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# THE HOME STUDY QUARTERLY

The  
Home Study  
Series

Sabbath School Publications.  
Presbyterian Church in Canada

Rev. R. Douglas Fraser,  
Editor & Business Manager  
Confederation Life Building, Toronto.



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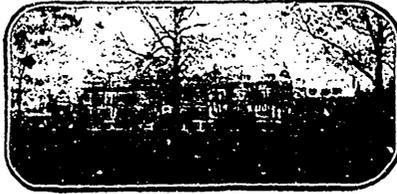
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# The Home Study Quarterly

Rev. E. Douglas Fraser, M.A., Editor  
Rev. J. M. Duncan, B.D., Associate Editor

Vol. XII.

January, February, March, 1906

No. 1

Ed.

Have you noticed the Scholar's Register on page 32? Be sure to look it up; and use it. It will give additional relish to the lessons and to your church attendance. The little note at the top shows how neatly the Register serves for members of the Home Department.

## This Year

By Rev. E. Douglas Fraser, M.A.

It may be the best year in the Sabbath School you have ever had. It will be, if you but say so.

*The Lessons* are the choicest the Bible contains: you will come to them as one coming back to familiar scenes and old friends. The Words and Works of Jesus—that is the story; and the story-tellers are Matthew, Mark and Luke, the three Gospel writers who give the greatest variety of incident and are the most easily understood.

The Words of Jesus: even the officers sent to arrest Him declared, "Never man spake like this Man," and no hand would they lay upon Him. They are the words of a King, of a Teacher of surpassing wisdom, of a Friend who loves with His whole heart's love, of a Hero, whose equal the world has never known.

And the Works of Jesus: what a life He lived, a life so like our own, and yet always without blunder or fall. And what power He displayed: earth's mightiest seemed but silly infants beside Him; sickness, disease, death, demons—He conquered them all.

Truly there never was, and never can be, another like Him, and no story is so worth knowing in its last and least details as the story of what He said and did in His thirty

and three years among men. The Sabbaths will slip swiftly, all too swiftly by, as once again we trace the footsteps of that wondrous Son of man and Son of God.

Your *Class* will give you this year the best opportunity it ever gave you; because you are capable of taking in more than ever before. Every year adds to your stature; and to your grip as well. You see more, and understand better what you see. Even if your teacher should stand still—and your teacher will not, especially if you are eager to go on—you have the ability, and the will, too, I doubt not, to get a deeper insight than ever into what your Lessons really teach, and to go with surer step in the holy way which they point out as *His* way. One little item of the year's work, you will not overlook—the drill on the Bible and its Books which the Supplemental Lessons provide. There is the chance to learn, not merely the names and order of the books, but the key-word to each book and each group—a workmanlike knowledge, in short, of the tools you will handle in further Bible study.

Your *Work* is laid out for you, too, if you are loyal to your School, and your heavenly Master. The best single thing, perhaps, that anyone can do for his school, is to be always there, and always in time. The "old reliables" are a fine sort; and a loyal scholar will work for his school, as he works for his team. Work for your school is work for your Master. But the world is wide, and every follower of that heavenly Lord is bound to help Him in conquering it all. Each Sabbath, in the Question on Missions, you get a bulletin as to how the battle is going on. You will be one of the many who will stand to those who have gone forward to the front. It is no

small self-denial that will answer to your devotion to the Master and His cause. You will be a giver, as you have the means. And there is no more real and satisfying delight before you this coming year than the joy that will come from such service.

### The Captain

Ed. "Head man": so the word captain means, one who is worthy to stand first, and to lead; and whom it is a joy to follow.

Who is more worthy than the great "Captain of our salvation"? He stands first; for He shares the very throne of the Eternal: thinks it "not robbery to be equal with God." Stands first, too, in his marvellous exploits: His was the word which created all things; His the work which redeemed a sinful world; His the rule to which all powers in heaven and earth and hell shall yet bow. Stands first, in His beauty of character: of Him, and of none other, can it be said with absolute truthfulness, that He wore "the white flower of a blameless life"; and first also—and this brings Him, oh! so close to us here on earth—in His wonderful forgetfulness of self for our sakes. His is the love that calls to the deepest things in our breasts. He is Captain of our hearts, Captain by the conquest of love.

If we will but listen to His voice of power and of sweet persuasiveness, how can we but obey?

### The Supplemental Hymn

By Rev. J. M. Duncan, B.D.

To learn by heart the Hymns of the Supplemental Lessons—one each Quarter—is no task, but rather a constant delight. And no grander song of praise could there be than the portion of the 145th Psalm, (Ps. Sel. 114, Book of Praise) chosen for this Quarter.

Two words catch and hold the eye as it runs down the verses—"greatness" and "goodness." Of whom? Why, of the heavenly King and Lord. And the Psalm brings Him so near to us. With the writer we can say, "my God and King". His might and majesty, His grace and righteousness. In all these we may share; and with them we are rich.

But the Psalm looks out as well as in. What a magnificent sweep it has! It is as if we were standing on some lofty height, looking back on all the generations of men that have passed away, and forward upon all those yet to come, away over the seas and across the continents, and beholding the millions upon millions of our human brothers and sisters. With all these vast multitudes the psalmist pictures himself, and we may think of ourselves, as singing the praises of the great and glorious King. A splendid picture in very truth; and so rapidly becoming a reality, as the missionaries spread the knowledge of God and His love in Christ ever more and more widely. All aglow with a radiant brightness to light up our own hearts and to scatter its rays through the world, is the message of this great Psalm.

### How Shall a Boy Prepare His Sunday School Lesson?

By Fred. W. Kelley, Ph. D.

1. Get an Oxford Teachers' Bible, or some other Bible with references, maps, concordance, etc., the HOME STUDY QUARTERLY or HOME STUDY LEAFLET, and some of the 500 of Wilde's beautiful Penny Pictures, for sale, ten for ten cents at our Sabbath School Publications office, Toronto.
2. Find the Lesson. In what book is it? What book precedes? What book follows? How many chapters in this book? In which is this Lesson?
3. Read the whole chapter. What events precede the Lesson? What events follow it?
4. Find, by your reference Bible, any other account of the events of the Lesson, and compare carefully.
5. What *places* are mentioned in the Lesson? For 1906, draw from your Bible or QUARTERLY, an outline map of Palestine, not too small, putting in the Mediterranean, Mountains of Lebanon, Arabian Desert, and the Jordan, Judæa, Samaria, Galilee, Perea, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Nazareth, Capernaum; and then put in the new places of each Lesson as it comes.
6. Give the *time* of the Lesson. In what year? What came just before? After? Remember that

Christ's birth was Christmas, B.C., 5.  
 Baptism, January, A.D., 27.  
 Crucifixion and Resurrection, April, A.D.,  
 30, (not A.D., 33.)

7. Give carefully, in order of importance, each *person* mentioned in the Lesson. What does the *QUARTERLY* say about each one? Find by references what the Bible says. Fix the name of the person, and some one thing about him.

8. Read the Lesson again, and then tell yourself, or, better, some one else, exactly what you have read.

9. Think over the Lesson, and picture the whole scene in your mind, until it becomes real to you.

10. Ask yourself why the Lesson was given. Learn the Golden Text.

11. Kneel down and ask God's Spirit to guide you, to help you use this Lesson rightly, and to fit you for His service.

12. Never omit the Daily Readings selected by the International Bible Reading Association and given in the *QUARTERLY*: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

High School, Montreal

### Sailing on Galilee

*By Rev. John Mackay, B.A.*

There is something strangely fascinating about sailing on any small body of water after nightfall. Then the spirits of the night seem to reach out toward you from the objects on shore. To sail on Galilee when the day is done and the first still hours of night have come, is to feel all this intensified a thousand fold. Broken fragments of cities lie everywhere on its shores, countless myriads of lives have been lived in these cities; up and down the great roads which pass it on the west and the north, caravans, armies, companies of travellers and bands of pilgrims have passed. Here and there among its cities, back and forth across its waters, Christ and his disciples have passed and repassed. All are vanished now. Only one poor, little, straggling town keeps watch over the lake as it sleeps, and when we leave it behind, the Genius of Galilee takes full control of us.

The wind is fresh and steady, and our boats,

under the skilful management of their Syrian boatmen, glide noiselessly toward the lower end of the lake. Every now and then, rushing with resistless force down the funnel-like wadies which at short intervals break through the hills, rude gusts lush the water into great billows, and cause our frail craft to careen so far over as to take in water on the leeward. But the short-lived gust soon passes and we are sailing over an almost waveless sea, gliding on into the darkness, with only the cheery lap of the wavelets about our prow, as we cut through them on our course.

Being only one hundred and fifty feet at its greatest depth, and lying in a funnel-like basin, between great hills, pierced here and there by deep, narrow wadies, Galilee is peculiarly susceptible to sudden squalls, and its surface responds most readily to them, rising in great billows, and sinking again to almost perfect stillness in a few minutes. In our progress of about eight miles from Tiberias to Semach, we passed through half a dozen such squalls, with their successive calms. It is a moody little sea, but its every mood gives to it a fresh touch of color, and stirs some new chord of memory.

Montreal

### According to Tradition

Matthew was slain with the sword in a city of Ethiopia.

Mark was dragged through the streets of Alexandria, in Egypt, till he expired.

Luke was hanged upon an olive tree in Greece.

John was put into a caldron of boiling oil at Rome, but escaped death. He afterwards died a natural death at Ephesus, in Asia.

James the Less was thrown from a wing of the temple, and then beaten to death with a club.

Philip was hanged up against a pillar at Hieropolis, a city of Phrygia.

Bartholomew was flayed alive by the command of a barbarous king.

Andrew was bound to a cross, whence he preached to the people till he expired.

Thomas was run through the body with a lance, at Coromandel, in the East Indies.

Jude was shot to death with arrows.

Simon, the Zealot, was crucified in Persia.

Paul was beheaded at Rome by Nero.

**BIBLE DICTIONARY FOR FIRST QUARTER, 1906**

**Andrew.** A fisherman and, with his brother Peter, a native of Bethsaida, John 1 : 44. After the miraculous draught of fishes (Lesson VI.) he, along with Peter, James and John, was called to be a companion of Jesus, and afterwards chosen to be an apostle, Matt. 10 : 2-4.

**Beth-le-hem.** The "house of bread," a small village, six miles south of Jerusalem, the birthplace of David and the scene of his earthly life (1 Sam. 16 : 1, 4, 13), hence called the "city of David," Luke 2 : 11. Here Jesus was born.

**Cæs-sar Au-gus-tus.** The first emperor of Rome (B.C. 31 to B.C. 14). It was in consequence of a decree of Augustus that Mary, the mother of Jesus, went with Joseph her husband, to Bethlehem, where Jesus was born.

**Ca-per-na-um.** A town on the north-western shore of the Lake of Galilee. At an early period in His ministry Jesus made His home here, so that Capernaum came to be called His own city, Matt. 9 : 1. In this city many of our Lord's wonderful miracles were wrought.

**Christ.** "The Anointed One," the official title of our Lord, corresponding to the Hebrew "Messiah." It is so constantly added to "Jesus," the Saviour's personal designation, that it virtually forms part of His name.

**Cy-re-ni-us.** Quirinius (the former was the original Latin name, the latter the modification of it among Greek speaking people), the Roman governor of the Province of Syria at the time of Jesus' birth.

**Da-vid.** The second king of Israel, successor to Saul. Bethlehem is called his city in Lesson I.

**Gal-i-lee.** The most northerly of the three provinces west of the Jordan into which Palestine was divided under the rule of the Romans. It was the chief scene of the ministry of Jesus. The lake of the same name is fed by the Jordan, and is called a sea because of its extent. The water is fresh.

**Gen-nes-a-ret.** A name in common use for the Lake of Galilee. It was also called the Sea of Tiberias, John 6 : 1.

**Her-od.** Called "the Great," the first of the seven Herods mentioned in the New Testament. He was made king of Judæa by the Romans in B.C. 37, and reigned till B.C. 4.

**Is-ra-el.** A name given to Jacob and his descendants (see Gen. 32 : 28.)

**James and John.** Two brothers, sons of Zebedee, who were called, along with Peter and Andrew, to be followers of Jesus, and who also became apostles.

**Je-ru-sa-lem.** The sacred city and well-known capital of the Jews.

**Je'-sus.** The name given to our Lord by direction of the angel to Joseph (Matt. 1 : 21) and to Mary, Luke 1 : 31. It means "Saviour," and expressed His special office.

**Jews.** Originally those belonging to the tribe or to the kingdom of Judah (2 Kgs. 16 : 6; 25 : 25), then those of the Hebrew race who returned from captivity, and finally all of that race throughout the world.

**John.** The Baptist, son of Zacharias and Elisabeth, and the immediate forerunner of Jesus.

**Jor'-dan.** The most important river in Palestine, flowing from the Lebanon Mountains to the Dead Sea. It was in this river that Jesus, at about thirty years of age, was baptized by John.

**Jo'-seph.** The husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and during the Saviour's lifetime regarded as His father, Matt. 13 : 55.

**Ju'-da.** Judah, the territory inhabited by the tribe descended from the fourth son of Jacob. It included the greater part of Southern Palestine. Bethlehem, situated within this territory, is spoken of by Micah (ch. 5 : 2) as the birthplace of the coming Messiah.

**Ju-dæ'-a.** The southernmost province of Palestine under the Roman government, the middle one being Samaria.

**Mar'-y.** The mother of Jesus. She was a resident of Nazareth, where the Saviour's birth was announced to her, Luke 1 : 26. She is presented in the New Testament as a beautiful example of a devoted and pious Jewish mother.

**Naz-ar-eth.** A town of Galilee where Joseph and Mary lived, and the home of Jesus from His childhood until He was about thirty years of age.

**Sa'-tan.** "The adversary," so called because he is hostile to all goodness and the chief opponent of God and man. He appears in Lesson V. as the tempter of Jesus.

**Sav-iour.** A title given to our Lord by the angel who announced His birth to the shepherds, as they watched their flocks near Bethlehem, Luke 2 : 11.

**Si'-mon Pe'-ter.** Peter is the Greek form of the Aramaic surname Cephas, meaning "a rock," which Christ bestowed on Simon, brother of Andrew, and one of the twelve apostles. He was a native of Bethsaida (John 1 : 44), and afterwards lived with his family at Capernaum, Matt. 8 : 14; Luke 4 : 38.

**Syr'-i-a.** A Roman province, including the territory west of the Euphrates from the Taurus Mountains to Egypt. This province was erected in B.C. 64 with a governor resident at Antioch.

**Zeb'-e-dæe.** The father of the apostles James and John.

## \*AN ORDER OF SERVICE: First Quarter

## OPENING EXERCISES

I. SILENCE.

II. OPENING SENTENCE. Psalm 95 : 1-3.

*Superintendent.* O come, let us sing unto the Lord : let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

III. SINGING. Ps. Sel. 114, Book of Praise. (It is expected that this "Supplemental Hymn" will be memorized during the Quarter.)

IV. PRAYER. Concluding with the Lord's Prayer in concert.

V. SINGING.

Saviour, blessèd Saviour,  
Listen whilst we sing,  
Hearts and voices raising  
Praises to our King;  
All we have to offer,  
All we hope to be,  
Body, soul and spirit,  
All we yield to Thee.

—Hymn 210, Book of Praise.

VI. RESPONSIVE SENTENCES. Luke 2 : 11, 14; 1 : 68.

*Superintendent.* Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour,

*School.* Which is Christ the Lord.

*Superintendent.* Glory to God in the highest,

*School.* And on earth peace, good will toward men.

*Superintendent.* Blessed be the Lord God of Israel;

*School.* For He hath visited and redeemed His people.

