



ACTS OF THE APOSTLES
 Illustrating the
 Showing approximate distances
 and directions from Jerusalem.

Scale of Miles.
 0 60 100 200

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1ST JOURNEY
 2ND JOURNEY
 3RD JOURNEY
 4TH JOURNEY

RADIAL KEY MAP

The Home Study Quarterly

FOR SENIOR SCHOLARS AND THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

Vol. III.

October, November and December.

No. 4.

To the Scholar.—Study the lessons carefully, finding answers to all the "Bible Search Lights." Then close your Bible and answer the questions "To be answered in writing." If you cannot come to Sabbath School, fill out one of the "Excuses for Absence" and send it with your written answers, to your teacher by some friend, or by mail, and you will receive credit for the work done as if you had been present. If your excuse is satisfactory, you will not lose in record of attendance.

SHORTER CATECHISM FOR THE QUARTER.

Text-Book. "An Exposition of the Shorter Catechism" by Professor Salmond, D. D., price 45 cents. The portion gone over in 1897 may be obtained separately for 20 cents.

Q. 95. To whom is baptism to be administered?

A. Baptism is not to be administered to any that are out of the visible church, till they profess their faith in Christ, and obedience to him; *g* but the infants of such as are members of the visible church are to be baptized. *h*

g Acts ii. 41. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized.

h Gen. xvii. 7. And I will establish my covenant between me and thee, and thy seed after thee, in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. V. 10. This is my covenant, which ye shall keep between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man-child among you shall be circumcised.

Acts ii. 38. Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. V. 39. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Q. 95. What is the Lord's supper?

A. The Lord's supper is a sacrament, wherein, by giving and receiving bread and wine, according to Christ's appointment, his death is showed forth, *i* and the worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment, and growth in grace. *k*

i Luke xxii. 19. And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body, which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. V. 20. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

k 1 Cor. x. 16. The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

Q. 97. What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord's supper?

A. It is required of them that would worthily partake of the Lord's supper, that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord's body, *l* of their faith to feed upon him, *m* of their repentance, *n* love, *o* and new obedience; *p* lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgement to themselves. *q*

l 1 Cor. xi. 28. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup: V. 29. For he that eateth and drinketh un-

worthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

m 2 Cor. xiii. 5. Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith.

n 1 Cor. xi. 31. If we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

o 1 Cor. xi. 18. When ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you. V. 20. When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper.

p 1 Cor. v. 8. Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

q 1 Cor. xi. 27. Wherefore, whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

Q. 98. What is prayer?

A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God *r* for things agreeable to his will, *s* in the name of Christ, *t* with confession of our sins, *u* and thankful acknowledgement of his mercies. *w*

r Ps. lxxii. 8. Trust in him at all times, ye people: pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us.

s Rom. viii. 27. And he that searcheth the hearts, knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit: because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

t John xvi. 23. whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it to you.

u Dan. ix. 4. And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession.

w Phil. iv. 6. Be careful for nothing: but in every thing, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God.

Q. 99. What rule hath God given for our direction in prayer?

A. The whole word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; *x* but the special rule of direction is that form of prayer which Christ taught his disciples, commonly called *The Lord's Prayer*. *y*

x 1 John v. 14. And this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us.

y Matt. vi. 9. After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, &c.

Q. 100. What doth the preface of the Lord's prayer teach us?

A. The preface of the Lord's prayer, (which is, *Our Father which art in heaven,*) teacheth us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence,^a as children to a father,^b able and ready to help us;^c and that we should pray with and for others.^c

z Isa. lxiv. 9. Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever: behold, see, we beseech thee, we are all thy people.

a Luke xi. 13. If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him.

b Rom. viii. 15. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear: but ye have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

c Eph. vi. 18. Praying always with all prayer, and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto withal perseverance and supplication for all saints.

Q. 101. What do we pray for in the first petition?

A. In the first petition, (which is, *Hallowed be thy name,*) we pray, That God would enable us and others to glorify him in all that whereby he maketh himself known;^d and that he would dispose all things to his own glory.^e

d Ps. lxvii. 1. God be merciful unto us, and bless us, and cause his face to shine upon us; V. 2. That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations. V. 3. Let the people praise thee, O God: Let all the people praise thee.

e Rom. xi. 36. For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things; To whom be glory forever. Amen.

Q. 102. What do we pray for in the second petition?

A. In the second petition, (which is, *Thy Kingdom come,*) we pray that Satan's kingdom may be destroyed,^f and that the kingdom of grace may be advanced,^g ourselves and others brought into it, and kept in it;^h and that the kingdom of glory may be hastened.ⁱ

f Ps. lxxvii. 1. Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered; let them also that hate him, flee before him.

g Ps. li. 18. Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion; build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

h 2 Thess. iii. 1. Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you.

i Rom. x. 1. Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved.

j Rev. xxii. 20. He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so come, Lord Jesus.

Q. 103. What do we pray for in the third petition?

A. In the third petition, (which is, *Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,*) we pray, That God, by his grace, would make us able and willing to know, obey,^k and submit to his will in all things,^l as the angels do in heaven.^m

k Ps. cxix. 34. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my

whole heart V. 35. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments, for therein do I delight. V. 36. Incline my heart unto thy testimonies.

l Acts xxi. 14. And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done.

m Ps. ciii. 20. Bless the Lord, ye his angels that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. V. 22. Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.

Q. 104. What do we pray for in the fourth petition?

A. In the fourth petition, (which is, *Give us this day our daily bread,*) we pray, That of God's free gift we may receive a competent portion of the good things of this life,ⁿ and enjoy his blessing with them.^o

n Prov. xxx. 8. Remove far from me vanity and lies; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me.

o Ps. xc. 17. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

Q. 105. What do we pray for in the fifth petition?

A. In the fifth petition, (which is, *And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,*) we pray, That God, for Christ's sake, would freely pardon all our sins;^p which we are the rather encouraged to ask, because by his grace we are enabled from the heart to forgive others.^q

p Ps. li. 1. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving-kindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

q Matt. vi. 14. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly father will also forgive you.

Q. 106. What do we pray for in the sixth petition?

A. In the sixth petition, (which is, *And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil,*) we pray, That God would either keep us from being tempted to sin,^r or support and deliver us when we are tempted.^s

r Matt. xxvi. 41. Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation.

s Ps. lxx. 13. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins, let them not have dominion over me.

t Ps. li. 10. Create in me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me. V. 12. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold with me thy free Spirit.

Q. 107. What doth the conclusion of the Lord's prayer teach us?

A. The conclusion of the Lord's prayer, (which is, *For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever, Amen,*) teacheth us, to take our encouragement in prayer from God only,^t and in our prayers to praise him, ascribing kingdom, power, and glory to him.^u And in testimony of our desire, and assurance to be heard, we say, Amen.^v

† Dan. ix. 18. We do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousness, but for thy great mercies. V. 19. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God.

u 1 Chron. xxxix. 11. Thine O Lord, is the great-

ness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. V. 13. Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

w Rev. xxii. 20. Amen. Even so come, Lord Jesus.

LESSONS AND GOLDEN TEXTS.

FOURTH QUARTER.

1. October 3.—PAUL'S LAST JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM. Acts 21: 1-15. (Read vs. 1-17. Commit vs. 12-14). *Golden Text*—I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus. Acts 21: 13.

2. October 10.—PAUL A PRISONER AT JERUSALEM. Acts 22: 17-30. (Read chap. 21: 18 to 23: 9). Commit vs. 22-24. *Golden Text*—If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed. 1 Pet. 4: 16.

3. October 17.—PAUL BEFORE THE ROMAN GOVERNOR. Acts 24: 10-25. (Read chap. 23: 10-24: 27). Commit vs. 14-16. *Golden Text*—Fear thou not; for I am with thee. Isa. 41: 10.

4. October 24.—PAUL BEFORE KING AGRIPPA. Acts 26: 19-32. (Read chaps. 25, 26). Commit vs. 22, 23. *Golden Text*—Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. Matt. 10: 32.

5. October 31.—PAUL'S VOYAGE AND SHIPWRECK. Acts 27: 13-26. (Read chap. 27). Commit vs. 21-25. *Golden Text*—Be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me. Acts 27: 25.

6. November 7.—PAUL IN MELITA AND ROME. Acts 28: 1-16. Commit vs. 3-5. *Golden Text*—We know that all things work together for good to them that love God. Rom. 8: 28.

7. November 14.—PAUL'S MINISTRY IN

ROME. Acts 28: 17-31. Commit vs. 30, 31. *Golden Text*—I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. Rom. 1: 16.

8. November 21.—THE CHRISTIAN ARMOR. Eph. 6: 10-20. (Read the whole chapter). Commit vs. 13-17. *Golden Text*—Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Eph. 6: 10.

9. November 28.—SALUTARY WARNINGS. 1 Pet. 4: 1-8. (May be used as a Temperance Lesson. November 28 will be observed as "Temperance Day" in England). Commit vs. 7, 8. *Golden Text*—Be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. 1 Pet. 4: 7.

10. December 5.—CHRIST'S HUMILITY AND EXALTATION. Phil. 2: 1-11. Commit vs. 5-8. *Golden Text*—Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. Phil. 2: 5.

11. December 12.—PAUL'S LAST WORDS. 2 Tim. 4: 1-8, 16-18. (Read vs. 1-22. Commit vs. 6-8). *Golden Text*—I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. 2 Tim. 4: 7.

12. December 19.—JOHN'S MESSAGE ABOUT SIN AND SALVATION. 1 John 1: 5 to 2: 6. Commit vs. 8-10. *Golden Text*—If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins. 1 John 1: 9.

13. December 26.—REVIEW. *Golden Text*—God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3: 16.

HIGHER RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

With the last quarter of the year it is time to prepare for the annual examination on the 20th of next January. If you have not tried it before try it this year. Copies of the Syllabus have been sent to every Sabbath-school; but if you wish one for yourself drop a postal card asking for it to Rev. W. Farquharson, Claude, Ont., and he will be delighted to give you any information you wish. The examination is held at your own church or school-room, and the questions are sent to your teacher, or superintendent, or minister, or some other reliable person to be given to you when the appointed hour arrives. You don't need to go from home to be examined. The questions are always fair. You need not dread them if you know your work. You may be examined in any one of four different subjects, or you may take more than one of them if you choose. If you are successful in obtaining 50 per cent. of the total marks you will receive a handsome diploma, suitable for framing, and signed by the moderator of the General Assembly. If you take 75 per cent. you will get a book prize; and if you take 90 per cent. a beautiful silver medal, made in Edinburgh, with our own crest and inscription upon it, will be awarded. All who come up to the standard will receive the award; there is no competition; no one can take it from you by being above you if you are up to the mark yourself. The four departments in which examinations are held are: 1, The S. S. lessons for the year; 2, The Shorter Catechism, Questions 95-107; 3, Bible History; and 4, An essay on the "Journeys of St. Paul." Send for the Syllabus and read the conditions and regulations for yourself.

LESSON I—October 3rd, 1897.

Paul's Last Journey to Jerusalem. Acts 21: 1-15.

(Read verses 1-17. Commit to memory verses 18-16).

GOLDEN TEXT: "I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." Acts 21: 13.

PROVE THAT—We should encourage others. Col. 3: 16.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 95. *To whom is baptism to be administered?* A. Baptism is not to be administered to any that are out of the visible church, till they profess their faith in Christ, and obedience to him; but the infants of such as are members of the visible church are to be baptized.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 533, 239, 455, 305. (Old Hymnal Nos. 117, 111, 115, 183).

DAILY PORTIONS.—*Monday.* Paul's last journey to Jerusalem. Acts 21: 1-15. *Tuesday.* Arrival in Jerusalem. Acts 21: 16-26. *Wednesday.* Fury of the Jews. Acts 21: 27-39. *Thursday.* Bearing the cross. Mark 8: 31-38. *Friday.* Christ's reproof. Luke 13: 31-35. *Saturday.* Choosing affliction. Heb. 11: 20-27. *Sabbath.* In nothing ashamed. Phil. 1: 18-30. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections.*)

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. Having taken an affectionate farewell of the Ephesian elders, Paul continued his journey to Jerusalem Trace his course on the map. Time, April and May A. D. 58.

LESSON PLAN. I. Friends by the Way. vs. 1-9. II. Foes at the End. vs. 10-15.

