

appellation was given to quite a large district extending along both sides of the Jordan. According to Pliny, it was confined to the eastern side of the river, and extended from Damascus on the north to the brook Jabbok on the south. This was a region particularly disliked by the Jews, because ten cities therein located, had municipal governments distinct from Jewish interference—though in Palestine—and had joined together in a political alliance against all Israel. They afterward perished by fire and sword, and the entire region, once so densely populated, is said to be now almost without inhabitants.

2. This reveals how impossible it was for the Son of God to be hid. The popular excitement, however, only served to make His enemies hate Him the more, because the people were not only enjoying the rich blessings of His spiritual teaching, but were also experiencing the power of Heaven in healing their maladies, which was a foretaste of the kingdom of God restored.
3. Mark says this was done to tempt Him. The word "tempt" as here used means to try, or prove. It appears that they were not satisfied with His past demonstrations of infinite power, and would have others to gratify their own curiosity. Christ, however, would throw away no miracles on these agnostics. They would not have believed had their request been granted, It is evident that the two parties united on this occasion for a mischievous purpose.
4. Strange that they should so soon forget that Christ Himself was living bread, and that those who possessed Him could never hunger. John 6 :33, 36. His reminder of the two miracles, when food was created for the multitude, was to impress the thought that where He is there can be no lack, because He is living bread, and that His spoken Word can, when necessary, take material form, and become a nourishing substance for the body.
5. It must be remembered that Christ was a fugitive from the malice of His enemies, and so the less publicity given to His acts and words the safer He would be, until the hour should come for Him to be delivered up. Luke 22 : 53.

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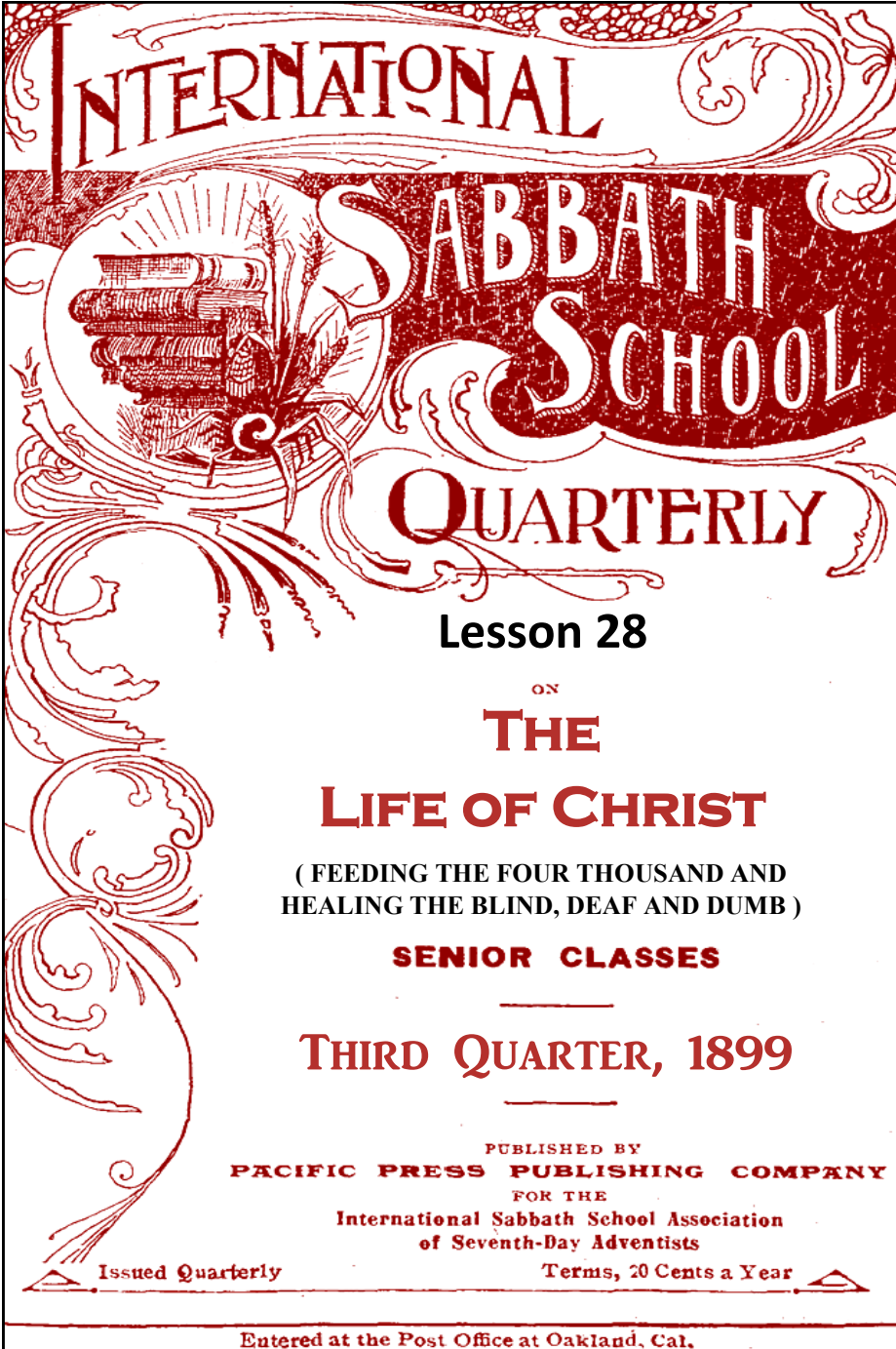
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INTERNATIONAL SABBATH SCHOOL QUARTERLY

