

Trinity Sunday. (JUNE 16.)

Prayer to THE FATHER.

Text—1 Chronicles xxix. 10. Passage—Genesis xviii. 17, &c.

- A. 'My Lord God, and Heavenly FATHER.'
 - I. 'THE FATHER' means THE ETERNAL FATHER of THE ETERNAL SON (S. John x. 30), as when we say, 'I believe in GOD THE FATHER,' 'Glory be to THE FATHER.' We are too apt to think of God—as if HE existed for our sakes, instead of for HIS OWN—that HE is called 'THE FATHER' because HE created us!
 - II. 'OUR FATHER' (S. Luke xi. 2) is HIS secondary title (S. John xx. 17)—and calls HIM 'Ours' by Creation, Preservation, and Adoption.
- B. 1st. *The Collect* is the only Prayer addressed to THE HOLY TRINITY except the fourth Suffrage in the Litany. *The Epistle* gives us a vision of the worship of THE HOLY TRINITY in Heaven. *The Gospel* states generally the mystery of 'Heavenly Things,' and specifies particularly 'The Three Persons,' 'God,' 'The Son of Man,' 'THE SPIRIT.'
 - 2nd. *The First Lessons*—
 - Morning—Isaiah vi. A similar vision of God to those in Ezekiel i. and Revelation iv.
 - Afternoon—Genesis xviii. One of the appearances of JEMOAN. Notice how 'three men' are addressed as 'My Lord,' verses 1, 2, 3, 4.
 - Evening—Genesis i. In the first three verses the Three Persons are indicated 'God'—'God said.' THE SPIRIT of God (Psalm xxxiii. 6). Also see verse 26.
 - The Second Lessons*—
 - Morning—Rev. i. 4, 5. 'HIM which is,' &c. = THE FATHER.
'JESUS CHRIST' = THE SON.
'The Seven Spirits' = THE HOLY GHOST.
 - Afternoon—Eph. iv. 4, 5, 6. Each verse refers to ONE Person in reverse order.
 - Evening—S. Matt. iii. THE HOLY TRINITY present at the Baptism.
- 3rd. *The Proper Preface* extends the offering of the 'Sanctus' to THE HOLY TRINITY, whereas on other days it is offered to 'The Holy FATHER.'
- C. Lift up your hearts to respond to the Love of GOD THE FATHER.
 - First—HE created you. ∴ Honour HIM. (Malachi i. 6.)
 - Second—HE has given HIS SON to die for you. ∴ Reverence HIM. (S. Matt. xxi. 37.)
 - Third—HE continually wills to send HIS SPIRIT to you. ∴ Ask HIM. (S. Luke xi. 13.)

CHARACTERS IN THE BOOK OF GENESIS.

Regarded in their *Literal, Spiritual, and Moral* Features, and

ARRANGED IN INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SUNDAYS AFTER TRINITY.

NOTE.—A *picture* is suggested for each Sunday, which may be found ready-made, or may be drawn for the occasion on a blackboard or on paper.

- A. The *Literal* facts of the history will be found in the *Passage*.
- B. The *Spiritual* truth, which is marked out by the *Text*, will be enforced by Questions and Answers that should be learnt by heart.
- C. The *Moral* lessons will be summed up in the concluding Exhortations.

First Sunday after Trinity. (JUNE 23.)

ADAM—THE LORD OF CREATION.

Passage (to be read)—Genesis i. 26-31. Text (to be learnt)—S. Matt. xxviii. 18. Hymns—43, 542.

Picture: Adam seated, with animals around him. . An angel above, holding a scroll with the words, 'Very good.'

- A. *Literal* facts. The First Adam was made 'Lord of Creation,' because—
 - Chap. i. verse 26—Created last and best—summing up in his animal nature all former creatures; made, after consultation of THE HOLY TRINITY, in the Image and Likeness of God.
 - " " 31—Pronounced 'Very good.'
 - ii. " 7—Filled with Breath or Spirit of God.
 - " " 16—Allowed free will.
 - " " 19—Gifted with speech.
- B. *Spiritual* truths. The Second Adam is 'Lord of Creation.'
 - I. Who is supreme over all things?—GOD THE FATHER is 'King of kings and Lord of lords.' (1 Tim. vi. 15.)
 - II. To Whom has HE given HIS Authority?—JESUS said, 'All Power is given unto ME in heaven and earth.' (Dan. vii. 13, 14.)
 - III. Has JESUS any right to the Authority of God?—OUR LORD claims supreme authority by Nature, as SON of God. (S. John v. 17, 18.)
 - IV. Has OUR LORD any other right to our obedience?—OUR SAVIOUR has earned obedience as SON of MAN. (Phil. ii. 8, 9.)
 - V. Where is the King of all the earth?—King JESUS is ruling the world at the Right Hand of God. (S. Luke xxii. 69.)
 - VI. Has Satan then any power over the earth?—Yes. OUR LORD HIMSELF calls the Devil 'Prince of this World.' (S. Luke iv. 6.)