

Notes on the Lessons.

LESSON IX—June 2nd, 1895.

The Resurrection of Jesus. MARK 16: 1-8.

(Commit to memory verses 6, 7).

GOLDEN TEXT: "The Lord is risen indeed." Luke 24: 34.

PROVE THAT—We often cherish groundless fears. 2 Kings 6: 16.

LESSON HYMNS. *Children's Hymnal*—Nos. 216, 51, 52, 53.

SHORTER CATECHISM. Quest. 23. *What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?* A. Christ as our Redeemer, executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.

DAILY PORTIONS. *Monday.* The resurrection. Mark 16: 1-8. *Tuesday.* False reports. Matt. 28: 8-15. *Wednesday.* At the sepulchre. John 20: 11-18. *Thursday.* Fulfilment of scripture. Acts 13: 26-37. *Friday.* Certainty of the resurrection. 1 Cor. 15: 12-20. *Saturday.* Risen with Christ. Rom. 6: 1-11. *Sabbath.* Descent of the Spirit. Acts 2: 1-12. (*The I. B. R. A. Selections*).

NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS.

INTRODUCTORY. Scrupulous in all matters of ceremonial the rulers of the Jews were shocked at the idea that the bodies should hang exposed upon the cross on the Sabbath day, especially as the one approaching was "an high day." They therefore petitioned that the lingering suffering of the crucified might be terminated and the bodies taken down and buried (John 19: 31-42). Soldiers were therefore despatched to see that they were put to death where they hung and to deliver the bodies to those who claimed them. Joseph, of Arimathea, a secret disciple, now came forward and asked for the mortal remains of him whom he had not courage to confess while living. Nicodemus too came forth in daylight to acknowledge his crucified Lord. To the surprise of all Jesus was found to be already dead. He did not suffer the protracted agony of dissolution but surrendered his spirit into his Father's hands when his work was finished. To make sure, however, a soldier thrust his spear into his side. Reverently loving hands laid Jesus to rest in the sepulchre in Joseph's garden, postponing the remainder of their duties to the dead until the Sabbath was past.

Judging others by themselves, the chief priests feared that the disciples might steal away the body of Jesus and then proclaim that he was risen as he had predicted (Matt. 27: 62-66). They accordingly secured a Roman guard from Pilate and made sure that no one should tamper with the grave. But early on the second morning an angel descended, the earth quaked, the sepulchre opened and through the midst of the terror stricken guard, the only human witnesses to the glorious event, the Lord of Life arose and went forth. Parallel Passages, Matt. 28: 1-15; Luke 24: 1-12; John 20: 1-18.

LESSON PLAN. I. A Loving Service. vs. 1-4. II. A Living Saviour. vs. 5-8.

I. A LOVING SERVICE. 1. When the Sabbath was past—*i. e.* after sunset on Saturday evening they procured the material necessary for anointing. The Jewish bazaars were opened in the evening of that day. Luke tells us that they got these spices ready on Friday evening before the Sabbath began. Hence many prefer to understand this verse as referring, not to Saturday evening but to early Sunday morning. Regarding the minor discrepancies of the accounts we may quote the words of Dean Chadwick, "Two armies beheld the battle of Waterloo, but who can tell when it began? At ten o'clock, said the Duke of Wellington." At half-past eleven, said General Alava, who rode beside him. At twelve, according to Napoleon and Drouet, and at one

according to Ney." *Mary Magdalene*—"Mary of Magdala," a town on the shore of the Sea of Galilee (See Luke 8: 2). She is identified in tradition with the woman in Luke 7: 37, but there is no good reason for this. *Mary the mother of James*—James "the less," the son of Alphaeus, or Clopas. *Salome*—wife of Zebedee and mother of James and John (Matt. 27: 56). Luke (24: 10) adds *Joanna*, the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward (Luke 8: 3), and others with them. See Matt. 27: 55, 56. *Bought (R. V.)*—When these purchases were made is not stated. They noted the place of burial on Friday evening (Mark 15: 47), and made some preparations for the work of Sunday morning (Luke 23: 55, 56). Some of the spices seem to have been