



**REJECTED GRACE.**

A sinner engrossed in worldly pursuits and pleasures saw in a dream a beautiful vision. Some one stood holding out to him a white robe and crown. Each night the vision came, but seemed farther and farther away. "Who art thou?" he finally asked. "I am the Day of Grace," was the reply. But the sinner did not accept her offers. Finally the vision passed away and was seen no more.

Years passed away. The sinner remained absorbed in his worldly occupations, and thought no more of the marvellous vision. At length he fell sick, and drew near death. As he lay there upon his couch he saw phantoms of the past rise before him. Worldly Pleasure passed by. Her gay robes and her mask were torn off, and the sinner saw too late that worldly pleasure was a hollow mockery, and full of villainess. Worldly Gain passed by. His gilded coat was gone, and only dust and ashes remained. Sin passed by, the sinner saw that its only reward was the bitterness of death.

As he lay lamenting his ill-spent life, a fearful apparition with a flaming sword suddenly arose before him, and the longer he looked the more dreadful and threatening did it appear. At last he gasped, "Who art thou, dread spirit?" The apparition made answer, "I was once the Day of Grace, whom thou didst reject. Then I would have delivered thee from worldly pleasure, from worldly gain, and from sin, but thou didst refuse my offers. Now, I am come to abide with thee forever, and I shall torment thee more than all else. Once thou hadst power to reject me; now thou hast none. My name is now Grace Rejected, and with the sword of remorse will I pierce thy conscience through all eternity."

Thus may you learn, O sinner, how terrible it is to reject the proffered salvation. The memory of rejected grace will one day cling to you like the poisoned robes to the limbs of Hercules, and you will finally know, though everlastingly too late, how terrible is the wrath of the Lamb. Then your relations to the Lamb will be changed; your chance for pardon gone, and rejected grace will be your everlasting torment; for by rejecting grace are you brought to perdition. Then repent, while you may, and turn not the Holy Spirit from you; for "His feet departing ne'er return." Open your heart while he knocks, else you may be forever lost.

**LESSON NOTES.**

**SECOND QUARTER.**

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE.

**LESSON XI.—JUNE 14.**

**JESUS CRUCIFIED.**

Luke 23. 33-46. Memory verses, 44-46.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures.—1 Cor. 15. 3.

Time.—Friday, April 7, A.D. 30.

Place.—Calvary, outside the walls of Jerusalem.

**DAY BY DAY WORK.**

Monday.—Read the account of Jesus accused and mocked (Luke 23. 1-12), and also the Time and Place.

Tuesday.—Read the story of Jesus condemned, though innocent (Luke 23. 13-26).

Wednesday.—Read the Lesson (Luke 23. 33-46).

Thursday.—Read the account in Mark 15. 22-32.

Friday.—Read of the cross foreseen by Christ in John 12. 20-33, and study the Questions on the Lesson.

Saturday.—Read in 1 Peter 2. 19-25, how Christ suffered for us, and study the Teachings of the Lesson.

Sunday.—Read in Rom. 8. 31-39, some blessed results of Christ's death, and review the entire lesson.

**QUESTIONS.**

1. Love for Enemies, verses 33-38.  
33. Where was Jesus crucified? Where was this place? Who were crucified with Jesus? 34. What did Jesus say when he was crucified? What was done with the clothes of Jesus? How did this fulfil Scripture? (Psalm 22. 18.) 35. What did the rulers say to Jesus on the cross? 36, 37. What did the soldiers say? 38. What writing was placed on the cross? Was this writing true?

2. Pardon for sinners, verses 39-43.  
39. What were the two men who were crucified with Jesus called? What crime had they committed? (Matt. 27. 38.) What did one of these two men say to Jesus? 40, 41. What did the other man say? 42. What did he ask of Jesus? How did he show faith in Christ? What did Jesus promise him? What promise is made to those who believe in Jesus? (John 14. 3.)

3. Trust in God, verses 44-46.  
44. What took place while Jesus was on the cross? At what hour was this? 45. What took place in the temple? Where was this veil? 46. What were the last words of Jesus on the cross? What other words are given in John 19. 30? Did Jesus die by his own will? (John 10. 17, 18.) What does the Golden Text say of Christ's death?

**TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.**

Remember what is said in the Golden Text, "Christ died for our sins." We cannot understand how this could be, just as we cannot understand many of the other truths, even though we believe them. In some way Jesus died for us; he died to save us from our sins. Let us love him, because he loved us enough to die for us. Let us worship him as our Lord and King. Let us look to him to save us; let us expect some day to be with him in heaven.

**A GOOD NOTION.**

A believer was giving in a prayer-meeting his testimony as to God's grace and goodness, and said:

"On my way here to-night I met a man who asked me where I was going; I said: 'I am going to prayer-meeting.' He said: 'There are a good many religions, and I think the most of them are delusions; as to the Christian religion, that is only a notion; that is a mere notion, the Christian religion.' I said to him: 'Stranger, you see that tavern over there?' 'Yes,' said he, 'I see it.' 'Do you see me?' 'Yes, of course, I see you.' 'Now, the time was, as everybody in this town knows, that if I had a quarter of a dollar in my pocket, I could not pass that tavern without going in and getting a drink; all the people of Jefferson could not keep me out of that place; but God has changed my heart, and the Lord Jesus Christ has destroyed my thirst for strong drink, and there is my whole week's wages, and I have no temptation to go there; and, stranger, if this is a notion, I want to tell you it is a mighty powerful notion; it is a notion that has put clothes on my children's backs, and it is a notion that has put good food on our table, and it is a notion that has filled my mouth with thanksgiving to God. And, stranger, you had better go along with me, you might get religion too; lots of people are getting religion now."

**Jacob's Ladder.**

Life is called a ladder,  
Which we climb round by round;  
We should step up higher  
Each day above the ground.

Each noble deed we do,  
Each kind word we say,  
Each trouble we pass through,  
Is a step upon the way.

Stay not near the ground,  
Let no chain nor fetter  
Keep you where you're found  
From reaching something better.

On and up we'll climb  
Higher year by year,  
All through the march of time  
Be strong and persevere.

Many evil things we meet  
That try to turn our course,  
To lead astray our weary feet,  
Or crush us down by force.

Many temptations strong  
Stare us in the face,  
Many a sin and wrong  
We meet with in the race.

All these we'll trample down,  
And reach for what is right,  
At wickedness only frown,  
But for the good we'll fight.

Every little act we do,  
In kindness and in love,  
Or to the right stand true,  
Will lift us on above.

Often some kind friend,  
Who can give us counsel,  
A helping hand will lend,  
Or some sadness will dispel.

He climbs up the highest  
Who loves and thinks the most,  
Who does and acts the best,  
Turns not aside to boast.

Upward then ascend,  
Our steps we'll not retrace,  
But climb on to the end  
Of this life's weary race.

Yes, we'll take courage still,  
Whatever be our fate,  
And ascend the ladder till  
We're safe at heaven's gate.  
—Industrial School Journal

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**CALIFORNIAN WONDERS.**  
The above picture shows one of those wonders of the Yosemite—the Big Trees. The size of the trees can be imagined from the way in which a coach and six drives right through the very heart of the one in our cut.

**THE TRAIN BOY.**

He had done several little errands for the gentleman in the Pullman car, and as the man got off he slipped a dollar into his hand. "I like your looks, Jimmy," he said kindly. "Now, remember that you can make yourself whatever you wish. I don't mean by that that you may become a Vanderbilt if you desire, or the President of the United States; but I do mean that you can be something better yet: a Christian man. Don't forget that."

It was ten years later before the two met again. Then Jimmy had just been made conductor on an important road, and in one of the passengers he recognized his old-time friend. The gentleman had changed but little in the ten years just passed, but it was hard to persuade him that the fine-looking young conductor was the little train boy of whom he still retained a faint remembrance.

"But I certainly am he," Jimmy asserted energetically, "and I've always wanted to tell you how much your words and your kindness did for me. I'd been getting into low company, and growing sort o' wild and reckless; but your words just haunted me, and I got to wondering if that kind of thing paid. I concluded that I'd rather grow up a Christian man, as you said, than a drunken loafer; so I just stopped short, and commenced over in dead earnest."

"And that was all the result of a few sentences, forgotten as soon as uttered," said the gentleman, thoughtfully. "It just shows what a mighty power for weal or woe our chance words may be, and how we ought to guard them."—Mabel Cronise Jones, in *Classmate*.