

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

On what day of the week was Jesus crucified?

On Friday.

When did he rise from the dead? **Early Sunday morning.**

What has this day been called since? **The Lord's day.**

Who came to the tomb that morning? **Mary Magdalene and another Mary.**

Who came and rolled away the stone from the tomb? **An angel of the Lord.**

Who were afraid of him? **The men set to watch the tomb.**

Whom did the angel tell not to be afraid?

The women.

What did he say of Jesus? **"He is risen."**

Where did he say Jesus would meet the disciples? **In Galilee.**

Whom did the women hasten to tell? **The disciples.**

Who met them and spoke to them as they went? **Jesus.**

Who did the Jews say had stolen the body of Jesus? **His disciples.**

Why did they tell this falsehood? **To keep men from believing in him.**

Whom did the disciples go to meet? **Jesus.**

What did he tell them to do? **"Go, teach all nations."**

What did he want them to teach? **The truth about himself.**

What promise did he give them? **"I am with you always."**

Words with Little People.

Jesus died that I might die to sin.

Jesus rose that I might live again.

Lesson Promise.

"I am with you always."

General Statement.

The tragedy of Calvary has come to its close, and the form of the Nazarene hangs dead upon the cross. While the disciples hide in fear, the noble Arimathea, Joseph, goes boldly into Pilate's presence, asks for the body of the Crucified, and lays it tenderly in his own new, rock-hewn tomb. A stone is rolled against the door, and, by command of the governor, stamped with the official seal, while a band of soldiers take their station around it so that none may bear away the body. For thirty hours they watch, while Jerusalem keeps the feast, and while the followers of Jesus in secret weep over the ruin of all their hopes. The first Sunday morning after the passover begins to dawn, when suddenly the tomb is rent asunder by an earthquake, and an angel descends to herald the rising, as angels had heralded the birth, of the world's Redeemer. The events of the forty days succeeding the resurrection are briefly sketched by the evangelist, whose aim was not to give a detailed history of the events, but to meet the calumnies of the Jewish leaders. We see the mingled amazement, joy, and doubt that fill the minds of the disciples during the week after the first news of the resurrection. We are led to the mountain in Galilee, where to many hundreds of his followers the risen Lord appears, and receives their glad homage. He proclaims the universal dominion of his cause, and sends his disciples forth over the world to proclaim his Gospel, and to baptize the nations in his name, promising his presence with them during all the ages of human history. There the record of Matthew ends. It is left for other evangelists to present the picture of Jesus on the heights of Olivet with outstretched hands blessing his disciples, and ascending to sit upon his Father's throne.

EXPLANATORY AND PRACTICAL NOTES.

Verse 1. In the end of the sabbath. That is, late on Saturday night, just before the dawn of Sunday morning. **Came Mary Magdalene.** "Mary of Magdala," a town on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. Out of her Jesus had cast seven devils (Mark 16. 9). There is no reason for the current supposition that she was the "woman who was a sinner" mentioned in Luke 7. 36, 50. We know little of her life besides this one event, which is given at greater length in John 20. **The other Mary.** This was the mother of James the Less and of Joseph (Matt. 27. 56), who is supposed to have been a cousin of the mother of Jesus. Besides these two were Salome, and Joanna, and perhaps other women. **To see the sepulcher.** The burial of Jesus had been hastened in order to avoid breaking the Sabbath,

which began at sunset on Friday evening; and these women were bringing spices and other materials for the more complete embalming of the body. Not until they were almost there did they remember that the stone, which they could not roll away, lay before the door; but as they approached they saw that it was gone (Mark 16. 4). (1) *Those who work for Christ will find obstacles removed from their path.*

2. There was a great earthquake. This had probably just taken place when they arrived. It may not have been an ordinary earthquake, but was perhaps a supernatural event unnoticed at a distance. **The angel.** Revised Version, "An angel." From the more precise accounts of Luke and John it would appear that there were two angels, though one may have been more promi-