; 33 (Ps. Sel.); 122; 551 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 126.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 47.—What is forbidden in the first commandment? A. The first commandment forbiddeth the denying, or not worshipping and glorifying the true God as God, and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other, which is due to him alone.

Prove from Scripture—That we need cleansing from sin.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—Where was Syria? What its capital?

1-4 Who was Naaman? From what disease did he suffer? What sort of disease is this? What captive in his home? Of whom did she tell her mistress? What could he do? Who told the king?

5-7 To whom was Naaman sent? What did he take with him? What did the king of Israel think?

8-10 Who sent for Naaman? What did he tell him to do? What promise did he give?

11-14 How did Naaman feel? Whither did he intend to go? What did his servants persuade him to do? What was the result?

Seniors and the Home Department—Where was Damascus? What stories between the last Lesson and to-day's?

1-4 What had Naaman done for his country? What cause of unhappiness had he? How does Isaiah describe the loathsomeness of sin? (Isa. 1:5, 6.) Through whom did Naaman learn of a healer? How had she been brought to Syria?

5-7 Why was Naaman sent to the king of Israel? From whom did David seek cleansing from sin? (Ps. 51:2.)

8-10 Describe the purpose of Elisha's command. Answer the question, "What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:31.)

11-14 Who induced Naaman to do the prophet's bidding? What is God's promise about cleansing from sin? (Isa. 1:8.) What prophet speaks of a fountain for sin and for uncleanness? (Zech. 13:1.)

Seek-Further Questions—When did lepers announce the deliverance of Samaria? Where do we read of our Lord's healing ten lepers?

Topics for Brief Papers—(To be ready on the day of the Lesson)—1. What a child may do. 2. How sin is cleansed.

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. Great gates often swing on small hinges. The tiniest tot can find something to do for the loving Saviour.

2. Sometimes envy steals into our heart as we look at the rich and the great. But if we knew their cares and sorrows, we might not be so ready to change places with them.

3. Prejudice and pride that blind the eyes and stop the ears! they nearly sent Naaman home without the healing that was worth more to him than life. And they still keep many a one away from Christ.

4. The prescriptions of the divine Physician are simple. They seem almost too easy. "Ask!" "Seek!" "Knock!" "Look!" "Obey!" "Abide!" Grace pour its blessings into the soul that just obeys.

5. Happy Naaman! We feel his joy across the centuries. May he not rise in judgment against us, for whom a greater prophet than Elisha prescribes, and for whom a fountain more cleansing than the Jordan is provided!

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Who was Naaman? What had he done?.....

2. What was his great need?.....

3. How was he cured?.....