

Sunday School.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON NO IV.
APRIL 24, 1904.

The Mission of the Seventy—Luke 10:1-45.

Commentary.—I. The seventy sent forth the day after Jesus taught after Christ and His discourses made their final departure from Galilee. According to Andrews this took place early in November. The Lord appointed—This appointment was temporary and not permanent like the appointment of the twelve apostles. Seventy others (R. V.)—The twelve apostles had been commissioned and sent out about a year before this. As the number of the apostles had reference to the number of the tribes of Israel, so the seventy disciples sent out can be mind the number of elders who were chosen to assist Moses in governing the people. And sent them—The chief purpose of this sending was not to train the new messengers for a later independent mission, but it was a new attempt to influence to decision at least a part of the people, and by word and deed to prepare the coming of the kingdom of God in the midst of them—Lange. Two and two. The same manner in which He sent out the apostles. This was done, "1. To teach them the necessity of cord among the ministers of righteousness. 2. That in the mouth of two witnesses everything might be established. 3. That they might comfort and support each other in their difficult labor"—Clarke. Before His face—They were to visit those cities and places where He intended soon to visit. Whether He Himself—as John the Baptist heralded the coming of the Messiah, so now seventy start throughout Perea, arousing interest and announcing the coming of Christ.

2. Harvest truly is great. The harvester must gather, the grain is ripe and spoiling, and must be gathered immediately or it will be lost. Laborers are few—True workers have always been hard to find. Pray ye therefore. They must set out with prayer, and have a deep concern for precious souls—Henry, send forth. True laborers must receive their commission from God. Laborers—Real workers. If souls are brought to God to-day it will take earnest, persevering effort on the part of His people. 3. As lambs among wolves. This was a strange way to encourage seventy men just starting out to preach, but they had faith and knew that which Christ sent them they would succeed.

II. Various instructions given (vs. 4-11). The instructions given them were distinct from and yet similar to the instructions given the twelve apostles. 4. Carry either purse, etc. Trust God for your support. The purse was a small leather bag for carrying money. The scrip was a traveling bag used for carrying provisions who travel. Nor shoes. The shoes were made for use in the house. Salute none—Eastern salutations are elaborate and ceremonious." This would take a great deal of time, and their mission was urgent—Henry. 5. Peaced be to thy house, "Peace among the Hebrews" had a very extensive meaning; it comprehended all blessings, spiritual and temporal. 6. Son of peace. "Any truly pious man who is worthy of such a blessing." 7. In the same house remain. Their stay was to be short. They were not to choose the best place, nor neglect the poor. Is worthy. The one who really labors is worthy of being supported.

S. As are sat before you. Probably Christ here refers to the tradition of the elders about their meat. 9. Heal...and say. Their mission was twofold: 1. They were to gain the attention of the people by healing their ills. 2. The important part of their work was to preach the gospel of the kingdom.

10. Receive you not—Do not receive you kindly and accepted your message. Go your ways—You have no time to contend with them. Do not cast your pearls before swine." Into the cities—The most public place. Let every one see the result of rejecting the truths concerning the kingdom of God. 11. Wipe off against you—"The Jews considered themselves defiled with the dust of heathen countries, and the action here advised did not express anger, but a warning. Be ye sure—"The message was again to be repeated, if perchance some might hear at the last moment."

III. Impudent cities upbraided (vs. 12-19).

12. In that day—in the judgment day. Sodom—See Gen. 19. This was one of the "cities of the plain" that was destroyed by God with fire because of its great wickedness. Then for that city—"Our Lord is here threatening the guilty inhabitants of the cities who reject His gospel, and from His words we learn: 1. That there is a future in which the inhabitants of the earth are to stand before the judgment seat of God and receive their sentence." 2. The degree of punishment will be measured according to the privileges enjoyed and the guilt incurred. 3. Acceptance of the message of God is the only method of escape and the only method of salvation."

13. Woe unto thee—Alas for thee! This is an exclamation of pity, and it is evident that our Lord uses the words in this sense.—Clarke. Chorazim—a town on the north-west corner of the Sea of Galilee. Bethsaida—On the northwest shore of the Sea of Galilee, north of Capernaum. It was the birthplace of Philip, Andrew and Peter, Mighty works—The great miracles. A miracle is a sign a wonder, and a mighty deed (Acts 2:22; 2 Cor. xii, 12; Heb. 2:4). Tyre and Sidon—Tyre and Sidon were heathen cities situated on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea. In you—According to this passage, most of the articles of Christ were done in these cities of Galilee. A great while ago—This seems to refer to the time of Ezekiel, who denounced destruction against Tyre and Sidon (Ezek., chaps. 26, 27, 29). Sackcloth and ashes—"In the East it was common for mourners to put on a black garment, which resembled a sack, with holes for the arms, and to put ashes upon the head."—Lange.

14. More tolerable. "The degree of your misery will be greater than even that of Tyre and Sidon." At

the judgment. The final judgment. Exalted to Heaven. A Hebrew metaphor, expressive of the utmost prosperity and the enjoyment of the greatest privileges—Clarke. Down to hell. Capernaum was to be brought down to a state of utter ruin and desolation. This prediction was literally fulfilled soon after this in the wars between the Jews and Romans.

15. Heareth....despiset. He that

welcomes the apostles and listens to

is listening to the voice of

Jesus Christ and of God himself. It

was not long before the seventy re-

turned with joy because of their suc-

cess.

PRACTICAL SURVEY.