1. **Gotten**—R. V. "parted." **Coos**—or Cos, an island interesting to Luke as having a famous medical college. **Rhodes**—"The island of roses," famous for its beauty and for the Colossus that bestrode the entrance to its harbor. **Pat'ara**—A seaport of Lycia. Here was a celebrated temple of Apollo. 2. **Phœnicia**—The country between Lebanon and the sea. Its chief cities were Tyre and Sidon. 3. **Discovered**—properly "sighted." It does not mean that Cyprus was now found for the first time. **Cyprus**—The island visited by Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey. **Syria**—This was the general name for the whole district from Cilicia to Egypt. **Tyre**—A very ancient and celebrated city. It is now only a small fishing village, as predicted (Ezek. 26: 14). 4. **Finding disciples**—The words imply that they had to search for them. Probably there were but few in the great heathen city. **Through the Spirit**—They were divinely inspired regarding Paul's visit to Jerusalem (20: 23). **Go up to Jerusalem**—R. V. "set foot in Jerusalem." The Holy Spirit told them that there was danger to Paul. The advice they gave was not inspired as Paul well knew (verse 14). **Children**—These are mentioned here for the first time as part of the christian church. 7. **Ptolema'is**—Now *Acre* near the promontory of Mt. Carmel, 30 miles from Tyre. 8. **Caesarea**—The residence of the Roman governor of Syria. They seem to have come hither by land. The distance was about 40 miles. **One of the Seven**—referring to the deacons chosen in Acts 6: 3, 5. 9. **Prophecy**—These daughters of Philip were under the supernatural influence of the Holy Spirit. Doubtless they too warned Paul of dangers ahead. 10. **Ag'abus**—Some 14 or 15 years before he had foretold a famine (ch. 11: 28). 11. **Girdle**—The sash with which the loose outer robe was confined around the waist. 12. **Both we**—For the first time the courage of Paul's companions falters. Luke and Timothy were amongst them. 13. **Break my heart**—The phrase does not refer to Paul's sorrow intensified by their demonstrative grief, but to their effort to make him change his purpose. The "breaking of the heart" signifies the weakening of resolution. They were trying to make Paul less "stout-hearted." 15. **Carriages**—An obsolete word formed from "carry," like "luggage" from "lug," and baggage from "bag." It means "things carried" (1 Sam. 17: 22; Isa. 10: 28). They "packed up" and continued their journey.

LESSONS. 1. We should not linger on the way because of dangers ahead. 2. When visiting a strange place go to your own church. 3. When strangers come in treat them courteously. 4. The Holy Spirit is impartial in his gifts. None need hold back because of sex, or station in life. 5. Be ready to face anything for Christ's sake.

LESSON II—October 10th, 1897.

Paul a Prisoner at Jerusalem. Acts 22: 17-30.

(Read chapter 21: 18 to 23: 9. Commit to memory verses 22-24.)

GOLDEN TEXT: "If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed." 1 Pet. 4: 16.

PROVE THAT—We may expect persecution. John 16: 33.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 96. *What is the Lord's Supper?* A. The Lord's supper is a sacrament, wherein by giving and receiving bread and wine, according to Christ's appointment, his death is shewed forth, and the worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment, and growth in grace.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 34 (Psalm 46), 400, 278, 306. (Old Hymnal Nos. 161, 149, 151, 153).

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* Paul's defence. Acts 21: 40-22: 11. *Tuesday.* Paul a prisoner at Jerusalem. Acts 22: 12-21. *Wednesday.* Paul a prisoner at Jerusalem. Acts 22: 22-30. *Thursday.* Before the council. Acts 23: 1-11. *Friday.* Conspiracy against Paul. Acts 23: 12-24. *Saturday.* Confidence in God. Psalm 27. *Sabbath.* Christ's word of comfort. Luke 21: 10-19. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections.*)

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. Paul arrived at Jerusalem and was cordially received by the brethren there. At a meeting presided over by James, the recognized head of the Christian community at Jerusalem, he recounted the marvellous triumphs of the gospel amongst the gentiles and presented the substantial token of their brotherliness: with which he was charged. Such testimony was irresistible. But slanders were abroad concerning Paul. It was said that he tried to dissuade Jews from keeping the law. What he really said was, that gentiles did not require to keep the law when they became Christians. To answer these misrepresentations Paul joined himself to some who were fulfilling a vow in order that it might be publicly seen that he was a keeper of the law and not a despiser of it. While in the temple in pursuance of this religious duty the mob was stirred up against him and he was only rescued from a violent death by the prompt action of the commander of the Roman garrison—(Read chap. 21: 18 to 23: 9). Time A. D. 58, middle of May.

LESSON PLAN. I. Saul the Persecutor. vs. 17-21. II. Paul the Persecuted. vs. 22-30.

17. Come again—After his conversion (Acts 9: 26; Gal. 1: 18). **A trance**—He was unconscious of his surroundings but his soul was awake, and saw and heard Jesus. **18. Quickly**—He staid only 15 days (Gal. 1: 8). **19, 20.** Paul pleads for permission to go to Jerusalem because there he had done so much harm, and his testimony would have much effect where he had been so well known as a persecutor. **Martyr**—means "witness." **And Stephen**—"a crown." **21.** Jesus has other work for Paul. The work we ought to do is not ways the work we would like to do, or the work that we think we can do best (Jer. 10: 23). **22. Gave him audience**—listened quietly to him. **This word**—The hated word "gentiles." Their pent up feelings broke out. They could not bear to think of gentiles as being fellow heirs with them of the promise made to Abraham (Gal. 3: 6). **23.** These were oriental expressions of excitement. The crowd spread their garments in the way for Jesus to ride over when entering Jerusalem. **24. Chief captain**—*Chilarchis*, or commander of a thousand men, corresponding to our colonel. It was the same official who arrested Jesus (John 18: 12). The name of this one was Claudius Lysias (ch. 23;

26). **The castle**—Called Antonia. It was on the north side of the temple and had a Roman garrison. **Examined by scourging**—He was to be flogged until he confessed his crime. He did not understand Hebrew and so did not know what Paul had said to enrage the mob. It was unlawful to scourge a Roman citizen under any circumstances; to punish him without trial; or to subject him to torture. **25.** "And when they had tied him up" (R. V). He was fastened to a wooden post in a slanting position. **Centurion**—An officer in command of 100 men, corresponding to our captain. **26.** It was easy to prove whether Paul's claim was true or not. If it had been false he would have been punishable with death. **27. Freedom**—(R. V. citizenship). The rights of citizenship could be purchased, but the price was high. R. V. "I am a Roman born." We do not know how Paul's family came to be free citizens. **29. Examined**—A mild word, meaning "tortured." **Bound him**—Tied him to the whipping post; a gross indignity. **30.** He summoned the Sanhedrim, or Great Council, to find out whether Paul had been guilty of any real crime.

LESSONS. 1. Our want of success may be due to no fault of our own. 2. We should try to undo any harm we may have done. 3. We should be willing to do the work that Christ gives whether it pleases us or not. 4. "I am a British subject," is a guarantee of protection the world over. 5. It is still better to be a citizen of heaven.

LESSON III—October 17, 1897.

Paul before the Roman Governor. Acts 24: 10-25.

(Read chapter 23: 10 to 24: 27. Commit to memory verses 14-16.)

GOLDEN TEXT: "Fear thou not; for I am with thee." Isa. 41: 10.

PROVE THAT—We should repent now. 2 Cor. 6: 2.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest 97. *What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord's Supper?* A. It is required of them that would worthily partake of the Lord's Supper, that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord's body, of their faith to feed upon him, of their repentance, love, and new obedience, lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgment to themselves.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 96 (Psalm 121), 148, 152, 137. (Old Hymnal Nos. 9, 86, 135, 138).

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* The accusation. Acts 24: 1-9. *Tuesday.* Paul before the Roman governor. Acts 24: 10-21. *Wednesday.* Paul before the Roman governor. Acts 24: 22-27. *Thursday.* Appeal to Caesar. Acts 25: 1-12. *Friday.* Object of the journey. Rom. 15: 25-33. *Saturday.* An answer given. Mark 13: 5-13. *Sabbath.* Fear not. Isa. 41: 8-16. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. Paul was tried before the council, of which he was at one time a member. He stood where Stephen stood and must have recognized the same hatred and pride in his prosecutors as once glowed in his own bosom. The trial broke up in confusion and Paul was again rescued and safe within the walls of the castle of Antonia. A conspiracy to kill him was discovered, and the chief captain sent away his prisoner by night to the Roman governor, Felix, at Caesarea. Here the trial was resumed, Paul's accusers having come down from Jerusalem, bringing with them an eloquent orator, named Tertullus, to plead against him. Our lesson begins with Paul's answer to this man's charges. Read ch. 23: 10-24; 27. Time—latter part of May, A. D. 58. Place—Caesarea.

LESSON PLAN. I. Paul before Felix. vs. 10-21. II. Felix before Paul. vs. 22-25.

10. The governor—The procurator of Judea, Felix, once a slave, now a cruel tyrant. **Many years—**His rule began in A. D. 52, so that he had been governor between six and seven years, a long time in those days. He had a better opportunity than most governors, of learning the customs and prejudices of the Jews. **11. Mayest understand—**"Canst easily ascertain by inquiry." **Twelve days—**R. V. "It is not more than twelve days." There was not time for him to hatch plots against the government. Six of these days he had been in prison. **To worship—**Not to "profane the temple." (ch. 21: 26). **12. Disputing—**He was performing a quiet ceremony to prove that he was loyal to the old faith. (ch. 21: 24). **Stirring up a crowd** (R. V.). **14. "After the Way which they call a sect, so serve I the God of our fathers, believing all things which are according to the law, and which are written in the prophets." (R. V.) The Way—**This was the common term for the doctrines of Christ, before the name Christian came into use. (ch. 11: 26). **Heresy—**Same word as "sect" in verse 5. Paul will not admit that Christians are a "sect" of the old religion—he claims that they alone truly keep the faith of Abraham, and are not "heretics." (ch. 26: 22; 28: 23). The phrase "the law and the prophets" means the whole Old Testament (Matt.

5: 17; Luke 24: 27, 44). **15. Allow—**R. V. "look for," not only the Pharisees, but the great majority of Jews believed in a future life. The Sadducees alone denied it. Paul agreed with the whole nation, and its wisest and holiest men. They who accused him were a "sect" (ch. 5: 17). **16. Exercise myself—**"discipline myself." His belief in a future life made him watchful over his conduct and motives in this one. He lived his religion. **17. Many years—**Four or five since his last brief visit (Acts 18: 22). **Alms—**The donations for the relief of Jewish Christians who were in poverty. **Offerings—**The sacrifices connected with the vow which he had undertaken. **18. Whereupon—**R. V. "amidst which." **Purified—**(ch. 21: 26, 27) and, therefore, not "profaning it." **19. Object,** —R. V. "make accusation" (ch. 23: 30; 25: 16). **22. Drusilla, the wife of Felix,** was a Jewess, so that he knew something of the teachings of Christianity. **Know the uttermost** —R. V. "I will determine your matter." **23. "And he gave order to the centurion that he should be kept in charge, and should have indulgence; and not to forbid any of his friends to minister unto him." 25. Trembled—**R. V. "was terrified." The "convenient season" may never come. The Bible says "To-day, harden not your hearts."

LESSONS. 1. We should respect persons in authority because of the office they hold. 2. In matters of religion we are responsible to none but God and conscience. 3. The certainty of death and judgment should make us careful of our actions, words and motives. 4. The best way to meet a false charge is to state the simple facts. 5. Do not delay to seek salvation.

LESSON IV—October 24th, 1897.

Paul before King Agrippa. Acts 26: 19-32.

(Read Chapters 25 and 26. Commit to memory verses 25-29.)

GOLDEN TEXT: "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my father which is in heaven." Matt. 10: 32.

PROVE THAT—Our deeds shew our repentance. Acts 26: 20.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 98. *What is prayer?* A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgement of his mercies. 99. *What rule hath God given for our direction in prayer?* A. The whole word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; but the special rule of direction is that form of prayer which Christ taught his disciples, commonly called *the Lord's Prayer*.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 6 (Psalm 9), 149, 135, 140. (Old Hymnal Nos. 71, 42, 138, 84).

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* Statement by Festus. Acts 25: 13-23. *Tuesday.* Paul's answer. Acts 26: 1-11. *Wednesday.* The persecutor converted. Acts 26: 12-18. *Thursday.* Paul before King Agrippa. Acts 26: 19-32. *Friday.* Redemption and resurrection. Col 1: 12-20. *Saturday.* Paul's ministry. Col. 1: 21-29. *Sabbath.* Boldness in bonds. Phil. 1: 12-21.

