

## The Quiet Hour.

### Jesus Crucified and Buried.

S. S. Lesson—March 24th 1901—Luke 23: 35-53.

GOLDEN TEXT—1 Cor. 15: 3. Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures.

He saved others, let him save himself, v. 35. It had not entered the narrow and selfish minds of the rulers to imagine that a man might prefer saving others to saving himself and might even be willing to lose his own life, it thereby the lives of others might be saved.

The superscription was written in Greek and Latin and Hebrew, v. 38. Pilate wrote better than he knew. Latin was the language of law and power, and all law and power are under the feet of Christ. Greek was the language of learning, and all learning is tributary to His glory. Hebrew was the language of the purest religion the world had yet known, but Jesus Himself was the flower of that religion and its perfecter.

But the other, vs. 40-42. The elements of a true conversion are seen in the penitent thief. He is repentant. To repentance, he adds faith. How he came to have faith in Christ we do not know, but faith he had. In faith he prays the dying king and Lord and entrusts himself to Him. Has any such experience been mine? It matters not how or where, but in some way and at some time have repentance for sin and faith in Christ been kindled in my breast?

To-day shalt thou be with me in paradise, v. 43. "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6: 37), said Jesus; and this is how He keeps His word. It is not safe to wait until life's close to come to Jesus, for then there may be no desire to come. But if we do come in sincerity, even at the last, He will welcome us. And He will always do for us more than our highest hope for ourselves. This comrade of the cross hoped that sometime in the distant future he might have a place in the Messiah's kingdom, but Christ's promise is that that very day he should be with Him in the paradise of God.

The veil of the temple was rent in the midst, v. 43. Man's sin had separated him from God. God might not easily be approached. Between God and sinful man stood the temple and the priesthood and all the ceremonies of the Jewish law. But Christ, through His broken body has opened a way of access to the Father; and now we can all approach Him through Christ, and speak to Him as a man to his friend and find Him gracious.

Jesus cried with a loud voice, v. 46. Seven times did Jesus speak during those awful hours of agony. In His first word from the cross, "Father forgive them" (v. 34.) He gives an example of how to feel towards our foes. In the second word, "To-day shalt thou be with me in paradise" (v. 42.) He stills the fears and lifts the hope of all who truly repent. In the third, "Woman, behold thy son! . . . Behold thy mother" (John 19: 26, 24.) He shows tenderest love towards His mother and honors a faithful disciple. The fourth word, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matt. 27: 46.) reveals how awful the world's sin is, which caused even the Heavenly Father to hide His face. In the fifth word, "I thirst" (John 19: 28.) we see how truly Christ was a man, though the very Son of God.

The sixth word, "It is finished" (John 19: 30.) is the herald's trumpet blast, proclaiming suffering ended, and redemption won. The seventh and last word, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23: 46.) teaches us how to die.

### Proverbs From China.

Many of the following Chinese New Year and other proverbs have a familiar sound; others are not quite so familiar. They are all well worth quoting:

Time flies like an arrow, days and months like a weaver's shuttle.

Our daily bread depends on Heaven.

All things are according to Heaven.

Fearst thou not God; be still O soul,

And listen to the thunder roll.

If one does good, Heaven will bestow on him a hundred blessings.

If one does bad, Heaven will send upon him a hundred evils.

To eat one's rice looking towards the heavens. No sound can startle in the darkest night him who has kept his conscience clean and white.

The kettle of him who has a wicked heart is full of rice.

The kettle of him whose heart coincides with the doctrine of Heaven has none.

During the first part of the first month no one has an empty mouth.

To make a man of yourself, you must toil; if you don't you won't.

Diligence has its reward; play is without profit. Do good regardless of consequence.

To persuade one not to gamble is to win for him.

Better take 800 than give credit for 1,000 cash. Correct one's self; then others.

Think of your own faults the first part of the night (when awake), and of the faults of others the latter part of the night (when asleep).

