

Let the Bairnies Play.

BY MARY INGLES.

O! LET the bairnies play themsel's,
I like to hear their din,
I like to hear each restless foot
Come trippin' oot and in.
I like to see each face sae bright,
And each wee heart sae gay;
They mind me o' my ain young days—
O! let the bairnies play.

O! dinna check their sinless mirth,
Or mak' them dull and wae
Wi' gloomy looks or cankered words,
But let the bairnies play.
Auld douce wise folks should ne'er forget
They ance were young as they,
As fu' o' fun and mischief, too—
Then let the bairnies play.

And never try to set a heid
Wi' ould age grim and gray
Upon a wee saft snawy neck—
No! let the bairnies play.
For, O! there's mony a weary nicht
And mony a wae fu' day
Before them, if God spare their lives—
Sae let the bairnies play.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF MARK.

A.Γ 30] LESSON X. [June 9

JESUS BEFORE PILATE.

Mark 15. 1-20. Memory verses, 14, 15.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Pilate saith unto them, Take ye him, and crucify him. John 19. 6.

OUTLINE.

1. Pilate and Jesus, v. 1-5
2. Jesus or Barabbas, v. 6-15.
3. The King of the Jews, v. 16-20.

TIME.—30 A.D.

PLACE.—Jerusalem, before the procurator.

CONNECTING LINKS.—In passing from one lesson to the other here, the incident of Peter's denial is passed by. After that we come to the next move of the enemies of Jesus, to prevent the possibility of rescue and to make sure of his death.

EXPLANATIONS.—*In the morning*—After six o'clock the formal meeting was held in which their action was planned. *And bound Jesus*—He was first bound in the garden, but was probably released during his trial before Caiaphas. *King of the Jews*—That is, in a political sense. *Released one prisoner*—This was a voluntary custom of the procurator. *Insurrection*—Revolts were continually being made against the Romans. Nothing is known of this particular one. *Clothed him with purple*—This was the colour of the empire, and was a symbol of kingly power.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *Pilate and Jesus.*
Who was Pontius Pilate?
Why did the Sacerdotes carry Jesus before him?
What was the charge made against him here?
How did Jesus answer that charge?
John 18. 36.
How can you account for the difference between the accounts of Mark and John?
What was the effect on Pilate of the demeanour of Jesus?
Jesus or Barabbas.
Before this suggestion by Pilate what had he done with Jesus? Luke 23. 7.
What was probably Pilate's expectation of the choice the Jews would make?
To what level did his proposition bring Jesus in the people's view?
Between two malefactors which would they, under the circumstances, naturally choose?
What danger confronted the rulers at this proposition?
How did they avoid it? ver. 11.
What was the character of Barabbas?
What was Pilate's testimony as to the character of Jesus? Luke 23. 14, 15.

3. *The King of the Jews.*

At what point did Jesus pass out of the hands of the Jews into the hands of the Romans?

Was the act of the soldiers unnatural? What was the feeling of Roman soldiers for all Jews?

Why was Jesus scourged by Pilate? Who were probably the movers in this scene of shame?

In what sense was Jesus a king? What triumphant and kingly act was soon to crown him in the eyes of the world?

Do you accept him as your king?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

How men bent on sin press with violent haste to accomplish their purpose?

Satan never lets a man walk so slowly to evil that he may repent. He rushes him into it.

Pitiable Pilate! Shrewd Roman! He tried to defeat Satan by devices. He failed. Satan cornered him by his own methods.

No man can win in a game with that opponent.

Noise seems to have turned the scale. They cried the more; he yielded. Clamor and outcry and fear that there may be outcry silences many an honest man and makes him a coward.

Pitiable Pilate! Patient Jesus! And all this was for you! Do you accept it?

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. You ought to study very carefully each evangelist's account of this scene.

2. Write all the things that they say Jesus said.

3. Write out the different steps in Pilate's surrender.

4. Study all the marginal references in your Bible for fulfilled prophecy.

5. If you have SENIOR LESSON BOOK for 1886 study the outline Bible reading on page 160.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. On what charge was Jesus delivered to Pilate? He had made himself a king. 2. When Pilate questioned him of the charge how did he answer? I am a king. 3. What was Pilate's purpose in offering Jesus or Barabbas for release? It was to release Jesus. 4. When the Jews demanded Barabbas what did he do? Released Barabbas and scourged Jesus. 5. What was his final sentence? "Pilate saith unto them," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The kingdom of Christ.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

28. What do you mean by saying that God is infinite?

I mean that his nature and attributes are high above all understanding, and without any limit.