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. Felix was succeeded in the procuratorship by Festus, an honest and upright governor. At his first visit to Jerusalem the Jewish leaders requested him to bring Paul to Jerusalem for trial there before the Sanhedrim. This Paul knew would only result in his condemnation, and fearing that Festus might yield to the importunities of his enemies he appealed to the emperor at Rome. While waiting for an opportunity to send his prisoner thither, Festus received a visit from King Agrippa and his sister Berenice. They were nominally Jews, and Festus thought they would be able to find out for him exactly what the charges against Paul were. Before the assembled court, in all the pomp of Roman power, Paul delivered his defence, addressing himself to the King as being the most exalted personage present. Read chapters 25 and 26. Time, August A. D. 60, two years after last lesson.

LESSON PLAN. I. The Gospel Preached vs. 19-23. II. The Gospel Rejected vs. 24-29. III. The Preacher Vindicated vs. 30-32.

19. Whereupon—R. V. "wherefore," having received such a commission. **King Agrippa**—He ruled over the county N. E. of the Sea of Galilee. He was the last of the Herods, and brother to Drusilla and Berenice. **20. Coasts of Judea**—R. V. "country of Judaea" perhaps referred to in ch. 11: 30; 15: 3; 18: 22). Paul here gives a brief synopsis of his whole ministry. **21. Caught me**—R. V. "seized me," the word implies a violent arrest. **Went about**. R. V. "assayed," "attempted to lay murderous hands upon me." **23. Help of God**—R. V. "the help that is from God." Only divine help could have delivered him from such enemies. The word "help" is a military term applied to allies who come to one's assistance. **I continue**—R. V. "I stand." "I keep my ground" (Eph. 6: 13-14). **Witnessing**—R. V. "testifying." As commanded in the vision (Acts 9: 15; 22: 15-21). **Small and great**—Lydias and Agrippas, sellers of purple fabrics and wearers of the royal color. Paul suits his discourse to his hearer; Agrippa would understand refer-

ences to the Scriptures. **23. R. V.** "how that he first, by the resurrection of the dead, should proclaim light "both to the people and to the gentiles." The resurrection of Jesus proved that he was the Saviour of the whole world (Isa. 42: 6; 49: 6; 60: 1). **24. Beside thyself**—R. V. "mad," "insane," impatience, anger and contempt are mingled in the word. **25. Most noble**—R. V. "most excellent;" the official title (ch. 23: 26; 24: 3). **Speak forth**—With the clearness and force of intelligent belief. **Soberness**—The opposite of madness, "soundmindedness." They were not the confused fancies of a disordered intellect. **28. Almost**—literally, "in" or "with little," R. V. "with but little persuasion thou wouldst fain make me a christian." Some supply the word "time," instead of "persuasion" "in a little time" i. e. "soon you would make me a christian." Many commentators think that Agrippa was seriously impressed with Paul's address. **29. Such as I am.** Rejoicing in the christian's hope.

LESSONS. 1. Repentance is the first step to salvation. 2. Earnestness is not madness. 3. Evil men believe that sin will be punished, yet they sin. 4. Almost a christian, is not a christian at all. 5. Even their enemies will honor true christians.

LESSON V—October 31st, 1897.

Paul's Voyage and Shipwreck. Acts 27: 13-26.

(Read chapter 27. Commit to memory verses 21-26.)

GOLDEN TEXT: "Be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me."
Acts 27: 25.

PROVE THAT—The Lord preserves in danger. Ps. 107: 28.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 100. *What doth the preface of the Lord's prayer teach us?*

A. The preface of the Lord's prayer (which is, *Our Father which art in heaven*) teacheth us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence; as children to a father, able and ready to help us; and that we should pray with and for others.

LESSON HMMNS. Nos. 82 (Psalm 107) 492, 493, 499. (Old Hymnal Nos. 93, 35, 123, 145).

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* Sailing for Rome. Acts 27: 1-12. *Tuesday.* Paul's voyage and shipwreck. Acts 27: 13-26. *Wednesday.* Peace amid the storm. Acts 27: 27-36. *Thursday.* Wreck and rescue. Acts 27: 37-44. *Friday.* Christ in the vessel. Mark 4: 35-41. *Saturday.* Confidence in God. Psalm: 23. *Sabbath.* Danger and deliverance. Psalm 107: 23-32. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

INTRODUCTORY. In Paul's time there were no regular lines of vessels sailing at fixed dates for certain ports, but everyone had to take the chance of finding a merchantman which would advance the traveller a stage upon his journey. As each port was reached enquiries would have to be made for a ship which would carry him a little farther on his way. In this manner Paul and his fellow prisoners were conveyed to Rome. The first vessel took them to Myra in Lycia, where they found a vessel about to sail for Italy and embarked upon it on the famous and disastrous voyage. As they passed under the south coast of Crete a tornado swept down upon them from the heights of mount Ida, and they at first found shelter in the port of Fair Havens. Here Paul wished to remain, but the captain thought that he would be able to reach Phœnice, where he could lay up for the winter as the season for navigation was closing. Read chapter 27. Time, middle of October A. D. 60.

LESSON PLAN. I. Outwardly Distressed vs. 13-20. II. Inwardly Comforted vs. 21-26.

13. South wind—They sailed under the lee of Crete to escape the north wind R. V. "they weighed anchor, and sailed along Crete, close in shore." **14. Arose against it**—R. V. "Beat down from it." *i. e.* from the mountains of Crete. **Tempestuous**—"Typhonic," hence our "typho." **Euroclydon**—R. V. "Euraquilo" a "north east" wind, as the name signifies. "Euroclydon" is probably the name used by the sailors and heard by Luke. This wind is well known to mariners and is now called "a Levanter," from the portion of the Mediterranean where it occurs, the Levant. **Could not bear up**—Literally, "could not look the wind in the eye." R. V. "face the wind." **Let her drive**—R. V. "we gave way to it, and were driven." **16. "Under"**—R. V. "under the lee of," *Clauda*, or *Cauda*, *low Gazzo*, —23 miles S. E. of Crete. R. V. "we were able with difficulty to secure the boat." The small boat was towed behind in fair weather, but hoisted on board when a storm came up. **17. Helps**—These were strong cables, passed several times around the vessel, to strengthen it against the strain upon its timbers. The modern term for this process is "to frap." **The quicksand**—The Greater and the Lesser Syrtis on the north coast of Africa. The wind was carrying the ships directly upon the dangerous shoals. **Strake sail**—R. V. "lowered the gear," everything that would make the vessel top-heavy, leaving just enough canvas to enable them to steer,

18. R. V. "and we labored exceedingly with the storm." The storm increased in violence, so that they found it necessary to lighten the ship by throwing some freight overboard. This was probably merchandise other than the main cargo, which was wheat (verse 38). **19. We cast out**—The passengers now lent a hand to save the vessel. **The tackling**—The furniture, moveable articles generally. **20. Neither sun nor stars**—These were the only guides to steer by before the invention of the mariner's compass. **Many days**—Perhaps for the whole 14 days (verse 27). **21. Abstinence**—The food would have been spoilt by the water, no fire could be lit, utensils were cast overboard, and no one cared to eat, with death staring him in the face. **Gained**—R. V. "gotten" **22. Good cheer**—They all expected to go to the bottom with their foundering vessel. Paul's hopeful words revived their courage. **23. An angel of the Lord**—A fearless confession before the heathen. He would be respected for it. **24. Thou must stand before Caesar**—And in order to do so he cannot be drowned on the way. **God hath given thee**—Paul had been praying for them; and his prayer was answered. **25. I believe God**—Paul becomes both captain and pilot. He is cheerful because he knows that he is in God's loving care. **26. A certain island**—Paul seems to have had a full revelation of all the details of the shipwreck.

LESSONS. 1. With the utmost prudence, we cannot escape all perils. 2. If life is so dear, the safety of the soul should be dearer. 3. Sacrifice worldly interests to spiritual advantages. 4. Those who trust in God can be brave. 5. God's purposes in regard to us cannot fail.

LESSON VI—November 7th, 1897.

Paul in Melita and Rome. Acts 28: 1-16.

(Commit to memory verses 3-5)

GOLDEN TEXT: "We know that all things work together for good to them that love God." Rom. 8: 28.

PROVE THAT—Christian fellowship is helpful. Acts 28: 15.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 101. *What do we pray for in the first petition?* A. In the first petition (which is *Hallowed be Thy name*) we pray that God would enable us and others to glorify Him in all that whereby He maketh Himself known; and that He would dispose all things to His own glory.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 23 (Psalm 32), 498, 500, 491. (Old Hymnal Nos. 4, 97, 45, 146).

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* Paul in Melita and Rome. Acts 28: 1-6. *Tuesday.* Paul in Melita and Rome. Acts 28: 7-16. *Wednesday.* Desire to visit Rome. Rom. 1: 7-16. *Thursday.* Power over serpents. Luke 10: 17-22. *Friday.* The Lord a deliverer. Psalm 34: 15-22. *Saturday.* Trust in the Lord. Psalm 37: 5-18. *Sabbath.* Miraculous deliverance. Psalm 124. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections.*)

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. After being fourteen days tossed in the storm the ship drew near to some land, and was successfully beached. All reached the shore in safety, but the vessel was a total wreck. Read the thrilling story in chapter 27. Time, November 1st, A. D. 60.

LESSON PLAN. I. Saved from death. vs. 1-6. II. Honored by the people. vs. 7-10. III. Welcomed by friends. vs. 11-16.

1. **Mel'ita**—The modern *Malta*, 60 miles south of Sicily. 2. **Barbarians** (R. V.)—This does not mean that they were savages, but only "natives," not Greeks or Romans. 3. **Received us**—They took them into their houses and cared for them. 4. **A viper**—A venomous serpent common in Europe, but unknown in America. 5. **Vengeance**—R. V. "Justice." They could see that he was a prisoner, and rushed to the conclusion that he must be specially deserving of divine punishment. 6. **Felt no harm**—This was what Christ had promised (Mark 15: 18). Paul knew that he "must stand before Caesar," and serpents could no more prevent him than stormy waves (ch. 27: 24). 7. **A god**—Paul would be reminded of the people of Lystra (ch. 14: 11). If not a god, he was "a man of God," and under the protection of the only living and true God. 8. **Received us**—Paul, Luke, Aristarchus, and the centurion, but not the whole 276 persons. Publius was the governor of the island. 9. **Three days**—That is, until they could find suitable winter quarters. Paul carefully notices any act of courtesy or kindness that he receives from any one. 10. **Prayed and laid his hands on him**—This, too, Christ had promised that His disciples should do (Mark 16: 18). These miracles were necessary to remove prejudices against Paul and those with him, but cures wrought by Luke or any other physician using the proper remedies, are just as really God's work. 11. **Honored us**—Paul was not one to take pay for working a miracle, but the people loaded him: and those with him with presents. Having lost everything by the shipwreck these would be very acceptable. **When we sailed** (R. V.)—

"They put on board such things as we needed" (R. V.) All were sharers in the gratitude awakened by Paul's deeds of mercy. One good man brings a blessing to many others. 12. **Three months**—This would be about the beginning of February. **A ship of Alexandria**—A city at the mouth of the Nile, and the commercial metropolis of the Mediterranean. The wheat of the Nile valley was shipped from this port to Rome and elsewhere. **Sign**—"Figurehead." **Castor and Pollux**—(R. V. "The Twin Brothers.") Two heathen deities, twin brothers, regarded as the patron divinities of sailors. Their images would ornament the prow of the vessel. 13. **Syracuse**—The capital of Sicily. 14. **Fetched a compass**—R. V. "Made a circuit." They "tacked" against the wind. **Rhegium**—On the straits, between Italy and Sicily. **Puteoli**—On the Bay of Naples. From this a good road led to Rome. 15. **Brethren**—There was already a Christian church here. Perhaps founded by some who were at Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost. Again the centurion favors Paul, as he did at Sidon, permitting him to "refresh himself" with his friends. 16. **Appii Forum**—R. V. "The market of Appius." About 43 miles from Rome. **The Three Taverns**—About 10 miles nearer Rome. The Roman Christians had received the *Epistle to the Romans* some 3 years before this, and probably some of those to whom greetings were sent in ch. 16, were amongst the party who came to meet Paul. 17. **A soldier that kept him**—His left wrist was chained to the soldier's right (verse 20). The frequent change of his sentry enabled Paul to spread christianity among the soldiers of the imperial guard (1. Tim. 1: 12, 13).

LESSONS. 1. We should show kindness to those in misfortune. 2. God's servants are safe everywhere. 3. We should not judge hastily from appearances. 4. Christ is still able to cure diseases, but he generally does it through the physician's skill. 5. We can find ways of working for Christ no matter where we are.

