

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

LESSON X.—JUNE 6, 1880.

THE CRUCIFIXION.—Matt. 27: 35-50.

TIME.—Friday, April 6, A. D. 30; from nine o'clock a. m., to three o'clock p. m.

PLACE.—Calvary, just without the gates of Jerusalem; called Golgotha, the place of a skull.

BULLETS.—Tiberius Caesar, emperor of Roman empire. Pontius Pilate, procurator of Judaea; Herod Antipas, tetrarch of Galilee,—both subject to Rome.

CONNECTION.

The events after the prayer of Jesus in Gethsemane, which was the subject of our last lesson, took place in the following order:

1 That same night he is brought before Caiphas, in Jerusalem, and Peter denies him; Matt 26: 27, 69-75.

2 Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin, and mocked; Luke 22: 63-71. Matt 26: 59-68.

3 The Sanhedrin lead him to Pilate early Friday morning; Matt 27: 1, 2, 11-14. Luke 23: 1-5.

4 Jesus is sent by Pilate to Herod, in another part of Jerusalem; Luke 23: 6-12.

5 Pilate seeks to release Jesus; Luke 23: 13-25. Matt 27: 15-26.

6 Pilate delivers up Jesus. He is scourged and mocked. Jerusalem. Matt 27: 26-30.

7 Judas repents, and hangs himself; Matt 27: 3-10.

8 Jesus is led to the crucifixion, from Jerusalem to Calvary; Matt 27: 31-34.

EXPLANATORY.

And they crucified him. The three crosses were laid on the ground; that of Jesus which was doubtless taller than the other two, being placed, in bitter scorn, in the midst. Parted his garments, casting lots. The execution was carried out, and the cross watched, by a guard of four soldiers, with a centurion, and the garments of the sufferers were their perquisites. Four parts being made, there remained the upper robe, woven throughout with a seam, the type of Christ's perfect righteousness, and the source of healing to many, who had touched it. As it would have been soiled by dividing it, the soldiers decided to cast lots for it, thus fulfilling another prophecy: "They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots." Ps 22: 18. This has given occasion to the remark that Christians have, in their party divisions, paid less respect to their Master than the heathen soldiers did.

They (there were four soldiers) watched him there. This was used to prevent the condemned from being taken down. In this case they had a peaceful business, which assumed a significant meaning.

Two thieves crucified with him. Those whom the Romans called "robbers," were oftentimes wild and stormy zealots, maintaining in arms a hopeless protest against that yoke which God had imposed on his people for their sins. There is every likelihood that the two malefactors crucified with Jesus belonged to the band of Barabbas. For good or for evil they knew something about the Christ; the taunt uttered by the one expresses this, no less than the prayer of the other. On the right hand.....on the left. The three crosses which stood together on Mount Calvary are a continual emblem of our world. A dying Saviour had on one side of him an enemy and an unbeliever, and on the other side a friend and believer.

Thou that destroyest the temple.....save thyself. The reference is to John 2: 19; and the language here and in vers 62, 63, indicates that their misrepresentation of his language upon his trial (chap 26: 61) was wilful.

He saved others. The mockers, as before (comp. John 11: 50, 51), bear unconscious witness to the truth. They referred, it may be, to the works of healing and the raising of the dead which had been wrought in Galilee and Jerusalem; but their words were true in a yet higher sense. He had come into the world to save others, regardless of himself.

The thieves also. Only one thief really said this, and Matthew speaks in general terms. This is often done where the predicate relates to one subject, while yet the writer expresses the idea generally.

The sixth hour. Twelve o'clock. Darkness over all the land. It could have been no darkness of any natural eclipse, for the paschal moon was at the full; but it was one of those "signs from heaven" for which, during the ministry of Jesus, the Pharisees had so often clamored in vain. The early fathers appealed to Pagan authorities—the historian Phalaris, the chronicler Phlegon—for such a darkness; but we have no means of testing the accuracy of these references, and it is quite possible that the darkness was a local gloom, which hung gently over the guilty city and its immediate neighborhood.

