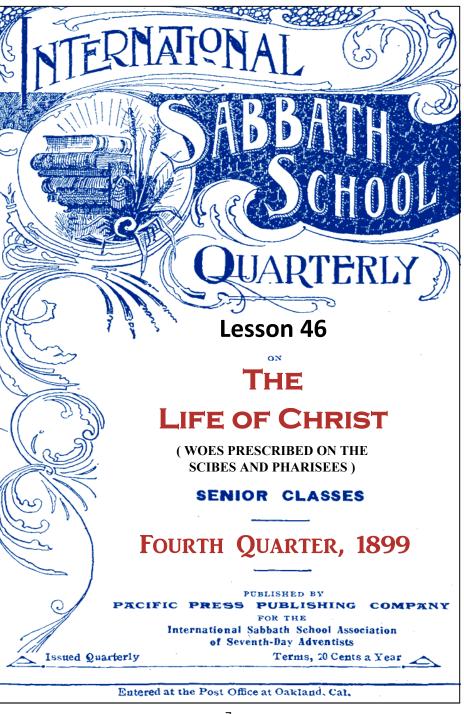
- 3. The words of blessing were uttered on a mountain-side of Galilee ; the words of woe were pronounced in the courts of the Lord's house. But it can not be that these woes were uttered simply because those men were sinners. There must have been something with them more terrible than mere acts of evil ; for to the woman taken in adultery the Saviour kindly said : " Neither do I condemn thee ; go and sin no more." But to the haughty Pharisees at whose table Christ sat, He spoke altogether differently.
- 4. These woes were directed against those who cherished hidden sins, corruption of heart,—while they outwardly posed as God's servants. Hypocrisy must therefore be one of the most hideous, nauseating sins in God's sight, especially where its influence is used to lead souls to perdition. The Gospel is therefore like the cloudy-fiery pillar,—a glowing light to the faithful, but a lowering gloom to the faithless ; to some it speaks tenderness, to others terror; to some it is all blessing, to others it proves a curse.

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| | LESSON XLVI.—WOES PRONOUNCED ON THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES | | |
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| | November 18, 1899. In the Temple at Jerusalem, A. D. 31. (Matt. 23 : 1-39.) | Side Texts to be studied with questions | |
| 1. | NOTWITHSTANDING Christ had exposed the evil character of the Jewish officials, what did He tell the people of the position they occupied? Matt. 23 : 1, 2. | Neh. 8 : 4-8 ; Mal. 2 : 7. | |
| 2. | In view of the place held by them, what attitude did Jesus say the people should hold toward these rulers? Verse 3. | Rom. 2:19-24 | |
| 3. | How did He justify His statement, "They say and do not" ? Verses 4-7. | | |
| 4. | After pointing out the glaring defects of those in power, what council did Jesus give? Verses 8-10. | James 3:I ; 1 Peter 5: 3. | |
| 5. | What is true of one who is really great in the service of God ? Verse 11. | | |
| 6. | What is sure to come to those who put themselves above others? Verse 12. | I Peter 5 : 5-7 ; Ps. 55: 22. | |
| 7. | What reason did Jesus give for pronouncing the first woe upon the scribes and Pharisees ? Verse 13. | | |
| 8. | For what reason was the second woe pronounced ? Verse 14. | | |
| 9. | Repeat the charge against them under the third woe. Verse 15. | | |
| 10. | In pronouncing the fourth woe, what did He call them? What errors had they taught? Verses 16-22. | | |

| 11. | What greater wrong made them subject to a fifth denunciation? | Micah 6 : 8. |
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| | Verses 23, 25. | Wilcan 0 . o. |
| 12. | Under a sixth woe pronounced, what did Jesus say those leaders were like? Verses 25-28. | Luke 11:39 |
| 13. | Under the seventh and last woe, with what did Christ charge the scribes and Pharisees? Verses 29-32. | Acts 23:3 |
| 14. | In what terms did He describe their character? What question did He raise? V. 32. | |
| 15. | What did He say would be required of the generation guilty of these things? Verses 34-36. | Acts 7 : 51, 52 |
| 16. | Suddenly changing His manner, what tender yet mournful words were uttered by the Lord? Verses 37, 38. | |
| | Reading | |
| | "Desire of Ages," chapter 67 ; "Spirit of Prophecy," vol. 3, chapter 4. | |
| | NOTE | |
| 1. | Mark says that after the public silencing of the Pharisees, "the common people heard Him gladly." They were then prepared to hear dark revelations concerning their former leaders. After they had perceived the hypocrisy of the men in high places, there was no longer any danger of their turning against their Lord. On the other hand, their attitude would deter the officials from laying violent hands on Christ until He had fully brought out their character in its true light. His words of condemnation on this occasion were most scathing ; yet they were those of gentleness ; to the Pharisees, however, they were but the voice of volumed terror. | |
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