

loving hands would loose the bandages. But a three days among the departed ones. 45 — This was the last and crowning miracle of Jesus, and the one that directly led to his crucifixion.

LESSONS.

1. In sorrow Jesus calls us to himself for consolation. 2. We should trust the love of Jesus, even when he permits dear ones to die. 3. If Jesus wept at the grave of Lazarus, he still sympathizes with natural grief. 4. Jesus is the Lord of Life. 5. Our bodies shall be raised again from the grave.

LESSON X — March 10th.

The Rich Young Ruler. MARK 10: 17-27.

(Commit to memory verses 21-22.)

GOLDEN TEXT.

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God."
Matt. 6: 33.

PROVE THAT

Self-sacrifice is the way of life. Matt. 16: 24.

LESSON HYMNS.

CHILDREN'S HYMNAL, Nos. 21, 36,
105, 141.

SHORTER CATECHISM.

Quest. 12. *What special act of providence did God exercise toward man in the estate wherein he was created?*

A. When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of death.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* The Rich Young Ruler; Mark 10: 17-27. *Tuesday.* Hindrance of Riches; Matt. 6: 19-24. *Wednesday.* Temptation of Riches; 1 Tim. 6: 9-19. *Thursday.* How to Follow Christ; Matt. 16: 24-28. *Friday.* Heirs of Eternal Life; Titus 3: 1-8. *Saturday.* Foolish Trust; Luke 12: 13-21. *Sabbath.* What to Seek First; Luke 12: 22-31. (The I. B. R. A. Selections.)

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. The incident in our lesson occurred during our Lord's ministry in Perea about a month before the crucifixion. The excitement produced by the raising of Lazarus was so great that Jesus could not safely remain near Jerusalem. He, therefore, removed to Ephraim, in the north of Judea, and after a few weeks returned to Perea, where he healed ten lepers (Luke 17: 1-19), and blessed little children. Read Luke 17: 12; 18: 17. Parallel passages, Matt. 19: 16-30; Luke 18: 18-30.

LESSON PLAN. I. An Earnest Seeker. vs. 17-20. II. A Severe Test. vs. 21, 22. III. Our Only Hope. vs. 23-27.

I. AN EARNEST SEEKER. 17. *Gone forth*—from the house where he took the children in his arms. There came one—Luke mentions that he was "a ruler" or elder of the synagogue. He was eager and respectful. *What shall I do?*—In Matthew "What good thing shall I do?" The same question was asked in Lesson VII. ("The Good Samaritan"), and Lesson III. (John 6: 28, 29). He thought that eternal life was to be gained by some very meritorious action. Not what we do but what we are, counts with God. 18. *Why callest thou me good?*—He addresses Jesus as a human teacher, but He turns his thoughts away from Himself as such to God. Eternal life, the one good thing to be gained, is to be found only in obedience to God, the supremely Good. Not in doing some one great thing, but in keeping perfectly all the commandments. Jesus, however does not say that anyone would obtain eternal life in

that way, but it was the only other way besides that which he lays down in verse 21. On the impossibility of being saved by our good works read Rom. 3: 20, 28; 4: 6; Gal. 2: 16; Eph. 2: 9; 2 Tim. 1: 9. Christ was only answering the ruler on his own ground. 19. Jesus seems to select the simplest moral laws in order to suggest that perhaps he does not fully know what keeping these, as God wants them to be kept, means. 20. All these have I observed—Such a statement shows how little the ruler perceived the deeper meaning of the laws. Compare Matt. 5: 21, 22, 27, 28; Luke 10: 27). He believed that he was blameless, but still felt that he lacked something (Matt. 40: 20).

II. A SEVERE TEST. 21. *Beholding him*—gave him that significant and searching look which the evangelists so often noticed in our Saviour's eye (John 1: 42; Luke 22: 61;