LESSON VII.—November 14th, 1897.

Paul's Ministry in Rome. ACTS 28 : 17-31.

(Commit to memory verses 50, 31).

GOLDEN TEXT : "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."—Rom. 1 : 16.

PROVE THAT--Some reject the gospel. Acts 28 : 24.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 102. *What do we pray for in the second petition?* A. In the second petition (which is, *Thy kingdom come*) we pray that Satan's kingdom may be destroyed; and that the kingdom of grace may be advanced, ourselves and others brought into it and kept in it; and that the kingdom of glory may be hastened.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 14 (Psalm 23), 442, 64, 132. (Old Hymnal, Nos. 95, 69, 65, 37.)

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* Paul's ministry in Rome. Acts 28 : 17-22. *Tuesday.* Paul's ministry in Rome. Acts 28 : 23-31. *Wednesday.* The words of Isaiah. Isa. 6 : 5-10. *Thursday.* Christ in the Scriptures. John 5 : 39-47. *Friday.* Hearing without profit. Rom. 10 : 13-21. *Saturday.* Hindrance of unbelief. Heb. 3 : 7-19. *Sabbath.* Shut out. Heb. 4 : 1-11. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections.*)

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. During his imprisonment at Rome Paul wrote four Epistles : *Philemon*, *Colossians*, *Ephesians* and *Philippians*. After his release he visited Asia, Macedonia, and Greece, and perhaps Spain. *I. Timothy*, and *Titus*, belong to this period. In the spring of A. D. 68 he was a second time made prisoner. This was during the first great persecution by Nero. While in prison he wrote *II. Timothy*. He was beheaded in May or June, A. D. 68.

LESSON PLAN. I. Preaching to the Jews. vs. 17-24. II. Turning to the Gentiles. vs. 25-28. III. An Ambassador in bonds. vs. 29-31.

17. After three days—Paul lost no time in preaching the gospel to his fellow countrymen. 18. Both Felix and Agrippa declared him innocent. 19. Paul did not appeal to Caesar in order that he might lay a complaint against the Jews, but only to avoid their wicked plans against his life. 20. The hope of Israel—The expectation of a Messiah. 21. The Jews speak very cautiously. Before his appeal there was no reason why they should be specially informed, and afterwards there was no time to notify them. Paul was sent off almost immediately, and his ship was one of the last of the season. Perhaps, too, during his two years imprisonment his enemies had forgotten him, thinking him now finally disposed of. Any harm—Anything morally bad. 22. We desire—We judge it right to learn from thee; the "thee" is emphatic. There were Christians at Rome, but no one so competent to explain Christianity had ever appeared there before. Sect—Same word as "heresy". It meant no more than "party," and was not considered an impolite term. They had heard something about "The Way," and professed to be willing to have their misapprehensions corrected. 23. Many—R. V. "In great number." The adjective is in the comparative; "a greater number" than before, or than one would have expected. Testified—He expounded the teaching of the Old Testament regarding the kingdom of God, the Messianic dispensation. Persuading—Ar-

guing that Jesus of Nazareth alone, and He fully, met the requirements of the case, and fulfilled all the O. T. statements regarding "the hope of Israel." 25. Agreed not—Very likely they disputed violently, as the Jews in Jerusalem had done. Esai'as—Greek for *Isaiah*. Paul here affirms the inspiration of the book of *Isaiah*. Christ had quoted this same passage against the Jews (Matt 13 : 14). 26. By hearing (R. V.)—They would hear the words, but having no heart for the message, they would not understand their true meaning. A willing heart is necessary for the reception of the gospel. 27. The heart—The seat of the emotions and affections. Gross—"Fat." Their spiritual faculties had become indolent and dull. Should be converted—R. V. "Should turn again." This does not mean that God does not want to save the Jews, but they had hardened their own hearts against Him, so that they could not turn to Him and be healed. Heal them—Sin is a disease. Christ, the great physician, alone can heal it. Those who obstinately reject Him cannot but perish. 28. This salvation of God This way of salvation through a crucified and risen Redeemer, which he had proved from Moses and the Prophets to be God's plan. They will hear it—R. V. "They will also hear." Paul merely intimates that having unfolded the divine plan to the Jew first, he must also tell it to the Gentile.

LESSONS. 1. We should try to conciliate our enemies. 2. We should be willing to listen to both sides. 3. It is a pleasure to read and tell about Jesus. 4. A willing heart is necessary to the saving reception of the gospel. 5. God answers prayer in most unexpected ways. Paul longed to preach in Rome, but never expected to be "an Ambassador in bonds."

LESSON VIII.—November 21st, 1897.

The Christian Armour. Eph. 6: 10-20.

(Read the whole chapter. Commit to memory verses 13-17.)

GOLDEN TEXT: "Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might." Eph. 6: 10.

PROVE THAT—We should pray always. Eph. 6: 18.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 103. *What do we pray for in the third petition?* A. In the third petition (which is, *Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven*) we pray, that God, by His grace, would make us able and willing to know, obey, and submit to His will in all things, as the angels do in heaven.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 246, 256, 260, 262. (Old Hymnal, Nos. 120, 122, 121, 119.)

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* The Christian armour. Eph. 6: 10-20. *Tuesday.* The warfare. Rom. 7: 12-25. *Wednesday.* Our weapons. 2 Cor 10: 1-6. *Thursday.* "It is written." Matt. 4: 1-11. *Friday.* The enemy vanquished. Rev. 20: 1-10. *Saturday.* The arm of salvation. Isa. 59: 12-21. *Sabbath.* Our refuge. Psalm 46. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections.*)

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. The *Epistle to the Ephesians* was the first of those written at Rome. Its date is probably A. D. 62. The parts of the Roman soldier's armour referred to in the lesson are: (1) The *girdle*, made of leather, covered with metal scales. (2) The *breastplate* covered the shoulders and breast. (3) The *sandals* were thick soles, studded with nails and fastened to the foot by thongs. (4) The *shield* was about four feet long and 2½ broad. It was held on the left arm. (5) The *helmet* was of leather, covered with metal and often ornamented by a plume. (6) The *sword* of the Roman soldier was short, straight, and two-edged.

LESSON PLAN. I. The Christian's foes. vs. 10-12. II. The Christian's armour. vs. 13-18. III. The Christian's comrades. vs. 19, 20.

10. Strong in the Lord—The christian's strength in his conflict with evil comes from union with Christ. **II. Whole armour**—Gr. "panoply." Do not leave any part defenceless. **Of God**—Do not try to fight satan with human weapons, but with those that God gives. **Wiles**—"Stratagems." Satan is a cunning and deceitful enemy. **12. Flesh and blood**—Men like ourselves. With such we would fight on fairly equal terms. **R. V.** "Against world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." By "this darkness" is meant the moral obscurity of heathenism, prevalent then over the whole world. The "world-rulers" of this, are the powers of evil and these of high rank and position, "they are darkly eminent in place and dignity." By "heavenly places," is meant that these evil spirits are of a higher grade of being than we are, celestial, though fallen. They are spiritual hosts, not terrestrial, and they are marshalled for wicked ends. **13. The evil day**—The day of trial and conflict. **14. Truth**—The girdle of truth, means the agreement of our convictions with the Bible. We must fully accept and inwardly hold fast all that God tells us. **Righteousness**—The breastplate of righteousness means "The righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith." With this we answer all the demands of God's holy law. Christ obeyed the law for us. **15. Gospel of peace**—The sandals mean that peace of conscience, and confidence towards God, which a belief in the gospel gives. This produces a joyful alacrity in God's service. **16. Faith**—The shield, is unwavering confidence in God and His grace. The "fiery darts of the evil one" (R. V.) are the fierce onslaughts of satan in the shape of evil thoughts, unholy passions, suggestions of wickedness, &c. Our only defence against these is to lay hold of the strength of God by a fresh exercise of faith in Him. **17. Salvation**—The helmet means the assurance that we are saved by the blood of Jesus. Knowing this we may boldly face our great enemy and defy his malice. **The word of God**—The sword is the weapon by which we wound and slay the adversary. The Bible answers all doubts and drives away all fears. **18. Always**—(R. V.) "At all seasons." Prayer is not to be restricted to set times. **All prayer**—Every kind of prayer. While fighting pray and be on your guard against neglecting this duty. In prayer for yourself join petitions for others, beset by the same foes and fighting under the same banner. **19. Utterance**—Paul does not tell them to pray that he may be set at liberty, but that he might have divine help to preach the gospel with freedom and boldness. **The mystery of the Gospel**—Its glorious truths were beyond human conception until revealed in the message of mercy with which Paul was charged. **20. An Ambassador**—One who speaks in the name of a king. All ministers of Christ hold this high and sacred office. In bonds—(R. V.) "In chains." He was chained by the wrist to a soldier who guarded him.

LESSONS. 1. We should ask God for strength and not trust to our own. 2. We have spiritual enemies which are much stronger than we are. 3. We need to be armed at all points. 4. Watch and pray while fighting. 5. Pray for others too.

LESSON IX—November 28th, 1897.

Salutary Warnings. I Pet. 4: 1-8.

(Commit to memory verses 7, 8.)

GOLDEN TEXT: "Be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer." I Pet. 4: 7.

PROVE THAT—Christ is our great example. I Pet. 2: 21.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 104. *What do we pray for in the fourth petition? A.* In the fourth petition (which is, *Give us this day our daily bread*) we pray, That of God's free gift we may receive a competent portion of the good things of this life, and enjoy his blessing with them.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 1 (Psalm 1), 246, 456, 530. (Old Hymnal Nos. 117, 120, 173, 116).

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* Salutary warnings. I Pet. 4: 1-8. *Tuesday.* Wise counsel. Prov. 23: 15-23. *Wednesday.* Blessedness of watching. Luke 12: 31-40. *Thursday.* Punishment of unfaithfulness. Luke 12: 41-48. *Friday.* Be ready! Matt. 24: 42-51. *Saturday.* Watch and be sober! I Thess. 5: 1-11. *Sabbath.* Watch and pray. Mark 13: 28-37. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. The *First Epistle of Peter* was written from Babylon (5: 13) between A. D. 63-67, during the great persecution under Nero. It was addressed to christians in Asia Minor who were enduring much hardship (4: 16). It was conveyed to them by Silvanus (5: 12), or Silas, probably the same as Paul's former fellow-laborer, who seems to have associated himself with Peter after Paul's second missionary journey.

LESSON PLAN. I. Life in the Flesh. vs. 1-5. II. Life in the Spirit. vs. 6-8.

1. In the flesh—In our weak, mortal nature. **Arm yourselves**—To have the spirit of Christ—his love and self-sacrifice, his desire to have all men know and love God—is the best defence against sin in the heart. **Ceased from sin**—The believer is so united to Christ that he suffers in his sufferings and dies in his death (Rom. 6: 2, 7; Gal. 5: 24; Col. 3: 3, 5). Therefore, having, in his Representative, suffered and died on account of sin, he should have no more to do with it. 2. The lusts of men—The sinful desires of human nature. The christian's earthly life should be spent in doing God's will "as it is done in heaven." He is now a citizen of heaven (Phil. 3: 2; Eph. 2: 19). 3. The desire (R. V.) of the gentiles—The evil course of life pursued by the heathen. The hideous orgies of heathenism cannot be described. The lowest vices were part of their religious worship; drunkenness was regarded as honoring to the deity; their feasts were riotous revels—the one word "abominable" applies to all the observances of idol worship. 4. Excess—Literally "pouring forth" of profligacy, like a flood. Those who try to live godly lives and those who advocate "total abstinence," are regarded as peculiar, strait-laced, and punitanical. The Sabbath-breaker, the drunkard and the profligate cannot find words hard enough for those whose lives and teaching condemn their wicked doings. 5. Ready to judge—That is, will very soon appear in judgment. **The quick**—The living. Those who are alive when Christ comes. No one will escape his righteous sentence. 6. The meaning of this verse seems to be; Because all men are to be judged by Christ, the gospel was preached to those christians who had since died, so that they might be chastened, as other men, in the body, by sickness and other temporal trials, but should be made partakers of the spiritual life which comes from God and makes like to him. 7. The end of all things—The day of judgment. The early christians believed that Christ was coming soon (Rom. 13: 12; Jas. 5: 8). Sober—R. V. "of sound mind." Practice temperance and self-control (Titus 2: 6; Luke 21: 34), be discreet and prudent, not carried away by the excesses of the heathen. **Watch**—R. V. "sober unto prayer" Do not give way to sensual indulgence, so that you may be always in the right frame of mind for prayer (Eph. 6: 18). 8. "Have your mutual love intense." The word for "fervent" means "on the stretch" (ch. 1: 22), a love that cannot be tired out by the unworthiness of others. **Love shall cover**—(Prov. 10: 19). We do not parade before the world the faults of those we love. We make excuses for them and bear with them. So we learn to love them more because they need our love so much. If we acted in this way towards our christian brethren what a sweet fellowship our churches would be.

