

The Sunday School

BIBLE LESSON.

Abridged from Peloubet's Notes.

Second Quarter.

THE RISEN LORD.

Lesson XII. June 19.—Matt. 28: 1-20.

Read Matt. 28; Luke 24; 1 Cor. 15.
Commit Verses 18-20.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold I am alive forevermore, Rev. 1: 18.

EXPLANATORY.

1. THREE DAYS IN THE TOMB.—Part of Friday, Saturday, and part of Sunday, which according to Jewish reckoning would be called three days. The same method of reckoning years was employed with reference to the reigns of the Jewish kings.

2. AND THEY DEPARTED QUICKLY, on the wings of fear and joy. The news was too good to keep. WITH FEAR AND GREAT JOY. "Fear at what they had seen, 'joy' at what they had heard; and both mingled because the latter seemed too good to be true." They went, doubtless, to the upper room, which seems to have been the headquarters of the disciples for some time after this. Doubtless they were watching and praying, and this was to be the answer. Peter and John seem to have been in another place.

The First Appearance of Jesus. Mary Magdalene had told Peter, and returned to the sepulcher, when Jesus appeared to her as she stood weeping near it in the garden (John 20: 11-18).

The Second Appearance. 9. AND AS THEY WENT TO TELL HIS DISCIPLES. This phrase is omitted in the best MSS. and in R. V., but it is implied in the narrative. They were returning to Jerusalem by some other streets than those by which Mary Magdalene, and Peter, and John had gone.

BEHOLD, JESUS MET THEM, SAYING, ALL HAIL. "Rejoice," the usual form of salutation. The English "all hail" is shortened from "all health." HELD HIM BY THE FEET. Clasped his feet, in reverent, affectionate joy, to make sure that it was indeed their Lord, and to express their gladness. AND WORSHIPPED HIM. With religious worship or adoration.

10. GO TELL MY BRETHREN THAT THEY GO UNTO GALILEE. According to his promise before he died, that he would meet them there (Matt. 26: 32). AND THERE SHALL THEY SEE ME. He did indeed show himself before they went to Galilee, but the great manifestation to over five hundred at once who must have gathered for that purpose on account of the message, the great proof that he was living in his own human body, by eating with the disciples, and the great commission to evangelize the world, all were in Galilee.

Confirmation by Enemies. 11. WHEN THEY WERE GOING. While they were away on this errand. SOME OF THE WATCH. The guard set by Pilate at the request of the chief priests to watch the sepulcher, lest the disciples should steal his body, and say he was risen (Matt. 27: 62-66). SURVEYED UNTO THE CHIEF PRIESTS. Under whose charge they were. The beloved of Jesus heard the glorious news from angels, but the enemies from rough Roman soldiers. ALL THE THINGS THAT WERE DONE. They told the simple truth as the best possible excuse for their seeming negligence. "How was it to be expected that they should hold out against heaven, or contend with earthquakes and angels?"

12. GAVE LARGE MONEY UNTO THE SOLDIERS. The report the soldiers made was so dangerous to their own lives, that no small sum could induce them to criminate themselves; but the entire results of all the efforts to destroy Jesus seemed to depend upon it.

13. SAY YE, HIS DISCIPLES CAME BY NIGHT, AND STOLE HIM AWAY WHILE WE SLEPT. (1) The absurdity and stupidity of this statement are apparent on the face of it. For if the guard were asleep, how could they know that the disciples stole him away? (2) The disciples could not have stolen the body away if they would, with the soldiers placed on watch especially to prevent it. Even the noise of rolling away the stone would have awakened a sleepy guard. (3) The disciples had no motive for stealing the body. They did not expect a resurrection. They did not know its importance. What could they have done with the body to escape detection?

14. AND IF THIS COME TO THE GOVERNOR'S EAR. Who probably soon returned to his capital at Caesarea, and would care little about it. SECURE YOU. R. V. "rid you of care." They would take all the responsibility, so that the soldiers need have no fear of the penalty for sleeping on guard, which was death.

15. AND THIS SAYING. The story made up by the soldiers. UNTIL THIS DAY. That is, when the Gospel was written,

possibly thirty or more years after the resurrection.

