

=THE BODY OF JESUS=

Lesson 4

The Face of Jesus

INTRODUCTION: Secure a Cruden's Concordance and look up the words "face to face." This might be a good start for the lesson on "The Face of Jesus." It is interesting that God wants us to talk to Him "face to face." For this lesson, let us look at the face of Christ according to the New Testament.

- I. HIS WAS AN EXPRESSIVE FACE, Luke 9:53. Notice the words, "...his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem." This is a very interesting statement. He must have had a certain look on His face when He was going to Jerusalem. They could tell by looking at Him that Jerusalem was His destination. Hence, His face was one of expression.
- II. HIS WAS A DETERMINED FACE. Luke 9:51b, "He stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem." There was determination on the face of Christ. He had a job to do. He knew it was the will of God and He knew He must do it. Hence, His face was one of determination.
- III. HIS WAS A SHINING FACE. Matthew 17:2, "...his face did shine as the sun...." Also, in Revelation 1:16 we find that "...his countenance was as the sun...." It might be wise here to stress to the pupils the importance of having a happy face, a smiling face. Of course, such a face comes from the right kind of heart.
- IV. HIS WAS A SMITTEN FACE, Luke 22:64. This, of course, deals with the cross and Jesus' being smitten for us.
- V. HIS WAS A COVERED FACE, Mark 14:65. This is the same occasion mentioned in the previous point. He was smitten. Then they covered His face and smote Him again. They mocked Him, "Prophecy unto us, thou Christ, Who is he that smote thee?" Matthew 26:68. (Teacher: It might be a good idea for this to be illustrated. A handkerchief could be placed over the face of a child. Someone could lightly hit him. Ask the pupil to guess who it was.) This is what they did to the Saviour. They covered His face, then smote Him, asking Him to prophesy who it was that did it.
- VI. HIS FACE WAS SPAT UPON, Matthew 26:67. This was the ultimate in humiliation. It was bad enough for someone to slap the face, but to the Jew for someone to spit in the face was a complete insult. Nothing could be worse.
- VII. HE FELL ON HIS FACE, Matthew 26:39. Here He came to the Garden of Gethsemane and fell on His face. This seemed to be the posture of Jesus' praying. When He prayed He fell on His face. (Teacher: Stress here the importance of prayer. Teach that we ought to fall on our faces before God. Look up "face" in the Cruden's Concordance, and you will find a listing of all the times when people in the Bible fell on their faces. Then spend some time talking about the prayer life of a Christian.)
- VIII. WHEN JESUS JUDGES, HIS FACE WILL BE SO STERN THAT THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH WILL FLEE FROM IT, Revelation 20:11. That loving face will turn to a harsh face. That receiving face will turn to a judging face. That warm face will turn to a cold face. That face of mercy will turn to a face of wrath. This is the Great White Throne Judgment where all the sinners will appear before the Lord Jesus Christ. (The saved are judged and given rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ a thousand years before this judgment.) The unsaved will be judged and will be given degrees of punishment according to their works, Revelation 20:11-15. It is at this Great White Throne Judgment that the Heaven and the earth will flee from the face of Christ.
- IX. AT THE "END TIME" PEOPLE WILL HIDE FROM HIS FACE, Revelation 6:16. His face will remind them that they had a chance to be saved, but refused. His face will remind them of the love they had spurned. His face will remind them of the eternity they could have had. Hence, they will

hide from His face and cry for the mountains and rocks to fall upon them and hide them from the face of the living God.