An upright heart does not fear demons. He who does according to Heaven will be preserved.

He who opposes Heaven will perish. True doctrine can't injure.

True gold fears no fire. A stick's a stick, whether short or tall.

A man's a man, whether great or small. You can't open a book without learning something.

No pleasure equals that of study. Youth is for learning, manhood for action.

Learning is far more precious than gold. Empty is gold, and silver, too, is vain.

Since neither can the hand that's dead retain. Of a hundred virtues filial piety is the worst.

Within the four seas all are brethren. You can't carve a rotten stick.

When the Emperor is virtuous millions will rely upon him.

Heaven has not two suns, the people has not two Emperors.

I have heard of a certain divine that he used always to carry with him a little book.

This tiny volume had only three leaves in it; and, truth to tell, it contained not a single word.

The first was a leaf of black paper, black as jet; the next was a leaf of red—scarlet; and the last was a leaf of white, without spot.

Day by day he would look upon this singular book, and at last he told the secret of what it meant.

He said, "Here is the black leaf, that is my sin, and the wrath of God, which my sin deserves; I look and look, and think it is not half black enough to represent my guilt, though it is as black as black can be.

The red leaf reminds me of the atoning sacrifice, and the precious blood; and I delight to look at it, and weep, and look again.

The white leaf represents my soul, as it is washed in Jesus' blood and made white as snow."—C. H. Spurgeon.

### Presbyterian Home Mission.

EDITOR DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN: Will you kindly give me the opportunity of making a brief statement, through your columns, regarding the Home Mission work of the Presbyterian Church in Canada?

When the committee met in Toronto a year ago, they had applications for missionaries from a large number of new fields into which settlement had recently gone, more particularly in new Northern Ontario, the North West and British Columbia. Representations were made to the committee regarding the foreign element which, during the two preceding years, had settled in the North West. Notwithstanding the heavy expenditure of money consequent upon the expansion of the work, the committee resolved to send missionaries into the new districts, and also to undertake work among the Foreigners. It was felt that, in the interest of the country generally, it was most desirable that schools be opened and Christian work undertaken among those who had so recently come to our shores. A number of men were secured from the United States familiar with the language of these people and in addition to these, a Medical missionary was sent in among the Galicians and Doukhobors.

The Rev. Dr. Robertson, Superintendent of Missions, was sent to Europe chiefly for the purpose of securing missionaries from Hungary and Germany. He succeeded in getting a number of men who are now on their way to Canada.

In the Yukon territory, our church not only carries on work at Dawson City, where we have a prosperous, self-supporting charge but we have missionaries at every point where there is any large settlement, including White Horse, the Northern terminus of the Skaguay Railway, Bennett, Dominion and other Creeks on the Yukon, and at Atlin, B. C., where, in addition to regular mission work, the church maintains a Hospital with two trained nurses sent out from Ontario, and thus far, supported by our people.

The great expansion of the work has so largely increased the expenditure of the committee that, at the present time, they are about \$17,000 in debt. Although the church year ended on Friday last, yet with a view to the removal of this debt, it has been resolved to keep the books open for twelve days, so as to give an opportunity to friends to contribute. The committee meets in Toronto on the 19th inst. It is earnestly hoped that before that date, the entire shortage may be made up, so as to render unnecessary the contraction of the work, in its present most hopeful condition.

I take this opportunity of soliciting the active co-operation of our ministers and of all friends of the work, with a view to the removal of the present deficit within the next few days. Thanking you in advance for the use of your columns. Yours truly,

ROBERT H. WARDEN,

Convener Home Mission Committee.  
Toronto, 6th March, 1901.

Piety of childhood and godliness of old age are blood relations. No life ends right that does not end with God. The successful man is governed by well defined and deep convictions.

As we climb the hill of Christian experience, we see the ever-growing horizon of the ocean of divine tenderness; and we become ashamed even to mention the pool of our love that lies far away in the vale beneath.—F. B. Meyer.