VII. SINGING. Psalm or Hymn selected.

VIII. BIBLE WORK. From the Supplemental Lessons.

IX. READING OF LESSON PASSAGE.

X. SINGING. Psalm or Hymn selected.

(This selection may usually be that marked "FROM THE PRIMARY QUARTERLY.")

## CLASS WORK

[Let this be entirely undisturbed by Secretary's or Librarian's distribution, or otherwise.]

I. ROLL CALL by teacher.

II. OFFERING, which may be taken in a class envelope, or class and report envelope.

III. RECITATION. 1. Scripture Memory Passages from the Supplemental Lessons, or Memory Verses in Lesson Helps. 2. Catechism. 3. The Question on Missions from the Supplemental Lessons.

IV. LESSON STUDY.

## CLOSING EXERCISES

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

II. SINGING. Hymn selected.

III. REVIEW FROM SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK; which, along with the Blackboard Review, may include one or more of the following items : Recitation in concert of Verses Memorized, Catechism, Question on Missions, Lesson Title, Golden Text, and Heads of Lesson Plan. (Do not overload the Review : it should be pointed, brief and bright.)

IV. RESPONSIVE SENTENCES. Psalm 2 : 7, 8; John 12 : 26.

*Superintendent.* The Lord hath said unto me, Thou art My Son;

*School.* This day have I begotten Thee.

*Superintendent.* Ask of Me, and I shall give Thee the heathen for Thine inheritance.

*School.* And the uttermost parts of the earth for Thy possession.

*Superintendent.* If any man serve Me, let him follow Me;

*School.* And where I am, there shall also My servant be.

V. SINGING.

Saviour, more than life to me,

I am clinging close to Thee;

Let Thy precious blood applied

Keep me ever near Thy side.

*Every day, every hour,*

*Let me feel Thy cleansing power :*

*May Thy tender love to me*

*Bind me closer, Lord, to Thee.*

—Hymn 211, Book of Praise

VI. BENEDICTION OR CLOSING PRAYER.

Lesson I.

## THE SHEPHERDS FIND JESUS

January 7, 1906

Luke 2 : 1-20. Commit to memory vs. 13, 14.\* Read Matthew 1 : 1-25; Luke 1 : 1-80.

GOLDEN TEXT—For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.—  
Luke 2 : 11.

1 <sup>1</sup> And it came to pass in those days, <sup>2</sup> that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be <sup>3</sup> taxed.

2 (<sup>4</sup> And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

3 And all went to be taxed, every one <sup>6</sup> into his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehém; (because he was of the house and <sup>7</sup> lineage of David :)

5 To be taxed with Mary <sup>9</sup> his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And <sup>10</sup> so it was, that, while they were there, the days were <sup>11</sup> accomplished that she should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, <sup>12</sup> lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, <sup>13</sup> Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all <sup>14</sup> people.

Revised Version— Now; <sup>2</sup> Omit that; <sup>3</sup> enrolled; <sup>6</sup> enrol themselves; <sup>6</sup> to; <sup>7</sup> family; <sup>8</sup> enrol himself; <sup>9</sup> who filled; <sup>11</sup> an angel of the Lord stood by them; <sup>11</sup> Be not afraid; <sup>14</sup> the; <sup>15</sup> is the sign; <sup>6</sup> a; <sup>17</sup> among men in whom he is well pleased; <sup>18</sup> when the angels went away; <sup>19</sup> both; <sup>20</sup> saw it; <sup>21</sup> concerning the saying which was spoken unto them about this child; <sup>22</sup> Omit they; <sup>23</sup> the; <sup>24</sup> spoken

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this <sup>15</sup> shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find <sup>16</sup> the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying:

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, <sup>17</sup> good will toward men.

15 And it came to pass, <sup>18</sup> as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehém, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16 And they came with haste, and found <sup>19</sup> Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17 And when they <sup>20</sup> had seen it, they made known <sup>21</sup> abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

18 And all <sup>22</sup> they that heard it wondered at <sup>23</sup> those things which were <sup>24</sup> told them by the shepherds.

19 But Mary kept all these <sup>25</sup> things, and pondered them in her heart.

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, <sup>26</sup> as it was <sup>27</sup> told unto them.

\* This was the first enrolment made when Quirinius; was betrothed to him; <sup>10</sup> it came to pass, while; <sup>11</sup> fulfilled; <sup>14</sup> the; <sup>15</sup> is the sign; <sup>6</sup> a; <sup>17</sup> among men in whom he is well pleased; <sup>18</sup> when the angels went away; <sup>19</sup> both; <sup>20</sup> saw it; <sup>21</sup> concerning the saying which was spoken unto them; <sup>22</sup> Omit they; <sup>23</sup> the; <sup>24</sup> spoken

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

Time and Place—Perhaps in the year B.C. 5, or about 4 years before our Christian era; Bethlehem, six miles south of Jerusalem.

Connection—Lessons XII. (Mal. 3 : 1-12) and XIII. (Isa. 9 : 1-7), Fourth Quarter, 1905, pointed



A Coin of the Emperor Augustus

forward to the coming Saviour. During this year we are to study in the first three Gospels, His Words and Works while He lived on earth. The present Lesson is from the third Gospel, written by Luke, a physician and close friend of the apostle Paul, Col. 4 : 14. Luke learned about Jesus' life from Jesus' friends, and probably heard the story of His birth and early life from Mary, His mother.

I. THE BARE.—1-3. In those days. Ch. 1 tells how, in the days of King Herod, John the Baptist was born and Mary was told of the coming birth of Jesus. A decree (a proclamation) from Cæsar Augustus; the first Roman emperor. All the world; the whole known world, which was then, including Palestine, under Roman rule. Should be enrolled (Rev.

Ver.); names and residences written down, as in our census, probably in order that taxes might be levied. Cyrenius (Quirinius) . . (Roman) governor of Syria; the Roman Province to which Palestine belonged.

4-7. Joseph; the husband of Mary, Matt. 1 : 24. From Galilee; the most northerly of the three provinces of Palestine. Out of . . Nazareth; a town in Galilee hidden amid lofty hills, yet near the main roads along which travelers were continually passing to Jerusalem, to Egypt and to Damascus. Here the birth of Jesus had been announced, ch. 1 : 26, etc. Into Judæa; the southernmost province, the middle one being Samaria. City of David; Israel's famous king, who was born and brought up here, 1 Sam. 16 : 1-13. It was now to witness the birth of a greater King, whom David himself called Lord, Ps. 110 : 1; Matt. 22 : 43, 44 Her firstborn son; a real, human child, with a body and soul like ours, sin excepted. In swaddling clothes; long strips of cloth, 3 or 4 inches wide, in which new-born infants in the East are wrapped. In a manger . . no room . . in the inn. The "inn" was crammed with the crowds who had come to be "taxed."

II. THE ANGELS.—8-14. Shepherds . . in the field; guarding their sheep from robbers and wild beasts. Eastern shepherds to this day spend the night in the fields with the flocks, even in winter. And, lo. Something wonderful is to follow. The angel of the Lord; perhaps Gabriel, who had

\*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Lessons are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. They will be found in the Supplemental Lesson Leaflet.

spoken to Mary, ch. 1 : 26. The glory of the Lord; a radiant brightness, symbol of God's presence (see Ex. 24 : 16; 1 Kgs. 8 : 10, 11; Acts 7 : 55). **Sore afraid**; no wonder, vs. 10, 11. **Fear not**; and for good reason—the best piece of news man was ever to hear. **Unto you**; you shepherds, and your nation, and the whole world. **Born . . . a Saviour . . . Christ the Lord**. Note Jesus' triple title : He is to save from sin; He is our anointed (Christ) Prophet, Priest and King; He is our Lord, with the right to rule over us. **A multitude**. Compare Rev. 5 : 11. All heaven is moved. **Glory to God**; who had sent this wonderful Saviour. **In the highest**; the highest places, that is, heaven, where God dwells. **On earth peace**, etc.; the peace Jesus brings into men's hearts, which, amongst other things, makes them at peace with one another.

**III. THE SHEPHERDS.—15-20.** Let us now go . . . and see. Something wonderful to be seen, surely, after what they had already beheld. **Came . . . found . . . when they had seen . . . made known**. It turned out all joyfully true; what could they do but tell it out? All . . . wondered; and would have marvelled still more, had they realized what we know, that in very truth, God's Son had come to earth. **Mary kept . . . pondered**; kept thinking about the angel's words, (ch. 1 : 32, 33) and the wonderful promises of the Old Testament to which they pointed.

**DAILY READINGS**

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—Counsel for New Year, Prov. 3 : 13-26. T.—The shepherds find Jesus, Luke 2 : 1-20. W.—Isaiah's prophecy, Isa. 9 : 1-7. Th.—Christ is Lord, Phil. 2 : 1-11. F.—Worship by angels, Heb. 1 : 1-8. S.—Made flesh, John 1 : 1-14. S.—Sent to save, 1 John 4 : 4-14.

**Prove from Scripture—That Jesus brings joy.**

**Shorter Catechism—Ques. 1. What is the chief end of man?** A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

**The Question on Missions (First Quarter, HOME MISSIONS AND AUGMENTATION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES—5 Questions; AND IN QUEBEC AND ONTARIO—6 Questions).** 1. Where were the first Home Mission fields of our church? In the Province of Nova Scotia; where, from the year 1764 onward, ministers from Scotland and the United States labored among the early settlers.

**Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 114**

(Supplemental Lesson); 26; 30; 83 (Ps. Sel.); 520 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 457.

**FOR FURTHER STUDY**

**Juniors**—How many Gospels are there? Give the names of the writers. How did Luke likely learn about the words and works of Jesus?

1-3 What ruler is named here? What did he order? For what purpose?

4-7 Where did Joseph and Mary live? Whither did they go to be enrolled? Was Jesus born in a house? Where was He born? How was this?

8-14 Who were told about the birth of Jesus? Where? By whom? Repeat the angels' song.

15-20 How did the shepherds find Jesus? Whom did they tell about Him? With what effect?

**Seniors and the Home Department**—Mention some prophecies fulfilled in the coming of the Saviour. Give some account of Luke.

1-3 Where does Luke refer to another enrolment? (Acts 5 : 37, Rev. Ver.) Christ's teaching about paying taxes? (Matt. 22 : 21.) Paul's? (Rom. 13 : 6, 7.)

4-7 In what words does Paul describe the humility of Christ's earthly appearance? (Phil. 2 : 6-8.)

8-20 How are we saved? (Rom. 10 : 9.) What is the test of real faith? (Acts 16 : 15.) Our duty in regard to making the gospel known? (Isa. 6 : 8.)

**THE LESSON IN LIFE**

1. Caesar and Jesus—how mighty the emperor seemed and how insignificant the little Babel! But that Child has proved Himself infinitely more powerful than any earthly sovereign. And why? Because He is so much greater—the very King of Kings and Lord of Lords, because His kingdom is in the heart, and because His is the sway of love.

2. "Raise the stone, and there thou shalt find Me; cleave the wood and there am I"—so runs a supposed saying of Jesus discovered at Oxyrhynchus in Egypt. It is when we are working faithfully in the "common round, the trivial task" of daily duty that our King comes to us and makes us glad with His presence.

3. God's world and God's Word are full of wonders. But only those see them, who are on the lookout with alert mind and keen vision. To see we must watch.

4. "Fear not!" The child of God can face life with a calm and cheerful courage. For this is his Father's world, and on his way through it no real harm can come to him.

5. Seek, see, spread—these three things the Glad Tidings requires of all who hear it.

*Rev. W. F. McEntee*

*W. J. Sutherland  
st 5)*

**FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS**

1. How had King David spoken of the coming Saviour? .....

2. Explain each of the titles given to Jesus by the angels.....

3. Show that the shepherds became the first gospel preachers.....

## Lesson II.

## THE WISE MEN FIND JESUS

January 14, 1906

Matthew 2 : 1-12. Commit to memory v. 11. Read Luke 2 : 21-38.

GOLDEN TEXT—My son, give me thine heart.—Proverbs 23 : 26.

1 Now when Je'sus was born in Beth'lehem of Judæ'a in the days of Her'od the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jeru'salem,

2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

3 And when Her'od the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jeru'salem with him.

4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

5 And they said unto him, In Beth'lehem of Judæ'a: for thus it is written by the prophet,

6 And thou Beth'lehem, in the land of Ju'da, art not the least among the princes of Ju'da: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Is'rael.

7 Then Her'od, when he had privily called the Revised Version—<sup>1</sup>saw; <sup>2</sup>And when; <sup>3</sup>heard it; <sup>4</sup>in no wise least; <sup>5</sup>which shall be shepherd of; <sup>6</sup>privily <sup>7</sup>out carefully concerning the young child; <sup>8</sup>Onit' again; <sup>9</sup>also may come and worship him; <sup>10</sup>And they, having heard the king, went their way; <sup>11</sup>they came into the house and saw; <sup>12</sup>opening their treasures; <sup>13</sup>offered.

wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

8 And he sent them to Beth'lehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mar'y his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Her'od, they departed into their own country another way.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**Time and Place**—February, B. C. 4; Bethlehem.

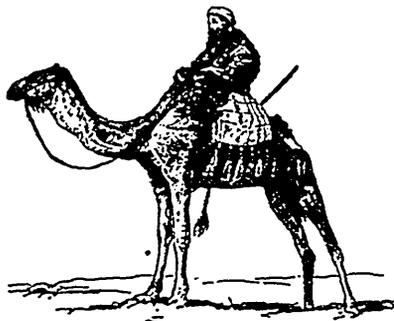
**Connection**—As the law of Moses commanded, Jesus was circumcised on the eighth (Luke 2 : 21), and presented in the temple (Luke 2 : 22-38) on the fortieth day after His birth. The visit of the Wise Men followed. This is related by Matthew, whose Gospel was written specially for the Jews, as Luke's for the Greeks.

**I. THE SEEKERS.**—1. Jesus was born. Recall Lesson I. Days of Herod; Herod "the Great"—"great in energy, in magnificence, in wickedness." He was not a Jew, but came from Idumea, a country south of Judæa, and had been given the title of king by the Roman emperor, to whom Palestine (see Lesson I.) was at this time subject. Wise men; commonly supposed to have been three kings. They belonged to the class called "Magi," who were diligent students, especially of the stars, believing that by their appearance and movements great events, such as the birth of a king, could be foretold. The east; where learning, from very early times, had been held in high esteem. To Jerusalem; Herod's capital.

2. Where . . . King of the Jews? Ancient writers tell us that there was widespread opinion this time, that a king from Judæa should master the world. Seen his star. The Wise Men had seen, either a new star, or an unusual combination of stars, and had been led to conclude, we know not how, that this pointed to the birth of a king of the Jews. (Compare Num. 24 : 17.) To worship him. These were the first Gentile worshippers of Christ.

**II. THE DIRECTIONS.**—3-8. Herod . . . troubled; filled with dread lest this new king should one day drive him from his throne. All Jerusalem with him. A new king might bring new conflicts with Rome; or he might overthrow the greedy schemes in which many of these people were engaged. Gathered . . . chief priests (who had charge of the temple services) and scribes (teachers of the

Old Testament). These were the scholars and religious leaders, and might be expected to know where Christ (the "Messiah" promised in the Old Testament, Isa. 9 : 6, 7, etc.) should be born. In Bethlehem. As Micah (ch. 5 : 2) had foretold. A Governor which shall be shepherd of . . . Israel (Rev. Ver.). He is to guide, feed, defend, fold, rule, His people, as a



A Desert Traveler

shepherd his flock (compare John 10 : 1-18). Privily secretly; v. 16 reveals the plot. I may . . . worship him. What devilish hypocrisy—pious lips, and murder in his heart!