LESSONS. 1. Since Christ died for sin we should be dead to sin. 2. God's will and not our own desires, or the practices of others should rule our conduct. 3. We need never be ashamed of doing what is right. 4. The suffering of this life should prepare us for loving and serving God better. 5. Try to excuse the faults of others as much as possible.

LESSON X—December 5th, 1897.

Christ's Humility an Exaltation. Phil. 2: 1-11

(Commit to memory verses 5-8.)

GOLDEN TEXT: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Phil. 2: 5.

PROVE THAT—We should be humble. Phil. 2: 3.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 105. *What do we pray for in the fifth petition?* A. In the fifth petition (which is, *And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors*), we pray, That God, for Christ's sake, would freely pardon all our sins; which we are the rather encouraged to ask, because by his grace we are enabled from the heart to forgive others.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 218, 73, 129, 90. (Old Hymnal Nos. 83, 63, 144, 56).

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* Christ's humility an exaltation. Phil. 2: 1-11. *Tuesday.* Meekness of Christ. Isa. 42: 1-7. *Wednesday.* Lowly in heart. Matt. 11: 25-30. *Thursday.* Lower than the angels. Heb. 2: 9-18. *Friday.* Example of humility. John. 13: 1-15, *Saturday.* First and last. Rev. 1: 1-8. *Sabbath.* Worthy the Lamb! Rev. 5: 9-14. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. The Philippian church was founded by Paul on his second missionary journey (Acts 16: 10-40). This epistle was written from Rome about A. D. 63, and sent by Epaphroditus who had brought gifts to Paul from Philippi. Read the whole epistle and notice the tender affection which is manifested towards the kind and thoughtful comforters of his loneliness in prison.

LESSON PLAN. I. The Mind of Christ. vs. 1-5. II. The Humiliation of Christ. vs. 6-8. III. The Exaltation of Christ. vs. 9-11.

1. **Consolation**—R. V. "comfort." "If your union with Christ has brought you any comfort." **Comfort**—R. V. "Consolation of love." "If christian love has given you consolation." **Fellowship**—"If you have any real communion with the Holy Spirit; The Spirit of love and peace." **Bowels and mercies**—R. V. "Tender mercies and compassions." Loving forbearance towards the faults and weaknesses of others. 2. **Fulfill ye my joy**—Make my happiness complete by your brotherly love and unity." **Like-minded**—R. V. "of the same mind." It is easy to come to an agreement when all desire to do so. "With union, of soul, unanimo.us." **Strife**—R. V. "faction." The two great enemies to concord and brotherly love are party-spirit and personal vanity. **Lowliness of mind**—The Greek word for this was first coined by the writers of the N. T. because Christianity first exalted humility to the rank of a virtue. To the heathen "humble" meant the same as "mean," "abject." 4. **Look not**—Do not selfishly consult your own interests exclusively, but try to help others as well. 6. **In the form of God**—The "form" or outward shape of anything declares what it is, because its essential nature clothes it in such an appearance. We know a tree to be an elm, or a maple, or a beech, by its "form." So to have the "form of God" means to be God, having the character and attributes of deity. (Heb. 1: 3). **Thought it not robbery**—R. V. "counted it not a prize," something to be held tenaciously and on no account to be surrendered. Even this he gave up to be a man and a servant of men. 7. **Made himself of no reputation**—R. V. "Emptied himself" not of his divine nature, but of its glories and prerogatives, the outward "form" in which deity is clothed. The form of a servant—As the "form of God" shewed that he was God, so the "form of a servant" shewed that he had really assumed the position, character and attributes of a servant. It was not a seeming but a real humiliation of himself. The likeness of men—He was perfect man (Rom. 5: 15; 1 Cor. 15: 21; 1 Tim. 2: 5) but because of his divine nature he was not simply and merely a man but the incarnate Son of God. (Rom. 1: 3; Gal. 4: 4; John 1: 1, 14; 1 Tim. 3: 16). (Meyer). 8. **In fashion as a man**—The word for "fashion" refers to external appearance, he subjected himself to all the conditions of human nature. Although essentially divine, he, in nothing, was seen to differ from other men, so complete was his self-humiliation. Under no circumstances could Paul be subjected to his Master's shameful death, for he was a Roman citizen, and as such could not be crucified. He was beheaded. 9. **A name**—This stands for office, rank, dignity (Eph. 1: 21; Heb. 1: 4). 10. **At the name**—R. V. "in the name." What Jesus is now, the glorified and ever-blessed Redeemer of men, will constrain every knee to be to him in reverent, adoring worship. **Every knee**—Christ's dominion will be universal. The whole universe, animate and inanimate; rational and irrational; celestial, terrestrial and infernal will own him LORD. (Isa. 45: 23; Eph. 1: 20-22; Rev. 5: 8-14; Rom. 8: 22).

LESSONS. 1. Try to agree. 2. Think of the excellencies of others, not their faults. 3. Try to be like Christ in love and self-forgetfulness. 4. Jesus was and is both God and man. 5. He is worthy of our adoring homage.

LESSON XI—December 12th, 1897.

Paul's Last Words. 2 Tim. 4: 1-8, 16-18.

(Read verses 1-23. Commit to memory verses 6-8.)

GOLDEN TEXT: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." 2 Tim. 4: 7.

PROVE THAT—We should preach the gospel at all times. 2 Tim. 4: 2.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 106. *What do we pray for in the sixth petition? A.* In the sixth petition (which is, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil) we pray, That God would either keep us from being tempted to sin, or support and deliver us when we are tempted.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 53 (Psalm 73), 545, 334, 340. (Old Hymnal Nos. 40, 31, 192, 205.)

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* Paul's last words. 2 Tim. 4: 1-18. *Tuesday.* Last words of Moses. Deut. 31: 1-13. *Wednesday.* Joshua's exhortation. Josh. 23: 1-11. *Thursday.* Holding fast the truth. 1 John 2: 18-25. *Friday.* Looking for mercy. Jude 17-25. *Saturday.* Looking upward. Phil. 3: 13-21. *Sabbath.* The crown of life. Jas. 1: 1-12. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections.*)

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. At the close of the *Acts* we left Paul in prison. Soon after this he was released. But in three or four years he was rearrested and brought again to Rome. He was not now allowed to live in his own apartment with his guard, but lay in the cold, dark, filthy dungeon of the Mamertine prison. He was lonely, for timid friends had deserted him. Faithful Luke was his sole companion. He was daily in expectation of death, for that monster, the Emperor Nero, was casting Christians to the wild beasts, or, wrapping them in sheets of pitch, used them as torches to illuminate the imperial gardens. On the verge of eternity, Paul writes these noble words of lofty courage, unflinching faith, and sound, practical wisdom. Time, shortly before his martyrdom, A. D. 66. Timothy was at Ephesus.

LESSON PLAN. I. Watching for souls. vs. 1-5. II. Waiting for Martyrdom. vs. 6-8. III. Witnessing for Christ. vs. 16-18.

I. The quick and the dead—Those who are alive at the judgment day, and those who rise from the dead. **2. Instant—**"Press on," "be urgent"; not in preaching only, but in the whole work of the ministry. In season, out of season—At all times, whether your hearers want to listen to you or not. Do not be timid in speaking for fear that others will deem you unseasonable. Long suffering—When you reprove do it with patient forbearance and kindly. **Doctrine—**R. V. "Teaching." Show the reasonableness of what you say, and its authority from the Bible. **3. Sound doctrine—**Literally, "healthful teaching," teaching that contributes to the health of the soul. After their own lusts—According to whim and fancy, not because they do them spiritual good. Long pastorates would cease to be popular. Itching ears—They would regard more the taste of the medicine than its curative properties. They would want preaching that pleased the ear, rather than improved the heart. **4.** It is easy to call a doctrine false if we find it disagreeable, but rejection of the truth is generally followed by belief of some foolish and hurtful error. Many who reject the true doctrines of the church believe all the nonsense of spiritualism and fortune-telling. **5. Watch thou—**R. V. "Be thou sober." Show clear-headedness and wise prudence in all you say and do. Let

your ministry be approved for its self-denial and faithfulness. **Make full proof of—**R. V. "Fulfill," "fill up the measure of thy ministry." Leave nothing undone that should be attended to. **6. To be offered—**R. V. "Already being offered." Literally, "poured out as a drink offering." He represents himself as on the way to shed his blood for the cause of Christ. Martyrdom was very near. **Departure—**"A loosing" or "untieing"—the words used of casting off the cable when a ship sets sail, or of unloosing the tent ropes when a camp is broken up. **8. The crown of righteousness—**Which is the reward of righteousness. But the righteousness referred to does not belong to Paul, but to the grace of God and the merits of Jesus Christ—(Phil. 3: 9; Rom. 3: 21, 22; 5: 1.) **16. My first answer—**His first trial, of which we have no account. He felt keenly the desertion of his friends when on trial for his life. He would remember One, all whose disciples "forsook him and fled." **17.** In what way Jesus made His presence known we cannot tell, but Paul knew He was near. **The mouth of the lion—**The imminent danger which threatened him from fierce and blood thirsty enemies. **18.** This verse reminds us of the sixth petition and conclusion of the Lord's prayer.

LESSONS. 1. We should never correct or reprove others harshly. 2. The truth is best even if it is not pleasant. 3. Try to do good to others whether doing so makes you popular or not. 4. To what reward may all faithful servants of Christ look forward. 5. Though all forsake us, Jesus will stand by us if we are true to Him.

LESSON XII—December 19th, 1897.

John's Message about Sin and Salvation. I John 1: 5-2: 6.

(Commit to memory verses 8-10).

GOLDEN TEXT: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins." I John 1: 9.

PROVE THAT—Christ died for our sins. I John 2: 2.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 107. *What doth the conclusion of the Lord's prayer teach us?*

A. The conclusion of the Lord's prayer (which is, *For thine is the kingdom; and the power, and the glory, for ever, Amen*) teacheth us, to take our encouragement in prayer from God only, and in our prayers to praise him, ascribing kingdom, power, and glory, to him. And in testimony of our desire, and assurance to be heard, we say, Amen.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 100, 151, 290, 575. (Old Hymnal Nos. 93, 46, 35, 232).

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* John's message about sin and salvation. I John 1: 5-2: 6. *Tuesday.* All have sinned. Rom. 3: 19-26. *Wednesday.* Consequences of sin. Isa. 59: 1-9. *Thursday.* Returning unto the Lord. Hosea. 14. *Friday.* Life by Christ. Rom. 5: 12-21. *Saturday.* Perfect sacrifice. Heb. 10: 12-23. *Sabbath.* Able to save. Heb. 7: 19, 28. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. *The first Epistle of John* is addressed to all Christians and is therefore called "General" or "Catholic." It was written when the apostle was very aged, probably about A. D. 90 or 97, but some say earlier, and may be considered the last message to the church from the last survivor of the apostolic band. It was written at Ephesus where John spent the latter years of his life.

LESSON PLAN. I. Light and Darkness. vs. 5-7. II. Sin and Forgiveness. vs. 8-2. III. Obedience and Love. vs. 3-6.

5. God is light—Light stands for absolute holiness and purity. It is the cause of all life, and warmth, and beauty, so God is the source of all moral excellence (Jas. 1: 17; John 1: 9; 8: 12; 9: 5). **Darkness**—Represents all moral evil, sin in every form, with ignorance and misery the results of sin (Rom. 13: 12; Eph. 5: 8-13; 1 Thess. 5: 4, 5; John 12: 35, 36). **6. Walk in darkness**—Lead wicked lives. If one whose course of life is evil says that he is a true christian and a child of God, he is either a hypocrite, or self-deceived. No one can have God in their hearts and practice wickedness. "A life in moral darkness can no more have communion with God than life in a coal pit can have communion with the sun" (2 Cor. 6: 14). **Do not the truth**—Our actions are the expressions of our beliefs. A belief of the truth will produce a life that strives after holiness. **7. As he is in the light**—God is light and dwells in the light (1 Tim. 6: 16). We are to aim to live habitually the life that belongs to the pure, sinless, holy presence of God. The way to find closest and sweetest fellowship amongst christian brethren is for all to strive after holiness. **8. But we have the comfort to know** that there is forgiveness for all sin, if we only repent of it, confess it and seek pardon for Jesus' sake. **Faithful and just**—God is faithful to his promises and at the same time true to his holy law, which the sinner has broken.

