

The Sunday-School.

FIRST QUARTER,  
LESSON X.—Mar. 5.

JESUS AT THE FEAST OF  
TABERNACLES.

John 7: 37-46.

Commit v. 37. Read John 7: 1-52.

GOLDEN TEXT.—*Never man spake like this man.* John 7: 46.

HISTORICAL SETTING.

*Time.*—October, A. D. 29, at the Feast of Tabernacles, which that year began October 11. About six months after our last lesson.

*Place.*—Jerusalem, in the court of the Temple.

*Jesus.*—Nearly 33 years old.

*Place in His Life.*—Toward the close of the third year of his ministry; about six months before his crucifixion.

For some time after the events of our last lesson Jesus walked in Galilee, instead of going up to the Passover at Jerusalem, because of the hostility of the Jews there. In a quiet way Jesus went up later to the feast and began to teach in the Temple. Then began an earnest discussion. Some said he was a good man; others, that he deceived the people. They went about to kill him on account of his healing on the Sabbath. These were Jews who knew the plans of the leaders to kill Jesus when he healed the impotent man at Bethesda a year before, and they wonder why they do not do it now when he comes into the temple and teaches. Many believed on Jesus, because they saw that he did all that could be expected of the Messiah. Hearing their murmurings, and seeing some of their people going over to Jesus, the Pharisees send officers to arrest him. Jesus' reply was a solemn warning. In a little while you will succeed in destroying my life, and I shall go to my Father. But ere long you will seek me, but in vain. When destruction is coming upon your city, you will call for the Messiah, but will not find me.

All the above had taken place at the Feast of Tabernacles. (1) *Date.* Annually from the 15th to the 22nd of Tishri (Sept.-Oct.), the first month of the new year. (2) *Object.* It was a festival of Ingathering and also a commemoration of their deliverance from the forty years in the wilderness. (3) *How celebrated.* In Jerusalem booths were erected everywhere. Nobody was living at home; everybody in these booths. All distinctions of rank forgotten. Each morning a procession, with music, went down to the Pool of Siloam, and drew water into a golden pitcher, from which it was poured out upon the altar amid Hallelujahs. At night four huge golden candelabra, each with four golden bowls, were lighted in the centre of the court. It is supposed that on the last evening of the festival, when the light of this illumination was to cease, Christ called attention to himself, "I am the light of the world."

*In the last day, that great day of the feast.* Early in the morning the people march to the sound of music, in a procession headed by a priest, who bore a golden pitcher, and brought it back into the court of the temple amid the shouts of the multitude, and poured it upon the altar. This ceremony was symbolical of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Just at this point, when the interest had

been raised to its highest pitch, Jesus cried, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink." Whatever natural wants and innocent and spiritual aspirations men have, Christ undertakes to satisfy every one. *He that believeth on me.* It expresses the willingness to receive the gift from Jesus, to accept his teaching, to obey his commands, to follow his guidance. *As the Scripture hath said.* The reference is not to any one isolated passage, but to the general tenor. *Out of his belly.* Better, "his heart." *Shall flow rivers of living water.* Just as from the rock in the desert the water flowed forth for the thirsty multitudes and the stream followed them. *Shall flow.* The water which he drinks becomes in him a spring from which living waters flow. *Rivers.* Denoting abundance, freeness, continued supply. *Of living water.* Pure, running water, ever-flowing streams. *But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive.* The Holy Spirit and his influences were the living waters. This is a prophecy of the dispensation of the Spirit, which was to commence on the day of Pentecost, and continue till all the world is brought to Christ. *For the Holy Ghost was not yet given.* The dispensation of the Spirit, when his influences should come in their full abundance. It began on the day of Pentecost. *Because that Jesus was not yet glorified.* His earthly work was not yet completed.

*Of a truth this is the Prophet.* "The prophet of Deut. 18: 15, whom some supposed would be the forerunner of the Messiah. *Others said, This is the Christ.* The great Messiah King whom they expected. *Shall Christ come out of Galilee?* Christ seemed to them to come from Galilee. *Hath not the Scripture said.* This is their argument for believing that Jesus could not be the Messiah. *That Christ cometh of the seed (or offspring) of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?* Where he was born and lived for sixteen years. All the trouble with their argument was that they did not take care to ascertain the facts. Their quotations of Scripture were an argument in favor of Jesus being the Messiah. *So there was a division.* Vapors and fogs sometimes arise at the dawn, but the risen sun dissipates them. *Some of them.* Of the multitude, not the officers mentioned in the next verse. *Would have taken him.* Arrested him. *But no man laid hands on him.* The divisions among the people, and the nobility of Jesus' character, saved him from being taken.

*Result.*—Discussion aided the spread of the truth by awakening interest. Often a cause grows fastest, and becomes purest and strongest when under fire.

