

The Sunday-School.

SECOND QUARTER,
LESSON III.—April 17.

JESUS TRANSFIGURED.

Mark 9: 2-13.

THE LESSON includes the three accounts of the Transfiguration (Matt. 17: 1-13; Mark 9: 2-13; Luke 9: 28-36). Compare 2 Pet. 1: 16-21; John 1: 14. Also a brief view of the incident of the epileptic boy, that immediately followed given in all three reports, but most fully in Mark 9: 14-29.

GOLDEN TEXT.—*A voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.*—Mark 9: 7.

HISTORICAL SETTING.—*Time.*—Autumn of A. D. 29, a week after the last lesson. *Place.*—Some one of the spurs of Mt. Hermon, in the vicinity of Cesarea Philippi.

Place in the Life of Christ.—The last half of the third year. The complement of the epoch marked by the last lesson, without which that would be incomplete.

Learn by Heart.—John 1: 14. Matt. 17: 5; Rev. 1: 16.

THE MOUNTAIN TOP PRAYER MEETING. V. 2. *And after six days from the revelation to the disciples that Jesus would be crucified, Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John. The three best scholars in the school of Jesus, into an high mountain apart. The mountain was Hermon.*

JESUS TRANSFIGURED.—REVEALING HIS TRUE NATURE AND GLORY.—Vs. 2, 3. *And he was transfigured before them. While he was praying, and his raiment became shining, exceeding white. With a supernatural whiteness as from an inward radiance. It was his inner spirit shining through the veil of the flesh.*

THE GLORY OF JESUS CONFIRMED BY VISITORS FROM HEAVEN.—Vs. 4. *And there appeared unto them (the disciples) Elias with Moses. These persons were really present. Luke says that they appeared in their glorified bodies; something like that of the transfigured Jesus, but with less radiance.*

Moses was the Representative of the Law.—Through him the law was given, and the kingdom founded, and the sacrifices instituted which prefigured the sacrifice of Christ.

Elijah was the Representative of the Prophets, who foretold the coming of the Messiah, his sufferings, and his kingly glory, while he was himself the type of the forerunner.

Their Conference.—And they were talking with Jesus, concerning his departure. This Jesus was about to accomplish at Jerusalem by being crucified, as he had foretold, and rising again from the dead.

1. This conversation would bring human comfort and strength to Jesus, as he stood seemingly alone in his view of a suffering Messiah. The presence of Moses and Elijah, in glorified form, would be a positive assurance to him of his own resurrection.

2. It strengthened the faith of the disciples. It showed them how Jesus was fulfilling the Scriptures which foretold and typified the Messiah.

THE EFFECT ON THE THREE DISCIPLES.—Vs. 5, 6. *The three disciples watched*

this conversation for some time. *And Peter answered,* not to any question, but in response to what he saw was good. It widened his outlook. It awakened heavenly feelings, it filled him with new faith in Jesus. *Let us make three tabernacles.* If they were to remain they must have a place to dwell in. *For he knew (knew) not what to say.* He was bewildered, and could not collect his thoughts, *for they were sore afraid* in this strange, awe-inspiring scene.

THE GLORY OF JESUS EXPRESSED BY A VOICE FROM HEAVEN.—Vs. 7, 8. Jesus made no answer to Peter, but while he was yet speaking there was a bright cloud that overshadowed them, hiding the three from sight. Like the shekinah in the tabernacle in the wilderness, and in the temple when it was dedicated, the cloud was a token of the immediate presence of God. *A voice . . . This is my beloved Son: hear him.* The same voice that had spoken at his baptism. The truth about the real nature of Jesus must be impressed upon the disciples so that they should never lose their faith even in the dark times that were to follow. *Hear him.* Attend to his instructions and obey him. When the disciples heard the voice they fell on their faces. Then Jesus came and touched them, *and suddenly, when they had looked round about, they saw no man. . . save Jesus only.* The two heavenly visitants had vanished.

THE DISCUSSION ON THE WAY DOWN THE MOUNTAIN.—Vs. 9-13. *As they came (were coming) down from the mountain to where they had left the other disciples. They should tell no till Jesus was risen from the dead.* stood by the people nor could the disciples understand it well enough to teach it till Jesus was risen from the dead. That they were not prepared to make the Transfiguration known till after the resurrection is shown by the fact that they were questioning (among themselves) *what the rising from the dead should mean.* Was this appearance of Elijah the resurrection, the fulfillment of the saying of the scribes, *that Elias (Elijah) must first come?* They were questioning how Jesus could be the Messiah if Elijah had not come. *Elias verily cometh first, as prophesied. And restoreth all things.* Works a reformation, brings back the true principles and life of the kingdom of God. *And how it is written.* Psa. 22: 6; Isa. 53. Jesus explains to them again that the Messiah must suffer. *Elias is indeed come* in the person of John the Baptist, who came in the spirit and power of Elijah. *Listed.* Lusted, different forms of the same word. *As it is written of him.* In the history of Elijah in Kings. He was persecuted by Jezebel, just as John the Baptist was by Herod.

THE WORK THAT AWAITED THEM AT THE FOOT OF THE MOUNTAIN.—The story of casting out the demon from an afflicted boy.

