

Lesson VIII.

JESUS AND PILATE

November 22, 1914

Matthew 27 : 11-26. Study Matthew 27 : 11-31 ; Luke 23 : 1-25. Read Mark 15 : 1-15—Commit to memory vs. 22, 23.

GOLDEN TEXT—Pilate saith unto them, What then shall I do unto Jesus which is called Christ?—Matthew 27 : 22 (Rev. Ver.).

11 And Je'sus stood before the governor : and the governor asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews ? And Je'sus said unto him, Thou sayest.

12 And when he was accused ² of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing.

13 Then ³ said Pilate unto him, Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee ?

14 And he ⁴ answered him to never a word ; inasmuch that the governor marvelled greatly.

15 Now at ⁵ that feast the governor was wont to release unto the ⁶ people a prisoner, whom they would.

16 And they had then a notable prisoner, called Barab'bas.

17 Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I release unto you ? Barab'bas, or Je'sus which is called Christ ?

18 For he knew that for envy they had delivered him ⁸.

19 When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that ¹⁰ just man : for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him.

Revised Version—¹ Now Jesus : ² by ; ³ saith ; ⁴ gave him no answer, not even to one word ; ⁵ the ; ⁶ multitude one prisoner ; ⁷ When therefore ; ⁸ up ; ⁹ And while he was sitting on ; ¹⁰ righteous ; ¹¹ Now the ; ¹² multitudes ; ¹³ for ; ¹⁴ But the ; ¹⁵ And they said ; ¹⁶ then shall I do unto Jesus ; ¹⁷ Omit unto him ; ¹⁸ he said ; ¹⁹ exceedingly, saying ; ²⁰ So when Pilate ; ²¹ prevailed ; ²² rather that ; ²³ arising ; ²⁴ righteous man ; ²⁵ And all the people answered ; ²⁶ unto them Barabbas : but Jesus he scourged and delivered to be crucified.

LESSON PLAN

- I. Pilate's Question, 11-14.
II. Pilate's Offer, 15-26.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association, Mr. S. C. Bailey, Hon. Secretary, 56 Old Bailey, London, England.)

M.—Jesus and Pilate, Matt. 27 : 11-23. T.—Jesus and Pilate, Matt. 27 : 24-31. W.—Jesus and Pilate, Luke 23 : 1-12. Th.—Jesus and Pilate, Luke 23 : 13-25. F.—Their feet run to evil, Isa. 59 : 1-8. S.—The awakening of conscience, Acts 5 : 27-33. S.—Behold the man ! John 19 : 1-12.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 107. *What doth the conclusion of the Lord's prayer teach us ?* A. The conclusion of the Lord's prayer (which is, *For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever, Amen*) teacheth us to take our encouragement in prayer from God only, and in our prayers to praise him, ascribing kingdom, power, and glory to him. And, in testimony

20 But the chief priests and ¹ elders persuaded the ² multitude that they should ask ³ Barab'bas, and destroy Je'sus.

21 The governor answered and said unto them, Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you ?

22 They said, Barab'bas.

23 Pilate saith unto them, What ¹⁶ shall I do then with Je'sus which is called Christ ? They all say ¹⁷ unto him, Let him be crucified.

24 And ¹⁸ the governor said, Why, what evil hath he done ? But they cried out ¹⁹ the more, saying, Let him be crucified.

25 When Pilate saw that he ²¹ could prevail nothing, but ²² that rather a tumult was ²³ made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this ²⁴ just person : see ye to it.

26 Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.

27 Then released he ²⁵ Barab'bas unto them : and when he had scourged Je'sus, he delivered him to be crucified.

of our desire, and assurance to be heard, we say, Amen.

The Question on Missions—8. What does our church do for these on their arrival ? Immigration chaplains are stationed at the Atlantic ports, and at Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver, who welcome the newcomers, hold services among them, assist and protect them in many ways, and provide them with cards of introduction to the ministers in the places where they intend to settle.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise : 116 (Supplemental Lesson), 111, 52, 13 (Ps. Sel.), 545 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY), 54.

Special Scripture Reading—Ps. 2. (To be read responsively or in concert by the whole School.)

Lantern Slides—For Lesson, B. 41, Jesus and Pilate. For Question on Missions, H. M. 1346, Immigration Hall, Winnipeg, Where Our Chaplain Holds Services Among Newcomers. (Slides are obtained from the Presbyterian Lantern Slide Department, 96 Queen St. East, Toronto, at \$2.00 a dozen.)

Stereograph—For Lesson, Jerusalem on the West ; View South from New Tower over the Walls (Order from Underwood & Underwood, 62 Adelaide St. East, Toronto ; further particulars, page 517).

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

Time and Place—Friday morning, April 7, A.D. 30, between 6 and 9 a.m. ; the judgment hall of Pilate in Jerusalem.

Connecting Links—The night meeting of the Sanhedrin at which Jesus had been condemned to death (see ch. 27 : 57-68, Lesson V., Nov. 1), was irregular. A meeting of the council was held, therefore, early in the morning (vs. 1, 2) to give legal sanction to what had been done, and to arrange for taking Jesus before Pilate, the Roman governor, who alone could execute the death sentence.

I. Pilate's Question, 11-14.

V. 11. *Before the governor ;* Pontius Pilate, who ruled over Judea, Samaria and Idumea, a region east of the Dead Sea, from A.D. 26 to 36. His proper title was "procurator," that is, one who is "curator" or caretaker on behalf of another. He represented the Roman emperor. Pilate "was sceptical, cold and cruel ; arbitrary in his acts, and cherishing no feelings but those of contempt for the religion of Israel." But he was a Roman judge, and "the laws of the Romans were the