**III. THE DISCOVERY.**—9, 10. They departed; for Bethlehem, according to Herod's directions, (v. 8.) all innocent of his vile purpose. Lo, the star; which now stood to the south, where little Bethlehem lay. Went before them; kept going, all the way. Stood over . . . the young child. The star by its light guided these men to Him who is the Light of the world, John 8 : 12. They rejoiced. Their long quest was finished; they had found the one they sought.

11, 12. Into the house. Joseph and Mary, with

the Child Jesus, were now in the inn or had found refuge, perhaps, in a friend's house. Saw . . . fell down . . . worshipped. In that little Child they recognized the King they sought. Presented . . . gifts. It was a usual Eastern custom to bring presents to a king. Gold . . . frankincense (a tree gum found in the East giving out a sweet smel. when burned) . . . myrrh (a gum from a tree found in Arabia); all costly gifts, showing the givers' sense of Jesus' greatness. Being warned of God. Herod is no match for the Almighty Father. How simply God frustrates his purpose, and protects His own dear Son.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—The Wise Men find Jesus, Matt. 2 : 1-12. T.—The prophecy, Micah 5 : 1-4. W.—Scripture testimony, John 7 : 32-44. Th.—“Thy light is come,” Isa. 60 : 1-6. F.—Gifts and worship, Psalm 72 : 1-15. S.—Simeon's blessing, Luke 2 : 25-35. B.—Anna's thanksgiving, Luke 2 : 36-39.

Prove from Scripture—That we should give for Christ's cause.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 2. What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him ? A. The word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.

The Question on Missions—2. What has been the result of the labors of these early missionaries ? The labors of these early missionaries, together with those of the faithful men who followed them, have made the Eastern Section of our church strong enough to support all its own work, besides contributing towards home missions in the Northwest.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 114 (Supplemental Lesson); 31; 34; 5 (Ps. Sel.); 31 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 560.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—At what age was Jesus presented in the temple ? What law commanded this ?

1, 2. Who was king in Jerusalem when Jesus was born ? Who came to Jerusalem ? Whence did they come ? For whom were they seeking ? What had started them on their search ?

3-8. Why was Herod troubled at hearing about a “King of the Jews ?” Whom did he call together ? What question did he ask ? The answer ? What

did Herod ask the Wise Men to do ? His purpose ? 9, 10. What went before the Wise Men ? Where did it stop ? How did they feel ?

11, 12. What did the Wise Men do when they had found Jesus ? Name the presents they gave.

Seniors and the Home Department—Upon what event in the life of Jesus did the visit of the Magi follow ? For whom specially was Matthew's Gospel written ? Luke's ?

1, 2. Tell of Herod's origin, and describe his character. Who were the Magi ? Tell of other Gentiles who came later to Jesus. (Mark 7 : 25, 26; Luke 7 : 2, 3; John 12 : 20, 21.)

3-8. Explain why Herod was troubled. What did the people of Jerusalem fear ? How was it known where Christ should be born ? What other Herod was troubled when he heard of Jesus ? (Luke 9 : 7.)

9-12. How were the Wise Men guided to where Jesus was ? Describe their gifts. What is the best gift we can offer to Christ ? (Rom. 12 : 1.)

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. The stars shining in the sky seem like openings through which the brightness of heaven shines through. But Jesus, the world's Light, brings right down into our homes and hearts heaven's brightness and joy, giving them to us as freely as the sunlight.

2. Step by step the Wise Men went forward, until they found the One whom they sought. In the same way our knowledge grows, by mastering one fact and then another. And we shall reach heaven, too, just by faithfully, patiently doing God's holy, loving will day by day.

3. Our debt is great to the East. It gave us the gospel that brings life to our souls. And now we have the opportunity of paying our debt. For the nations of the East are looking to us to-day for this blessed gospel.

4. Sin is a sorry, slinking thing. It seeks the cover of a lie, as the crawling creatures of the night hide from the light of day. It is the honest, upright heart that fears no exposure.

5. Because Herod was a murderer, he became a liar. Sin cannot be confined to any one part of the soul. If there is a worm anywhere in the root, all the leaves at the top will in time whiten and wither. There is safety only in crushing sin wheresoever it may appear; and the sooner the better.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Explain the coming of the “Wise Men” to Jerusalem.....

2. What directions did they receive there?.....

3. How did they find Jesus ? What honors did they pay Him ?.....

## Lesson III.

## THE BOY JESUS

January 21, 1906

Luke 2 : 40-52. Commit to memory v. 51. Read Matthew 2 : 13-23; Luke 2 : 39.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.—Luke 2 : 52.

40 And the child grew, and waxed strong <sup>1</sup> in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

41 <sup>2</sup> Now his parents went to Jeru'salem every year at the feast of the passover.

42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up <sup>3</sup> to Jeru'salem after the custom of the feast.

43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the <sup>4</sup> child Je'sus tarried behind in Jeru'salem; and <sup>5</sup> Jo'seph and his mother knew not of it.

44 But <sup>7</sup> they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought <sup>8</sup> him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

45 And when they found him not, they <sup>9</sup> turned back again to Jeru'salem, seeking <sup>10</sup> him.

46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst

**Revised Version**—<sup>1</sup> Omit in spirit; <sup>2</sup> And his parents went every year to Jerusalem; <sup>3</sup> Omit to Jerusalem; <sup>4</sup> were returning; <sup>5</sup> boy; <sup>6</sup> his parents knew it not; <sup>7</sup> supposing him to be in the company, they went; <sup>8</sup> for; <sup>9</sup> returned to; <sup>10</sup> amazed; <sup>11</sup> his; <sup>12</sup> astonished; <sup>13</sup> Omit have; <sup>14</sup> in my Father's house; <sup>15</sup> he; <sup>16</sup> and; <sup>17</sup> advanced.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**Time and Place**—March-April, A.D. 8; Jerusalem and Nazareth, a town in Galilee.

**Connection**—Read in Matt. 2 : 13-23 the story of Joseph's flight into Egypt, with Jesus and Mary, immediately after the departure of the Wise Men; of the cruel slaughter of the children in Bethlehem by Herod's order; of Herod's death; and of the return of the "holy family," not to Bethlehem, but to Nazareth.

## I. THE BOY JESUS.—

40. Grew and waxed (grew) strong; referring to bodily growth (Rev. Ver. omits "in spirit"). Jesus was an active, vigorous, sturdy boy, full of life and energy. Filled; "being filled": the mind of Jesus, as well as His body, grew. He was carefully taught by His godly parents in the Scriptures, Deut. 6: 6, 7. In the village school, which Jesus may have attended, with others of His own age, the teacher was a scribe and the Bible the chief text-book. Jesus, also, attended the synagogue (ch. 4 : 16) on the Sabbath, where He would hear God's Word read. With wisdom. As His mental powers grew, Jesus displayed marvellous insight into the things of God, and also into the minds of men, John 2 : 25. Grace of God; God's favor and help. This it was that kept Jesus from evil, and formed in Him a character so beautiful and strong.

II. JESUS AT THE FEAST.—41, 42. To Jerusalem; the holy city and the capital of the Jews, 80 miles from Nazareth. Three great feasts were celebrated at Jerusalem every year—the Passover,

of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

47 And all that heard him were <sup>10</sup> astonished at his understanding and <sup>11</sup> answers.

48 And when they saw him, they were <sup>12</sup> amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I <sup>13</sup> have sought thee sorrowing.

49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be <sup>14</sup> about my Father's business?

50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and <sup>15</sup> was subject unto them: <sup>16</sup> but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52 And Je'sus <sup>17</sup> increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Pentecost and Tabernacles. The law of Moses required every man to attend these feasts (see Ex. 23 : 14-17; 34 : 23; Deut. 16 : 16). Women were not required to go, and those of them who did attend

were regarded as especially pious. Passover; so named from the "passing over" of the Israelites' houses when the firstborn of Egypt were destroyed, Ex. 12 : 27. It was the greatest religious feast of the Jews, kept in remembrance of God's salvation, and marking, like our Dominion Day, the beginning of their life as a nation. Twelve years old. At this age a Jewish boy took upon himself to keep the law and attend the feasts with his father. He also began to learn a trade: in the case of Jesus, that of a carpenter. An Eastern boy of twelve is as mature as one of fifteen in our colder climate.

43-45. Fulfilled the

days; the seven days of the Passover feast, Ex. 12 : 15; Lev. 23 : 6, 7; Deut. 16 : 3. Knew not of it. This shows how fully His parents trusted Jesus: they had left Him free to do as He chose in a great city. Turned back . . . to Jerusalem; looking for Him all the way to the city and after they reached it.

III. JESUS IN THE TEMPLE.—46-50. After three days; including the day out and the day back (v. 44) and the day of the finding. In the temple; one of the porches or chambers belonging to the temple, used for teaching. Doctors; teachers. Hearing . . . asking . . . questions; like the scholars in our Sabbath Schools to-day. Jesus did not put



— The Boy Jesus  
From Painting by Hofmann

Himself forward, but acted as any thoughtful boy might act. **Astonished at his answers**; as a few years later the people were at His teaching, Mark 1 : 22. **Wist**; know. **About my Father's business** (Rev. Ver., "in My Father's house"); the first recorded words of Jesus. They teach that Jesus knew Himself to be the Son of God.

**IV. JESUS AND HIS PARENTS.**—51, 52. **Nazareth**; a village so poor that it is not even named in the Old Testament, and with plenty of evil in it, lying so near the great highways (see Lesson I.). And yet here Jesus for thirty years lived a spotless life. **Subject**; an obedient, faithful Son. Note in v. 52 His characteristics as a growing boy.

**DAILY READINGS**

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—The Boy Jesus, Luke 2 : 40-52. T.—The Passover Feast, Deut. 16 : 1-8. W.—The wisdom of Jesus, Matt. 13 : 53-58. Th.—A child and the Scriptures, 2 Tim. 3 : 10-17. F.—Seeking for wisdom, Prov. 2 : 1-9. S.—The principal thing, Prov. 4 : 1-13. S.—Growing in grace, 2 Peter 3 : 11-18.

**Prove from Scripture**—*That children should obey their parents.*

**Shorter Catechism**—*Ques. 3. What do the Scriptures principally teach?* A. The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

**The Question on Missions**—3. What amount of home mission work was done last year by the Eastern Section? Over \$32,000 were given for home missions, one half by the mission stations themselves. There were 76 missionaries, who preached in 202 mission stations, and to more than 16,000 people.

**Lesson Hymns**—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 114 (Supplemental Lesson); 521; 389; 57 (Ps. Sel.); 304 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 584.

**FOR FURTHER STUDY**

**Juniors**—Who warned Joseph to leave Bethlehem? Whither did he take Jesus and Mary? What cruel deed did Herod do? How did Joseph know when to return to his own country? Whither did he go?

40 What is said about the body of the Child Jesus? About His mind? How was He kept from evil?

41-45 To what feast did Jesus go? Where? How old was He? What did He do at the close of the feast? Who sought for Him?

46-50 Where was Jesus found? What was He doing? What did He call the temple?

51, 52 How did Jesus act towards His parents? In what ways did He grow? To whom was He pleasing?

**Seniors and the Home Department**—When did Joseph take Jesus and Mary to Egypt? When did they return? What prophecy was thus fulfilled? (Hos. 11 : 1.)

40-45 How far from Jerusalem was Nazareth? Name the three great feasts of the Jews. At what age did Jewish boys begin to attend them? What event did the Passover commemorate? How long did it last?

46-50 By what title does Jesus call God? Where is He called the Son of God? (Ps. 2 : 7; Rom. 1 : 4; Heb. 1 : 5.) What honor should we pay to Jesus? (John 5 : 23.)

51, 52 Which Commandment teaches obedience to parents? Where does Paul teach the same duty? (Eph. 6 : 1.) What is the best kind of knowledge? (2 Tim. 3 : 16.)

**THE LESSON IN LIFE**

1. Jesus was a real boy, with a strong, sturdy body and a quick, keen mind. He loved sport and fun, and was ambitious to gain knowledge. And He fought down all that was mean and impure, while He welcomed into His heart whatever was noble and honorable. He is a perfect Pattern and a sympathizing Saviour and Friend for boys.

2. A great part of wisdom is just hard-headed common sense, that keeps a sharp look-out for the things that will do us harm, and gives them a wide berth.

3. The best fruit grows in God's sunlight, and the noblest lives are the product of God's grace.

4. Before the lighthouse lamp can throw its bright rays across the water, the foundations must be laid firm and strong, and the tower built steadily upward. And it is the slow, steady training, like that of Jesus in the "hidden years at Nazareth," that will fit us for influencing and helping others.

5. A great scholar once said of his garden, "It is not very long, nor very broad, but it is wondrous high." We may live in a small place and in a humble house; but we can reach out and up to every blessing, every joy, every virtue heaven has to give.

6. Every manly boy will love and honor, and, when he becomes able, protect and, if need be, provide for, his mother. A better friend he will never find on earth.

**FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS**

1. What training did Jesus receive from His parents? What blessing from God?.....

.....

2. What was the chief point of interest to Him, on His first visit to Jerusalem?.....

.....

3. What were His characteristics as a growing boy?.....

.....

## Lesson IV.

## THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

January 28, 1908

Mark 1 : 1-11. Commit to memory vs. 10, 11. Read Matthew 3 : 1-17; Luke 3 : 1-22.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—Prepare your hearts unto the Lord, and serve him only.—1 Samuel 7 : 3.

1 The beginning of the gospel of Je'sus Christ, the Son of God;

2 As it is written in 2 the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, 3 which shall prepare thy way 4 before thee.

3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, 5 Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

4 John 6 did baptize in the wilderness, and 7 preach the baptism of repentance 8 for the remission of sins.

5 And there went out unto him all the 9 land of Judm'a, and 10 they of Jeru'salem, and 11 were all baptized of him in the river 12 of Jor'dan, confessing their sins.