LESSONS. 1. We cannot be God's friend unless we walk with him. 2. Christian fellowship means fellowship with Christ and all who love him. 3. No sin need remain unforgiven. 4. Obey God better and you will love him more. 5. Imitate Jesus.

en. For Christ has satisfied its demands on behalf of the sinner and it would be unjust in God to accept the payment and also punish one for whom payment had been made. **1. If any man sin**—Although we fight earnestly against sin, we are apt to be discouraged by our frequent failures, but we need not despair, for our Intercessor stands before the Father asking that we be forgiven and strengthened. **2. Propitiation**—Christ has satisfied the justice of God. He endured the penalty of sin and made it possible for God to be just and the justifier of those who believed in him (Rom. 3: 26). **The whole world**—If any man is lost it will not be because Christ did not do enough for his salvation. **3. We know that we know him**—To know God is not merely to know about him, but to receive him into our hearts. The only infallible test of our being his children is our careful watching against disobedience to his will. **4. Is a liar**—Because his conduct contradicts his profession. If a plant bears thorns it can't be a grape vine. "By their fruits ye shall know them." **5. The love of God perfected**—Obeying God is not only a proof of our love to him but we love him more and more, the more perfectly we obey him. **6. Even as he walked**—Christ is meant without being named as in ch. 3: 3, 7; 4: 17. When in doubt about what we should do consider what Christ would have done in similar circumstances.

LESSON XIII—December 26th, 1897.

God's Love in the Gift of His Son. I John 4: 9-16.

(Commit to memory verses 9-11).

GOLDEN TEXT: "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 5: 16.

PROVE THAT—Salvation is free to all. Rev. 22: 17.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Review Quest. 95-107.

LESSON HYMNS. Nos. 30, 26, 520, 519. (Old Hymnal, Nos. 17, 27, 19, 211)

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* God's love in the gift of his Son. I John 4: 9-16. *Tuesday.* The prophecy. Isa. 9: 1-7. *Wednesday.* Visit of the Magi. Matt. 2: 1-10. *Thursday.* Herod foiled. Matt. 2: 11-23. *Friday.* The Word. John 1: 1-14. *Saturday.* Message to the shepherds. Luke 2: 8-20. *Sabbath.* Simeon's Prophecy. Luke 2: 25-35. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. [We substitute the Christmas lesson for the Review believing that this will be more acceptable to our schools. The lessons for 1898, upon the Life of Christ, omit the narrative of his birth, apparently assuming that it has been the subject of study. This lesson may therefore be considered the first of the new series for next year].

John "the beloved disciple," tells us about God's love in sending his son. Love is the constant theme of his writings. His Gospel tells us much about the love of Christ; his Epistles urge brethren to love one another; and here he traces all love up to its source in the infinite love of God.

LESSON PLAN. I. God's Love to us. vs. 9-11. II. God's Love in us. vs 12, 13. III. Dwelling in Love. vs. 14-16.

9. In this—God's love to us is shown in many ways, but there is one manifestation of it that surpasses all others—He gave his Son to die for us. **His only begotten Son—**There is only one Son of God and he was God's Son before he came into the world. How wonderful the love that surrendered such a treasure! The world lay under sentence of death on account of sin,—Christ died that the curse might be removed and sinners live by believing on him. **10. Herein is love—**Purest love, displayed in a most wonderful manner. Love that freely gives itself away and asks but love in return. His love was not called forth by our love to him, for the world did not want to be saved. No one can say that he loved God first. God loves the sinner first and therefore He sent His Son to bear his punishment for him so that He might remove every obstacle to his return to his loving Father. **11.** If God loved us so much when there was nothing in us deserving of his love, we ought to love our brethren who are as much beloved by him as we are. Six times in this Epistle John uses the affectionate term "Beloved." **12. Hath seen God—**Although we cannot see God yet we may have fellowship with him as really as if we saw him, by loving our christian brethren. If we love them God will dwell in our hearts and we shall love him more and more. In our last lesson we were told that if we obeyed God we

should love him perfectly, here we are shown another way by which to increase our love of him, namely, by loving our brethren whom we see. **13. Hereby we know—**If we love the brethren God will come into our hearts and dwell there, and will let us know that he is our Divine Guest, by giving us the Holy Spirit. The more we love the more of his Spirit do we receive and thus we know that God is in us and we are in him. **14. We have seen—**John and the other apostles spoke from personal acquaintance with Christ. We cannot have true love to God and fellowship with him unless we accept Christ as our Saviour. God cannot receive those who reject his Son and despise, or disregard, the love he showed in sending him. **15. Jesus is the Son of God—**This is the central truth of the Bible. Jesus of Nazareth was the second person of the Trinity, "the same in substance and equal in power and glory" with the Father and the Holy Spirit. There is no redemption from sin if this is not true. Only God could save men. **16. We have known and believed—**Too many know about God's love, but do not believe it in their hearts. If we really believe it we cannot help loving him. **God is love—**This is the most precious truth in the Bible. Love is like the diamond itself while all God's attributes are the flashing facets on its surface. They are but love in its various relations.

LESSONS. 1. God gave his son for us, what have we given in return? 2. We can at least try to love those who love Jesus. 3. The way to love God more is to love others more. 4. Jesus is our divine Saviour. 5. Let our Christmas greeting to everyone, no matter how bad they are, be "God loves you—He gave Jesus for you."

LESSON I—October 3rd, 1897.

Paul's Last Journey to Jerusalem. ACTS 21: 1-15.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

On what errand was Paul going up to Jerusalem? (ch. 24: 17). By what date did he wish to arrive there? (ch. 20: 16). From whom had he just parted? What made this parting peculiarly painful?

2, 3. Point out Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Tyre. What great cities were within the boundaries of Syria? What have we learned about Tyre in previous lessons? (1 Kings 9). Why was judgment pronounced against Tyre? (Amos 1: 7, 9). What prophet predicted its overthrow? (Isa. 23; Ezek. 27: 28). What infamous queen was a native of Tyre? (1 Kings 16: 31).

4. When was the gospel brought to Tyre? (ch. 11: 19). Have we evidence that there were disciples scattered throughout Phoenicia? (ch. 15: 3). Is it possible that Christ himself visited the neighborhood of Tyre? (Matt. 15: 21).

7, 8. Point out on the map Ptolemais and Caesarea. What famous convert had resided at Caesarea? (Acts 10: 1). When do we first read of Philip? (Acts 6: 5). What persecution drove him from Jerusalem? What noted convert did he gain? (ch. 8: 26, 40). What other references have we to the office of evangelist? (Eph. 4: 11; 2 Tim. 4: 5).

9. What O. T. prophecy was fulfilled in these young women? (Joel 2: 28; Acts 2: 17). Are there other instances of women being inspired? (Judg. 5; 1 Cor. 11: 5). This does not warrant the assumption of the sacred office by women. (1 Cor. 14: 34; 1 Tim. 2: 12)

10. On what occasion previous to this had Agabus uttered a prophecy? (ch. 1.: 28). Would the fact of his just coming from Judea add force to his warning?

11. Other examples of prophetic actions are—Isa. 20: 3; Jer. 13: 5; 19: 10, 11; Ezek. 4: 1-3; 5: 1-4; 1 Kings 22: 11. Compare John 21: 18. When was this fulfilled? (verse 33).

12. Name two of Paul's companions. What is the difference between Paul's words here and the boast of Peter in Luke 22: 33?

13. What did Jesus say to Peter under similar circumstances? (Matt. 16: 23). When had Paul expressed the same lofty devotion? (ch. 20: 24). What had he already written to the Romans about suffering for Christ? (Rom. 8: 13, 28, 38, 39).

14. Where did the disciples learn these words? (Luke 22: 42; Matt. 26: 42).

LESSON II—October 10th, 1897.

Paul a Prisoner at Jerusalem. ACTS 22: 17-30.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

To whom did Paul report himself on his arrival at Jerusalem? What false reports had been circulated regarding him? How was it proposed to refute these? What cry roused the mob against him? Who rescued him? Whom did he suppose him to be?

17. Where did Paul go immediately after his conversion? (Gal. 1: 17). What class of Jews opposed him bitterly at Jerusalem? (Acts 9: 29). What other apostle received a message in the same way? (ch. 10: 10).

18. What reason for his departure is given elsewhere? (Acts 9: 29, 30). Is this inconsistent with the reason given in our lesson? Give another illustration of two causes both true? (Gal. 2: 2; Acts 15: 2).

19, 20. How is Saul's fury as a persecutor described? (Acts 8: 3; 9: 1). How does he describe it himself? (Acts 26: 11). What prediction of Christ did he fulfil? (Matt. 10: 17). Was Paul really guilty of Stephen's death? (Rom. 1: 32).

21. Had Paul a hint of his special work at his conversion? (Acts 9: 15; 26: 15-18). When was he formally set apart for this work? (ch. 13: 2, 46, 47) He "magnified his office" Rom. 11: 13; 15: 16; Gal. 1: 15, 16; Eph. 3: 7, 8; 1 Tim. 2: 7; 2 Tim. 1: 11.

23. Give other instances of casting off garments as a sign of excitement (Luke 19: 35, 36; 2 Kings 9: 13). Where do we read of dust thrown to indicate rage and hatred? (2 Sam. 16: 13; Compare Job. 2: 12).

24. Of whom would the scourge remind Paul? (Matt. 27: 26). Was he ever beaten? (2 Cor. 11: 24, 25; Acts 16: 22).

25. On what other occasions did Paul claim his rights as a Roman citizen? (ch. 16: 37; 25: 11).

29. What false merit did Lysias afterward claim for himself on account of Paul's citizenship? (ch. 23: 26-30).

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—Where was Phoenicia? (5)

- 2.—Describe Paul's farewell at Tyre? (5)

- 3.—Whom did he reside with at Caesarea? (4)

- 4.—How did Agabus describe Paul's coming peril? (5)

- 5.—What does Paul say in answer to those who pleaded with him to refrain from going up to Jerusalem? (6)

Name.....

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—Why was Paul attacked? (5)

- 2.—Why did Paul wish to remain in Jerusalem and preach? (6)

- 3.—Why did the mention of the gentiles make the mob angry? (5)

- 4.—How did the chief captain propose to find out what Paul had been guilty of? (4)

- 5.—Why did he not carry out his plan? (5)

Name.....

LESSON III—October 17th, 1897.

Paul before the Roman governor. ACTS 24: 10-25.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

By what adroit means did Paul set his accusers against one another? Why was he hurried off to Caesarea? How long was it before the trial was resumed? Who spoke for his accusers?

11. What special act of worship was Paul engaged in when the tumult was started? (ch. 21: 26).

12. Paul again and again asserts his innocence. (Acts 25: 8; 28: 17). Had Stephen engaged in disputes? (ch. 6: 9-11).

13. What proof did the Jewish law require before any man could be condemned? (Deut. 17: 6, 7).

14. The term "The Way" is frequently applied to the Christian religion. (ch. 9: 2; 16: 17; 18: 25; 19: 9, 23; 20: 4; 24: 22). Where did the term Christian originate? (Acts 11: 26). Was Paul proud of his godly ancestors? (2 Tim. 1: 3). Use of the term "heresy," or "sect," in a good sense (ch. 5: 17; 15: 5; 26: 5; 28: 22).—in a bad sense (1 Cor. 11: 19; Gal. 5: 20; 2 Pet. 2: 1). Did Christ make the same claim as Paul does here? (Matt. 5: 17; Luke 24: 27, 44).

15. Paul claims that the Jewish religion itself is assailed when he is attacked. (Acts 23: 6; 26: 6, 7; 28: 20). What distinct statements in O. T. regarding resurrection. (Dan. 12: 2; [John 5: 28, 29]; Job 14: 14, 15; 19: 25-27; Ps. 16: 9; 17: 15; Isa. 25: 8; 26: 19; Ezek. 37: 12; Hos. 13: 14).

16. Does Paul claim to have been conscientious in all his conduct? (ch. 23: 1; 2 Cor. 1: 12; Heb. 13: 18).

17. References to this collection for the poor. (Acts 11: 29, 30; 20: 16; Rom. 15: 25; 2 Cor. 8: 4; Gal. 2: 10).

18. Paul had a right to face his accusers. (ch. 23: 30; 25: 16).

25. Paul seems to have been treated with kindness by his jailers. (ch. 27: 3; 28: 16).

26. Others who put off convictions. (ch. 17: 32). Read Isa. 55: 6; Heb. 2: 3.

LESSON IV.—October 24th, 1897.

