

temple, in order to confirm before all the people His Messiahship, and as He could not do this in the midst of wicked desecration, this cleansing was first necessary.

3. For hours Christ held the court of the temple unchallenged for healing purposes. He had wrought many miracles in Jerusalem before, but never so publicly, and within the temple itself. What a change from the earthly traffic of the day, to the healing of the afflicted, and the precious teaching of the world's Redeemer. Why may we not have the same change in the temple of our bodies?

ADDITIONAL NOTES

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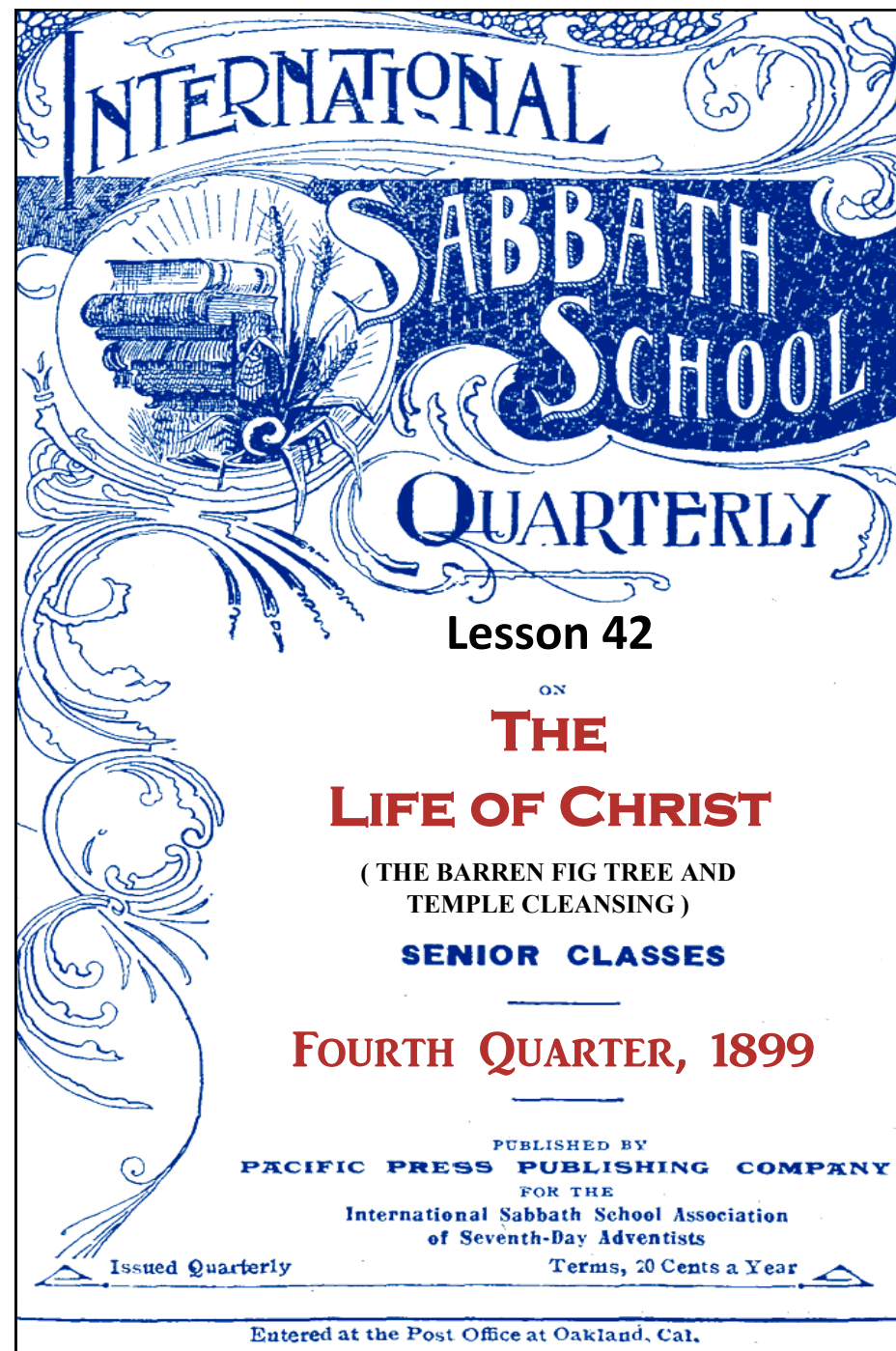
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INTERNATIONAL
SABBATH SCHOOL
QUARTERLY

Lesson 42
ON
THE
LIFE OF CHRIST
(THE BARREN FIG TREE AND
TEMPLE CLEANSING)
SENIOR CLASSES

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LESSON 42— BARREN FIG TREE, AND TEMPLE CLEANSING

October 21, 1899.

Mount of Olives and Jerusalem, A. D. 31.
(Matt. 21 : 12-22; Mark II : 12-26.)

*Side Texts to be
studied with
questions*

1. As the shades of evening drew on, Matt. 21:17, where did Jesus and the twelve go to spend the night? Mark 11:11
2. In His hunger of the following morning, to what did Jesus resort for relief? Verses 12, 13.
3. Finding no figs on the tree, what word of censure did Jesus speak concerning it? Verse 14. **See note 1.**
4. Going into the temple, what did Jesus immediately begin to do? Verse 15.
5. How far did He carry this matter? Verse 16.
6. What reason did He give for doing thus? Verse 17.
See note 2.
7. Immediately after the cleansing of the temple, who came to Jesus ? For what purpose ? Matt. 21: 14. **See note 3.**
8. While this was going on, how did the priests regard the situation ? Mark 11: 18.
9. What demonstration took place among the children who thronged about Jesus? Matt. 21:15.
10. When the priests came to Jesus and made complaint against this, what did He say? Verse 16.

Matt. 21:17

Luke 13 :6-9.

Isa. 56:7, Mal.
1:11 Jer. 7:8-11

Ps. 8: 2.

11. The next morning (Tuesday), as Christ and the disciples returned to the city from Bethany, what did the disciples observe? Mark 11:20.
12. When Peter called the attention of Jesus to the remarkable condition of the fig tree, what simple, yet significant reply did He make? Verses 22, 23.
13. What did He then say should be the condition of mind of those who pray? Verse 24.
14. What feelings did the Saviour say we should cherish toward others if we would receive benefit from our prayers? Verse 25.
15. If one does not do this, what will be the result? Verse 26.

Jas. 1: 6, 7.

Col. 3:13.

Matt. 18:35.

READING

"Desire of Ages," chapters 64, 65;
"Spirit of Prophecy " vol. 3, chapters 1 and 2.

NOTES

1. Jesus knew before reaching the tree that it bore no figs. But its outward appearance, by having leaves in advance of other trees, proclaimed that it did have fruit on, although the time of figs was not yet come. The tree had a designed purpose,—that of bearing fruit. By not doing so, it transgressed the law of its being while presenting a boastful and deceitful show of superiority over its neighbour trees. By this it had forfeited its place in creation, and so by the word which produced it, the penalty of removal was pronounced. This fitly represented the Jews of that day, as well as professed Christians of to-day, who claim to have more light and truth than others. God had borne with the Jews many years, but as in the parable in Luke 13 : 6-9, the time was present when it was proper to say, " Cut it down." So it will be with all who do not meet the design of their being.
2. Three years before, at the beginning of His ministry, Christ had done the same thing, but apparently with little lasting effect, for the same abuse had been restored. Had the first cleansing been regarded, the fig tree would have borne fruit, and no place would have been found for the second cleansing. But before being put to death, Christ had a public work to do in the very court of the