6 And John was clothed with camel's hair, and

**Revised Version**—1 Even as; 2 Isaiah the prophet; 3 who; 4 Omit before thee; 5 Make ye ready; 6 came, who baptized; 7 preached; 8 unto remission; 9 country; 10 all they; 11 they were baptized; 12 Omit of; 13 had a leathern girdle about; 14 after me he that is mightier than I; 15 I baptized; 16 the; 17 rent asunder; 18 as; 19 a voice came out of the heavens. Thou art; 20 thee.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**Time and Place**—January, A.D. 27; river Jordan.**Connection**—John Mark, the writer of the Third Gospel, was the son of one Mary, who lived in Jerusalem, Acts 12 : 12. He likely learned the facts recorded in his Gospel from Peter.1. **THE MESSENGER.**—1, 2. **Beginning of the gospel.** Omitting the facts about the birth and early life of Jesus related by Matthew and Luke (Lessons I. to III.), Mark begins at once to tell of our Lord's public ministry. Jesus (the personal name of our Lord, meaning "Saviour," Matt. 1 : 21) Christ (the official title, "the Messiah" or "Anointed One"), the Son of God. Mark's Gospel is singularly full of Jesus' wonderful deeds, which show that He is divine. It was written specially for the Romans, who gloried in power, and would be attracted to a Saviour who did so many mighty works. My messenger; John the Baptist, v. 4. (See Isa. 40 : 3, and compare Lesson XII., Fourth Quarter, 1905, Mal. 3 : 1-12.) Prepare ye the way, etc. "As royal travelers sent messengers on beforehand to clear the roads from obstructions, and even to make roads where none existed. . . John was to open a way for the coming King." (Century Bible.)3, 4. **The voice;** that is, the message uttered by the voice. The message is so important that the messenger is lost sight of. John; called the Baptist, because one of his chief offices was to baptize. In the wilderness; a wild, uncultivated and almost treeless region, thinly settled, in the eastern part of Judea. Preached (Rev. Ver.); literally, "heralded," a word used to describe the proclamation of a king. Baptism (as a sign) of repentance; John's great word. It means not only sorrow for, and confession of sin, but also a change of mind and life. It was often on the lips of Jesus also (Mark 1 : 15; Luke 13 : 3), but His special watchword was, "Believe." Remission of sins; the blessed result of repentance. It signifies the removal of sin's punishment, but more, the taking out of the heart the love of sin, the cleansing of the sinful nature, and the being received back into the loving family of God.II. **THE MESSAGE.**—5, 6. Went out . . . all (the people of) the land. For the different classes in

13 with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey;

7 And preached, saying, There cometh 14 one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose.

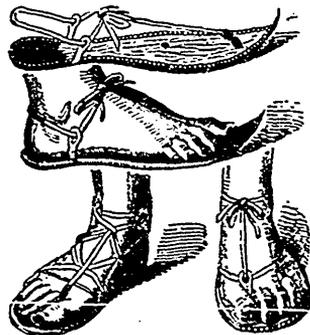
8 15 I indeed have baptized you with water : but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

9 And it came to pass in those days, that Je'sus came from Nazareth of Gal'ilee, and was baptized of John in 16 Jor'dan

10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens 17 opened, and the Spirit 18 like a dove descending upon him :

11 And 19 there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in 20 whom I am well pleased.

the crowds, see Matt. 3 : 7; Luke 3 : 10, 12, 14. Camel's hair; a coarse cloth made from the long, shaggy hair of these animals : a common dress of the prophets, 2 Kgs. 1 : 8; Zech. 13 : 4. Locusts; winged insects resembling grasshoppers, used as food only by the poorest. Wild honey; either bee honey (made by wild bees in trees or holes in the rocks), or tree honey (liquid exuding from palm and fig trees).

7, 8. **Mightier than I;** as will be shown by His baptizing "with the Holy Ghost." Latchet of . . . shoes; the string or thong fastening the sandals worn on the bottom of the feet—our shoe-lace. Not worthy to . . . unloose. This was the task of the lowest slaves. With the Holy Ghost. John's baptism with water was only a sign of cleansing from sin. Christ was to give the Holy Ghost, who would really cleanse.III. **THE MIGHTIER ONE.**—9-11. In those days; about six months after John began to preach. Jesus came; being now about thirty years old (Luke 3 : 23), the age when Levites entered on their ministry, Num. 4 : 3. Baptized of John; in order that, though He was without sin (1 Pet. 2 : 22), He might take His place along with sinners, whom He had come to save. In Jordan; according to the more common view, at a ford of the river not far from Jericho. Straightway; a favorite word of Mark's denoting rapid movement. He (Jesus) saw. John also saw "the Spirit descending from heaven," John 1 : 32, 33. The Spirit; the Holy Ghost or Spirit (see S. Catechism, Ques. 6). Like a dove; the symbol of

Sandals: Showing the "Latches"

like a dove; the symbol of

gentleness and purity (compare Heb. 7 : 26). John says it "abode upon Him," and that by this sign he knew Him, John 1 : 32, 33. **A voice from heaven.** Compare Matt. 3 : 17; John 12 : 28. **My beloved Son;** the Son of Mary, but the Son of God. **I am well pleased;** "I delight" (compare Isa. 42 : 1). Thus God set His seal on Jesus and His mission to men.

**DAILY READINGS**

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—The baptism of Jesus, Mark 1 : 1-11. T.—John's humility, Matt. 3 : 1-17. W.—John's confession, John 1 : 14-28. Th.—Revealed by the Spirit, John 1 : 29-34. F.—Disciples baptized, Acts 2 : 36-42. S.—Baptized into Christ, Rom. 6 : 1-11. S.—Buried in baptism, Col. 2 : 6-12.

**Prove from Scripture—That Jesus is God's Son.**

**Shorter Catechism—Review Questions 1-3.**

**The Question on Missions—4.** What are now the chief home mission districts in the East? New Brunswick and Cape Breton, where, during the last few years, many new stations have been opened, and much progress has been made. Rev. James Ross is Home Mission Superintendent for the Presbyteries of St. John and Miramichi, comprising the whole of New Brunswick.

**Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 114 (Supplemental Lesson); 35; 26; 52 (Ps. Sel.); 103 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 105.**

**FOR FURTHER STUDY**

**Juniors—**Who wrote the Third Gospel? What was his mother's name? Where was his home? Which apostle told him about the life of Jesus?

**1, 2** Which Gospels tell us of Jesus' birth and early life? Of what does Mark at once begin to tell? Who was the messenger sent to prepare for Jesus' coming?

**3, 4** Where did John preach? About what? What is it to repent?

**5-8** Who went to hear John? How was he dressed? What was his food? Of what One mightier than himself did John speak? With what did John baptize? With what was Jesus to baptize?

**9-11** At what age was Jesus baptized? What came down upon Him. Who spoke to Him? What was said?

**Seniors and the Home Department—**Tell what you can about Mark. (See Connection, and Acts

12 : 12, 13 : 5, 13; 15 : 37-39; Col. 4 : 10; 2 Tim. 4 : 11; 1 Pet. 5 : 13.)

**1-4** For whom specially did Mark write his Gospel? What aspect of the Saviour's ministry does it make prominent? Describe John's preaching. What is meant by "remission of sins?" To whom is it offered? (Luke 24 : 47.)

**5-8** What classes of people went to hear John? His message to each? How did he show his reverence for the Messiah? What menial duty did Jesus perform for His disciples? And what did He mean by it? (John 13 : 1-17.)

**9-11** Why did Jesus seek to be baptized? What do we learn from the form in which the Spirit descended? What is "the fruit of the Spirit"? (Gal. 5 : 22, 23.)

**THE LESSON IN LIFE**

1. Men can write about "the beginning of the gospel," but no one will ever tell of its end. It is a stream of blessing in human lives that will become greater and more glorious to the close of time and right on throughout eternity.

2. In Homer we read of an ugly, ill-tempered, sharp-tongued man who delivered a speech to an army against King Agamemnon. It was a fine speech; but it had no effect because of the evil character of the speaker. It is brave, true, sincere men like John the Baptist whose words have power in them.

3. The true soldier is never ashamed of his uniform or his flag. Nor should the disciple of Jesus shrink from making known whose side he is on.

4. Thirty years in preparation for three years' work: such is the story of Jesus on earth. But what a three years! The time is never wasted that goes to fit one for doing, up to the limit, the task God has given him to do in the world. Life is a serious "proposition," and demands thorough training.

5. The best way of helping another to lift a burden is to get under it with him. It is in this way Jesus comes to our help, sharing our temptations and trials with a brother's sympathy and giving us the advantage of His wisdom and strength.

6. The harmless, gentle dove and the fierce, consuming fire are both true emblems of the blessed Spirit. For He is, and teaches us to be, very tender towards the weak and the erring, and at the same time to hate evil with a burning passion.

**FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS**

1. What was John the Baptist's mission?.....

2. Why was Jesus baptized of John?.....

3. What testimony did He receive from heaven at His baptism?.....

## Lesson V.

## THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

February 4, 1906

Matthew 4 : 1-11. Commit to memory v. 4. Read Mark 1 : 12, 13; Luke 4 : 1-13.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—In all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.—Hebrews 4 : 15.

1 Then was Je'sus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he <sup>1</sup> was afterward an hurred.

3 And <sup>2</sup> when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou <sup>3</sup> be the Son of God, command that these stones <sup>4</sup> be made bread.

4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

5 Then the devil taketh him <sup>5</sup> up into the holy city, and <sup>6</sup> setteth him on <sup>7</sup> a pinnacle of the temple,

6 And saith unto him, If thou <sup>3</sup> be the Son of God, cast thyself down : for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee : and <sup>8</sup> in their hands

Revised Version—<sup>1</sup> afterward hungered; <sup>2</sup> the tempter came and said unto him; <sup>3</sup> art; <sup>4</sup> become bread; <sup>5</sup> Omit up; <sup>6</sup> he set; <sup>7</sup> the; <sup>8</sup> on; <sup>9</sup> haply thou; <sup>10</sup> Again it is written; <sup>11</sup> unto an; <sup>12</sup> he said.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**Time and Place**—January, A.D. 27; the Desert of Judea.

**Connection**—The incidents of this Lesson follow immediately upon those of the last.

**I. THE WILDERNESS.**—1, 2. **Then;** after His baptism (see Lesson IV.). **Led up of the Spirit** (Rev. Ver.). Mark (ch. 1 : 12) uses the strong expression, "the Spirit driveth Him." This is the same



Eastern Loaves

Holy Spirit who had just descended upon Christ (see ch. 3 : 16). God's Spirit is never more with us than when we are struggling amid temptations and trials. **Into the wilderness;** the region, wild, barren and mountainous, between Jerusalem and the Jordan, "a pathless desert, dusk with horrid shades." (Milton.) Mark (ch. 1 : 13) says He was "with the wild beasts," His only companions. **To be tempted.** Jesus here, at the beginning of His life work, was tempted, according to the Spirit's purpose, to carry out His work in wrong ways. His strength was tested, as God tested Abraham's faith and faithfulness, Gen. 22 : 1. **Devil;** slanderer, false accuser. The Hebrew "Satan" (Mark 1 : 13) means "adversary." **Fasted** (took no food) **forty days and forty nights;** like Moses (Ex. 34 : 28), and Elijah, 1 Kgs. 19 : 8. **An hurred;** and therefore weak. It was Satan's chance—a coward's chance.

3, 4. **Tempter** (possibly coming in some false appearance, 2 Cor. 11 : 14) . . . said. Mark (ch. 1 : 13) and Luke (ch. 4 : 2) represent the temptations as going on during the whole forty days and nights. **If thou be the Son of God;** as the Father above had, announced at His baptism, ch. 3 : 17. Satan suggests that He should prove it by working a miracle. **Command . . . stones . . . bread.** Though Jesus was God's own Son, it was God's will that He should live as a man, trusting in His Father's care. Had He worked a

miracle for His own benefit, He would have been selfish and disobedient. **It is written.** The Scripture is Jesus' sword, as it may be ours, Eph. 6 : 17. The passage here quoted (Deut. 8 : 3) teaches that God has other ways of supplying His servants with food than through their doing wrong, and that there are other things worth more than food, such as obedience, faith, love and righteousness.

7 Je'sus said unto him, <sup>10</sup> It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

8 Again, the devil taketh him <sup>11</sup> up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

9 And <sup>12</sup> saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

10 Then saith Je'sus unto him, Get thee hence, Sa'tan : for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

12 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

**II. THE TEMPLE.**—5-7. **Taketh him;** probably in spirit, or in vision. (Compare Ezek. 8 : 3.) **The holy city;** Jerusalem : so called by Matthew alone of the Gospel writers. Matthew's Gospel was for Jewish readers. **A pinnacle;** one of the wing-like projections of the temple buildings overlooking the valley of the Kidron, lying at great depth below. **Cast thyself down.** Jesus had refused to work a miracle to prove to *Himself* that he was God's Son. Now, He is tempted to prove it to *others*, by descending among them, as it were, from heaven. **It is written;** Ps. 91 : 11, 12. Satan quotes Scripture, but distorts it : God promises to protect His people on their lawful and necessary journeys, but not when they run into needless peril. **Written again;** Deut. 6 : 16. **Thou shalt not tempt.** When we try rash and foolish experiments upon God, we show a lack of trust in Him, and so have no right to look for His protection.

**III. THE MOUNTAIN.**—8, 9. **Taketh him;** again probably in vision. (Compare Rev. 21 : 10.) **All the kingdoms;** and in all their dazzling glory. **Will I give thee.** Luke 4 : 6 gives a fuller statement of Satan's blasphemous claim. He would use all his influence to make Jesus the greatest worldly king. "It was Satan's masterpiece," for if Jesus was king of all men, could he not help, and bless all men? **Worship me.** This third temptation was to gain power by evil means.

10, 11. **Get thee hence, Satan.** In this last temptation the devil stands revealed in his real nature. Clearly, as Jesus sees, to give up dying for sinful men, would just be allowing Satan to rule, and this the loyal Son of heaven's King can never do. **It is written;** Deut. 6 : 13, the first and great commandment, Matt. 22 : 37, 38. **Leaveth;** utterly defeated. Satan will always flee from us if we only put up a brave fight. **Angels came;** a good ex-

change—the reward of steadfastness to God. **Ministered**; as the angel did to Elijah, 1 Kgs. 19 : 5-8.

**DAILY READINGS**

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

**M.**—The temptation of Jesus, Matt. 4 : 1-11. **T.**—“Not . . . by bread only,” Deut. 8 : 1-6. **W.**—Kept by angels, Psalm 91 : 9-16. **Th.**—“Thou shalt not tempt,” Deut. 6 : 3-16. **F.**—Enduring temptation, James 1 : 1-15. **S.**—Our defence, Eph. 6 : 10-18. **S.**—Able to succor, Heb. 2 : 10-18.

**Prove from Scripture** — *That we can overcome temptation.*

**Shorter Catechism—Ques. 4. What is God ?** A. God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth.

**The Question on Missions—5.** How many augmented congregations in the Eastern Section ? There are 58 of these. Many of them are in places where the population is not increasing, or is diminishing, and therefore greatly need help.

**Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 114 (Supplemental Lesson); 250; 246; 17 (Ps. Sel.); 71 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 251.**

**FOR FURTHER STUDY**

**Juniors**—What was the last Lesson about ? Where did the temptation of Jesus take place ?

**1, 2** By whom was Jesus led into the wilderness ? For what purpose ? What two names are given to the evil one ? The meaning of each ? How long did Jesus go without food ? What did this make Him ?

**3, 4** What did Satan first tempt Jesus to do ? Why would this have been wrong ?

**5-7** In what city was Jesus tempted the second time ? At what place ? What was He asked to do ? Can we expect God to save us if we run into danger needlessly ?

**8-11** Where did Satan next take Jesus ? Over what did He promise to make Him ruler ? What did he ask Him to do ? What was Jesus' answer ? What did Satan then do ? Who came ? What did they do ?

**Seniors and the Home Department**—Describe the place of the temptation. Upon what event did it follow ?

**1-4** In what sense does God “tempt” men ? (Compare James 1 : 13 and Gen. 22 : 1.) Show that

the temptations of Jesus enable Him to sympathize with us. (Heb. 2 : 17, 18.) Explain the first temptation. What Old Testament miracle is referred to in Jesus' answer ?

**5-7** How did Satan distort the Scriptures ? How did Jesus bid His disciples act when persecuted ? (Matt. 10 : 23.) Show that Paul used prudent plans for self-protection. (Acts 23 : 16-18.) Explain the second temptation.

**9-11** Explain the third temptation. Prove that Satan's claim was false. (Ps. 24 : 1.) How did Jesus meet each temptation ?

**THE LESSON IN LIFE**

**1.** At the beginning of both the Old and the New Testament we have the story of a temptation. Satan tempted Adam amid the plenty of Paradise, and he yielded. He tempted Christ in the famine of the desert, but He overcame. We share in the fall of Adam. Blessed be God, we may share also in the victory of Christ.

**2.** The people of Sparta used to make their slaves drunk, to show their sons how degraded and loathsome a drunkard was, and thus to teach the boys to hate and shun drunkenness. Satan's plan is to make sin attractive. He knows full well that :

“Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,  
As to be hated needs but to be seen.”

Our safety lies in tearing off the mask from evil, that it may stand forth in its real ugliness. Then we shall turn from it with abhorrence.