Paul before King Agrippa. ACTS 26: 19-32.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

Who succeeded Felix as governor? What request did the High Priest make? What was his object? Was Festus willing to do what they wished? How did Paul escape the plot? What royal visitors came to Caesarea? Why did Festus ask them to hear Paul? Why is Paul pleased to plead his case before Agrippa? Make an outline of his speech.

19. Did Paul obey promptly? (Acts 9: 20, 22; 13: 16; 17: 2, 3). Mention other "visions." (Luke 1: 27, 24: 23; 2 Cor. 12: 1).

20. Was Paul received cordially by the Christians at Jerusalem? (Acts 9: 26) Who stood by him? Who tried to kill him?

22. Does God promise such help? (Exod. 4: 12. Josh. 1: 5; Rom. 8: 31). What is the reward of steadfastness? (Rev. 2: 3, 10). Had Paul still further testimony to bear? (ch. 23: 11). Was Christ predicted to be the Saviour of the Gentiles as well as the Jews? (Isa. 42: 6; 49: 6; 60: 1).

23. How does Christ bring light by his resurrection? (2 Tim. 1: 10). Of what is his resurrection a proof? (Rom. 1: 4; Acts 13: 32, 33). What did it prove to his disciples? (John 2: 19-21; Acts 3: 15; 4: 10; 17: 31). Of what is it the pledge? (1 Cor. 15: 13-22; 1 Thess. 4: 14).

24. Was Jesus ever accused of madness? (John 10: 20). What did Greeks think of the gospel? (1 Cor. 1: 23).

25. To whom does Luke give the title of "most noble" or "excellent?" (Luke 1: 3). Is "sobriety" a Christian grace? (Rom. 12: 3; 1 Tim. 2: 9; 3: 2; Titus 2: 8; 1: 11).

26. What evidence have we of the fame of Jesus? (John 12: 19).

28. Did Agrippa speak in jest, or seriously?

31. How often is Paul's innocence declared? (ch. 23: 29; 25: 25).

3

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—How did Paul prove that he was not a stirrer up of sedition? (6)

- 2.—How did he shew his reverence for the temple and its religion? (6)

- 3.—What great doctrine made Paul very careful how he lived? (5)

- 4.—What tumult did Paul confess to having raised? (4)

- 5.—What was the effect of Paul's preaching upon Felix? (4)

Name.....

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—What did Paul preach everywhere? (4)

- 2.—What did Festus say and what was Paul's answer? (5)

- 3.—What did Agrippa say and what was Paul's answer? (5)

- 4.—What different meanings are given to Agrippa's words? (6)

- 5.—What did Agrippa think of Paul's innocence? (5)

Name.....

LESSON V.—October 31st, 1897.

Paul's Voyage and Shipwreck. ACTS 27: 13-26.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

Under whose care did Paul sail to Italy? What former companion in persecution sailed in the same ship? (ch. 19: 29; 20: 4; Col. 4: 10; Phil. 24). What kindness did the centurion shew to Paul? At what port did they change ship? Trace their route on the map. Where did the Captain wish to lay up for the winter?

14. See description of a storm at sea in Ps. 107: 25-27.

18. What does this sacrifice of cargo to save life suggest regarding something of more value than life? (Matt. 16: 26; Luke 16: 8). How did Paul value earthly honors and possessions? (Phil. 3: 7, 8). What lesson may we learn from this verse regarding our treatment of hinderances in serving Christ? (Heb 12; 1).

19. Another ship in the same waters was lightened in the same way (Jonah 1: 5). What does Satan say about the value of life? (Job. 2: 4). What does Christ say is worth more than life? (Mark 8: 35; Luke 9: 24-25).

23. On what previous occasions had Paul received special revelations? (ch. 9: 4; 22: 17-21; 16: 9; 18: 9-10; 23: 11). Is there any promise of special spiritual knowledge to those who fear God? (Ps. 25: 14; Prov. 3: 32; Amos 3: 7; John 7: 17; Eph: 1. 9, 18). To what persons is the title "servant of God" given? (1 Chr. 6: 49; Rev. 15: 23; Dan. 6: 16, 20; Rom. 1: 9; Tit. 1: 1; Jas. 1: 1).

24. Some "Fear-nots," Isa. 41: 10, 14; 43: 1, 2). Was Paul desirous of visiting Rome? (ch. 19: 21). Was this promised to him? (ch. 23: 11). Instances of special blessings following the prayers of good men? (Gen. 39: 5, 23; Job. 42: 8; Jas. 5: 16). How many persons were in the ship? (verse 37). Is faith in God's willingness to answer prayer necessary to receiving what we ask? (Matt. 21: 22; Mark 9: 23; 11: 24). Instances of faith in promises (Luke 1: 45; Rom. 4: 20, 21; 2 Tim. 1: 12).

LESSON VI.—November 7th, 1897.

Paul in Melita and Rome. ACTS 28: 1-16.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

How many persons were in the ship? What precautions did the sailors take against running ashore in the night? What selfish and cowardly trick did they attempt? How was it frustrated? How did Paul encourage them all and show his faith in God? Why did they cast the wheat into the sea? Describe how they ran the vessel ashore? Why did the soldiers wish to kill the prisoners? What saved them? How did all get to land?

1-6. Where does Paul seem to refer to the kindness here received? (Rom. 1: 14) What is meant by a barbarian? (I. Cor. 14: 11; Col. 3: 11) What christian injunction in reference to hospitality? (Col. 3: 11) Did Christ forbid such hasty judgments as that regarding Paul? (Luke 13: 2; John 9: 2) What special promise is here fulfilled to Paul? (Ps. 91: 13; Mark 16: 18; Luke 10: 19) What false prophet claimed to be a god? (Acts 8: 10) To what Apostle was improper reverence once paid? (Acts 10: 25) On what other occasion was Paul mistaken for a god? (Acts 14: 11) Where is the worship of an angel forbidden? (Rev. 22: 8, 9).

7-10. Is there a general promise of healing in answer to prayer? (Jas. 5: 14, 15) What promise was here fulfilled to Paul? (Mark 16: 18). Was the "gift of healing" a special endowment of the early church? (I. Cor. 12: 9, 28) In what unusual way was it displayed by Peter? (Acts 5: 15); also by Paul himself? (Acts 19: 12).

11-16. What command of Christ did Paul obey when he came to Puteoli? (Matt. 10: 11) Give other instances? (Acts 19: 1; 21: 4, 7, 8) What is the believer's source of courage? (Ps. 27: 14; Acts 7: 6) In what other place was Paul allowed to live out of the prison? (ch. 24: 23; 25: 3) How long was this privilege granted to Paul? (Acts 28: 30).

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—What purpose is referred to in verse 1? (5)

- 2.—What dangers threatened the vessel? (5)

- 3.—How did their being unable to see the sun or stars increase their danger? (5)

- 4.—What did Paul say to cheer them? (5)

- 5.—What did the angel say to Paul? (5)

Name.....

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—What kindness did the people of Melita show to the shipwrecked ones? (5)

- 2.—What opinions did the barbarians form of Paul, and why? (5)

- 3.—Whom did Paul heal miraculously? (5)

- 4.—How did the people show their gratitude? (5)

- 5.—Who came to meet Paul after he had landed? (5)

Name.....

LESSON VII—November 14th, 1897.
Paul's Ministry in Rome. Acts 28: 17-31.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

17. Did Paul assert his innocence from the first? (ch. 24: 12, 13; 25: 8) How did Paul come into the custody of the Romans? (ch. 21: 33.)
18. How often had Paul been tried and found innocent? (ch. 22: 24; 24: 10; 25: 8; 26: 31).
19. Why did Paul appeal to Cæsar? (ch. 25: 11) What gave him the right to do so?
20. Had Paul stated this before? (ch. 26: 6, 7) Note how often Paul refers to his condition as a prisoner. (Eph. 3: 1; 4: 1; 6: 20; Phil. 1: 13-16; Col. 4: 18; II. Tim. 1: 16; 2: 9; Phil. 1: 9, 10, 13).
22. Why was it to be expected that the religion of Jesus would be spoken against? (Luke 2: 34; Acts 24: 5, 14) How should Christians act in view of this? (I. Pet. 2: 12) What is their consolation? (I. Peter 4: 14).
23. What other teacher followed the same line of argument? (Luke 24: 27) It was Paul's favorite theme. (ch. 17: 3; 19: 8; 26: 22, 23).
34. Other cases when Paul persuaded some and hardened others. (ch. 14: 4; 17: 4; 18: 6-8; 19: 9).
25. Other references to spiritual incapacity through obstinacy. (Isa. 6: 9; 44: 18; Jer. 5: 21; Ezek. 12: 2; Matt. 13: 14; Mark 4: 12; Luke 8: 10; John 12: 40; Rom. 11: 8; Ps. 81: 11, 12).
28. Did Christ predict this? (Matt. 21: 41, 43). On what other occasion did Paul say the same thing? (ch. 13: 46, 47; 18: 6) When did Paul receive his commission to do this? (Acts 22: 21; 26: 17, 18) What effect will the preaching of the gospel to the Gentiles ultimately have upon the Jews? (Rom. 11: 11, 12, 15, 25).
31. What enabled Paul to speak so boldly for Christ? (ch. 4: 31; Eph. 6: 19) How was Paul supported during his imprisonment? (Phil. 1: 7; 4: 10, 18) How is Rom. 8: 28 illustrated by Paul's circumstances? (Phil. 1: 12; II. Tim. 2: 9).

LESSON VIII.—November 21st, 1897.
The Christian Armour. Eph. 6: 10-20.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

- Other instances of the use of the soldier's equipment as setting forth spiritual truths (Isa. 11: 5; 59: 17; Ps. 18: 2, 34, 35, 39; 144: 1, 2; 2 Cor. 10: 4; 1 Thess. 5: 8).
10. How is the Christian made strong? (ch. 3: 16; Col. 1: 11; John 15: 5).
11. What other names are given to this armor? (Rom. 13: 12; 2 Cor. 6: 7). What kind of weapons are not "of God?" (Col. 2: 18-23)
12. What is meant by "flesh and blood?" Matt. 16: 17; 1 Cor. 15: 50; Gal. 1: 16). Other mention of the hierarchy of angels. (Rom. 8: 38; Eph. 1: 21; Col. 2: 15). Other allusions to the world-dominion of the Evil one (2 Cor. 4: 4; John 12: 31; 14: 30; 16: 11; Luke 10: 18; Acts 10: 18; Eph. 2: 2). Darkness as symbolic of moral evil. (Luke 22: 53; Col. 1: 13; 1 Pet. 2: 9; Acts 26: 18; Luke 1: 79; John 8: 12; 2 Cor. 4: 6).
13. With what weapons must the Christian fight? (2 Cor. 10: 4; 1 Tim. 1: 18, 19) What promise of success does the Christian have? (Ps. 41: 2; 49: 5).
14. What is Christ's girdle? (Isa. 11: 5). What is ours? (1 Pet. 1: 23; Jas. 1: 18). What was his breastplate? (Isa. 59: 17). What is ours? (Phil. 3: 8, 9; Rom. 1: 17; 3: 21, 22).
15. What does Isaiah say of the heralds of the gospel? (Isa. 52: 7; Rom. 10: 15). The gospel gives peace. (Isa. 26: 3; Phil. 4: 7; John 14: 27).
16. What is the faith referred to? (1 John 5: 4, 5).
17. Where does Paul display this helmet? (Rom. 8: 31-39). What is it elsewhere called? (1 Thess. 5: 8). What prophet speaks of it? (Isa. 59: 17). Where is the Bible elsewhere compared to a sword? (Heb. 4: 12; Rev. 1: 16; 2: 16; 19: 15).
18. The need of constant prayer. (Luke 18: 1; Rom. 12: 12; Col. 4: 2; 1 Thess. 5: 17). The necessity for watchfulness. (Matt. 26: 41; Mark 13: 33). Prayer for others. (Eph. 1: 16; Phil. 1: 4; 1 Tim. 2: 1).
19. Prayers for courage to speak out. (Acts 4: 29; Col. 4: 3; 1 Thess. 2: 2; 2 Thess. 3: 1).
20. Ministers of the gospel are Christ's ambassadors. (2 Cor. 5: 20).

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—Why did Paul appeal to Cæsar? (5)
- 2.—Why was he “bound with this chain”? (5)
- 3.—What did Paul “expound” to the Jews? (5)
- 4.—What is meant by “gross” hearts and “dull” ears? (5)
- 5.—How did Paul employ the years of his imprisonment? (5)

Name.....

