

God's minister of comfort waits so close, and while the notes of sweet music fall unheeded on her ear. The angels of God may come near to us in the form of human friends and we may miss the comfort of their presence by not recognizing them.

When Peter heard the story of the women it seemed to him like the wild talk of the sick in delirium. Nay, even after he had visited the tomb, while he "wondered" because the body of Jesus was not there, he did not believe that the Master had risen. And yet in the Acts of the Apostles we are told that shortly after, this same Peter preached boldly and confidently that Jesus had risen. How are we to account for the change? The only reasonable explanation is found in the words of this Gospel: "The Lord is risen indeed and hath appeared to Simon." (Luke 24: 34.) Peter believed in

the resurrection because he had seen the risen Christ.

When Paulinus preached the Gospel before King Edwin and his warriors, Edwin was silent, but one of his warriors arose and said, "Around us lies the black land of night;"

"Athwart the room a sparrow
Darts from the open door;
Within the happy hearth-light
One red flash and no more!
We see it come from darkness,
And into darkness go—
So is our life, King Edwin!
Alas that it is so!

"But if this pale Paulinus
Have somewhat more to tell;
Some news of Whence and Whither,
And where the soul will dwell,—
If on that outer darkness
The sun of hope may shine,
He makes life worth the living;
I take his God for mine."

LIGHT FROM THE EAST

By Rev. Professor Ross, D.D., Montreal

Bringing the spices—When a death occurred among the Jews, the body was immediately laid on the ground, washed, and the hair and nails cut, and then it was wrapped in fine linen with myrrh, aloes, hyssop, and rose oil.

Because the Sabbath was near, Joseph and Nicodemus hastily wound the body of Jesus in strips of linen with a hundred-weight of myrrh and aloes pounded together. The women came, after the Sabbath was past, to mourn at the grave and complete the burial preparations. In Palestine, now, if the death occurs in the morning, the burial

takes place the same day, if in the evening, it is postponed until next day. The body is washed, the ears and nostrils filled with cotton and the whole is enveloped in a white or green winding sheet. It is carried on a bier, first to the mosque, and then to the grave, preceded by poor men chanting their creed, and followed by the women and hired mourners extolling the deceased. No coffins are used. The poor bury in the ground as we do, the rich use vaults. Among all classes the women of the bereaved household come to the grave for days and weeks to sit for hours and weep.

TEACHING HINTS AND HELPS

This section contains teaching material for various grades and from different points of view.

For Bible Class Teachers

AN ANALYSIS

By Rev. Principal MacVicar, D.D., LL.D., Montreal
The main things to be dwelt upon in this lesson are:

1. *What is said of the doings of the persons named in it.* They showed (1) Tender solicitude about the body of Jesus. Having witnessed His crucifixion, they hasten to

prepare spices to anoint His body. They rested on the Sabbath and were early out the next morning on their errand to the sepulchre, v. 1. (2) They gave evidence of their failure in the school of Jesus. He taught them as never man could, with unmatched skill and earnestness, but they forgot His lessons, v. 6. They ignorantly sought "the living (one) among the dead." Angels, who somehow knew what Jesus had told them, have now to instruct them. Note in passing, that Roman Catholics make

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