**3.** He who prays in the morning, “Give us this day our daily bread,” has no need during the day to do crooked things that he may make a living. He has only to do his best, and the Lord will provide.

**4.** Daniel Webster was once complimented on a telling quotation used in an impromptu speech. “I learned that when a boy,” he replied, “and never had a chance to use it before.” The Word of God stored up in the memory will make us ready to meet temptations, however sudden and subtle.

**5.** “Christ's victory shows that we can attain the victory. His weapons show us the weapons we must use, and His consolation, the fruits of our victory.” (Peloubet.)

**6.** “If only we strive to be pure and true,  
To each of us there will come an hour  
When the tree of life shall burst into flower,  
And rain at our feet the golden dower  
Of something grander than ever we knew.”

**FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS**

1. Name each of the three temptations.....

2. Show that Jesus must have memorized the Scriptures.....

3. How was Jesus' trust in God rewarded ?.....

## Lesson VI.

## JESUS CALLING FISHERMEN

February 11, 1906

Luke 5 : 1-11. Commit to memory vs. 5, 6. Read Matthew 4 : 18-22 ; Mark 1 : 16-20 ; Luke 4 : 14-31.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children.—Ephesians 5 : 1.

1 And it came to pass, <sup>2</sup> that, as the people pressed upon him <sup>3</sup> to hear the word of God, <sup>4</sup> he stood by the lake of Gennesaret.

2 And <sup>5</sup> saw two <sup>6</sup> ships standing by the lake ; but the fishermen <sup>7</sup> were gone out of them, and were washing *their* nets.

3 And he entered into one of the <sup>8</sup> ships, which was Si'mon's, and <sup>9</sup> prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the <sup>10</sup> people out of the ship.

4 <sup>11</sup> Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Si'mon, <sup>12</sup> Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.

5 And Si'mon <sup>13</sup> answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing : <sup>14</sup> nevertheless at thy word I will let down the <sup>15</sup> net.

6 And when they had this done, they inclosed a

**Revised Version**—<sup>1</sup> Now, <sup>2</sup> while the multitude, <sup>3</sup> and heard ; <sup>4</sup> that he was standing ; <sup>5</sup> he ; <sup>6</sup> boats ; <sup>7</sup> had ; <sup>8</sup> asked him to put out ; <sup>9</sup> multitudes ; <sup>10</sup> And when ; <sup>11</sup> Put out ; <sup>12</sup> answered and said, Master, we toiled all night, and took nothing ; <sup>13</sup> but at ; <sup>14</sup> nets ; <sup>15</sup> nets were breaking ; <sup>16</sup> in the other boat ; <sup>17</sup> But Simon Peter, when he saw it, fell down ; <sup>18</sup> amazed ; <sup>19</sup> were ; <sup>20</sup> Omit the ; <sup>21</sup> left.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**Time and Place**—April or May, A.D. 28; near Capernaum, north-western shore of Lake of Galilee.

**Connection**—Lesson V. marks the beginning of our Lord's public ministry. The events of to-day's Lesson belong to the second year of it, and form a part of the great Galilean ministry.

**I. PREACHING TO THE MULTITUDES.**—1. **People pressed (crowded) upon him**; so eager were they to see and hear Him. **The word of God**; the teaching which Jesus brought from God concerning His kingdom. **Lake of Gennesaret**; commonly called the Sea of Galilee, sometimes (John 6 : 1) Sea of Tiberias. Luke never calls it a sea, while the other Gospel writers never call it a lake. It is 13 miles long by 7 miles wide in its widest part, and in some places nearly 200 feet deep. In our Lord's day, 4,000 vessels sailed its waters, from ships of war down to fishing boats. The centre of a region inhabited by 3,000,000 people, with many towns on its shores, the smallest having a population of 15,000, it was the scene of nearly one half of our Lord's public ministry.

2, 3. **Saw two boats** (Rev. Ver.); probably fishing boats, without decks. **Standing by the lake**; "not necessarily drawn up on shore, but close to the land, so that one on shore could enter them." **The fishermen**; Peter, Andrew, James and John, and their assistants. **Washing their nets**. Mark (ch. 1 : 19) adds "mending" them. **Simon's**; Simon Peter. Perhaps his boat was nearest. Jesus was perhaps staying in his house, ch. 4 : 38. At any rate Peter was a leader. **Prayed**; Rev. Ver., "asked". **Thrust (push) out a little**; so that, keeping the crowds at a little distance. He might more conveniently address them. **Sat down**; the usual attitude of an Eastern teacher.

**II. WORKING A MIRACLE.**—4, 5. **Said unto Simon**; as chief owner or captain. **Launch out**; the proper word for putting out to sea. **Let down your nets**. **Forgetting His own weariness**, Jesus sets Himself to remove the disappointment of the toilworn fishermen. **Master**. Peter acknowledged

Jesus' authority over him. **Tolled all the night**;

the best time for fishing. **Nevertheless at thy word**. Peter had believed that Jesus was the Messiah (John 1 : 41, 42), and had seen Him turn the water into wine at Cana of Galilee, John 2 : 1-11. He now showed that his faith was real. For it seemed doubly unlikely that they should catch anything : it was day and deep water; fish were got at night and near the shore.

6, 7. **A great multitude of fishes**. The miracle was one, either of divine power in bringing the fish to that place at that time, or divine knowledge in

pointing out their presence. **Their nets were breaking** (Rev. Ver.); were beginning to break. It is said that the shoals of fish in the Sea of Galilee "sometimes cover an acre or more on the surface in one dense mass." **Beckoned . . . partners**; James and John : their boat being still ashore.

**III. SUMMONING FOLLOWERS.**—8-10. **Depart from me**. Peter's real meaning was, "I am utterly unworthy to be near Thee, yet let me stay." **A sinful man**. So, his vision of God made Isaiah feel how great a sinner he was, Isa. 6 : 5. **James**



Fishermen Drawing their Nets

James and John : their boat being still ashore.

**III. SUMMONING FOLLOWERS.**—8-10. **Depart from me**. Peter's real meaning was, "I am utterly unworthy to be near Thee, yet let me stay." **A sinful man**. So, his vision of God made Isaiah feel how great a sinner he was, Isa. 6 : 5. **James**

and John; the sons of Zebedee, who left their father, to follow Jesus, Mark 1: 20. **Thou shalt catch men;** instead of fish. The words mean that Christ's servants are to win men to life eternal.

11. **They forsook all;** their homes and worldly goods. It was not Peter only who did this, but Andrew, James and John as well, for they felt that the call was meant for them also. **Followed him;** becoming His companions during His earthly ministry (Mark 3: 13, 14) and His witnesses to the world, Acts 1: 8. These disciples had been called before (see John 1: 35-38). The interval between the first and the second call they had spent in their homes and at their ordinary daily work.

**DAILY READINGS**

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—Jesus calling fishermen, Luke 5: 1-11. T.—Prompt obedience, Matt. 4: 12-22. W.—Peter's first visit to Jesus, John 1: 35-42. Th.—Call of Philip, John 1: 43-51. F.—Not ready, Luke 9: 57-62. S.—The Shepherd's voice, John 10: 19-30. S.—Reward to followers, Matt. 19: 23-30.

Prove from Scripture—That Jesus rewards His servants.

**Shorter Catechism—**ues. 5. *Are there more Gods than one?* A. There is but One only, the living and true God. *Ques. 6. How many persons are there in the Godhead?* A. There are three persons in the Godhead; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

**The Question on Missions—**6. How many home mission fields have we in Ontario and Quebec? 187 in all; comprising 449 mission stations, and at least 33,000 people. In April last, 20 mission fields became augmented congregations.

**Lesson Hymns—**Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 114 (Supplemental Lesson); 240; 216; 92 (Ps. Sel.); 534 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 245.

**FOR FURTHER STUDY**

**Juniors—**What lake is mentioned in the Lesson? What was its size? What sort of vessels sailed on its waters? Name a city on its shores.

1. Where was Jesus? Who came to hear Him? About what did He speak to them? Give other names for the Sea of Galilee.

2, 3. What fishermen are named here? Where were their boats? What were the fishermen doing?

Into whose boat did Jesus enter? What did He ask Peter to do? Wherefore?

4-7. Whither did Jesus tell the fishermen to go? What did he then bid them do? Did they obey Jesus? What was the result?

8-11. What did Peter say to Jesus? His meaning? Give Jesus' command to Peter and his friends. What was it to follow Jesus?

**Seniors and the Home Department—**Where is Capernaum? At what point in our Lord's ministry is the Lesson?

1-3. What was the subject of Jesus' teaching? What does He say about the nature of His kingdom? (John 18: 36.) How does Paul describe it? (Rom. 14: 17.)

4-7. What proof of faith did Peter give? In what did the Lesson miracle consist? Which of our Lord's parables is founded on fishing? (Matt. 13: 47-50.)

8-11. What call did Jesus give? What was the response? What reference did Peter afterwards make to this scene? What reward did Jesus promise? (Mark 10: 29, 30; Luke 18: 28-30.)

**THE LESSON IN LIFE**

1. Have you noticed how many of God's servants were common working people?—David, a shepherd; Elisha, a ploughman; Amos, a herder; Peter, a fisherman; Martha, a housekeeper; Dorcas, a dress-maker. Even so He may call you and me.

2. "Launch out into the deep"—this summons will come very soon to the boys and girls in the Sunday School. The big, wide sea of life stretches away, away, beyond our vision. There are splendid catches to be made; ay, and there are dangers and losses to be faced. But there is no need of fear: if only Jesus is with us, we shall be safe and prosperous.

3. "Though I see Thee not,  
Either light be not,  
Or Thou wilt free not  
The scales from my eyes,  
I ne'er gainsay Thee,  
But only obey Thee;  
Obedience is better than sacrifice."

4. Christ is a good Paymaster. He gives back a hundredfold. When He borrowed Peter's vessel, He returned it filled with fish to overflowing. So He enriches every life that serves Him.

"We lose what on ourselves we spend,  
We have as treasure without end  
Whate'er to God we freely lend."

**FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS**

1. Why did the crowds come to Jesus? .....

2. How did He prove His divine power? .....

3. What effect had this upon Peter? .....

Mr. John  
Meriville  
2nd 6)

## Lesson VII.

## A DAY OF MIRACLES IN CAPERNAUM February 18, 1906

Mark 1 : 21-34. Commit to memory vs. 33, 34. Read Matthew 8 : 14-17; Mark 1 : 35-45; Luke 4 : 31-41.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—He healed many that were sick.—Mark 1 : 34.

21 And they<sup>1</sup> went into Capernaum; and straight-way on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

22 And they were astonished at his<sup>2</sup> doctrine; for he taught them<sup>3</sup> as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

23 And<sup>4</sup> there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out.

24 Saying, <sup>5</sup>Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

25 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

26 And<sup>6</sup> when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

27 And they were all amazed, inasmuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, <sup>7</sup>What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority

**Revised Version**—<sup>1</sup>go; <sup>2</sup>teaching; <sup>3</sup>as having authority; <sup>4</sup>straightway; <sup>5</sup>Omit Let us alone; <sup>6</sup>the unclean spirit, tearing him and crying with a loud voice, came; <sup>7</sup>What is this? a new teaching! with authority he commandeth; <sup>8</sup>Omit do; <sup>9</sup>the report of him went out straightway everywhere into all the region of Galilee round about; <sup>10</sup>came; <sup>11</sup>Now; <sup>12</sup>raised; <sup>13</sup>Omit immediately; <sup>14</sup>sick; <sup>15</sup>with.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**Time and Place**—April-May, A.D. 28; Capernaum.

**Connection**—The events here related took place on the Sabbath after the call of the fishermen as given in last Lesson.

## I. JESUS IN THE CHURCH.—21, 22. Capernaum;

the chief city on the shore of the Lake of Galilee; now to be Jesus' headquarters for many months. From this centre He made many journeys into the surrounding country, preaching, teaching and healing. The synagogue; probably the one built by the good centurion (commander of a detachment of Roman soldiers stationed at Capernaum), Luke 7 : 5. The ruins have been discovered lately. "The walls were 74 feet 9 inches long, 56 feet 9 inches wide, and 10 feet thick. It was also highly ornamented."

**Taught.** Any one was at liberty to speak in the synagogue. Were astonished; a strong word, meaning literally that they were "struck out of their senses" with wonder. At his teaching (Rev. Ver.); both the instruction given and the spirit manifested. As one that had authority; not dependent upon the sayings and opinions of others. Not as the scribes; the teachers of Moses' law, who simply repeated what the teachers who had gone before had taught.

23, 24. A man with (literally "in") an unclean

commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

28 And<sup>9</sup> immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.

29 And<sup>10</sup> forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they<sup>10</sup> entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

30<sup>11</sup> But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her.

31 And he came and took her by the hand, and<sup>12</sup> lifted her up; and<sup>13</sup> immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.

32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were<sup>14</sup> diseased, and them that were possessed with devils.

33 And all the city was gathered together at the door.

34 And he healed many that were sick<sup>15</sup> of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him

(impure, unholy, defiling) spirit; that is, under the evil spirit's power (as we say, "in drink"), so that the spirit cried out, and not the man. Let us alone; a cry like a criminal's when he feels the hand of the officer of justice on his shoulder. There is in it the dread of judgment. What have we (the evil spirit

speaks for himself and others like him) to do with thee? "What right have you to interfere? It is this man's affair, not yours." To destroy us; part of Jesus' mission, 1 John 3 : 8. (Compare Matt. 8 : 28, 29; Luke 8 : 31.) I know thee. Belonging to the unseen world, he would know something of what was going on there. The Holy One of God; set apart of God and employed in His service.

25-28. Hold thy peace; "be muzzled," a word for a beast. Our Lord always had sharp, strong words for the devil's emissaries. Torn him. Luke (ch. 4 : 35) says "thrown him (in convulsions) in the

midst" (of the crowd), doing him all the harm he could. Came out of him. He had to obey. What is this? a new teaching! (Rev. Ver.); new because it spoke of deliverance and salvation and was confirmed by such power.

II. JESUS IN THE HOME.—29-31. Forthwith; immediately. They; Jesus and the four disciples, Simon, Andrew, James and John. Sick of a fever; "a great (that is a violent, dangerous) fever," Luke



Jesus Healing the Multitude

4 : 38. They tell him; with a deep, silent longing in their hearts. Took her . . . hand . . . lifted her up . . . fever left her . . . she ministered. Note the quick sympathy and divine power of Jesus; also how immediate and complete was the cure.

III. JESUS IN THE STREET.—32-34. When the sun did set; when the Jewish Sabbath was ended, for the Jewish day closed at sunset. Possessed with (under the control of) devils; demons, another name for unclean spirits, v. 23. The devil (Beelzebub) is their chief, ch. 3 : 22. Healed many ("all," Matthew, ch. 8 : 16) . . . sick; laying His hands on every one, Luke 4 : 40. Jesus must, therefore, have worked far into the night. Divers diseases; various kinds of diseases. Suffered (permitted) not the devils (demons) to speak; to proclaim Him as the promised Messiah. The time for this had not yet come, nor was the first announcement to come from such lips. Because they knew him; to be the Son of God (see v. 24; also Luke 4 : 41).

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—A day of miracles, Mark 1 : 21-34. T.—The commanding word, Matt. 8 : 23-34. W.—The great Healer, Matt. 15 : 21-31. Th.—The withered hand restored, Luke 6 : 6-11. F.—A demoniac healed, Luke 9 : 37-45. S.—The Liberator, Isa. 42 : 1-7. S.—Prayer for healing, Psalm 6.