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1—What makes the Christian strong? (5)
- 2—Against what foes has the Christian to fight? (5)
- 3—What is meant by the “breastplate of righteousness?” (5)
- 4—What is meant by the “helmet of Salvation?” (5)
- 5—What did Paul wish the Ephesians to ask on his behalf? (5)

Name.....

LESSON IX—November 28th, 1897.

Salutary Warnings. I PET. 4: 1-8.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

When was *1 Peter* written? At what place? To whom? What led him to write it? Read over the epistle and give the substance of it in your own words.

1. With what preceding verse is this connected? (3: 18). What is the christian's relation to sin? (Rom. 6: 2, 7; Gal. 5: 24; Col. 3: 3, 5).

2. What law then rules the christian's life? (Rom. 14: 7, 8; ch. 1: 14). What is the source of his spiritual life? (John 1: 13; Jas. 1: 18). To whom does he live? (Rom. 6: 11; 2 Cor. 5: 15; Gal. 2: 20).

3. God will forgive the past if we do better in the future. (Ezek. 44: 6; 45: 9; Acts 17: 30). The christian should not demean himself by following the evil practices of the world. (Eph. 2: 2; 4: 17; 1 Thess. 4: 5; 1 Pet. 1: 14). Why should the christian sometimes remember his sinful past? (1 Cor. 6: 11; Titus 3: 3-5).

4. Had Christ forewarned his disciples that they would be slandered? (Matt. 5: 11). What reward to those who bear evil words patiently? (1 Pet. 4: 14; 2 Cor. 4: 17; Rom. 8: 18, 34).

5. Christ will be the Judge at the last day. (Acts 10: 42; 17: 31; Rom. 14: 10, 12; 2 Tim. 4: 1).

7. Did the apostles believe that the coming of Christ was near at hand? (Rom. 13: 12; Phil. 4: 5; Heb. 10: 25; Jas. 5: 9; 2 Pet. 3: 9-11; 1 John 2: 18). Sobriety and watchfulness enjoined (Matt. 26: 41; Luke 21: 34, 36; Col. 4: 2; 1 Pet. 1: 13; 5: 8).

8. What love can do. (Col. 3: 14; 1 Pet. 1: 22; 1 John 4: 7). Love hides faults. (Prov. 10: 12; 1 Cor. 13: 7; Jas. 5: 20).

LESSON X—December 5th, 1897.

Christ's Humility an Exaltation. PHILIPPIANS 2: 1-11.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

Where was Philippi? Tell what you know about the founding of the church there. How long since it was founded? Where was Paul when he wrote it? Who carried it to Philippi? Read the whole epistle.

1. The Holy Spirit is the bond of union among christians. (1 Cor. 12: 4, 13; 2 Cor. 13: 14). A loving spirit is essential. (Col. 3: 12).

2. "Fulfil" in the sense of "make full." (John 3: 29). The duty of trying to agree with others if possible. (Rom. 12: 16; 15: 5; 1 Cor. 1: 10; 2 Cor. 13: 11; Phil. 1: 27; 3: 16; 4: 2; 1 Pet. 3: 8).

3. Ambition and overweening self-importance are unseemly in the church. (Gal. 5: 26; Phil. 1: 15, 16; Jas. 3: 14). Modest self-depreciation is a christian virtue. (Rom. 12: 10; Eph. 5: 21; 1 Pet. 5: 5).

4. Unselfishness commended. (1 Cor. 10: 24, 33; 13: 5; Phil. 2: 21).

5. How are we to get the mind of Christ? (Matt. 11: 29; John 13: 15; 1 Pet. 2: 21; 1 John 2: 6).

6. The divine nature of Jesus declared by the prophets. (Isa. 9: 6; Zech. 13: 7). Also set forth in the gospels. (John 1: 1, 2, 14, 18; John 17: 5. And reasserted in the epistles. (2 Cor. 4: 4; Col. 1: 15; Heb. 1: 3). Christ's essential equality with God declared. (John 5: 18; 10: 30, 33).

7. Christ's humiliation predicted. (Ps. 22: 6; Isa. 53: 3; Dan. 9: 26; Mark 9: 12). In prophecy called a "servant." (Isa. 42: 1; 49: 3, 6; 52: 13; 53: 11; Ezek. 34: 23, 24; Zech. 3: 8). His ministry was a service of others. (Matt. 20: 28; Luke 22: 27). Jesus was a real man. (John 1: 14; Rom. 1: 3; 8: 3; Gal. 4: 4; Heb. 2: 14, 17).

8. The obedience of Christ illustrated. (Matt. 26: 39, 42; John 10: 18; Heb. 5: 8; 12: 2; Luke 2: 51).

10. All prayer should be in the name of Jesus. (Eph. 5: 20; Matt. 28: 18; John 16: 23; Rom. 10: 13; 1 Cor. 1: 2).

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—Why should those who love Christ cease from sin? (5)
- 2.—Whose will should rule the christian's life? (5)
- 3.—Why are good people often spoken ill of? (5)
- 4.—What effect should the thought of the judgment day have upon christians? (5)
- 5.—What should love lead us to do concerning the faults of others? (5)

Name.....

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—What did Paul desire in order to complete his joy? (5)
- 2.—How does love teach us to regard the interests of others? (5)
- 3.—What did Christ lay aside when he became man? (5)
- 4.—Describe the steps of his humiliation? (5)
- 5.—What shall every tongue confess regarding Jesus? (5)

Name.....

LESSON XI—December 12th, 1897.

Paul's Last Words. 2 Tim. 4: 1-8; 16-18.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

When was *II Timothy* written? Where was Paul? Where was Timothy?

1. Note the deeper solemnity of Paul in these epistles to Timothy (1 Tim. 5: 21; 6: 13; 2 Tim. 2: 14). How did the prospect of the judgment affect Paul? (Acts 24: 16). The scene at the judgment (Rev. 20: 12-15).

2. Is it the duty of christians to submit meekly to the admonitions of their pastors? (Heb. 13: 7, 17; 1 Thess. 5: 12, 13).

3. By what standard should all teaching be tested? (Isa. 8: 20; John 5: 39; Acts 17: 11; 1 John 4: 1-3; Rev. 2: 2; 1 Cor. 12: 3).

4. Rejection of the truth carries its own punishment with it (Jer. 2: 19; 6: 19; Prov. 1: 31; 14: 14).

5. Endurance of hardship for Christ's sake is required of the christian warrior (ch. 2: 3; 1: 8). When was Timothy chosen to preach the gospel? (Acts 21: 8). Were evangelists a distinct class in the early church? (Eph. 4: 11; Acts 21: 1).

6. Death spoken of as a departure (Phil. 1: 23; 2 Pet. 1: 14; 2 Cor. 5: 8).

7. How was Paul armed for the conflict? (Eph. 6: 13-18). He elsewhere speaks of his eagerness in the christian race (1 Cor. 9: 24, 25; Phil. 3: 14; Heb. 12: 1).

8. By what other names is the christian's crown designated? (1 Cor. 9: 25; Jas. 1: 12; 1 Pet. 5: 4; Rev. 2: 10). Paul's confidence in view of "that Day" (2 Tim. 1: 12).

16. What other desertions did Paul lament? (ch. 1: 15). Of what prayer do these words remind you? (Acts 7: 60).

17. What promise was fulfilled to Paul? (Matt. 10: 19). On what other occasions did Jesus encourage Paul? (Acts 18: 9, 10; 23: 11; 22: 17-21; 27: 23).

18. A gracious promise fulfilled (Ps. 121: 7). Paul frequently breaks out into words of adoration (Rom. 11: 36; Gal. 1: 5; Heb. 13: 21).

LESSON XII—December 19th, 1897.

John's Message about Sin and Salvation. 1 John 1: 5-2: 6.

BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.

Who wrote this epistle? To whom? What other books of the N. T. did he write? When was it written? Where?

5. What does James say of God as the source of blessings? (Jas. 1: 17). Did Christ manifest this divine light? (John 1: 5-9; 3: 19). Darkness emblematic (Isa. 8: 22; Eph. 5: 11; 6: 12; Luke 22: 53; Matt. 6: 23).

6. Obedience is the test of discipleship (1 John 2: 4; John 15: 10, 14; 14: 21, 23; 2 Cor. 6: 14).

7. Cleansing from sin through the blood of Christ (1 Cor. 6: 11; Eph. 1: 7; Heb. 9: 14; 1 Pet. 1: 18, 19; 1 John 2: 2; Rev. 1: 5).

8. All have sinned (1 Kings 8: 46; 2 Chr. 6: 36; Job 9: 2; 15: 14; 25: 4; Prov. 20: 9; Ecc. 7: 20; Jas. 3: 2).

9. Pardon follows penitence (Ps. 32: 5; Job. 33: 27, 28; Ps. 51: 17; Prov. 28: 13; Isa. 55: 6, 7). God's justice manifested in pardoning sin (Rom. 3: 26; Acts 13: 38, 39; Rom. 8: 1; Isa. 53: 11; Hab. 2: 4).

1. Believers elsewhere addressed as "little children" (John 13: 33; Gal. 4: 9; 1 John 2: 12, 28; 3: 7, 18; 4: 4; 5: 21). Christ intercedes for sinners (Rom 8: 34; 1 Tim 2: 5; Heb. 9: 15, 24; 7: 24, 25).

2. Christ's death was a propitiatory sacrifice, that is, satisfied the demands of God's law and changed God's attitude towards the sinner. (Rom. 3: 25; 1 John 4: 10. Compare Ps. 5: 5; 7: 11; Ex. 23: 7; Heb. 2: 2, with 2 Cor. 5: 19, 21; Rom. 10: 4; 8: 1, 33, 34). The merits of Christ's death are available for everyone in the whole world who will believe (1 Tim. 2: 3-6; John 3: 16; Heb. 2: 9). He has removed all the barriers which stood in the way of man's salvation. If any one perishes it is not because Christ did not do enough (John 1: 29; 4: 42; 11: 51, 52; 1 John 4: 14).

4. How is love to God made more perfect? (John 14: 21, 23; 1 John 4: 12; 1 Cor. 13: 13).

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—What did Paul solemnly charge Timothy to do? (5)
- 2.—What are those likely to believe who reject the Bible? (5)
- 3.—How does Paul regard his life as he looks back upon it? (5)
- 4.—To what reward does he look forward? (5)
- 5.—What confident expectation does he express in the last verse of the lesson? (5)

Name.....

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN WRITING.

- 1.—What does John say that God "is"? (4)
- 2.—What do those have who walk in the light? (5)
- 3.—What hope have we if we sin again after being forgiven? (5)
- 4.—How is our love to God perfected? (5)
- 5.—What is the only true test of a genuine disciple? (6)

Name.....

LESSON XIII—December 26th, 1897.

REVIEW.

(The maximum value of each correct answer is 4).

- 1.—With whom did Paul stay at Caesarea?
- 2.—What did Paul say to those who tried to dissuade him from going up to Jerusalem?
- 3.—Who rescued Paul from the mob in the temple?
- 4.—What rights did he claim when arrested?
- 5.—When defending himself before Felix, on what points did Paul say that his opponents and he believed alike?
- 6.—With what words did Felix dismiss him?
- 7.—What answer did Paul make to Festus when he said he was beside himself?
- 8.—What did Agrippa say to Paul?
- 9.—What did the sailors do to enable the ship to weather the storm?
- 10.—What assurance did Paul give them that no life would be lost?
- 11.—What made the people of Melita think Paul was a bad man, and the next moment say he was a god?

- 12.—What miracle of healing did he perform there ?
- 13.—Who came to meet Paul as he approached Rome and what effect had their kindness upon him ?
- 14.—What effort did Paul make to convince the Jews at Rome that Jesus was “the Hope of Israel ?”
- 15.—How long did Paul continue a prisoner before his trial ?
- 16.—Against what enemies does the christian fight ?
- 17.—Name the pieces which make up the “whole armor of God.”
- 18.—Why should Christians be self-denying and prayerful ?
- 19.—What Christian virtue should lead us to cover up the faults of others ?
- 20.—How ought we to show lowliness of mind ?
- 21.—How did Christ display unselfish love for others ?
- 22.—How does Paul briefly describe a preacher's duties ?
- 23.—What is the reward of faithful servants at the Lord's appearing ?
- 24.—What can alone cleanse from sin ?
- 25.—How do we know that it can cleanse everyone ?

Name.....

EXCUSE FOR ABSENCE.

Dear Teacher,—Please excuse my absence from Sabbath School to-day, I cannot come because I have read the "Daily Portions" and answered the questions as well as I could. I have committed to memory verses in addition to the Golden Text, and Questions in the Catechism and have recited them to I was at church I send with this my Weekly Offering of cents.

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