16. THEN, R. V., "but." In spite of this false rumor. THE ELEVEN DISCIPLES Judas having perished by suicide. WENT AWAY INTO GALILEE, as commanded by the angels (Matt. 28: 7), and by Jesus himself before his death (26: 32) and after his resurrection (28: 10). INTO A MOUNTAIN. R. V., "the" mountain, the designated place. HAD APPOINTED THEM. Probably when he bade them go to Galilee he named the place; or he may have designated it at some of his appearances after his resurrection.

17. AND WHEN THEY SAW HIM. He appeared to them after they were assembled. THEY WORSHIPPED HIM. Fell prostrate at his feet in reverence and awe. BUT SOME DOUBTED. The doubts of the early church could be overcome only by the most invincible proofs. Never were men less credulous; and the fact that they were finally obliged to yield to the many infallible proofs of the risen Christ is strong evidence that he did actually rise from the dead. "They" doubted, that "we" might never doubt.

18. AND JESUS . . . SPAKE UNTO THEM. What follows was doubtless a summary of Christ's instructions at his various interviews during the forty days of his resurrection life. The same truths were probably repeated to different persons, and at different times to the same persons, in order that they might be written indelibly upon the memory.

HIS LAST MESSAGE. — Vs. 18-20. 18. ALL POWER IS GIVEN UNTO ME. The English language contains no adequate equivalent for the word rendered "power." It embraces the ideas of both "power" and "authority"—power coupled with right. The A. V. gives one of these meanings, and the R. V. gives the other. IN HEAVEN. All the powers and authority that flow from heaven—the power of God, of the Holy Spirit, of angels, of truth, of all spiritual influences and motives. AND IN (ON) EARTH. (1) Over his disciples, to be their Teacher and their Master, the one Head of the church. (2) Over the world, to guide all nations, to direct the course of events, to make even the enemies of his religion aid in its extension. Every movement, every design of man, every worldly force, is under his control. (3) He has the power on earth over all the motives that can move men toward God—love, duty, fear, hope. (4) He has authority over property. The silver and the gold are his. (5) He has power over nature and its laws, so that he can defend and aid his children. (6) He has the power and authority over all the inventions of men, so that commerce shall carry his gospel, telegraphs transmit his word, and cannon batter down barriers to his work. (7) Over all adverse influences, devil, wicked men, wrong ideas.

19. GO YE THEREFORE. Because this power is with you. See the fitness of his commission: "As I have all power, Go. I have dominion everywhere; go everywhere." Do not wait for them to come to you. Do not wait for open doors; open the door. Do not wait till it is safe, but go everywhere, knowing that all things will be compelled to help on the work. AND TEACH. R. V., "make disciples of." "Teach" here is a different word from the "teach" in the next verse. We greatly need an English word, "disciple" (all nations), for this passage. The verb "disciple" is found once in Shakespeare ("All's Well," I. 2, 28), and once in Spencer's "Faery Queen," 14, c. 1. To disciple a person to Christ is to bring him into the relation of pupil to teacher. A disciple is a learner, one who goes to school to another. A disciple of Christ is one who puts himself under his authority, accepts of his truths and principles, imitates his example, obeys his rules, puts himself under his training that he may become like his teacher. ALL NATIONS. Not the Jews alone. Christianity is a universal religion, adapted to all nations, all races, all classes. Its claim is upon all. To receive it is the only way in which all nations can be made happy, holy, blessed. BAPTIZING THEM. Causing them to make a public profession of their discipleship through baptism. This is the duty of every Christian. It is both commanded and necessary; commanded because necessary. It confirms their faith, it separates them from the world, it binds them together in a church, it keeps them from falling away. IN THE NAME. Rather "into" the name. The name is "the expression of the sum total of the divine Being," "in which all his attributes and characteristics are summed up." OF, the one name of, THE FATHER . . . SON, AND . . . HOLY GHOST. There is a reference to the different parts which the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit take in the work of salvation, and to the unity of the Godhead, the fountain of all blessing.

