

Twentieth Sunday after Trinity (NOVEMBER 7).

'The Second Petition.'—The Kingdom of God.—Rev. xix. 11-17; S. Mark i. 14, 15.—Hymns 217, 43.

A. God is King of—

- I. The Universe—i.e. of everything and every person, because He has made them (Rev. iv. 11).
- II. Mankind—because He has redeemed them (1 Cor. vi. 20).
- III. His Church—because He has chosen it (S. John xv. 16).
 On earth (S. Mark i. 14, 15). In Heaven (S. Matt. xiii. 43).
- IV. Our hearts—because He loves to reign there (S. Luke xvii. 21). We should forward the Coming of the Kingdom of Christ.
 1st. By watching for His Return (Titus ii. 13).
 2nd. By obedience to His Commands (1 S. Peter ii. 17).
 3rd. By Missionary work (S. Matt. xxiv. 14).
 4th. By Prayer (Rev. xxii. 20).

B. The Conquering King (Rev. xix. 11-17).

- I. Verse 11.—His 'White Horse,' signifying the Purity of His Manhood.
- II. His Names.
 Verse 11.—Faithful and True. Verse 12.—Unknown. Verse 13.—The Word of God.
 " 16.—King of kings and Lord of lords.
- III. His Vesture dipped in the blood of His enemies, signifying His vengeance on sinners.
- IV. His Armies.
 (a) On white horses pure like Himself. (b) No armour, because He alone wins the victory.
 (c) Linen not stained with blood, because 'Vengeance is Mine, saith The Lord.
- V. His weapons.
 (a) Sword for vengeance. (b) Rod for government.

C. Questions.

1. What is the second petition?—'Thy Kingdom Come.'
2. How does the Catechism explain this?—'That we may serve Him—as we ought to do.'
3. Who are bound to serve God the King?—All His creatures.
4. Who alone rebel against Him.—The Devil and mankind.
5. What do we desire in this Petition?—That the Church on earth, God's Kingdom of Grace, may be spread among all nations.
6. What else do we desire?—That the Church in Heaven, God's Kingdom of Glory, may gather in all the Elect.
7. What may you do to help this Kingdom to come?

* * * The complete Scheme of these Instructions, arranged for the Sundays after Trinity, is now ready, and can be had of the Publishers, price 3d.