

Matthew 25 : 31-46—Me. vory Verses, 34-36:

Golden Text—Inasmuch as ye did it not unto one of these least, ye did it not unto me.
—Matthew 25 : 45 (Rev. Ver.).



and ye visited me not.

44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee ?

45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment : but the righteous into life eternal.

THE LESSON RETOLD

THE SHEPHERD AND HIS FLOCK

There was a shepherd who dwelt in the far country where Jesus lived. Every morning he led his flock to pastures where there was fresh green grass and sweet water.

There were both sheep and goats in this shepherd's flock. They traveled along together. Sometimes the path to the green pastures led through unsafe places, where robbers hid. Sometimes fierce, wild animals crouched behind the rocks. As the flock went along, the little lambs and sheep were good and willing and obedient. But the goats were often unruly and wild.

One day the shepherd turned round and faced his flock. He gently tapped one of his good little sheep on its head with his long crook. It moved over to the shepherd's right side, the best side to be on. The shepherd gently tapped each obedient sheep and all moved to the right side.

31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory :

32 And before him shall be gathered all nations : and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats :

33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world :

35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat : I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink : I was a stranger, and ye took me in :

36 Naked, and ye clothed me : I was sick, and ye visited me : I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee ? or thirsty, and gave thee drink ?

38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in ? or naked, and clothed thee ?

39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee ?

40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels :

42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat : I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink :

43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in : naked, and ye clothed me not : sick, and in prison,

and ye visited me not :

44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee ?

45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment : but the righteous into life eternal.

Then the shepherd tapped one of the wild, unruly goats and it moved to his left side. He tapped another and another. This the shepherd did till all the sheep were at his right, and the goats were at his left.

A TRUE STORY THAT JESUS TOLD

Jesus said : "Some day I shall come again to the earth. All the people shall be gathered before Me. I shall put the true and obedient at My right hand. But those who have not been obedient shall be put on the left.

"I shall come as a King. I shall say to those at My right hand : 'Come, ye good and obedient, whom God loves. Come to the home that is ready for you. When I was hungry ye gave Me meat. When I was thirsty, ye gave Me drink. When I was sick, ye cared for Me.' "

Those at His right will ask, "When did we do these things, Lord?"