The mission. The account of the sending forth of the seventy is given by Luke alone. The number corresponds to the seventy elders appointed in the wilderness to aid in the government of Israel, as the number in the permanent body of apostles was the same as the number of tribes of Israel. The mission of the seventy was short, as Christ was near to the end of his earthly life, and they were to go before him to the several "scattered" places whither he himself would come. Seventy men going forth two and two could, in a very few weeks at most, go over the ground which Jesus would visit in the short time that he was to remain upon earth. Encouraged them to pray that laborers should be sent into the harvest. They were in a position to help to answer their own prayers if God could send them laborers whom he wished to employ with their full and perfect power, and the willing offerings that are due to his cause, the pure gospel of Christ would be spread over the earth, and the kingdoms of this world would become the kingdoms of our Christ.

Directions—They were not sent out on a pleasure trip, as the warings and directions clearly indicate.

"As lambs in the midst of wolves" is the comparison used. Naturally the lamb would be destroyed, and dangers as threatening would attend them on their mission, but supernatural protection was to be theirs. They were not out for gain, not for ease. No baggage nor money was to interfere with the one thing they had to do. Their business required haste, and they could not stop for social intercourse.

Received or rejected. They were told in effect that they would not be welcome everywhere, but they were to go and make their mission known. If the messengers were received their sick were to be healed, and the nearness to the end of the kingdom of Christ was to be declared. They were to know that a gracious opportunity was theirs to embrace. Upon the whole it is better for people and communities to have the light of God than not to have it, but it would be better for those rejecting the light if they had never had it more tolerable for Sodom than for that city" is an expression of awful import."

Rejoicing in success—Planted with their success they return. We are not told what proportion of the cities received them, but we know that they must have found welcome somewhere, for they were to perform miracles where they were received, and the ground of rejoicing—There was something better for them to rejoice over than they supposed. Better than to be numbered among miracle workers is it to have one's name written in Heaven. Better is it than to be enrolled in lists of statesmen, soldiers, preachers or millionaires. If one's name is written in Heaven, he is constituted a citizen of that kingdom and the record is infallible. Heaven is his home, his centre of attraction.

The seventy honored—They had not come from the high and noble, but God had bestowed honor upon them in showing them the truth and His power, and in writing their names in Heaven. They were honored with personal contact with Him to whom "all things" were delivered.

ed. of His Father.—David S. Warner.

Railroad officials are not all hypocrites, although they make passes. When some men are confronted by an opportunity they invariably see double.



Another club woman, Mrs. Haule, of Edgerton, Wis., tells how she was cured of irregularities and uterine trouble, terrible pains and backache, by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—A while ago my health began to fail because of female troubles. The doctor did not help me. I remembered that my mother had used Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound on many occasions for irregularities and uterine troubles, and I felt sure that it could not harm me at any rate to give it a trial.

I was certainly glad to find that within a week I felt much better, the terrible pains in the back and side were beginning to cease, and at the time of menstruation I did not have nearly as serious a time as heretofore, so I continued its use for two months, and at the end of that time I was like a new woman. I really have never felt better in my life, have not had a sick headache since, and weight pounds more than I ever did, so I unhesitatingly recommend your medicine."—Mrs. MAY HAULE, Edgerton, Wis., Pres. Household Economics Club. \$5000 forfeit if original of above letter proving otherwise cannot be produced.

CROWN PRINCE OF GERMANY

Said to be Affianced to Princess Thyra of Denmark.



New York, April 18.—The Berlin correspondent of the Graphic is responsible for the latest rumor regarding the betrothal of Crown Prince Frederick William, third daughter of the Crown Prince of Denmark.

that the Crown Prince may possibly return from Copenhagen, where he is now visiting, formally engaged to Princess Thyra, third daughter of the Crown Prince of Denmark.

ATTACK BY THIBETAN

They Had 200 Killed—British Ten Wounded.

London, April 18.—A despatch to the Times from Gyantse, Thibet, dated April 11, reports that further fighting in the course of the march of the Youngusband expedition occurred on April 8 at the Red Idol gorge, where precipitous mountains hem in the winding river. The Thibetans on the crests were silenced by the British, and the 32nd Pioneer forced the passage. The Thibetans lost 200 killed. The British had ten wounded and one man killed.

London, April 13.—In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Brodrick, Secretary of State for India, in moving that the revenues of India be applied to defray the expenses of military operations beyond the frontier, said that the British army had been impeded by the advance of the Chinese frontier and of the political mission to Thibet announced that Col. Youngusband had arrived at Gyantze, which is between forty and fifty miles from Lhasa, without losing a single man.

Gyantze is only about sixty miles from the place where the British

met their battle with the Thibetans.

The House by 270 to 61 votes,

adopted a resolution sanctioning

the employment of Indian troops for

the protection of the "political mis-

sion to Thibet."

Mr. Brodrick proceeded to defend

the British action, saying that while

the Thibetans were trying to cir-

cumsize their relations with India,

they simultaneously were attemp-

ting to open up relations with

Russia. The British Government

could not acquiesce to any change in

the political status quo in Thibet,

nor countenance an attempt on the

part of any of the foreign Govern-

mets to establish a predominant

interest.

Gen. Britain, declared Mr. Bro-

drick, had no desire to occupy the

Tibet, or to establish a perman-

ent mission in Thibet, but the Gov-

ernment was absolutely resolved

that if any power is to be pre-

dominant in Tibet, it must be

Great Britain.

The Liberal leader Sir Henry

Campbell-Bannerman, warmly criti-

cized and condemned the mission, and the "slaughter" as the Thibetans de-

claring that Mr. Brodrick's explana-

tions of the reasons for the mis-

sion were wholly insufficient.

The debate ended with a short

speech by Premier Talfour, declar-

ing the mission had no ulterior ob-

jectives. The last thing the Gov-

ernment desired, he said, was to add

to its Indian frontier responsibili-

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