THE HEART OF THE LESSON.

Our richest and most heavenly experiences come in and through prayer. We all need the highest and sweetest experiences of the love of Christ. They help us bear our burdens, overcome our temptations, do our Christian work. These higher experiences, times of re-

vival, exultation, bless and inspire all our subsequent life, even though we do not continue in the mountain-top experience. No one can measure the blessing of a shower by the amount of water that remains on the surface, nor the fruit on a tree by the length of time the blossoms of spring abide on its boughs. Communion with Christ transfigures our lives. We thus are changed into the image of Christ.

THE BIBLE IN THE HOME.

The Bible to be a special blessing to the home, must be used. If it only lies neglected on the centre-table, or on the shelf, while it may, even then, be a silent reminder of obligation to God, it cannot be a mold of character and an instructor in vital godliness. To do this it must be revered, read, and studied. A writer in the *Pacific Methodist Advocate* puts it well, as follows:

"The Bible educates by developing physically, mentally, morally, and spiritually all the powers of man. It exercises each along its peculiar line, properly co-ordinates and subordinates them, turns to advantage the law of habit, and appeals to human interest and enthusiasm. Thus the Bible is indispensable to true education.

"These things belong to, and begin in, the home; where the first and strongest impressions are made. If the home life be correct, we need have but little fear of any other influence. 'Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it.' If right principles have been inculcated, right laws enforced, right instruction given and true education begun and continued in the home, it will take a powerful force indeed from without to overthrow that character. . . . Keep the Bible in sight and use it every day. Saturate the home with its precepts, sow the seed of the kingdom in the heart of childhood, live according to its teaching, then home will be a heaven to the entire family below, and heaven will be a home for the entire family above."

INSTINCT OF IMITATION.

"Children are what their mothers are." Have you never walked through the dirty, dismal part of a city and heard little imps utter oaths and profane words in their childish way? Dear children, are they alone to blame? Who is to blame? Little ones have sharp eyes.

A lady was speaking in a light, playful way to a motherless one, of something noticeable in her father's looks. The child mistook her manner for jesting and "making fun." The little face grew sadder and sadder, soon she covered it, crept under the table, gave way to violent tears, and nothing could pacify her, father was as dear to her as her life.

My teacher does so, said a child, illustrating the habit. When the teacher was informed of the scholar's remark, he was not aware of his conduct in this respect, and was glad to correct the foolish, nervous habit. Have you never seen children of different schools "playing school" together, and each one wants everything done just as "my teacher" does it? Who of us cannot remember the words and ways of our teacher? Parents, teachers, are we not eyes and ears to the little ones around us? Each reader may make the application of the truth.—*Common People.*

A tiny pinch of salt added to coffee before the boiling water is poured on will accentuate the delicious flavor and aroma.

Ayer's

When the nerves are weak everything goes wrong. You are tired all the time, easily discouraged, nervous, and irritable. Your cheeks are

Sarsaparilla

pale and your blood is thin. Your doctor says you are threatened with a nervous breakdown. He orders this grand old family medicine.

"For more than 50 years I have used Ayer's Sarsaparilla in my family. It is a grand tonic at all times, and a wonderful medicine for impure blood."—D. C. HOLT, West Haven, Conn.

for Weak Nerves

Keep the bowels regular with Ayer's Pills; just one pill each night.

The finest of manicure acids is made by putting a teaspoonful of lemon juice in a cupful of warm water. This removes most stains from the fingers and nails and loosens the cuticle more satisfactorily than can be done by the use of a sharp instrument.

Rich Color and Soft Skin.

May be imitated, but beauty is more than skin deep—it is hidden in the blood. Eliminate the poisonous products of indigestion by Ferrozone, and complexion rapidly improves. Increase the red coloring matter in the blood, give it more nutrition and more red cells, do this and cosmetics won't be needed. Give up cosmetics, they wither too quickly. Use Ferrozone and have your complexion firmly established. Tiers isn't a case of blotched skin, poor complexion or lack of color that can't be quickly remedied by Ferrozone. Try it. Price 50c.

Baked potatoes are much lighter if broken with a fork rather than a knife; and pricked with a fork before baking.

Narrow chested, weak lunged people can't be cured by medicine. Plenty of fresh air, mild exercise and "The D. & L." Emulsion at the first sign of weakness or loss of weight is the best treatment.

A spoon should not be left in a saucepan if you wish the contents to cool quickly since the spoon carries off heat slowly.

As Fire Spreads in dry grass, so does an inflammation in the throat, grow down into the lungs. Deal promptly with a cold as with a fire, and when you begin to cough use Allen's Lung Balsam.

A bloodless person needs blood-making foods, not drugs.

The dirtiest fry-pan will become clean if soaked five minutes in ammonia and water.

Relieve those Inflamed Eyes!

Pond's Extract

Reduced one-half with pure soft water, applied frequently with a copper or e e cure, the congestion will be removed and the pain and inflammation instantly relieved.

CAUTION!—Avoid dangerous, irritating Witch Hazel preparations represented to be "the same as" Pond's Extract which easily sores and generally contains "Wood alcohol," a deadly poison.