

Matthew 28 : 1-15—Memory Verses, 5, 6.

Golden Text—He is risen, even as he said.—Matthew 28 : 6.

1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mar'y Magdalene and the other Mar'y to see the sepulchre.

2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake : for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow :

4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.

5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye : for I know that ye seek Je'sus, which was crucified.

6 He is not here : for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead ; and, behold, he goeth before you into Gal'ilee ; there shall ye see him : lo, I have told you.

8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy ; and did run to bring his disciples word.

9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Je'sus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

10 Then said Je'sus unto them, Be not afraid : go tell my brethren that they go into Gal'ilee, and there shall they see me.

11 Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done.

12 And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers,

13 Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept.

14 And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you.

15 So they took the money, and did as they were taught : and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

THE LESSON RETOLD

After Jesus was dead, His followers came and lovingly and carefully took His body down from the cross, and carried it to a tomb in which no body had ever been laid before. The tomb was in a beautiful garden belonging to a rich man named Joseph. And Pilate ordered a great stone put against the door of the tomb, and a strong guard of soldiers stood near, to see that none of Jesus' disciples came to take away the body of their Master.

On the morning of the third day after Jesus' death, Mary Magdalene and another Mary who had also loved Him, came very early to the tomb bringing some sweet spices to put around His body. And as they went, they wondered who would move away the stone for them. But God had sent an angel, with snow-white garments and a bright, shining face, who had rolled the stone from the door; and when the soldiers who were guarding the tomb saw the angel, they were struck with faintness and did not know of anything that happened afterwards. When the

women saw the angel, they, too, were frightened; but he spoke kindly to them, saying, "Do not be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus; but He is not here now—He has come to life again, as He said He would. Come and see the place where He was lying.

And after the women had seen that Jesus' body was not in the tomb, the angel went on to say, "Go quickly, and tell His disciples that Jesus has risen from the dead and is going into Galilee—there they shall see Him." The women were so glad and surprised to hear this, that they ran quickly away to tell the wonderful news. And as they were running, they met Jesus Himself, and when He spoke to them, they fell at His feet and worshipped Him. And He said to them, as the angel had done, "Do not be afraid, but tell My disciples to go into Galilee, and there they shall see Me."

Now, while the women were going, the soldiers who had been guarding the tomb came to the chief priests and told them what had happened. Then these men who had