

At once Jesus began to say something that made the poor thief forget his pain. It was this: "To-day thou shalt be with me in paradise."

It was now about noon. Jesus had been on the cross since early morning. Suddenly a strange thing happened. It began to get very dark and the Temple curtain was torn from the top to the bottom. Then Jesus cried with a loud voice: "Father, into Thy hands I commend My Spirit"; and so He gave up His life.

When the head soldier saw how Jesus had behaved he said: "There is no doubt that this was a righteous man," and he praised and glorified God.

But many of Jesus' friends stood afar off, watching and weeping, their hearts bursting with sorrow. Even strangers who saw what had been done to Jesus, were filled with pity and wonder.

Now there was a good man among the rulers of the Jews, who had tried to keep the others from putting Jesus to death. His

name was Joseph of Arimathea. Presently he went to Pilate and asked him to let him have Jesus' body and Pilate gave him leave.

Then he brought clean white linen sheets and wrapped them about his friend's dead body and laid Him lovingly away in a new stone grave in his own garden.

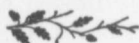
Questions on the Lesson

1. Who were put to death at the same time as Jesus? 2. How did one of them treat Him? 3. What did the other thief ask? 4. How did Jesus answer him? 5. Who also mocked at Jesus? 6. What did they say? 7. How did Jesus behave to those who mocked Him? 8. Who was sorry for Him? 9. What strange thing happened at noon? 10. What were Jesus' last words? 11. Who begged Pilate for Jesus' body? 12. Who was Joseph? 13. What had he done to prove that he was Jesus' friend? 14. How did he show honor to Jesus' body? 15. What is the Golden Text?

The Child at Calvary

The cross is tall,
And I too small
To reach His hand
Or touch His feet.

But on the sand
His footprints I have found,
And it is sweet
To kiss the holy ground.



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Jesus died for my sins



Primary Catechism—20. What does God do for you? God cares for me, and gives me all the good things of life.

Shorter Catechism—69. What is forbidden in the sixth commandment?

A. The sixth commandment forbiddeth the taking away of our own life, or the life of our neighbour unjustly, or whatsoever tendeth thereto.

Lesson Hymn

There is a green hill far away,
Without a city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified,
Who died to save us all.

He died that we might be forgiven,
He died to make us good,
That we might go at last to Heaven
Saved by His precious blood.

Amen.

—Hymn 46, Book of Praise