

Conscience—Eternity.

I SAT alone with my conscience,
In a place where time had ceased;
And we talked of my former living
In the land where the years increased;
And I felt I should have to answer
The questions it put to me,
And to face the answer and question
Throughout an eternity.

The ghosts of forgotten actions
Came floating before my sight,
And things that I thought were dead things
Were alive with a terrible might;
And visions of all my past life
Was an awful thing to face,
Alone with my conscience sitting
In that solemnly silent place.

And so I have learned a lesson,
Which I ought to have learned before,
And which, though I learned in dreaming,
I hope to forget no more.
So I sit alone with my conscience,
In the place where the years increase,
And I try to remember the future,
In the land where time will cease.
And I know of the future judgment,
How dreadful so'er it be,
That to sit alone with my conscience
Will be judgment enough for me.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

A.D. 30] **LESSON XI.** [JUNE 10
JESUS RISEN.

Matt. 28. 1-15. Memory verses, 5-7

GOLDEN TEXT.

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. 1 Cor. 15. 20.

OUTLINE.

1. The Empty Tomb.
2. The Risen Lord.

TIME.—30 A.D. The first day of the following week.

PLACE.—Jerusalem, or near the city.

RULERS.—Same as before.

CONNECTING LINKS.—At the close of that sad Friday, and before the Sabbath eve began, Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, and the faithful women had buried the body of their loved one in Joseph's new tomb. But the hour was late and the work was hurried, and they planned to finish the embalming after the Sabbath. Early in the morning of the first day of the week they started for this purpose, and our lesson tells the rest of the story.

EXPLANATIONS.—*In the end of the Sabbath*—This means very clearly after the Sabbath had ended and the night had almost passed to the dawn of the first day. *A great earthquake*—An earthquake marked his death, and an earthquake marked his return to life. *Countenance like lightning*—The appearance which Jesus had when transfigured. *Became as dead men*—Fell into a swoon, or fainted away. *Some of the watch*—Some of the soldiers whom Pilate had given to the chief priests to watch the sepulchre. *Gave large money*—That is, a large sum of money. *To the governor's ears*—That is, to the knowledge of Pilate. *Until this day*—This is, to the time when Matthew wrote.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *The Empty Tomb.*
When was the empty tomb of Jesus discovered? Mark 16. 1.
By whom was it discovered?
Why did these women visit the sepulchre again so early? Luke 23. 50-56 and 24. 1.
What had preceded the opening of the tomb?
What had Jesus publicly proclaimed concerning himself before his death? Matt. 27. 63.
What precautions had been taken to prevent such a thing being said? Matt. 27. 64, 65.
What happened to these soldiers when the earthquake came?

What word of cheer did the women receive? Which one of them did not hear this message?
What had she done which prevented her hearing? John 20. 2.

2. The Risen Lord.

Who first saw the Lord after he had risen? ver. 9.
Who next saw him? John 20. 11, 14.
While these things were occurring what was happening in the city?
What official recognition, all unintended, was given to the fact of the resurrection?
What was the effect of this action upon common belief?
How many appearances after his resurrection does Paul enumerate? 1 Cor. 15. 5-8.
How many persons saw him during this first day? Luke 24. 13, 34; ver. 9; John 20. 14.
Of what is his resurrection a sure proof?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

How often we spend our best energies upon the dead past, and fail to comprehend the living issues about us
These loving women found only an empty tomb.
There is danger that we may expend our worship in forms only. How many prayers are empty tombs; readings of God's word, empty tombs.
Yet, performing duty, they met the risen Lord.
Many a soul that walks according to the best light it has meets the Lord in the way.
The Angel of God was a terror to the watch, a messenger of joy to the women. Why?
Note the crimes of the scribes and priests: false accusation, malice, murder, falsehood, bribery. What a picture of a debased religion!
But are you any better than they? Have you received him?
Here is a prophecy of the swift-coming future: death swallowed up in victory.