*Then came the officers* who had been sent out by the Pharisees and chief priests to arrest Jesus. *Why have ye not brought him?* Their only answer was, *Never a man spake like this man.* The dignity of Jesus, the blessedness of his gospel, the heavenly truths he spoke, overawed even the temple police. The Pharisees, indignant, ask, *Are you also led astray?* Look, — against him are all the rulers, the noble, the learned, the teachers. In his favor are only the ignorant rabble.

We now see how Nicodemus who had come to Jesus by night had grown in faith. It was a bold step he took.

What he said exposed him to the bitter hostility of his compeers.

How gently and beautifully Jesus meets opposition. The discussion leads men to believe on him.

A WISE MOTHER.

"I have taught my children," said a mother I know, "to come to me immediately for even a pin scratch. I do not mean to exaggerate little pains, but my father, who was a physician, taught me how easy was precaution beside cure. I always keep on hand two good antiseptics, listerine and boracic acid in solution. Every fresh wound or scratch is bathed cleanly and wrapped in sterilized cheesecloth before a particle of dirt can enter it. One so often finds children with stubborn sores on their hands and feet, which take forever to heal. They were probably caused by a rusty nail, by the dirty sort of a knife one finds in a boy's pocket or by a broken bottle which may have held anything. The ugliest wound of this sort, if cared for immediately, will heal immediately. In nearly every city during the winter a course is given on nursing and simple surgical work, which a mother may find both interesting and profitable. If this is not available I would advise every mother to go to her physician and pay him a fee if necessary for a lesson on cleaning a wound and bandaging it, as well as what to do for the bruises and contusions which are of daily occurrence in the growing family.—*Good Housekeeping.*

TRUE GIVING.

Dr. Miller tells the story of Henry Thornton, who was a most generous giver to good causes. A visitor called on him one day and asked for a special subscription for missions, and he made out a check for \$25. Before the ink was dry, a messenger boy came in with a telegram. Mr. Thornton opened it, and the visitor noticed that his face turned very pale and his hand trembled. He said to the visitor, "I have received terrible news. I have lost thousands of dollars. Give me back that check." It was hard to give it back, as, of course, the visitor expected to see it torn up. But Mr. Thornton, on receiving it, changed the \$25 to \$250, saying, "God has taught me that I may not much longer possess my property, and I must use it well." That man had chosen the true way to contentment. Contentment is always possible when we keep an open mind to be taught of God, and realize that in everything we are His stewards.

THAT PALE TIRED GIRL.

She is in society, in business, at home, everywhere you see her, but always worn and fatigued. She hasn't heard of Ferrozone or she would be perfectly well. How quickly it strengthens—what an appetite it gives—what a glow it brings to pallid cheeks! The nutriment contained in Ferrozone puts strength into anybody. Laughing eyes, rosy lips, bright quick movements all tell of the vitality Ferrozone produces. Thousands of attractive happy women use Ferrozone—Why not you? A box of fifty chocolate coated tablets costs fifty cents at any drug store.

Always verify your spelling and your quotations. If in doubt about a word, take the time to look it up in a dictionary. Many a person has spent half his

**Ayer's**

Feed your hair; nourish it; give it something to live on. Then it will stop falling, and will grow long and heavy. Ayer's Hair Vigor is the only

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hair food you can buy. For 60 years it has been doing just what we claim it will do. It will not disappoint you.

"My hair used to be very short. But after using Ayer's Hair Vigor a short time it began to grow, and now it is fourteen inches long. This seems a splendid result to me after being almost without any hair."

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for

**Short Hair**

life in trying to live down a reputation for bad spelling caused by laziness in not consulting a dictionary. Never quote a text from the Bible or a verse of poetry unless you are quite sure you know it correctly.

*Be there a Will Wisdom Points the Way.*—The sick man pines for relief, but he dislikes sending for the doctor, which means bottles of drugs never consumed. He has not the resolution to load his stomach with compounds which smell villainously and taste worse. But if he has the will to deal himself with his ailment, wisdom will direct his attention to Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, which, as a specific for indigestion and disorders of the digestive organs, have no equal.

When writing an important letter make notes in advance of what you propose to say, or write out beforehand a rough draft or copy of it.

*It is the Farmer's Friend.*—The farmer will find in Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil a potent remedy for wounds or pains in the body or for affections of the respiratory organs and for household use generally. He will also find it a convenient friend in treating injured horses, cattle, etc., or relieving them when attacked by colds, coughs or any kindred ailments to which they are subject.

Do not use "high flown" expressions or grandiloquent terms in writing. Do not make your adjectives larger than their nouns. A noun with an adjective that is too large for it is like a small boy walking about with his father's hat upon his head. Use simple adjectives. Do not use "tremendous" and superlative ones.

**AFTER SHAVING**

**POND'S EXTRACT**

COOLS, COMFORTS AND HEALS THE SKIN, ENABLING THE MOST TENDER FACE TO ENJOY A CLOSE SHAVE WITHOUT UNPLEASANT RESULTS.

Avoid dangerous, irritating Witch Hazel preparations represented to be "the same as" Pond's Extract, which easily sour and generally contain "wood alcohol," a deadly poison.