The ninth hour. Three o'clock in the afternoon. Et, Et, lama sabachthani. Quoted from Ps 22: 1. The first two words are Hebrew, the latter two Chaldee. Mark's language, Et, is a Syro-Chaldee form, having the same meaning. That is distinctively the Psalm of the suffering Messiah. It must have passed through his soul at that hour. The triumph and the glory are there, too, just as distinct. So the Psalm (118: 27-31) advances from the wall of the sufferer to the triumphant shout of the Messiah's Conqueror and King. Why had thou forsaken me? These words express the feeling, not the fact, and the feeling indicating by their obvious meaning. Bodily causes, inflammation, interruption of the flow of blood, dizziness, no doubt acted on his real human body and soul. But his soul was capable of unusual sufferings. The speedy death, while he could cry with a loud voice (verse 50), points to a deeper struggle.

This man calleth for Elias. Partly a misunderstanding, "Eli" for "Elihu," and partly a mockery. "Elihu" is the Greek form of Elias. One of them. The soldiers or bystanders. "Elihu," as recorded in John, Jesus said, "I thirst." Vinegar. The poor, or common drink of the Roman soldiers, consisting of wine mingled with water. A reed. In John, "upon hyssop," then probably a stalk or stem of hyssop is to be understood. Cried out with a loud voice. The last words were those recorded in Luke 23: 46: "Father, into thy hands," &c., immediately preceded by the triumphant cry: "It is finished," John 19: 30. The order of the Seven Words (as they are called) is: Before the darkness, 1, the prayer of Christ for his enemies; 2, the promise of the penitent robber; 3, the charge to Mary and John. At the close of the darkness, 4, the cry of distress to his God. Just before his death, 5, the exclamation, "I thirst"; 6, "It is finished"; 7, the final commendation of his spirit to God. Yielded up the Ghost. Actually died. "Ghost" is the oldword, for spirit—his soul.

A CANADIAN GOOSE.

In 1838 a rebellion broke out in Canada, and two battalions of the Coldstream Guards were sent thither to assist in quelling it. Both corps occupied the Citadel of Quebec, and in their turn supplied the guards which were ordered to be mounted in different parts of the town and neighbourhood. Near one of these guards was a farm-yard which had suffered much from the ravages of foxes—animals that were at that time a great pest to the colonists; and as the farm in question had been suspected of being the meeting-place of the rebels, a chain of sentries was placed around it. One day the sentry whose duty it was to watch the entrance to the farm had his attention attracted by an unusual noise, and on looking towards the spot whence it proceeded he beheld a fine goose fleeing towards him closely pursued by a fox. His first impulse was to have a shot at the latter; but this would have alarmed the guard, and brought down punishment on himself for giving a false alarm. He was compelled, therefore, to remain a silent spectator of the scene, while every step brought the Reynard nearer to his prey. In the height of its despair the poor bird ran its head and neck between the legs of the soldier in its frantic endeavour to reach the refuge which the sentry-box could afford, and at the same moment the wily fox made a desperate grab at the goose, but too late, for ere he could get a feather between his teeth the ready bayonet of the sentinel had passed through his body. The poor goose, by way of showing its gratitude to its preserver, rubbed its head against his legs, and made other equally curious demonstrations of joy; nor could it ever be prevailed upon to quit the post, but walked up and down day after day with each successive sentry that was placed there until the battalion left Canada, when the goose was brought away with it as a regimental pet to England. The most remarkable thing in connection with the story is that the goose in turn actually saved its preserver's life. Whether the former knew that the sentry was the same man or not must, of course, for ever remain a problem; but it so happened that he was on that particular post again about two months afterwards, when a desperate attempt was made to surprise and kill the unwary sentinel. It was winter time, and although it was a bright moonlight night, the moon was hidden ever and anon by the scudding clouds which seem to presage an approaching storm. In these moments of darkness a sharp observer might have noticed the shadows of several men who, unobserved by the drowsy sentinel, were endeavouring stealthily to approach the post where he stood. Suddenly, he heard or thought he heard, a strange rustling sound, and bringing his musket to his shoulder, he shouted loudly:—"Who goes there?" Not a sound save the echo of his own voice in the distance, and the sighing of the winter wind among the branches of the trees which stood in the deserted farm-yard, responded to the challenge. Several minutes elapsed, during which the soldier marched up and down his lonely beat followed by the devoted goose, until deeming his alarm unwarranted, he again "stood at ease" before the sentry-box. This was the enemy's opportunity, and the rebels were not long in endeavouring to profit by it. Closer and closer they stole up towards the post, the thick snow which lay on the ground completely deadening the sound of their footsteps. But just as two of their number, one on each side of the sentry-box, were preparing with uplifted knife to spring upon the unsuspecting man, the bird made a grand effort, rose suddenly on its wings, and sweeping round the sentry-box with tremendous force, flapping its wings right in the faces of the would-be assassins. They were astounded, and rushed blindly forward; but the sentry, fully aroused to his danger, bayoneted one and shot at the other as he was running away. Meanwhile the other conspirators approached to the assistance of their colleagues; but the bird repeated its tactics, and enabled the sentry to keep them at bay until the guard—whom the firing of his musket had alarmed—came upon the scene and made them flee for their lives.