Lesson 28

ON
**THE
LIFE OF CHRIST**

(FEEDING THE FOUR THOUSAND AND
HEALING THE BLIND, DEAF AND DUMB)

SENIOR CLASSES

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LESSON 28 FEEDING THE FOUR THOUSAND; HEALING OF BLIND, DEAF, AND DUMB.

**July 15 1899.
Phenicia, Decapolis, Gennesaret,
and Bethsaida, A. D. 30.**

(Matt. 15: 29 to 16 : 12; Mark 7 : 31 to 8 : 26.)

*Side Texts to be
studied with
questions*

1. HAVING to leave Phenicia, after the incident with the heathen woman, into what parts did the Saviour go? Matt. 15:29.
See note 1. Mark 7:31.
2. What demonstration occurred in the place of His retirement? Verses 30, 31. **See note 2.** Isa. 35 :4-6.
3. Relate the circumstances of one special case of healing which was then effected. Mark 7 : 32-35.
4. What led Jesus to decide to feed the multitude, who had been three days with Him? Matt. 15 : 32. Ps. 86: 15.
5. How great was the company to be fed? Verse 38.
6. What amount of food was at hand, with which to feed so many? Verses 34-36. John 6 : 32, 33
7. Was this amount sufficient for the occasion? Verse 37. Ps. 37:3
8. After sending away the people, to what point did the Saviour then go? Verse 39. Mark 8:10
9. Who visited Him there? For what purpose? Matt. 16: 1.
See note 3.
10. What reproof did He administer in reply to such a demand ? Verses 2, 3.

11. What class of people seek for miraculous signs in order to believe? Verse 4. Matt.12: 38-40.
12. After this brief but plain talk to His auditors, to what point did Jesus go? Mark 8 : 13.
13. When His disciples met Him there, of what were they reminded? Verse 14.
14. What made them think that Jesus was referring to their neglect ? Matt. 16 : 6, 7.
15. To show them that He had no reference to their lack of material bread, to what did He call their attention? Verses 8-11.
16. By this reminder what was made to dawn upon their minds? Verse 12. **See note 4.**
17. Where is Christ next found? Who was there brought to Him for a blessing? Mark 8: 22.
18. What did He do to the blind man? V. 23.
19. What effect did this have upon the sufferer? Verse 24.
20. When Christ put His hands again on the partially-opened eyes, what took place? Verse 25. Isa. 42:6, 7.
21. With what charge did Christ then send him home? Verse 26. See note 5. Isa. 42 :2

READINGS

" Desire of Ages," chapter 44.

NOTES

1. *Decapolis* means "ten cities." Nine of these lay east of the Jordan, and one on the west. The country round about these cities was therefore called Decapolis. From **Matt. 4 : 23-25 and Mark 7: 31** it would appear that this general