

etc. With wonderful faith, he saw in Jesus a King, and believed that He could bless him in some future state. To day... with me in paradise. Not at some time far in the future, but that very day, should this penitent one go with his newly found Lord to a place of safety and happiness.

III. THE END.—44-46. Sixth hour; 12 noon. Darkness... over the whole land (Rev. Ver.); not an eclipse, because the Passover always came at a full moon. It was a miraculous hiding of the sun's light. **Ninth hour; 3 p.m. Veil of the temple;** between the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies. **Rent;** to signify that men could now, through Jesus, come into God's immediate presence. V. 46 tells of Jesus' last words and His death.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—Jesus on the cross, Luke 23 : 33-46. T.—Sad hearts, Luke 23 : 47-56. W.—"Behold your King," John 19 : 13-24. Th.—"It is finished," John 19 : 25-37. F.—Voluntary death, John 10 : 11-18. S.—"Lifted up," John 3 : 11-18. S.—Wondrous love, Rom. 5 : 1-11.

Prove from Scripture—That Jesus has gone to His Father.

Shorter Catechism—Ques. 37. What benefits do believers receive from Christ at death? A. The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory; and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves till the resurrection.

The Question on Missions—46. What are the encouragements? Under Japanese rule there is better government, more religious liberty, and public primary schools. All classes are accessible, and there is less of extreme poverty than in many parts of China. The native church is developing a self-supporting and missionary spirit.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, 389 (Supplemental Lesson); 54; 46; 13 (Ps. Sel.); 79 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 50.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—Where was Calvary? Who was compelled to carry Jesus' cross? Why?

33, 34 What does the word "Calvary" mean? Why was the place so called? Who were crucified along with Jesus? For whom did Jesus pray? What was the prayer?

35-38 Why could Jesus not save Himself? What

title had He claimed? What writing was placed on the cross? In what languages?

39-43 What four classes joined in ill-treating Jesus? How did the second robber rebuke his companion? What did he ask of Jesus? Give Jesus' answer.

44-46 What wonder happened? At what hour? What took place in the temple? What did this teach? Give the last words of Jesus?

Seniors and the Home Department—Give the time of the Lesson. Who had lamented the fate of Jesus? (V. 27.)

33-38 Describe the crucifixion. Give the "seven words" from the cross. (Luke 23 : 34; Luke 23 : 43; John 19 : 26; Matt. 27 : 46; John 19 : 28; John 19 : 30; Luke 23 : 46.) Upon what charge was Jesus crucified?

39-43 How did the penitent robber show his faith? What assurance did he receive? What becomes of the souls of believers at death; and when will soul and body be reunited? (S. Catechism, Ques. 37, 38.)

44-46 Show that the darkness of v. 44 was miraculous. Of what scripture were Jesus' last words a quotation; and with what addition? (Ps. 31 : 5, first clause.)

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. Plants from sacred spots in the Holy Land are highly prized. Worth more than all others are those which spring from Calvary—repentance, forgiveness, righteousness, eternal life—and these will grow in the soil of any heart.

2. The writer has just read of a man who can see only at night. In daylight his eyes are of no service to him. It is his misfortune. But it is our fault if we see not the light of love and pardon and joy that streams from the cross, and which shines so gloriously all around us.

3. "Is it nothing to you that I bow My head?
And nothing to you that My blood is shed?
O perishing souls, to you I cry;
Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?
O come unto Me—this awful price,
Redemption's tremendous sacrifice—
Is paid for you—oh, why will ye die?
Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?"

4. The brilliant Southern Cross, blazing in the sky, proclaims the might and majesty of the Creator. It is only the darkened cross that reveals the Father's heart of love.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. By what words on the cross did Jesus show that He forgave His enemies?

2. How was He asked to prove that He was the Son of God?

3. What wonders happened at His death?