HOME-MADE PROPAGATING BOXES.

As many ladies are deprived of the advantages of hot beds and cold frames in the early spring weather, I take great pleasure in giving them my experience in making and using a propagating box in the house. The expense is trifling, and any one who can use a hammer, nails, and a small saw can make one. It consists of three wooden boxes, a galvanized iron pan, and a coal oil lamp. This last must be one that sits flat on the bottom of its bowl, otherwise it would be too high to suit the purpose. Two of the boxes are 2 x 8 feet. The third one a common soap box.

Have the larger boxes, which I shall number as 1 and 2 about 8 inches high in the front by 18 inches in the back. This gives the necessary slope for light. Nail a strip of lath on the outside edge of both the ends and front, projecting one-quarter of an inch higher than the edge of the box. This is to keep the glass in place when in use.

Common window glass will answer, taring the measure for same after all else is finished.

It need not fit tightly, and may be in three or four panes, but must be of a width or length to reach from back to front.

Have a number of small holes in the bottom of each box for drainage. Glass can be tilted at the back to give air when needed. Use clean river sand, to the depth of four inches in number 1, and about 2 inches in number 2. This finishes the two large boxes. For the smaller of number 3, remove the top; have two holes, size of silver quarter, made in the sides opposite each other; these are to give air to the lamp. Remove one side of the box, to be replaced with hinges and a button to fasten it; this is to be used as a door in placing and removing the lamp.

Let this door be at the back or side, farthest from the window, for greater convenience. Remove the lamp when the heat is too great, and always at night, covering the entire arrangement with old carpet or blankets if very cold weather.

Have the pan made at the taper end, of galvanized iron, 4 inches deep, and of a size to fit the opening in top of box number 3, with flange an inch wide all around the top edge, to hold it in place. This pan must be kept two-thirds full of water; the lamp directly underneath it will heat it; this furnishes the necessary bottom heat. Box number 1 is to be placed directly on the top of this pan, and is now all ready for the cuttings. Box number 2, to be arranged just the same as to glass, etc., but will not require heat. Each must be elevated to a level with the window sill, placing the front toward the light.

Number 1 must be constantly shaded while the sun strikes the glass, and keep quite warm, using a very fine hose to the pot in watering to avoid disturbing the cuttings, as they must be as firm in the sand as possible. They need not reach far into it, merely enough to cover the eye or bud. Always out below an eye or bud if possible. Place all varieties of one kind in rows, as some kinds root sooner than others, and it will be easier when removing to pots. It will be necessary to be supplied with a hundred or more 2, 8 and 4 inch pots.