Canst thou by searching find out God? Job 11. 7.

His understanding is infinite. Psa. 147. 5. Behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee. 1 Kings 8. 27.

A. D. 30] LESSON XI. [June 16

JESUS CRUCIFIED.

Mark 15. 21-39. Memory verses, 25-28

GOLDEN TEXT.

He humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Phil. 2. 8.

OUTLINE.

1. The Crucified, v. 21-28.
2. The Revilers, v. 29-32.
3. The Darkness, v. 33.
4. The End, v. 34-39.

TIME.—30 A.D.

PLACES.—Jerusalem. Golgotha.

CONNECTING LINKS.—The story runs rapidly on. The lesson follows immediately upon the last, with no circumstance omitted.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Bear his cross*—The criminal was compelled to bear his own. But Jesus was too exhausted. *Wine with myrrh*—This was to deaden pain by producing stupor. *Parted his garments*—Divided the outer robe by ripping the seams.

Casting lots—The inner garment they could not thus divide, so they cast with dice, which every Roman soldier carried. *His accusation*—Over the crucified criminal was nailed a board which contained a record of his crime. This he also wore suspended from his neck, as he went to crucifixion. *Wagging their heads*—Shaking their heads in malignant joy. *The sixth hour*—That is, at twelve o'clock of our day. *The ninth hour*—Three o'clock in the afternoon. *Vinegar*—The

sour wine, the regular drink of the Roman soldier. *Veil of the temple*—The great veil which hung before the holy of holies.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *The Crucified.*

Who crucified Jesus, the Romans or the Jews?

Where was Jesus led to be crucified?

What customs attending crucifixions are mentioned by Mark? ver. 21, 23, 24, 26.

Why did Pilate write this particular superscription of ver. 26? Why in three languages?

Why is the fact of ver. 27 so carefully told?

What class of persons only were punished with crucifixion?

2. *The Revilers.*

Had not hate done all it could in crucifying Jesus?

Who joined in heaping insults on the sufferer?

What part did the malefactors take in this reviling? Luke 23. 39-42.

What great truth did the chief priests unconsciously speak?

Why was it absolutely impossible for the Christ to do both of these acts of saving?

What in their spirit shows that had the taunt of ver. 32 been made real they would not have believed?

3. *The Darkness.*

What was the occasion of this portent?

What other wonders occurred to terrify the populace? Matt. 27. 51-53.

4. *The End.*

In what sense had God forsaken Jesus?

In the act of verse 36 what prophecy was fulfilled? Psa. 69. 21.

What was the popular opinion of Elias which is here suggested?

What was the dying utterance of Jesus?

What testimony did the end of this life draw from a pagan?

What is your testimony to-day?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Simon bore the cross. So must every one that comes after Jesus. Read Matt. 16. 24. Have you? O how little our crosses are! But what a heavy one was his! On it were the sins of the world.

They railed on him. So has the world ever since. So it does to-day. Wherever a man or a woman stands out boldly against specific sin, it rails and blasphemes.

Himself he cannot save. No, ah, no! What Christ could not do, you cannot do.

You cannot save yourself. But he saved others. Thank God! Yes; he saves others.

And he can save you. Will you be saved? "The Son of God." A pagan testified thus; and you?

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Learn all that you can about the proper names mentioned in the lesson. Acts 4. 16; 19. 33; Rom. 16. 13.

2. Learn where Golgotha was, and how the throng reached it.

3. Write ten different things which are said to have happened during the lesson.

4. Study Matt. 27. 46; Luke 23. 34, 43, 46; John 19. 28, 30.

5. Find out all you can about a cross; how it was regarded; how the Romans used it for an oath, etc.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Where was Jesus crucified? At Golgotha, also called Calvary. 2. How was he crucified? Between two malefactors. 3. What Scripture was thereby fulfilled? He was numbered with transgressors. 4. How was he treated by all in this hour of misery? He was mocked and reviled. 5. What great lesson does his crucifixion teach us? To bear God's will patiently. 6. What does our GOLDEN TEXT say of this sacrifice? "He humbled himself," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The atonement.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

27. What is an eternal Spirit?

One who is without beginning and without end.

From everlasting to everlasting thou art God.—Psalm 90. 2.

THERE is no beautifier of complexion, or form, or behaviour, like the wish to scatter joy, and not pain, around us.

DON'T fret. Fretting is often a worse fault than the thing which causes it.

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