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Compare the four Gospels as to the time when Christ rose.
2. Compare them to see just how events occurred that day.
3. Be sure to read all of John 20. 19-20.
4. Find how many persons went to the sepulchre.
5. Find the different testimonies made that day that he had risen.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. When was it learned that Jesus had risen from the dead? "In the end of the Sabbath." 2. By whom was he first seen? By two loving women. 3. What message did he send to his disciples? To go into Galilee. 4. What report did the scribes and priests send abroad? That his body had been stolen. 5. What did his disciples from that time believe? "But now is Christ risen," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The risen Lord.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

31. What do you call this mystery? The mystery of the Holy Trinity.
32. What do you mean by mystery? A truth which man's reason could not discover, and which God by degrees makes known.

A.D. 30] **LESSON XII.** [JUNE 17

THE GREAT COMMISSION.

Matt. 28. 16-20. Memory verses, 18-20

GOLDEN TEXT.

The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it. Psa. 68. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. The Company.
2. The Word.

TIME.—30 A.D.

PL. CE.—Galilee.

RULERS.—Same as before.

CONNECTING LINKS.—There have been several meetings of Jesus and the eleven, and perhaps that meeting by the Sea of Galilee of Jesus and the seven had also occurred. Some weeks have passed, and Jesus now meets, probably for the last time, a large company of believers. Paul says there were over five hundred.

EXPLANATIONS.—*The eleven disciples*— Judas had hanged himself and gone to his own place. *Where Jesus had appointed them*—When he had is never told us, but he had met the eleven several times and had, probably, told them to communicate the appointment to the believers. *Some doubted*—Not some of the eleven, but some of the gathered company.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *The Company.*
How soon, probably, after the events of last lesson was the meeting in Galilee?
What were the chief mountains of Galilee?
How many days did Jesus remain upon the earth after his crucifixion? Acts 1. 3.
In Paul's account, 1 Cor. 15. 6, what does he mean by saying he was seen of the twelve?
Which of Paul's meetings probably corresponds to this of Matthew?
What shows, in ver. 17 of the lesson, that there must have been more than the eleven?
What was the purpose of the continued stay of the Saviour upon the earth? Acts 1. 3.
2. *The Word.*
What word in which the whole Gospel centres is given in ver. 18?
What word which fixes the duty of the believers in Christ is given in ver. 19?
What word which is sufficient to support any Christian in any hour is given in ver. 20?
What wonderful scene that John depicts is omitted by Matthew?
What command did Jesus give, as told by Luke, that Matthew omits?
What fact concerning the eternal abode of Christ is told by Mark? chap. 16. 19.
How does Mark also suggest the words of our GOLDEN TEXT? Mark 16. 20.
What is the GOLDEN TEXT?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

When these disciples came from Galilee there were twelve; only eleven returned; one was lost. Would I have been that one? "My soul, be on thy guard."
Some worshipped, some doubted. It is the same to-day, in every society, in many homes, in every congregation "My soul, be on thy guard."
"With you always." What a promise! But does that thought please you? Do you want him with you always—wherever you go, whatever you do, whatever you say?

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Study all between the last lesson and this. It cannot be found in Matthew, but in Luke and John and Mark.
2. Commit the whole lesson carefully to memory.
3. Read the fifteenth chapter of First Corinthians.
4. Think over what these phrases must mean, "some doubted," "all power," "all nations," "all things I have commanded."
5. Write an answer to every question on this lesson.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Whither had Jesus bid the disciples go? Before him into Galilee. 2. How large a company does Paul say had assembled? More than five hundred brethren. 3. What was the message of Jesus to this company? That he was omnipotent and eternal. 4. What command did he give to them? To baptize and teach all nations. 5. What has been the history of the obedience of the Church to this command? "The Lord gave the word," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The power of Christ.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

33. What do you mean by the attributes of God?
All the perfections of his nature.
34. What do the Scriptures teach concerning God's attributes?
That he is omnipresent and almighty, that he is omniscient and all-wise
35. What more do we learn concerning God?
That he is holy and righteous, faithful and true, gracious and merciful.

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