Use smallest size first, shifting to larger sizes as each becomes filled with roots. Place all newly potted and shifted plants in box number 2, shading for a day or more, after which give all the sun possible, be careful to tilt the glass if they need more air. With regard to the size amount of foliage of cuttings the whole question lies here:

Provided you can place the cutting in such a condition of shade and atmospheric moisture as to force the leaves to absorb as much as they perspire, the larger the cutting and the more foliage it has the stronger the plant will be. If these conditions are not to be had, the more foliage, the more the juices will be lost, and the plant will damp off. This is not so quickly seen in succulent plants, as geraniums, etc., as in the rose or any woody stem plant. If desired to start a flower or vegetable seed, I use shallow boxes made of cigar boxes sawed in half; pierce holes in the bottom, lay moss in the bottom, and good light soil mixed with sand to within an inch of the top edge. Place these boxes directly in the sand in box number 1, cover each one with moss or flannel, first winging it out in hot water.

Keep covered, water as needed till the tiny sprouts appear, then remove the covering, but keep the glass somewhat shaded with tissue paper for a day or more, and always keep the glass well tilted, for if not given air and light at this stage they will damp off.

I hope all the flower lovers will manage to construct these boxes by the middle of next month; if so, they will be more than repaid for the day's work, and astonished as I was to see the little plants in full bloom. Of course the buds were mature in the cutting. It is best to remove the bud or bloom, to add strength to the roots. I successfully raised over four hundred plants, which I had the pleasure of sharing with many friends.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

FRIDAY, MAY 15.

To-day's session of the Methodist Conference was begun by hearing the memorial report for the Bishops and Conference officers who died during the quadrennium. Mr. Foss read the memorial for Bishop James, Dr. Fowler that of Bishop Ames, Dr. Mallison that of Bishop Haven, Dr. Curry that of Dr. Nelson, and Dr. Reed that of Dr. Deahiel. At the conclusion of the reading a rising vote was taken expressive of sympathy for Bishops Scott and Bowman, who buried their wives during the quadrennium.

A polite note was read by the secretary from Miss Frances C. Willard, in which she declined to speak before the Conference. This was after the Conference had engaged for more than an hour in a heated discussion as to whether Miss Willard should be allowed to speak for ten minutes having been granted finally.

The Committee on the Book Concern have decided by a small majority to recommend that The Christian Advocate, of Atlanta and New Orleans, be discontinued.

The Committee on Episcopacy reported that having considered the memorial and petitions referred to them in regard to the election of a Bishop of African descent, they had decided by a vote of 38 to 8 to present the following resolution:

Resolved, That the best interests of our church in general, and that of our colored people in particular, require that no more of our general superintendents should be of African descent.

The consideration of the resolution was made the special order for Thursday at 10 o'clock.

An attempt has been made in Kentucky to enforce the law to prohibit labor on the Sabbath day. This law has been unfruitfully met by mischievous men, whenever an attempt has been made to shut up liquor shops on Sunday. In Louisville recently when the Sabbath Alliance tried to shut up these groggeries, their proprietors, with the help of the mayor, turned about and took down the names of preachers, sextons, organists, and chorists, to be tried for violating the ordinance against Sunday labor. As if it were not that the ordinance against Sunday labor. As if it were not that the ordinance exists for the purpose of allowing peaceful worship. A lady was arrested for driving to church in her private carriage, and a gentleman's name was taken who was driving his lame wife to church. Liquor-sellers may yet be taught in Kentucky, as they have been in Maine, that it is by the mere unmerited grace of the law that they are allowed to practice their nefarious calling on any day of the week, and that statutes shutting up their shops on Sundays and election days exist for the purpose of limiting a little their disturbance of the public peace on those days when it is most noticed, and not because those days are specially sacred. One of these days we will get the public mind educated up to the point of shutting them up all the time.