Prove from Scripture—That we have a sympathizing Saviour.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 7. What are the decrees of God? A. The decrees of God are, his eternal purpose, according to the counsel of his will, whereby, for his own glory, he hath fore-ordained whatsoever comes to pass.

The Question on Missions—7. How many augmented congregations in Ontario and Quebec? 111; during the year, 19 augmented congregations became self-sustaining.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 114 (Supplemental Lesson); 404; 76; 87 (Ps. Sel.) 366 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 148.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—Which four disciples had Jesus called? In what town was He now living?

21, 22 Who had built the synagogue at Capernaum? What was Jesus doing in it? With what teachers was He compared?

23-28 Who interrupted the synagogue service? Who had control of this man? What command did Jesus utter? With what result? The effect on the people? How far did the report about Jesus spread?

29-31 Into whose house did Jesus go? Who was sick there? What did Jesus do? What proved that the sickness was cured?

32-34 Where did the people bring their sick to Jesus? When? In what numbers? How many did He heal?

Seniors and the Home Department—21-28 Why had Jesus left Nazareth to live in Capernaum? (Luke 4 : 28-31.) Describe the teaching of Jesus. What effect had it on His hearers? Who were the unclean spirits? Who was their chief? What charge was brought against Jesus? (Matt. 12 : 24.)

29-31 Whose son did Jesus heal? (John 4 : 46-50.) Whose daughter did He raise from the dead? (Mark 5 : 22, etc.) Whose son? (Luke 7 : 12, etc.) Whose brother? (John 11 : 1, etc.)

32-34 Why did Jesus forbid the demons to speak of Him? Where did Paul show his power over evil spirits? (Acts 19 : 1, 12).

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. Our powers are like a spirited steed : they need a master. Give the reins into the hands of conscience and we shall make the journey safely. Hard them over to passion, and wreck and ruin will be the certain result.

2. In the busy life of Jesus how quickly one task followed upon another. There were no gaps of idleness. He teaches us to cram our moments with useful activity. Then the record of them will not bring reproach but rather rejoicing.

3. "He touched her hand, and the fever left her."  
O, we need His touch on our fevered hands!  
The cool, still touch of the Man of sorrows,  
Who knows us, and loves us, and understands.

So many a life is one long fever!  
A fever of anxious suspense and care,  
A fever of getting, a fever of fretting,  
A fever of hurrying here and there.

Ab, Lord! Thou knowest us altogether,  
Each heart's sore sickness, whatever it be;  
Touch Thou our hands! Let the fever leave us,  
And so shall we minister unto Thee!  
—E. G. Cherry.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Why were the people astonished at Jesus' teaching? .....

.....

2. In whose home was He entertained? How did He repay this kindness? .....

.....

3. How did Jesus spend the evening? .....

.....

## Lesson VIII.

## JESUS' POWER TO FORGIVE

February 25, 1906

Mark 2 : 1-12. Commit to memory v. 5. Read Matthew 9 : 2-8; Luke 5 : 17-26.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—The Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins.—Mark 2 : 10.

1 And <sup>1</sup> again he entered into Capernaum after some days; <sup>2</sup> and it was noised that he was in the house.

2 And <sup>3</sup> straightway many were gathered together, <sup>4</sup> insomuch that there was <sup>5</sup> no room to receive them; no, not so much as about the door : and he <sup>6</sup> preached the word unto them.

3 And they <sup>7</sup> come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four.

4 And when they could not come nigh unto him for the <sup>8</sup> press, they uncovered the roof where he was : and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed <sup>9</sup> wherein the sick of the palsy lay.

5 <sup>10</sup> When Je'sus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins <sup>11</sup> be forgiven thee.

6 But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts,

**Revised Version**—When he entered again; <sup>2</sup> *Omit* and; <sup>3</sup> *Omit* straightway; <sup>4</sup> so that; <sup>5</sup> no longer room for them, no, not even about; <sup>6</sup> spake; <sup>7</sup> come, bringing; unto him a man sick; <sup>8</sup> crowd; <sup>9</sup> whereon; <sup>10</sup> And Jesus seeing their faith saith; <sup>11</sup> are forgiven; <sup>12</sup> he blasphemeth; <sup>13</sup> one, even God; <sup>14</sup> straightway Jesus, perceiving; <sup>15</sup> saith unto them; <sup>16</sup> *Omit* it; <sup>17</sup> go unto thy house; <sup>18</sup> he arose, and straightway took up.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**Time and Place**—Summer of A.D. 28; Capernaum.

**Connection**—The incident of the Lesson occurred on our Lord's return to Capernaum after a tour through Galilee, preaching and working miracles.

**I. HELPED.**—1. **Entered into Capernaum;** having spent some time in solitude at the close of his tour in Galilee (see Connection), ch. 1 : 45. **After some days.** The healing of the leper (see ch. 1 : 40-45) had drawn to Jesus a crowd of curious sight-seers who had greatly hindered Him in His labors. The keen excitement had, however, now died down, so that He could again carry on His work undisturbed. **Noised;** rumored or reported. **In the house** (Rev. Ver., Margin, "at home"); either His own house (Matt. 4 : 13) where He lived with His mother and His brethren (ch. 3 : 21), or Peter's, ch. 1 : 29 (compare Matt. 8 : 20).

2. **About the door;** the door from the narrow Eastern street into the square porch leading into the courtyard around which the house was built. Jesus was probably standing in a covered "gallery" (like our verandas) which surrounded the court on all sides. (Dr. M. B. Riddle.) Courtyard, porch and doorway were all crowded. **Preached the word;** the gospel or glad tidings concerning the kingdom of God, and along with this, the call to repentance, ch. 1 : 14, 15.

3-5. **One sick of the palsy;** a paralytic. He showed his faith in Jesus by his desire to be carried to Him. **Borne of four;** one at each corner of the mattress bed : a proof of the faith inspired by the sick man in his friends also. **Uncovered the roof;** of the gallery (see on v. 2),

7 Why doth this man thus speak <sup>12</sup> blasphemies ? who can forgive sins but <sup>13</sup> God only ?

8 And <sup>14</sup> immediately when Je'sus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, <sup>15</sup> he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts ?

9 Whether is <sup>16</sup> it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, <sup>17</sup> Thy sins <sup>18</sup> be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk ?

10 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy.)

11 I say unto thee, Arise, <sup>2</sup> and take up thy bed, and <sup>3</sup> go thy way into thine house.

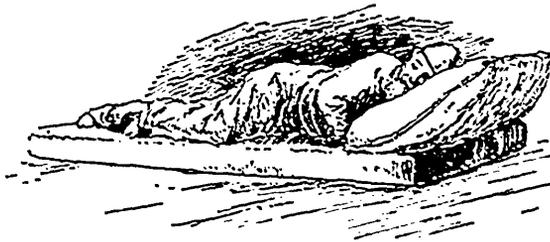
12 And <sup>18</sup> immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, He never saw it on this fashion.

which they had reached by way of the outside stairs usually found in Eastern houses. The Eastern roofs were made by laying tiles or brick on boards supported by beams. There was a covering of earth or gravel. **Broken it up.** They "dug through" the earth, and lifted up the tiles or brick, Luke 5 : 19. **Let down the bed;** "pallet," probably a thin mattress or sheepskin (see illustration). **Son;** literally, "child," a tender word. Jesus also told him to "be of good cheer" (Matt. 9 : 2); as we would say, "Cheer up." **Thy sins.** There is nothing to show that this man's sickness was due to his sinful practices, but he felt, and Jesus knew, that his great need was forgiveness (compare Luke 7 : 48). **Are forgiven** (Rev. Ver.). Thus our Lord used this interruption to His teaching to illustrate and enforce His teaching. His dealing with the palsied man is the gospel in action.

**II. HINDERED.**—6, 7. The scribes; teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem and elsewhere (Luke 5 : 17) to investigate what Jesus was doing. **Reasoning.** The word means hostile questioning. **Speak blasphemies;** claiming for Himself power that belonged to God alone. **Who can forgive . . . but God ?** They were right; but then Jesus was God.

**III. HEALED.**—8-10. **Perceived in his spirit;** knew by His divine power to read the hearts of men. (Compare John 2 : 25.) **Whether it is easier, etc. ?**

To say the one thing was as easy as to say the other. But the authority to say the second could be tested by the onlookers, while the authority to say the first could not. **That ye may know.** A miracle would be God's signature to Jesus'



An Oriental Bed

claim, for it could be wrought only by His power. Since He had power from God to work the miracle, He must have the right from God also to forgive sins. The Son of man; our Lord's favorite title for Himself, applied to Him by the disciples only in three places, Acts 7 : 56 ; Rev. 1 : 13 ; 14 : 14.

11, 12. Arise, etc.; a test of the man's faith as well as of Jesus' power. Go unto thy house (Rev. Ver.); a proof that the cure was complete. Glorified God; gave Him the praise. (Compare Matthew 9 : 8.) Luke (ch. 5 : 26) speaks of the fear caused by the miracle. Wonder, gratitude and fear were mingled.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—Jesus' power to forgive, Mark 2 : 1-12. T.—Blotting out, Isa. 43 : 14-25. W.—A forgiving God, Psalm 130. Th.—Abundant forgiveness, Psalm 25 : 1-11. F.—Praise for forgiveness, Psalm 103 : 1-12. S.—Confession and forgiveness, 1 John 1. S.—"Strange things," Luke 5 : 16-26.

Prove from Scripture—That we should be forgiving.

Shorter Catechism—Review Questions 4-7.

The Question on Missions—8. What about the givings of the home mission fields and augmented congregations? Their average contributions for their own support are larger, per communicant and per family, than those of the self-supporting congregations. This is true throughout the whole church.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise. Ps. Sel. 114 (Supplemental Lesson); 133; 217; 23 (Ps. Sel.); 123 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 152.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—To what place had Jesus returned? Where had He been? What had He been doing?

1-5 Around what were Eastern houses built? Where was Jesus sitting? What sort of roof was over Him? Who was brought to Him? By whom? Why could they not get in through the door? How was the sick man got on the roof? How into the presence of Jesus?

6, 7 Who were the scribes? Who did they say could alone forgive sins? Were they right? Was Jesus, then, doing wrong?

8-10 How did Jesus know the thoughts of the scribes? What question did He ask them?

11, 12 What miracle did Jesus work? What did this prove? What was the effect on the onlookers?

Seniors and the Home Department—How had Jesus been occupied just before the Lesson? Why had He sought solitude?

1-5 Describe the way in which Eastern houses were built? Where was Jesus sitting? How did the four men uncover the roof? What was the sick man's most urgent need? Turn to a psalm describing the blessedness of forgiveness. (Ps. 32.)

6, 7 What charge was made against Jesus? On what ground? Wherefore was it unjust? On what charge was Jesus condemned to death? (Matt. 26 : 63-66.)

8-12 Explain the question of Jesus. How did He test the man's faith? Where does He claim to be one with God? (John 10 : 30.)

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. Jesus had no need to sound a trumpet in the street. The crowds came to Him at the mention of His name. If one is properly qualified, he need not seek a place; the place will seek him. Young people are rightly ambitious to occupy important positions. The way to reach them is to be fit for and worthy of them.

2. Paralysis may make our bodies helpless, but it cannot touch our wills. So long as we have the power of choice we can come to the Saviour and receive from Him healing and strength.

3. A great preacher had a sermon on "Four-cornered Duties." A thousand times better to get hold of a corner and help some one, with ready hand and cheerful face, than stand uselessly by, complaining and criticizing like the scowling scribes.

4. Most quick to pardon sins is He  
Who unto God draws near  
One forward step, God takes three  
To meet and quit his fear.

—Persian Poet.

5. In some places on the shore of the salt sea there bubble up crystal springs of pure, fresh water. So the forgiving touch of Christ opens in the soul a fountain of gratitude that flows out in holy, loving deeds.

6. One of the Greek words in the New Testament for sin means disharmony. As one badly tuned instrument in an orchestra may make a discord that tortures the ear, so sin destroys the sweet music our lives ought to make. But the touch of the Master Musician puts all right again.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What illustrations of faith are found in the Lesson?.....

2. Who showed their unbelief? How?.....

3. How did Jesus establish His authority to forgive sins?.....

## Lesson IX.

## JESUS TELLS WHO ARE BLESSED

March 4, 1906

Matthew 5 : 1-16. Commit to memory vs. 3-6. Read Mark 3 : 13-19; Luke 6 : 12-26.

GOLDEN TEXT—Blessed are the pure in heart : for they shall see God.—Matthew 5 : 8.

1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into <sup>1</sup>a mountain : and when he <sup>2</sup>was set, his disciples came unto him :

2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

3 Blessed are they <sup>3</sup>the poor in spirit : for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are they that mourn : for they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek : for they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are they <sup>3</sup>which do hunger and thirst after righteousness : for they shall be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful : for they shall obtain mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart : for they shall see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers : for they shall be called <sup>4</sup>the children of God.

10 Blessed are they <sup>5</sup>which are persecuted for righteousness' sake : for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall <sup>6</sup>revile you, and persecute you, and <sup>7</sup>sland say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad : for great is your reward in heaven : for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

13 Ye are the salt of the earth : but if the salt have lost <sup>8</sup>his savour, wherewith shall it be salted ? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and <sup>9</sup>to be trodden under foot of men.

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city <sup>10</sup>that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15 Neither do men light a <sup>11</sup>candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a <sup>12</sup>candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 <sup>14</sup>Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

righteousness' sake : for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall <sup>6</sup>revile you, and persecute you, and <sup>7</sup>sland say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

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15 Neither do men light a <sup>11</sup>candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a <sup>12</sup>candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 <sup>14</sup>Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Revised Version—<sup>1</sup>the; <sup>2</sup>had sat down; <sup>3</sup>that hunger; <sup>4</sup>sons; <sup>5</sup>that have been persecuted; <sup>6</sup>reproach; <sup>7</sup>Omit shall; <sup>8</sup>its; <sup>9</sup>Omit to be; <sup>10</sup>Omit that is; <sup>11</sup>lamp; <sup>12</sup>the stand; <sup>13</sup>shineth unto; <sup>14</sup>Even so let your light shine.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**Time and Place**—Summer of A.D. 28; the Horns of Hattin, a square shaped hill about 60 feet in height with two tops, not far from Capernaum.

**Connection**—Jesus, having spent a whole night in prayer on a mountain (Luke 6 : 12), is joined by His disciples in the morning. From among them He chooses the twelve apostles, Luke 6 : 13-16. Later, the multitudes, having learned where He has gone, come to Him. He addresses to them the Sermon on the Mount, from which the Lessons for to-day, next Sabbath, and the first Sabbath of the Second Quarter are taken.

**I. THE KING'S SUBJECTS.**—1, 2. He went up. The "multitudes" are gathered on a level place on the mountain. Here (Luke 6 : 17-19) Jesus has been healing their sick and casting out unclean spirits (compare Lesson VII.). Now He ascends to a higher point, where He can be more easily seen and heard. Had sat down (Rev. Ver.); perhaps on a stone or hummock. Sitting was the usual position for an Oriental teacher. Taught; "began to teach."

3-6. Blessed. A beautiful word! The King offers to His subjects joy that never fails and that always satisfies. Poor in spirit; not self-righteous, proud, or self-conceited, but ready to confess sin and eager to learn, to ask, to seek (see ch. 7 : 7, 8). Their . . . kingdom of heaven. If, with all our hearts, we love God, and are trying to do His will the "kingdom of heaven" is within us. For it is found wherever God rules entirely. Mourn; mourn over their sins, or because of the trials of life. Comforted (from two Latin words meaning "made strong together"). God will strengthen us to overcome sin and endure trials bravely. Meek; those who do not seek, or even desire, revenge for injuries. Inherit the earth. Jesus Himself before Pilate (John 19 : 9), Peter and John in the prison at Jerusalem (Acts 4 : 3), Paul and Silas in the dungeon at Philippi (Acts 16 : 24), are examples of meekness. And it is they and those of like spirit who, in the long run, have most power in the world. Hunger and thirst,

etc.; long to be righteous as men desire food and drink. Shall be filled; not taken away, but satisfied. In the very desire itself for righteousness satisfaction is found.

