

Lesson XI.

JESUS ON THE CROSS

June 16, 1918

BETWEEN THE LESSONS—The intervening events are the betrayal and arrest of Jesus, his appearance before the Jewish authorities, before Pilate, before Herod, his final condemnation, his going forth to death.

GOLDEN TEXT—Truly this man was the Son of God.—Mark 15 : 39.

*Memorize Matt. 5 : 13, 14.

THE LESSON PASSAGE—Mark 15 : 22-39. Study Mark 15 : 1-47.

22 And they bring him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull.

23 And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh : but he received it not.

24 And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take.

25 And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

26 And the superscription of his accusation was written over, **THE KING OF THE JEWS**.

27 And with him they crucify two thieves ; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left.

28 And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.

29 And they that passed by rallied on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days,

30 Save thyself, and come down from the cross.

31 Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, He saved others ; himself he cannot save.

32 Let Christ the King of Israel descend now

Revised Version—offered him wine ; they crucify him, and part his garments among them, each should ; robbers ; one ; one ; *Omit whole verse* ; Ha ! thou ; In like manner also ; him among ; said ; the ; now come down from ; reproached ; *Omit saying* ; Elijah ; filling a sponge ; *Omit and* ; he ; Elijah cometh ; uttered a ; by over ; *Omit* cried out, and.

from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him.

33 And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, E'loi, E'loi, la'ma, sabach'thani ; which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me ?

35 And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, Behold, he calleth Eli'as.

36 And one ran, and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, Let alone ; let us see whether Eli'as will come to take him down.

37 And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.

38 And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.

39 And when the centurion, which stood over against him, saw that he so cried out, and gave up the ghost, he said, Truly this man was the Son of God.

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS

M.—Barabbas or Jesus, Mark 15 : 1-11.

T.—Jesus delivered to be crucified, Mark 15 : 12-20.

W.—Jesus on the cross, Mark 15 : 22-39.

Th.—The dying Saviour, Matt. 27 : 39-56.

F.—Burial of Jesus, Matt. 27 : 57-66.

S.—Rejected and smitten, Isa. 53 : 1-13.

S.—Justified by his blood, Rom. 5 : 1-11.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED



COMMON HYSSOP: The "reed" of v. 36

I. THE CRUEL CROSS.—

22-25. They bring him. The Roman soldiers compelled Simon of Cyrene to carry Christ's cross for him. Golgotha. Calvary is the Latin word. Place of a skull. Its form was that of a skull. Gave him ; offered him. Wine . . myrrh ; a stupefying drink to deaden the pain of crucifixion. Received it not. Christ will refuse none of his appointed suffering. Crucified him ; a Roman form of punishment. Parted his garments. The criminal's garments belonged to the crucifiers. Casting lots ; probably using dice. John regards this as a fulfilment of Ps. 22 : 18, "They part my garments among them." The third hour ; nine o'clock.

26-28. Superscription. A tablet stating the cause of condemnation was carried by the condemned and then placed on his cross. John says it was written in Hebrew, Latin and Greek. **THE KING OF THE JEWS**. The Jews wished Pilate to word it, so that

it would appear only a claim of Jesus to be king. Pilate refused. They crucify two thieves ; rather, bandits or robbers. Scripture was fulfilled ; Isa. 53 : 12, "numbered with the transgressors."

II. THE TAUNTING WORDS.—29, 30. They that passed by ; on the highway. Wagging their heads ; with mocking gestures. Thou that destroyest the temple ; referring to Christ's words, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews thought he meant the temple, but Jesus meant his body, which he would raise three days after death. Save thyself ; justify his words about the temple by doing something equally wonderful.

31-33. The chief priests ; as well as the common people taunt him. Let Christ . . descend. They pretend they wish a sign to believe in. But Jesus will not avoid death, he will conquer it. They that were crucified. While both reviled, Luke tells us that, in the end, one, impressed with Jesus, rebuked the other and asked to be remembered by Jesus in his kingdom. There was darkness ; from twelve noon till three ; a darkness out of the ordinary course of nature.

III. THE GREAT CONFESSION.—34-37. Cried with a loud voice. His anguish finds expression. Why hast thou forsaken me ; as if separated, not only from men, but God. Behold, he calleth Elias ; the prophet Elijah. They caught only the opening

* For the recitation of the Scripture Memory Passages in either Part of List IV., a Red Seal is added to the Diploma in Colors given for List III., and a Gold Seal for the verses of the other Part. For Form of Application, apply to Rev. J. C. Robertson, D.D., our General Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Confederation Life Bldg., Toronto.