United States Methodism.

The Methodist General Conference at Cincinnati, has decided, by a vote of 229 against 139, not to elect a colored bishop, during its present session.

The report on the Freedmen's Aid Society was discussed at length, and was finally adopted.

The Committee on the Book Concern reported in favor of continuing "The Southwestern Christian Advocate" at New Orleans, and "The Methodist Advocate" at Atlanta as separate publications. The same committee reported in favor of discontinuing "The Pacific Christian Advocate" as a General Conference paper.

A resolution by Dr. Lanahan requiring the book agents and secretaries to present detailed reports of expenses incurred on account of fraternal delegates to other bodies, and also by the standing Committees of the Conference, was adopted. A report from the same committee, adverse to the consolidation of the Freedmen's Aid Society with the Board of Education, was adopted.

The Report, No. 4, of Committee on Itineracy, recommends that the Annual Conferences shall annually appoint a committee to determine all questions relating to the selection of new church locations, and such decision shall be respected in the location of any new church enterprises, unless said decision shall be overruled by the annual Conference.

Bishops Warren, Foss, Hurst, and Haven were consecrated at Cincinnati on Wednesday last.

The annual session of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church began at Pittsburg, Penn., May 20, 190 delegates being present.

The Rev. W. S. Dickerson, of New York; the Rev. H. M. Turner, of Georgia; and the Rev. R. O. Cain, of South Carolina, the newly-elected Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, were consecrated with imposing ceremonies in the African Methodist Episcopal Conference at St. Paul's Church, St. Louis, Mo., May 20th.

VEGETINE.

The Watchmaker's Report.

Dr. H. R. STEVENS.—I have used your Vegetine and I can say that it is the best medicine I have ever used. I have used it for many years and I can say that it is the best medicine I have ever used. I have used it for many years and I can say that it is the best medicine I have ever used. I have used it for many years and I can say that it is the best medicine I have ever used.

VEGETINE is now acknowledged by all the physicians to be the only and most reliable blood purifier for all diseases arising from impure blood, such as eczema and scrofulous humor.

VEGETINE For General Debility.

DANFORTH, ME., Oct. 3, 1877.

Mr. STEVENS.—Dear Sir:—My health has always been poor. I have taken a great many kinds of medicine, but never took any that could begin to help me. I had the Vegetine. One year ago last March, I had the Vegetine. It left me feeling better for a long time. I could do but very little work, and I was for me to do a little. I had never heard of Vegetine. One day I saw a bottle of it in a paper. I felt if I could get it that it would do me good. I sent the money and got one bottle, and before I took one bottle, I could see good effects from the medicine. After taking a few bottles I could do a good deal of work. I have taken seven bottles, and I feel better than I have done for many years. I am now sixty-five years old, never so well in my life and never so full of energy. I feel grateful to you and to our Heavenly Father, I recommend it to all around me, for I prize it above all other medicines.

Wm. L. R. HOWARD.

VEGETINE will bear testimony (and do so repeatedly) that Vegetine is the best medicine for all diseases arising from impure blood, such as eczema and scrofulous humor.

VEGETINE Kidney Complaints.

Dr. H. R. STEVENS.—Dear Sir:—My health has always been poor. I have taken a great many kinds of medicine, but never took any that could begin to help me. I had the Vegetine. One year ago last March, I had the Vegetine. It left me feeling better for a long time. I could do but very little work, and I was for me to do a little. I had never heard of Vegetine. One day I saw a bottle of it in a paper. I felt if I could get it that it would do me good. I sent the money and got one bottle, and before I took one bottle, I could see good effects from the medicine. After taking a few bottles I could do a good deal of work. I have taken seven bottles, and I feel better than I have done for many years. I am now sixty-five years old, never so well in my life and never so full of energy. I feel grateful to you and to our Heavenly Father, I recommend it to all around me, for I prize it above all other medicines.