7-9 Merciful; those who show kindness to the needy, the sorrowful, the sinful, even to those who injure them. Obtain mercy. As the echo gives back our words, merciful deeds are rewarded by mercy from God and man. Pure in heart; who seek sincerely to do the will of God. See God; dwell with Him, understand Him, be at home with Him. Peacemakers; who strive to further peace among men and bring men into peace with God. Children of God; like Him in nature (see Luke 2 : 14) and "so heirs of His home, His joy, His blessings, His love."

10-12. These verses declare that all who are persecuted (made to suffer) because they are righteous and because they serve Christ ("for My sake") will be blessed. For (1) Theirs is the kingdom of heaven; that is, enduring persecution shows them to be true subjects of the kingdom; (2) Great is (their) reward in heaven. Their sufferings will soon be over, but the glory that is coming will never end. Rom. 8 : 17.

**II. THE KING'S WITNESSES.**—13-16. Salt. Salt seasons food, and preserves it from corruption. So the followers of Jesus, by living His



Lamp and Lamp-Stand

gospel and spreading it, are to make men's lives sweet and clean and to save them from sin, the great destroyer. **Light.** His disciples reflect in their lives the light that comes from Christ (John 8 : 12), and so guide men in the right way. Their light is to be like a city . . . on an hill, easily seen from afar, or like a lamp . . . on the stand (Rev. Ver.), lighting up the house, not hidden "under a bushel" (a wooden measure holding about a peck). **Light so shine;** live out the teachings of your Master. **Men . . . may . . . glorify your Father;** learn, from the good in you, to worship and serve Him the Giver of all good.

**DAILY READINGS**

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—Jesus tells who are blessed, Matt. 5 : 1-16. T.—Blessings in disguise, Luke 6 : 17-26. W.—Love and patience, Rom. 12 : 9-21. Th.—The way of blessing, Psalm 1. F.—Pure in heart, Psalm 119 : 1-8. S.—Blessing of purity, Psalm 32. S.—The eternal reward, Rev. 7 : 9-17.

**Prove from Scripture—That Jesus is our Teacher.**  
**Shorter Catechism—Ques. 8. How doth God execute his decrees ?** A. God executeth his decrees in the works of creation and providence.

**The Question on Missions—9.** What are the special features of the mission work in Quebec and Eastern Ontario ? In these sections French Roman Catholics are buying out the English speaking Protestants, thus weakening the fields; and missionaries are required who can speak French and English.

**Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel 114 (Supplemental Lesson); 193 ; 189 ; 68 (Ps. Sel.); 587 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 197.**

**FOR FURTHER STUDY**

**Juniors—**From what sermon is the Lesson taken ? On what mountain was Jesus ? To whom did He speak ?

1-6 Where were the multitudes gathered ? What had Jesus been doing ? Whither did He go ? Why ? What was the usual attitude of teachers in the East ? How often did Jesus here say, "Blessed" ? What does it mean ?

7-9 How may we be sure of kindness from others ? Whom are we like when we try to make peace ?

10-12 What does suffering for Christ's sake show ? Where will it receive its sure reward ?

13-16 How are Jesus' disciples like the salt ? Like the light ?

**Seniors and the Home Department—**Mention the intervening events between last Lesson and to-day's. (Mark 2 : 13 to 3 : 6.) Name the apostles.

1-6 How many Beatitudes are there ? Repeat them. Give some examples of meekness. What should be our chief desire in life ? (ch. 6 : 33.)

7-12 What is required of us if we would obtain mercy ? (ch. 6 : 12.) What parable illustrates this truth ? (ch. 18 : 23-35.) Who alone can have fellowship with God ? (Ps. 24 : 3, 4.)

13-16 To what two things are Christ's followers compared ? Explain each comparison. Where are Christians called "children of light" ? (Eph. 5 : 8.) Show that we should live for God's glory. (1 Cor. 6 : 20.)

**THE LESSON IN LIFE**

1. At a certain time each day the doves flock in countless crowds to St. Mark's Square in Venice to be fed. So, the multitudes came to Jesus with their hungry souls and suffering bodies. And He never sent any away without help and healing. Disappoint a longing, trusting heart ? The loving Saviour could not do it.

2. Real grapes must grow; they cannot be manufactured. And real happiness—who does not want it ?—cannot be handed to us in packages; it must have its roots in the heart before it can put forth its fragrant flowers in the life.

3. "In ourselves the sunshine dwells;  
 In ourselves the music swells;  
 Everywhere the heart awake  
 Finds what pleasure it can make;  
 Everywhere the light and shade  
 By the gazer's eye is made."

4. Thousands upon thousands of stars are so far away that their light makes no impression on the human eye. But the sensitized plate of the photographer catches their rays and reflects their image. So the pure heart detects and enjoys the brightness of God's presence.

5. Salt must be brought into contact with the food it is to season or preserve. And it is when we take our religion into the actual duties and pleasures of life that these are made sweet and wholesome.

6. As the artist is anxious to let the light fall, not on himself, but on his picture, so to God we should give the glory for all that is good in us.

**FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS**

1. Show that Jesus desires His people to be happy.....

2. Upon what does true happiness depend ?.....

3. How are Christ's followers to make the world better ?.....

## Lesson X.

## THE TONGUE AND THE TEMPER

March 11, 1906

Matthew 5 : 33-38. Commit to memory vs. 44, 45. Read ch. 5 : 17-32; Luke 6 : 27-36.

GOLDEN TEXT—Keep the door of my lips.—Psalm 141 : 3.

33 Again, ye have heard that it <sup>1</sup>hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths :

34 But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by <sup>2</sup>heaven; for it is <sup>2</sup>God's throne :

35 Nor by the earth; for it is <sup>4</sup>his footstool : neither by Jeru'salem; for it is the city of the great King.

36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, <sup>5</sup>because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

37 But let your <sup>6</sup>communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay; <sup>7</sup>for whatsoever is more than these <sup>8</sup>cometh of evil.

38 Ye have heard that it <sup>9</sup>hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth :

39 But I say unto you, <sup>10</sup>That ye resist not evil : but whosoever <sup>11</sup>shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

40 And if any man <sup>12</sup>will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have *thy* cloke also.

Revised Version—<sup>1</sup>was said to; <sup>2</sup>the; <sup>3</sup>the throne of God; <sup>4</sup>the footstool of his feet : nor by; <sup>5</sup>for thou; <sup>6</sup>speech; <sup>7</sup>and; <sup>8</sup>is of the evil one; <sup>9</sup>was said; <sup>10</sup>Resist not him that is evil; <sup>11</sup>smite; <sup>12</sup>would go to law with thee; <sup>13</sup>one; <sup>14</sup>was said; <sup>15</sup>Omit twelve words; <sup>16</sup>pray for them that persecute you; <sup>17</sup>sons; <sup>18</sup>Omit on; <sup>19</sup>Gentiles the same; <sup>20</sup>Ye therefore shall be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**Time and Place**—As in Lesson IX., Summer of A.D. 28; the Horns of Hattin, a hill not far from Capernaum.

**Connection**—The Lesson is part of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus explains what true obedience to God's law means.

**I. A LESSON ON REVERENCE.**—33. Ye have heard; in the synagogue service, where the law of Moses was read, or in the teaching of the scribes. Said

by them of old time; by Moses, who gave the law which he received from God, and by those who had taught it to the people. Shalt not forswear thyself. One would "for-swear" oneself if he should make a promise, "swearing" oath," that is,

calling on God to witness that he would keep the promise, and then should break it. In doing this the Third Commandment would be disobeyed (compare Lev. 19 : 12). Perform unto the Lord, etc.; keep your promises as in God's sight.

34-37. I say unto you. Jesus claims authority equal to that of Moses. Swear not at all; that is, in ordinary conversation and daily business. Jesus does not forbid taking oaths in courts of law. It was thought among the Jews to be no great sin to break an oath so long as it did not contain the very name of God. Neither by heaven . . . earth . . . Jeru-salem . . . thy head. God made all these, and they

41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go <sup>13</sup>a mile, go with him *twain*.

42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

43 Ye have heard that it <sup>14</sup>hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, <sup>15</sup>bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and <sup>16</sup>pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45 That ye may be the <sup>17</sup>children of your Father which is in heaven : for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and <sup>18</sup>on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and <sup>19</sup>on the unjust.

46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye ? do not even the publicans the same ?

47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more *than others* ? do not even the <sup>20</sup>publicans so ?

48 <sup>21</sup>Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

are under His control. It is irreverent to take lightly on our lips oaths containing the names of things which belong to God, as well as those in which His name is actually used. Speech . . . Yea, yea, Nay nay (Rev. Ver.). Be as good as your word. If your tongue says "yea" or "nay," let your deeds agree. Then people will believe you more readily than they will believe one who takes oaths lightly and as easily breaks them.

**II. A LESSON ON REVENGE.**—38, 39. Ye have heard. See Ex. 21 : 24. Eye for . . . eye . . . tooth for . . . tooth. This was a rule for judges. If any one caused another suffering or loss, the law should punish him by making him endure the same himself. But the Pharisees of Jesus' time held that this rule allowed each person to revenge his own injuries. Resist not evil. Injuring one who injures us only makes two wrongs. We can really conquer an enemy only by making him our friend (see Rom. 12 : 20, 21). Smite . . . right cheek, turn . . . the other; not literally : see Jesus' own example, John 18 : 22, 23. When struck, He remonstrated with dignity, but did not resist by force nor seek revenge.

**III. A LESSON ON RIGHTS.**—40-42. If any man will sue thee, etc., thinking you have done him wrong and resolved to compel you to make it good. Take away . . . coat; the long under garment worn by the Jews. Thy cloke (the upper garment, a large square woollen robe) also. The meaning is that we should give to others even more than their due, rather than quarrel. Compel thee to go one mile (Rev. Ver.). Under the Romans the inhabitants of a country through which troops were passing were forced to carry the baggage. Go . . . twain. Even for hard masters, such as the Roman officers, do you work cheerfully, and do more than you have to. Give, etc.; wisely, of course—one would not give a sharp knife to an infant, nor money to wastrel—but generously. There is no room in Christianity for stinginess.

**IV. A LESSON ON LOVE.**—43-45. Love thy



A Pharisee

Showing the fringed "Tallith," a head garment or used at prayer

neighbor. See Lev. 19 : 18. The Jewish teachers wrongly held that "neighbor" meant only those of their own race. Hate thine enemy; wrongly added by the rabbis (Jewish teachers). Love your enemies. V. 44 points out three ways of showing this love : pick these out. Children of your Father; like Him in His bestowing blessings on the bad as well as the good.

46-48. "You may love your friends," says Jesus to the Jews, and be no better than the publicans (the despised Jewish tax-gatherers for the hated Romans) or the Gentiles (Rev. Ver., the "heathen)," who do not know the true God. But much more is expected of you. Ye therefore shall be perfect (Rev. Ver.), if you live up to the ideals of this chapter.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—The tongue and the temper, Matt. 5 : 33-48. T.—A wise tongue, Prov. 16 : 21-32. W.—Speaking the truth, Eph. 4 : 25-32. Th.—Love to enemies, Luke 6 : 27-36. F.—"Be patient," James 5 : 7-12. S.—Good for evil, 1 Peter 3 : 8-16. S.—Our Pattern, 1 Peter 2 : 19-25.

Prove from Scripture—That we should guard our speech.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 9: What is the work of creation ? A. The work of creation is, God's making all things of nothing, by the word of his power, in the space of six days, and all very good.

The Question on Missions—10. What special features has the work in Northern Ontario ? In Northern Ontario, besides the work among the new settlers, there are thousands of men employed in the lumber camps, and in the mines, many of whom are foreigners. The missionary's labors, particularly in the winter season, are especially difficult.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 114 (Supplemental Lesson); 245; 323; 17 (Ps. Sel.); 529 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 216.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniers—33 Where did the Jews hear God's law ? Through whom had it been given to them ? What is it to "take an oath" ? Which Commandment is broken by false oaths ?

34-37 What did Jesus forbid ? Where is it right to take oaths ? What do we call the sin of using God's name lightly ? What should agree with our words ? How may we get people to trust us ?

38, 39 For whom was the rule in v. 38 intended ? How may we conquer our enemies ?

40-42 What should we do rather than quarrel ? In what spirit should we do our work ?

43-45 What did the Jews understand by "neighbor" ? Whom should we be like ? How can we imitate God ?

Seniors and the Home Department—33-37 Explain "them of old time." What is meant by forswearing oneself ? Mention occasions on which Paul called on God to witness the truth of his statements. (Rom. 1 : 9; 1 Cor. 15 : 31; 2 Cor. 1 : 23; Phil. 1 : 8.)

38, 39 How did the Pharisees misapply the rule in v. 38 ? What light does the example of Jesus throw on v. 39 ?

40-42 Explain the reference in v. 41. What does Paul say about going to law ? (1 Cor. 6 : 7.)

43-45 What is the standard of conduct for the Christian ?

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. An old fable says that once a prince ordered a dinner "of the best things in the world." When the covers were lifted, what a surprise he got ! "Tongues, tongues, and nothing but tongues." In his anger he ordered the servant to prepare a dinner "of the worst things in the world." The same sight met his astonished gaze, "tongues, tongues, and nothing but tongues."

2. A well-known humorist refused to allow profanity to be printed in his paper, for two reasons, first, it was wicked, and secondly, it was not funny. There are few things so senseless and silly as profane swearing.

3. Singers do not grudge years of study and practice, so that their voices may be as perfect as possible. We cannot all be great vocalists, but we can give out the music of a tongue trained only to speak true and kindly words.

4. The gold never changes its color, though the flames in the crucible burn fiercely about it. The anger of others may blaze about the true disciple of Jesus, but it will make no change in his self-control.

5. Silver coins are often sold for less than half their face value. Why ? Because they had become worn to less than the standard weight. Do our lives measure up to the standard ?

6. "God shall make divinely real The highest forms of thy Ideal."

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What did Jesus teach about oaths ?.....

2. About going to law ?.....

3. About our treatment of our enemies ?.....

## Lesson XI.

## REVIEW

March 18, 1906

READ. Lessons for the Quarter. COMMIT TO MEMORY. Golden Texts for the Quarter. (As the Quarterly Review comes one Sabbath in advance this Quarter, the Review of Catechism, etc., will be given with Lesson XII. for next Sabbath.)

GOLDEN TEXT—And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness.—Matthew 4 : 23.

## DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—The shepherds find Jesus, Luke 2 : 1-20.  
T.—The wise men find Jesus, Matt. 2 : 1-12. W.—The boy Jesus, Luke 2 : 40-52. Th.—The baptism of Jesus, Mark 1 : 1-11. F.—Jesus calling fishermen, Luke 5 : 1-11. S.—Jesus' power to forgive, Mark 2 : 1-12. S.—Jesus tells who are blessed, Matt. 5 : 1-16.

Prove from Scripture—That Jesus is kind.

Shorter Catechism—Que. 10. How did God create man? A. God created man male and female,

after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.

The Question on Missions—11. Which Presbyteries in Ontario have the most numerous mission fields? The Presbyteries of Kingston, Barrie, North Bay, and Algoma. These contain a total of about 250 mission stations. Rev. Dr. Allan Findlay is the Home Mission Superintendent of this district.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 114 (Supplemental Lesson); 418; 122; 69 (Ps. Sel.); 558 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 100.

