Lesson IX.

JESUS BEFORE PILATE

December 2, 1906

Luke 23: 13-25; Commit to memory vs. 20, 21. Read Matthew 27: 3-30; Mark 15: 2-19; Luke 23: 1-12.

GOLDEN TEXT-Then said Pilate, . . I find no fault in this man.-Luke 23:4.

13 And Pi'late, 1 when he had called together the

13 And Plane, wen' as and the people, the chief priests and the rulers and the people, 14 Said unto them. Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people; and beheld, I, having examined him before you, I have found no fault in this man touching those things whereof ye accuse him :

15 No, nor yet Her'od: for 'I sent you to him; and, 'lo, nothing worthy of death' is done unto him. 16 I will therefore chastise him, and release him. 17 's (For of necessity he must release one unto

them at the feast.)

18 And they cried out all 10 at once, saving, Away with this man, and release unto us Barab'bas: 19 11 (Who for a certain sedition made in the city,

and for murder, was cast into prison.)

Bevised Version—10mil when he had; 2 and; 3 Omil have; 4 unto me this man; 5 he sent him back unto us; 5 behald; 7 kath been done by him; 5 Omil v. 17; 9 But; 10 together; 11 one who for a certain insurrection; 4 spake unto them again, desiring to release Jesus; 13 shouted; 14 Omil him; 15 this man; 16 release him; 17 asking; 18 their voices prevailed.

20 2 Pi'late, 12 therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again unto them.

21 But they B cried, saying, Crucify thim, crucify

22 And he said unto them the third time, Why, what evil hath 1- he done? I have found no cause of death in him: I will therefore chastise him, and 10 let him go.

23 And they were instant with loud voices, 17 requiring that he may be expected.

quiring that he might be crucified. And 18 the voices of them and of the chief priests prevailed 24 And Pi late gave sentence that it should be as

they required.
25 And he released unto them him that for sedition and murder was east into prison, whom they had desired; but he delivered Je'sus to their will.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

Time and Place-Friday, April 7, A.D. 30; Pilate's judgment hall in Jersualem.

Connection-The Sanhedrin hold a second meeting at daybreak, to confirm the illegal sentence of the previous night (see Lesson VII.), and to arrange for

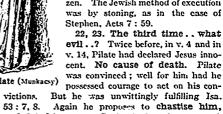
bringing Jesus before Pilate, the Roman governor, since the Roman authoricies alone could pronounce a sentence of death. (See ch. 22: 66 Then follow the first to 23 : 1.) examination before Pilate (Matt. 27: 11-14), and the appearance before Herod, Luke 23: 6-12. This brings us to the Lesson, which tells of the final examination before Pilate.

I. INNOCENT .- 13, 14. Pilate; the Roman governor of the province of Syria, which included Judæa. Called together, etc.; before the judgment seat, placed on a pavement (Gabbatha) outside the palace, John 18:28; 19:13. Ye. this man. Jesus and His accusers are now face to face. As one that perverteth the people; turns them away from their obedience to Rome. Two other charges were laid against Jesus,forbidding to pay the Roman tax, and claiming to be a King, v. 2. Examined him before you. Pilate had given Jesus a public trial, and so His accusers had full opportunity to make their charges against Him. No fault. This Roman judge found Jesus

innocent of every accusation made against Him. 15-17. Nor yet Herod; the ruler of Galilee, then visiting Jerusalem to keep the Passover, to whom Pilate had sent Jesus a prisoner, having learned that He was from Galilee (see Connection). Nothing worthy of death; nothing deserving the death sentence. Done unto him; Rev. Ver.,"by Him". Chastise him; hoping to save Jesus from death,

by yielding thus far to the rage of the crowd. This was both weak and wicked on Pilate's part. Release him. This, Pilate should have done at once, when he found Jesus innocent. The custom of v. 16 was a common one in ancient times.

II. REJECTED. - 18-21. Cried out all at once; influenced by the "chief priests," Mark 15: 11. Away with this man; away to the cross. Release. . Barabbas; who may have been brought out and placed beside Jesus in sight of all. Who for . . sedition; rebellion against the Roman government. He was thus guilty of the very crime with which Jesus was falsely charged. Murder; while Jesus came to give life, John 10: 10. Pilate .. willing (wishing) to release Jesus; which he might have done, had he only been firm at the first. Crucify him. The multitude was now like a wild beast thirsting for blood. Crucifixion was a Roman method of punishing criminals, inflicted only on slaves and subject races, never on a Roman citizen. The Jewish method of execution was by stoning, as in the case of



and let him go. Instant (pressing, urgent) with loud voices; an exc ted mob shouting and gesticulating. Voices.. prevailed; not reason, nor justice, but the clamor of passion.

III. SENTENCED.-24-26. Pilate gave sentence; saying to Jesus, "Thou shalt go to the



Christ Before Pilate (Munkacsy)