Wm. L. R. HOWARD.

VEGETINE Druggists' Report.

Dr. H. R. STEVENS.—Dear Sir:—My health has always been poor. I have taken a great many kinds of medicine, but never took any that could begin to help me. I had the Vegetine. One year ago last March, I had the Vegetine. It left me feeling better for a long time. I could do but very little work, and I was for me to do a little. I had never heard of Vegetine. One day I saw a bottle of it in a paper. I felt if I could get it that it would do me good. I sent the money and got one bottle, and before I took one bottle, I could see good effects from the medicine. After taking a few bottles I could do a good deal of work. I have taken seven bottles, and I feel better than I have done for many years. I am now sixty-five years old, never so well in my life and never so full of energy. I feel grateful to you and to our Heavenly Father, I recommend it to all around me, for I prize it above all other medicines.

Wm. L. R. HOWARD.

VEGETINE H. R. STEVENS, Boston, Mass.

VEGETINE IS SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

There are only "stagnant pools" in Zeegong, writes a Burmese missionary, R. O. Hancock, in The Baptist Missionary Magazine. "We have no doubt," writes he, "that if we had a tant of pure water in Zeegong," there are numbers, "now deterred by the absence of such a place, who would array themselves on the Lord's side." Now do any of our baptist friends believe that Christ set such store by the cleansing rite of baptism that, if he were living in Zeegong, he would require his disciples to be dipped in a filthy wallowing place of cattle? The ordinance was made for man and not man for the ordinance.

MEDICAL MEN APPROVE.

FROM A. H. PROK, M.D., Peticodiac, N.B.

Messrs. T. Graham & Son.—Dear Sirs:—I have tried your "CONSTITUTIONAL REMEDY" in several cases of Neuralgia with marked effect. I have used it for Chronic Lumbago that has troubled me more or less for several years; I took two or three doses (large ones), and applied your PAIN ERADICATOR externally, and I am in hopes they have made a permanent cure; at all events, I have not had any return of that complaint since using these medicines, more than nine months ago.

I have had many opportunities of observing the good effects of your PAIN ERADICATOR in the past ten or twelve years in Rheumatism and other complaints. From what I have learned of their efficacy, and from what you have told me of the ingredients composing them, and the evident skill with which they are prepared, that their combined use constitutes a very valuable remedy for Rheumatism and Neuralgia complaints.

You are at liberty to make use of this, as you see fit.

A. W. PROK.

BENSON'S CAPSINE POROUS PLASTERS

have received the greatest number of unquestionably reliable endorsements that any external remedy ever received from physicians, druggists, the press and the public. All praise the great improvement on the ordinary porous plaster and all other external remedies. For LAME AND WEAK BACK, Sciatica, Lumbago, Rheumatism, Kidney Disease, Neglected Coughs, and all Local Aches and Pains, they are the best known remedy. Ask any one who has used them, or any good physician and he will confirm the above statements. Sold by all Druggists, Price 25 cents.

VEGETINE

HO PAI

Mint No. 1. If you wish to save your family, and friends a world of pain and grief, which at they endure needlessly, get some bottles of PAIN-KILLER.

Mint No. 2. Ask your Druggist, or a Dispenser, for a bottle of PAIN-KILLER. It is the best medicine for all kinds of pain, and it is the only one that is so effective.

Mint No. 3. When you are out for a PAIN-KILLER, make sure you get the genuine one, and not a cheap imitation. The genuine one is the only one that is so effective.

Mint No. 4. Beware of all the world's mixtures, and dirts, and combinations which are sold you in almost every corner, and which are only a substitute for PAIN-KILLER. These are gotten up to sell on the reputation of the PAIN-KILLER, but nothing in common with it.

The PAIN-KILLER is the only one that is so effective. It is the only one that is so effective. It is the only one that is so effective.

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