The Missionary Duty of the Church. (1) This is the command of Christ. The church cannot be obedient, and let one nation be without the gospel. (2) This command includes home missions as well



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as foreign; our own neighborhood as well as more distant places. But missionary effort must not be confined to the home field. Every nation needs the gospel as much as ours needs it. (3) It is the nature of a living Christianity to be missionary. Max Müller says that of all religions, only the missionary religions are living. That church is dead which is not anxious to preach the gospel to every creature. (4) This is the only way the church will keep pure. Nothing without this can keep the doctrine or life pure; organizations, creeds, persecutions—all have failed. But any church which seeks to save souls will keep pure, because it cannot do its work without the great main doctrines of Christianity. (5) The true "Broad Church" cares for "the salvation of the world"; the "Narrow Church" is the one that cares chiefly for itself and temporal things. (6) The church at home is built up faster by working for the heathen.

ALL THINGS WHATSOEVER I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. The doctrines and precepts of Christ, nothing less and nothing more, are the proper subjects of Christian faith and practice. LO, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS. Note, it is "I am," not "I will be." Jesus, with his love, with his power, with his wisdom, with his willingness to help; Jesus the Saviour, the Guide, the Inspirer, the King, the Teacher; Jesus the Omnipotent, the Omnipresent, the Omnipotent, is with us everywhere, all the days. "Always": literally, "all the days." UNTO THE END OF THE WORLD. Literally, the consummation of the age; the end of the gospel dispensation, when the kingdom shall have fully come coincident with the second coming of Christ.

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At a recent meeting of the Montreal Board of Trade Henry Miles, the treasurer, made a report on a recent interview with the Council of St. John Board of Trade with respect to Montreal harbor improvements. It was resolved that letters be addressed to the Boards of Trade of St. John and Halifax conveying its most honest assurance that the Montreal Board was heartily in favor of the Canadian route, both summer and winter, for the export and import trade of the Dominion.

* * *

Teacups, even when carefully kept, sometimes have dark stains on the bottom caused by the action of the tannin in the tea. Salt, slightly moistened, will remove these, but in the case of very fine china, it sometimes scratches it a little. Powdered whiting will be found quite harmless and equally good.

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THE RAVAGES OF CONSUMPTION.

The White Plague on the Increase.

The remarkable increase of deaths from Consumption (tuberculosis) within the last few years is now attracting the attention and earnest consideration and study of the leading medical authorities of Europe and America. And the most strenuous efforts are being made to check its further development. Many eminent men suppose that Consumption cannot be cured; but not so with that great scientist and chemist, Dr. T. A. Slocum, who asserts that this terrible malady has never been thoroughly studied in its various bearings; and says that consumptions are constantly being sent to sanatoriums, with the hope of prolonging life for a short time, rather than for the purpose of effecting a cure. Dr. Slocum has made consumption a lifelong study; and he claims that not only can life be prolonged, but a complete cure can be effected, even in the last stages. The Slocum Cure is not an experimental remedy, but is the result of laborious study and practice, each ingredient in its composition having been selected for a special and powerful bearing upon the cause of this dreadful disease. If his remedies (The Slocum Cure) are persisted in for a reasonable time, a perfect and a permanent cure can be effected.

If the reader is a consumptive, or has lung or throat trouble, general debility or wasting away, do not despair, but send you name, and office and nearest express office to The T. A. Slocum Chemical Co., Limited, 186 Adelaide Street West, Toronto, when three large sample bottles (The Slocum Cure) will be sent you free. Don't delay until it's too late—but send at once for these free samples; and be convinced of the efficacy of this great remedy. When writing for samples say you saw this free offer in the Messenger and Visitor.

"THOUGHT MY HEAD WOULD BURST."

A Fredericton Lady's Terrible
Suffering.

Mrs. Geo. Donner tells the following remarkable story of relief from suffering and restoration to health, which should



clear away all doubts as to the efficacy of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills from the minds of the most skeptical.

"For several years I have been a constant sufferer from nervous headache, and the pain was so intense that sometimes I was almost crazy. I really thought that my head would burst. I consulted a number of physicians, and took many remedies, but without effect. I noticed Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills advertised, and as they seemed to suit my case, I got a box and began their use. Before taking them I was very weak and debilitated, and would sometimes wake out of my sleep with a distressed, smothering feeling, and I was frequently seized with agonizing pains in the region of the heart, and often could scarcely muster up courage to keep up the struggle for life. In this wretched condition Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills came to the rescue, and to-day I state, with gratitude, that I am vigorous and strong, and all this improvement is due to this wonderful remedy."