

Sunday School.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON NO. X.
MARCH 6, 1904.

Jesus Calms the Storm.

Commentary.—I. Crossing Galilee, v. 25, 30, 31. The other side—Jesus had passed over, became very weary through the long day's work and needed refreshment. “Unto the oaks” is a watchword of faith, breaking through all narrow boundaries. A watchword of love, overcoming all Jealousies. A watchword of courage, overcoming all dangers!—Lange. “Christ is continually saying the same to us. He is ever calling us to pass over some line into new fields, with their new experiences, privileges, duties, conflicts, joys.”

2. To call away the multitude—The country around Capernaum, and in all Galilee, was densely populated and great crowds of people followed Christ wherever He went. His teaching was original, His personality very striking, and His miracles proved the power and authority. “Just before the boat put off three of the listeners to His words desired to attach themselves to Him as His disciples: 1. A scribe, 2. An already partial disciple. 3. Another who wished first to bid farewell to his friends at home.”—MacLean. In the ship—Life has often been approached, described as a voyage. Christ will come on board the barque in which our destiny is being carried forward. Do we want him to? Little ships—None of the so-called ships on this lake were of any great size; they were what we would call fishing boats.

H. A great tempest, v. 37, 38, 37. The storm. In the darkness of the night a howling tempest of wind suddenly rushed from the heights of Lebanon and Hermon down the gorges and ravines which converge at the head of the lake, and lashed the surface of the sea late mighty billows, which filled the small craft and threatened to engulf all on board into the depths below. The situation became desperate. The disciples feared for their personal safety. Their hopes which centered in the establishment of the new and glorious Kingdom seemed doomed to an early blasting. Thus, storms of trial, persecution, sickness, sorrow and bereavement are natural and common on the “Galilee” of life. Light is followed by darkness, blissful calm gives way to treacherous storms, placid waters become surging billows, fair prospects end in shattered hopes. The voyager is exempt.

The master a sleep. The exhausting labors of the day, though so arduous, yet out from him in benefice to the unshapely multitude, had been exchanged for peaceful slumber on the leather cushion in the high stern of the boat. How real his humanity seems, and how near to us he comes, as we see him fatigued and finding rest in sleep. Faith in God, the Father, a clear conscience, and hard work can put content to flight through them. Christ was now unconscious and regardless of their danger. He oftentimes seems indifferent to the peril which impends over his children or his church. Storms of fanaticism, formalism, persecution or literalism blacken the sky and threaten all in convulsive ruin; but the kingdom of Christ will not sink. It is supplied with an internal life-preserver.

Pence be still. Though the roar of the storm awakened him not, in response to their cry he arose and with a word stayed the hostile elements. To the roaring winds he said, “Be still,” and there was an immediate calm. Christ can speak peace. 1. To the elements. He is Lord of man and uses natural forces as instruments to serve his divine purposes. 2. To the storms of sin and passion which rage in the unregenerate human breast. The heart of the wicked is like the sea, it can never be still. When the roar of the storm awakens him not, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt! Christ with a word rebuked the blasts. Great peace comes into the soul and a holy calm pervades the being.

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FATAL SHOCK.

Jesuit Father Bouchard Killed at St. Mary's College, in fact.

Toronto, Feb. 29.—Father Bouchard, a Jesuit priest and expert electrician, met a shocking death at St. Mary's College here this afternoon. It appears that he descended a lantern and went beneath a stage in the library to find irregularity in the wiring. No person at the college appeared to know that he had done this, and therefore his fate was not made known until some members of the fire brigade, who had been summoned to extinguish a fire, found the body. Smoke had been issuing from the stage and believing that the college was on fire, an alarm was sent in.

The firemen discovered the body of the unfortunate priest in a prostrate position, and perfectly rigid, with one hand clutching a wire and the other holding the lantern. Smoke, caused by the contact, filled the space. One of the firemen reached forward to release the body, and was knocked completely off his feet by the force of the current. He was not seriously injured.

It appears that the priest's lantern was encased in a second wire, and being a conductor of electricity, formed the circuit. When finally released the body was quite lifeless.

You are now three months behind in your rent,” said the real estate agent. “Oh, you are mistaken,” replied the cheerful tenant. “I'm just that much ahead.”

He is the God-man who stands equal with God on the high hills of deity, and equal with man on the low hills of humanity.”—Hon. Com. Obey him.—The One who created wind and sea could control them.

Teachings—Christ's true disciples are willing to follow Him into dangers and difficulties. Perils and perplexities often come when we are not prepared or aware of them. Trials are not always calamitous. The storm was a great trial during the course of it, but it was a great benefit to them in the end. Through it they were enabled to obtain a clearer idea of the majesty and greatness of Christ. Christ came to the world to save, but if we would be saved we must call upon Him. Jesus by commanding the wind and the waves, showed Him to be the One who made the world. We have no cause for alarm when we have Christ with us, but without Him our frail barges is certain, sooner or later, to go down in the boughs of life's trials and temptations.

Jesus the preacher. Jesus was attaining the height of his earthly popularity. Multitudes were thronging upon His ministry, eager to hear his parables and to profit by his mighty works. At the close of a busy day in Capernaum he seeks relief from the crowd on the Sea of Galilee. His disciples take him just as he was, possibly without refreshment, into a small boat and followed by a flotilla of other small boats, they make for the other side. The great preacher, Jesus, 1. Was unceasing in his activities for the salvation of men. 2. Preached in public and expounded in private. 3. Taught spiritual truth by reference to concrete things. 4. Needed opportunity for rest and recuperation. 5. Realized the needs of the people on the other side.”

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Mrs. Elizabeth H. Thompson, of Lilldale, N. Y., Grand Worthy Wise Templar, and Member of W. C. T. U., tells how she recovered from a serious illness by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

“DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I am one of the many of your grateful friends who have been cured through the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and who came to thank you for the fine health I enjoy. When I was thirty years old, I suffered from rheumatism and bearing-down pains; in fact, I had womb trouble. I was very anxious to get well, and reading of the course your Compound had made, I decided to try it. I took only six bottles, but it built me up and cured me entirely of all my troubles. My husband and relatives were naturally as well as I am. My nice husband has had heart trouble and nervous prostration, and was considered incurable. She took my Vegetable Compound and it cured her in a short time, and she became well and strong, and her home to her great joy and her husband's delight was blessed with a baby. I know of a number of others who have been cured of different kinds of female trouble, and am satisfied that your Compound is the best medicine for sick women.”—MRS. ELIZABETH H. THOMPSON, Box 105, Lilldale, N. Y.

Thousands upon thousands of women throughout this country are not only expressing such sentiments as the above to their friends, but are continually writing letters of gratitude to Mrs. Pinkham, until she has hundreds of thousands of letters from women in all classes of society who have been restored to health by her advice and medicine after all other means had failed.