

John 18 : 28-40—Memory Verses, 37, 38.

Golden Text—Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.—John 18 : 37.

28 Then led they Je'sus from Cai'aphas unto the hall of judgment : and it was early ; and they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled ; but that they might eat the passover.

29 Pi'late then went out unto them, and said, What accusation bring ye against this man ?

30 They answered and said unto him, If he were not a malefactor, we would not have delivered him up unto thee.

31 Then said Pi'late unto them, Take ye him, and judge him according to your law. The Jews therefore said unto him, It is not lawful for us to put any man to death :

32 That the saying of Je'sus might be fulfilled, which he spake, signifying what death he should die.

33 Then Pi'late entered into the judgment hall again, and called Je'sus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews ?

34 Je'sus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me ?

35 Pi'late answered, Am I a Jew ? Thine

own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me : what hast thou done ?

36 Je'sus answered, My kingdom is not of this world : if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews : but now is my kingdom not from hence.

37 Pi'late therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then ? Je'sus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

38 Pi'late saith unto him, What is truth ? And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault at all.

39 But ye have a custom, that I should release unto you one at the passover : will ye therefore that I release unto you the King of the Jews ?

40 Then cried they all again, saying, Not this man, but Barab'bas. Now Barab'bas was a robber.

THE LESSON RETOLD

When Judas told the Pharisees where Jesus was, they sent a band of soldiers to the Garden of Gethsemane, and arrested Him, dragging Him immediately before the high priest, where He was beaten, spat upon, and falsely charged with all kinds of wrong-doing.

Though Jesus' hands were tied with ropes, He could have got away at any minute. If He had asked His Father, He would at once have sent thousands of angels to help Him. But He chose to stay, that He might suffer and die for the sins of the world.

As it was against the law for the Jews to put anyone to death without the permission of the Roman governor, Jesus, still bound as a prisoner, and followed by an angry, clamoring mob, was taken very early the next morn-

ing to Pilate's palace. When Pilate, hearing the noise, came out to see what was the matter, the Jews demanded that Jesus should instantly be put to death. "But what wrong has He done ?" asked Pilate. "If He were not a bad man, we would not have brought Him," answered the mob. "He calls Himself the King of the Jews." Pilate, supposing that Jesus had done something against the Jewish religion, now tried to persuade the priests to take Him away and settle the matter themselves. But the more he reasoned with them, the more they shouted that Jesus should die.

Pilate now called Jesus inside the judgment-hall, and asked Him privately if He were really the King of the Jews. Jesus