



with him. The high priest was a great man among the Jews. (Study Matt. 26, Mark 14, Luke 22.) They brought Jesus there for the high priest to question Him about His teaching and about His disciples, hoping that He would say something with which they could find fault. They accused Him of saying He would destroy the temple and build it again in three days. (Explain how angry this would make the high priest.) Simon Peter and the beloved disciple, John, followed Jesus to the palace. John went in with Jesus, stayed close beside Him, hoping to be able to speak up for Him. Peter stayed behind. John went out to bring Peter into the palace. A maid asked Peter if he was one of Jesus' disciples. Peter said *no* (denied Him). Peter came and stood by the fire to warm himself. Some of those about the fire asked the same question. He denied again. Another servant said, "Did I not see thee in the garden with him?" Again Peter denied.

Just then, listen! the cock crew. Peter re-

membered what Jesus had said the night before. Peter had been telling Jesus that he would never forsake or deny Him. Jesus knew Peter's faults better than he knew them himself. He told him that during that very night, before the dawn—before the cock-crowing—he would be afraid to stand up for Him, would deny Him three times. This came true. Peter was very much ashamed of himself for not speaking up for Jesus and went out, and wept bitterly. (Teach Golden Text.) (The Jews, His own countrymen,

would not receive Him as their King.)

Practical Thoughts.—Jesus though now in Heaven still needs friends on earth; wants every little boy and girl to speak up for Him. Learn His words and so know what He teaches, so that we can tell people about it. He has left His work on earth for us to help to carry on. Many people do not receive Him as their Saviour and King. He is waiting for us to take Him into our hearts. Let us receive Him gladly. Never be ashamed of being a follower of Jesus. (Matt. 10 : 32; Luke 12 : 8.) Peter was not ashamed to defend Jesus in the dark garden; but out in the light, amongst Jesus' enemies, he had not courage to speak up for Him. Some boys and girls seem like Christians when with Jesus' friends, and can talk about Him; but out amongst careless, bad young people they are ashamed to talk of Jesus. When they hear His name taken in vain, do they speak up for Him?



LESSON IX.—May 28, 1899

CHRIST BEFORE PILATE. John 18 : 28-40

PREVIEW THOUGHT: Christ Jesus saves by His Life and Death

Golden Text.—"I find no fault in him."
—John 19 : 4.

To-day's Lesson Thought.—I may suffer even when doing right.

Connection.—By means of blackboard outline trace events of that night of agony endured by our Saviour. (They were waiting till

daylight so trial would be legal.) Let class describe scene at high-priest's house and facts of last lesson.

The Lesson.—(Study Matt. 27, Mark 15, Luke 23.) We are going to follow Jesus as He is led again through the gate of the palace to the streets in the early morning, before people were