## REVIEW CHART—First Quarter.

WORDS AND WORKS OF JESUS, MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE	LESSON TITLE	GOLDEN TEXT	LESSON PLAN
I.—Luke 2 : 1-20.	The Shepherds Find Jesus.	For unto you is born this day.—Luke 2 : 11.	1. The Babe. 2. The angels. 3. The shepherds.
II.—Matt. 2 : 1-12.	The Wise Men Find Jesus.	My son, give me.—Prov. 23 : 26.	1. The seekers. 2. The directions. 3. The discovery.
III.—Luke 2 : 40-52.	The Boy Jesus.	Jesus increased in wisdom.—Luke 2 : 52.	1. The Boy Jesus. 2. Jesus at the feast. 3. Jesus in the temple. 4. Jesus and His parents.
IV.—Mark 1 : 1-11.	The Baptism of Jesus.	Prepare your hearts unto the Lord.—1 Sam. 7 : 3.	1. The messenger. 2. The message. 3. The Mightier One.
V.—Matt. 4 : 1-11.	The Temptation of Jesus.	In all points tempted.—Heb. 4 : 15.	1. The wilderness. 2. The temple. 3. The mountain.
VI.—Luke 5 : 1-11.	Jesus Calling Fishermen.	Be ye therefore followers of God.—Eph. 5 : 1.	1. Preaching to the multitudes. 2. Working a miracle. 3. Summoning followers.
VII.—Mark 1 : 21-34.	A Day of Miracles in Capernaum.	He healed many.—Mark 1 : 34.	1. Jesus in the church. 2. Jesus in the home. 3. Jesus in the street.
VIII.—Mark 2 : 1-12.	Jesus' Power to Forgive.	The Son of Man hath power.—Mark 2 : 10.	1. Helped. 2. Hindered. 3. Healed.
IX.—Matt. 5 : 1-16.	Jesus Tells Who Are Blessed.	Blessed are the pure in heart.—Matt. 5 : 8.	1. The King's subjects. 2. The King's witnesses.
X.—Matt. 5 : 33-48.	The Tongue and The Temper.	Keep the door of my lips.—Ps. 141 : 3.	1. A lesson on reverence. 2. A lesson on revenge. 3. A lesson on rights. 4. A lesson on love.
XII.—Prov. 23 : 29-35.	Temperance Lesson.	At the last it biteth like a serpent.—Prov. 23 : 32.	1. A portrait. 2. A prohibition. 3. A prediction.

## A Travel Talk

In the Lesson for the Quarter we have journeyed from place to place, each place with its own interest and charm.

What varied associations cluster around Bethlehem, where Rachel died and Ruth spent her days, where David watched his flocks, and now where Jesus, the world's Saviour, was born and was found by the shepherds and by the Wise Men from the far East.

Then there is Nazareth, resting among the Galilean hills, the home of the Boy Jesus. From this secluded place we have followed the Saviour, now a Man, to His baptism in the winding Jordan and His temptation in the lonely, desolate wilderness.

We have stood, too, beside the Sea of Galilee, with its ships passing hither and thither and the busy towns on its shores.—the scene of so large a part of our Lord's ministry of teaching and healing.

Another spot we have visited, the hill known as the Horns of Hattin, hallowed forever as the place where the great Teacher uttered the "Sermon on the Mount." As we have followed the Saviour's earthly footsteps, may we learn to follow Him also in His obedience to the great and loving Father of us all.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

[This leaf, with Record of Study, Offerings, and Attendance on page 32 may be detached, if so desired, by Members of the HOME DEPARTMENT.]

Lesson I. What does the Lesson teach about the duty of those who hear the gospel ?

Lesson II. How does the Lesson illustrate God's care for His own?

① Lesson III. What may boys and girls learn from the boyhood of Jesus?

Lesson IV. What testimony borne to Jesus from heaven at His baptism?

Lesson V. Show, from the example of Jesus, how we should meet temptation.

Lesson VI. Tell what you can of the Sea of Galilee.

Lesson VII. How does the example of Jesus teach us to spend our Sabbaths ?

Lesson VIII. Show that forgiveness of sin is a greater blessing than bodily healing.

Lesson IX. How, according to the Lesson, may we be blessed? How may we be a blessing?

Lesson X. What lesson is taught by God's goodness to all men?

## Lesson XII.

## REVIEW, SUPPLEMENTAL LESSONS

March 25, 1906

BIBLE WORK—Groups of Books of the Old Testament with Key-words for each Group. SCRIPTURE MEMORY PASSAGES. SHORTER CATECHISM. Questions 1-10. SUPPLEMENTAL HYMN. Ps. Sel. 114, Book of Praise. THE QUESTION ON MISSIONS. Questions 1-11.

## TEMPERANCE LESSON

Proverbs 23 : 29-35. Commit to memory v. 31. Read Genesis 9 : 18-27.

GOLDEN TEXT—At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.—Proverbs 23 : 32.

29 Who hath woe ? who hath sorrow ? who hath contentions ? who hath <sup>1</sup> babbling ? who hath wounds without cause ? who hath redness of eyes ?

30 They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek <sup>2</sup> mixed wine.

31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth <sup>3</sup> his colour in the cup, when it <sup>4</sup> moveth itself aright.

Revised Version—<sup>1</sup>complaining; <sup>2</sup>out; <sup>3</sup>its; <sup>4</sup>goeth down smoothly; <sup>5</sup>things; <sup>6</sup>froward; <sup>7</sup>hurt.

32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.

33 Thine eyes shall behold strange <sup>5</sup> women, and thine heart shall utter <sup>6</sup> perverse things.

34 Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.

35 They have stricken me, shall thou say, and I was not <sup>7</sup> sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not : when shall I awake ? I will seek it yet again.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

Time and Place—About nine hundred and fifty years B.C.; Jerusalem the capital of King Solomon.

Connection—Solomon was the second king of Israel, succeeding David about B.C. 970, and reigning until about B.C. 930. He was noted for his wisdom, and gathered together a large number of proverbs, that is, "observations relative to human life and character, expressed in a short, pointed form." Many of these Solomon wrote himself. His collections, along with some others, make up the Book of Proverb.

I. A PORTRAIT.—29. We cannot fail to recognize the picture of a drunkard in vs. 29, 30. Woe . . . sorrow; literally "Oh !" . . . "Alas !" These are the

drunkard's cries because of his pains of body and mind. His woes are so many that they cannot be named or numbered. Contentions; both within, for there is a conflict between his conscience and his desire, and without, for drink makes men quarrelsome. Babbling (Rev. Ver., "complaining"). Everything is wrong with the drunkard, in his heart, his home, his business; hence he complains. Wounds without cause. A drunkard is more exposed than a sober man to accidents and diseases. There is no good reason for the hurts and sicknesses brought about by drink. Let drink alone; they will cease. Redness ("dimness") of eyes. Drink dulls the sight, and makes the drunkard unfit for work. By the marks in this verse the slave of drink is known, as among the Romans thieves were known by the letter "F" ("fur," a thief) branded on the face.

30. Here is the cause of all the misery described in v. 29. Tarry long. Compare Isa. 5 : 11. Hours, often whole nights, that ought to be given to useful

work or quiet rest, are worse than wasted in drunken carousals. Seek. The drunkard searches diligently for his drink, as if it were the chief thing on earth. Mixed; with spices, to heighten its flavor and increase its strength, Isa. 5 : 22. It is, indeed, "the cup of a costly death."

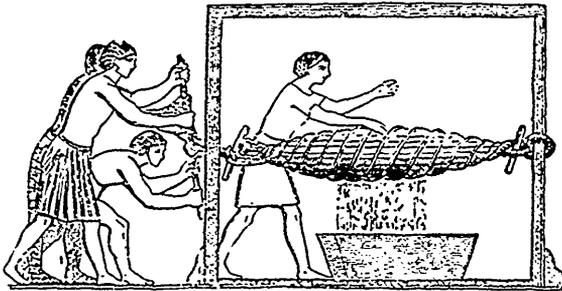
II. A PROHIBITION.—31. Look not. Keeping the eyes from seeing, is the surest way of keeping the lips from tasting, strong drink. When it is red. Red wines were most esteemed in the East. Giveth his (its) colour in the cup; bubbles or sparkles when it is shaken or poured out—a sign of the quality and strength of the liquor. Moveth itself aright;

glides smoothly down the throat, having a pleasant taste and, for the time, producing agreeable effects.

32. In v. 31 we seem to see the shining spoon that attracts the fish, in v. 32 the barbed hook with which the fish is caught. Biteth like a serpent.

Wine is like the serpent, brilliant in color and gliding gently in its motion, but like the serpent's deadly bite, too, are its terrible effects. Adder; another name for "serpent." Drink is like a treacherous, poisonous snake. The "adder" is thought to be the cerastes, or horned snake. It is exceedingly venomous, lurking in the sand, curled up, perhaps, in a camel's footprint, ready to dart at any passing animal. Poisonous reptiles of all kinds are very common in the East.

III. A PREDICTION.—33. Eyes . . . behold strange things (Rev. Ver.). Drunkenness often brings on delirium tremens, in which the victim is haunted by horrible visions. Heart . . . utter perverse things. Strong drink affects the speech, causing the



An Egyptian Wine-Press

drunkard in the madness of his intoxication to utter foolish and wicked words.

34, 35. As he that lieth . . . in the . . . sea; actually in the water, as if it were a safe resting-place : a strong way of describing how careless the drunken man is about danger. Upon the top of a mast; a most foolish thing to do, but not more foolish than many things which drunkards do. I was not sick (Rev. Ver., "hurt") . . . I felt it not. He treats as a joke the effects of his drinking bout, and will not heed their warning. Seek it yet again. So strong a hold does the appetite for drink obtain, that the drunkard's first thought on awakening from his drunken sleep is to repeat his fault.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—Temperance Lesson, Prov. 23 : 29-35. T.—Source of woe, Isa. 5 : 11-17. W.—The punishment, Isa. 5 : 18-25. Th.—Sin of luxury, Amos 6 : 1-7. F.—Swift destruction, Nahum 1 : 3-10. S.—Christ's warning, Matt. 24 : 44-51. S.—The better way, Rom. 13 : 7-14.

Prove from Scripture—That temperance is a duty. Catechism—Review Questions 1-10.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, Ps. Sel. 114, (Supplemental Lesson); 246; 251; 19 (Ps. Sel.); 247 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 262.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—Who was Solomon? For what was he noted? What did he gather together? Where do we find these?

29, 30 What does the drunkard cry? Wherefore? Why does he complain? What dangers are caused by drink? How does it affect the eyes?

31 What good advice is given? Which wines were thought the best? What does good wine do when poured or shaken? Is it pleasant at first?

32 To what is wine here likened? Give another name for the adder. Where does it sometimes hide? What does it do?

33-35 What does the drunkard sometimes see? How does he talk? What foolish things are here mentioned? Does the drunkard do things as foolish?

Seniors and the Home Department—What is a proverb? Why is the Book of Proverbs called the Proverbs of Solomon?

29, 30 Where does Paul condemn drunkenness? (Eph. 5 : 18.) Show that the drunkard cannot enter

heaven. (1 Cor. 6 : 10.) Who is able to save from drunkenness? (1 Cor. 6 : 11.)

31, 32 How is the beauty of wine described? Its pleasant effects? How is it like a serpent? Show that wine is deceitful. (Ch. 20 : 1.) How does a prophet describe the drunkenness of his nation? (Isa. 5 : 11, 12.)

33-35 How does intemperance affect the mind? What are its moral effects? What does the Bible say to those insensible of danger? (Eph. 5 : 14.) How does the drunkard show that he is a slave? By whom can he be made free? (John 8 : 36.)

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. Gough's oft repeated warning is as true as it is witty: "It is champagne at night, but real pain in the morning."

2. Opium-smokers, the Chinese say, have three "quicklies." They get poor quickly, they die quickly, and they are carried to the grave quickly. The drunkard's pace is as rapid, and it, too, leads downward.

3. Said one who had been a slave to drink, but had won his freedom, "I would sooner stand steady and have you set on me the maddest dog that ever ran your streets, than become again that most pitiable of all beings—a confirmed drunkard."

4. Will strong drink make a man of you, or turn you into a beast? Will it brace you up, or send you staggering helpless along the street? Will it help you to be "good company," or cause you to quarrel with your best friends? Does it produce wise men or fools, gentlemen or tramps? Any one can answer these questions: there is only one answer. We know enough about intoxicants; what we need is sense enough to act on our knowledge.

5. In the old fable, Ulysses entered the palace where the cunning Circe had changed his followers into hogs. Upon him also the enchantress tried her charms. But a messenger from heaven had given him a beautiful flower with a black root and a snow-white blossom. Carrying this and breathing its odors he was safe. So, with the Holy Spirit in our hearts, we are armed against intemperance and all other evil habits.

6. Many a fine ship has been run on the rocks and wrecked because the pilot was ignorant or careless. But we have a Pilot who is ever wise and watchful. We have but to put ourselves under His direction and we shall be safe.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Describe the sufferings of the drunkard.....

2. Show that the Lesson teaches total abstinence from strong drink.....

3. How is the drunkard's folly illustrated?.....

SCHOLAR'S REGISTER

JANUARY-MARCH, 1906

[This Record, with questions for written answers to be found on page 29, may be detached for Quarterly Report by members of the HOME DEPARTMENT ]

Name..... Address..... Class.....

DATE	S.S. ATTENDANCE	MEMORY VERSES	CATECHISM	TIME SPENT IN LESSON STUDY	CONTRIBUTIONS	CHURCH ATTENDANCE	PREACHER	TEXT
1906								
Jan. 7.....								
Jan. 14....								
Jan. 21..								
Jan. 28....								
Feb. 4.....								
Feb. 11....								
Feb. 18....								
Feb. 25....								
Mar. 4....								
Mar. 11....								
Mar. 18....								
Mar. 25....								
Totals								

Being Master

Some boys who would like to be fearless and powerful, are timid. They are like the great Henry of Navarre, who, though he longed to be a conqueror, was exceedingly timid by nature. In his first battle he ran away. How did he gain strength? When the next battle came and he began to tremble from head to foot, he shouted out masterfully, "Down, traitorous body!" and pressed forward into the very middle of the fight. The biggest victory he ever won was this early victory over his own cowardice.

Peter the Great we are told was another timid boy. He was so terrified when he crossed a high bridge over a stream that he had to pull down the carriage curtains so that he could not see the water. But Peter was bound to be master. "I can and will overcome my weakness," was his resolve; and so the lad that feared to cross the stream, ended by crossing the sea and working in an English shipyard, so that he gave Russia her first fleet.

A boy can be master if he fixes those two phrases in his mind, "I can" and "I will." "I can't help it," is a coward's plea. No one who wants to be strong will ever allow himself to utter it.



# INSURANCE FACTS

FOR

## TOTAL ABSTAINERS

It has been in dispute for a century past whether Total Abstainers live longer on the average than Non-Abstainers.

It has remained for the statistics collected by the Life Insurance Companies to furnish facts positively proving it to be the case. These statistics embrace many thousand individuals, so that the conclusions obtained have been the results of comparisons made between large groups of each class, each group being as nearly as possible of the same number, average age and social condition.

The Manufacturers Life, one of Canada's strongest native companies, therefore, takes the fair and just stand when it offers Total Abstainers a separate classification and thus gives them special privileges when taking insurance.

Write for its Booklet, "Total Abstainers vs. Moderate Drinkers."

**THE MANUFACTURERS LIFE**

**Insurance Co.,**

**Toronto - Canada**