

Lesson XI.

CHRIST CRUCIFIED

June 12, 1904

Mark 15 : 22-39. Compare Matt. 27 : 32-61—Memory Verses, 25-27.

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

22 And they bring him unto the place Gol'gotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull.

23 And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh : but he received it not.

24 And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take.

25 And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

26 And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

27 And with him they crucify two thieves ; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left.

28 And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.

29 And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days,

30 Save thyself, and come down from the cross.

31 Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, He saved others ; himself he cannot save.

32 Let Christ the King of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him.

33 And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

34 And at the ninth hour Je'sus cried with a loud voice, saying, Elo'i, Elo'i, lama' sabach'tha'ni? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

35 And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, Behold, he calleth Eli'as.

36 And one ran and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, Let alone ; let us see whether Eli'as will come to take him down.

37 And Je'sus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.

38 And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.

39 And when the centurion, which stood over against him, saw that he so cried out, and gave up the ghost, he said, Truly this man was the Son of God.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The punishment that Pilate had given Jesus, of being put to death upon the cross, was the most cruel and disgraceful punishment that he could give, for only the very worst of wicked men were ever put to death in this way. Nor was it allowed that anyone should be put to death inside the walls of Jerusalem ; so Jesus was now led away by the Roman soldiers to be crucified at a place called by the Romans, Calvary, and by the Jews, Golgotha. Both names are the same and mean "the place of a skull," so-called, likely, from the shape of the ground, which was something like the

bones of a man's head. It was near the city.

Here, with Jesus, were crucified two robbers, Jesus' cross being placed in the middle, a robber upon His right hand and another upon His left, as if He had been the most guilty of all. Before the cruel nails were driven through His hands and feet, the soldiers offered Jesus some wine mixed with myrrh, which was intended to partly take away the pain ; but Jesus would not drink it. Then, as soon as this was done, these rough soldiers sat down near by on the ground, and cast lots as to which of them should keep the clothes belonging to Jesus.