

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson for March 30
Golden Text—God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

—John 3:16
The Lesson as a Whole
The death of our Lord Jesus was the expression of His infinite love for lost mankind, but also the demonstration of the terrible wickedness of the human heart. It was at the cross that God's attitude toward sinners was declared, and that at the very time that man's hatred of God was manifested.

The Lord Jesus Christ did not simply die as a martyr for the truth, though He was that, as He Himself declared (John 18:37). A martyr is a witness. But His death meant far more than this. In laying down His life He was fulfilling all the sacrificial types of the Old Testament. He gave "his life a ransom for many" (Matt. 20:28). Had He not voluntarily yielded Himself up to die, none could have taken His life from Him. Therefore Pilate, as Jesus told him, could have had no power against Him except as it was permitted by God.

On the cross He became the great sin-offering. There He met all the

claims of divine justice against lost, guilty sinners, and as a result of His finished work God can now be just in justifying all who believe in His name (Rom. 3:26).

But, in His death, He did more than settle the sin question. He glorified God perfectly, and that in the very scene where He had been so terribly dishonored. His death was the supreme evidence of His love for the Father (John 14:31). God received more glory by the obedience of His holy, spotless Son unto death than He ever lost by all man's sin and rebellion throughout the entire course of time. He offered Himself without spot unto God, a sacrifice of a sweet-smelling savor (Eph. 5:1, 2). Yet it was for us that He gave Himself.

Verse by Verse
John 18:37.—"Thou sayest that I am a king." In answer to Pilate's question Jesus asserted His royal authority, but He went on to make it clear that His Kingdom was not of an earthly order. He had come to testify to the truth, and all genuine souls, all really honest people, would hear His voice.

Verse 38.—"What is truth?" Pilate asked the question in a supercilious manner. He had no desire to know the answer, for he was a corrupt, self-seeking politician, though he had to confess that he could find no fault in the patient prisoner who

stood before him.
Chap. 19:10.—"Knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?" As the representative of imperial Rome the procurator had authority to condemn or to acquit, but he little realized how powerless he was in the present instance.

Verse 11.—"Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above." It was only because of the divine counsels about to be fulfilled in the work of the Cross that Pilate had any authority at all in this case. Judas was guiltier than he, and the high priest, who delivered Jesus to the Roman court for trial, was more responsible in this case than Pilate himself.

Verse 12.—"Whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar." Jesus was charged with insurrection because He had declared Himself to be a king. He was rejected by the Jews in that specific character.

Verse 13.—"When Pilate therefore heard that saying," that is, had heard the intimation that Jesus was a fonder of rebellion against the emperor, he "sat down on the judgment seat" to examine the prisoner, and to hear the witnesses.

Verse 14.—"Behold your King!" After some little time the governor presented the Lord Jesus Christ to the throng crowding the entrance to the judgment hall, tauntingly calling their attention to Him as their King.

Verse 15.—"We have no king but Caesar." In a frenzy of hatred and indignation the multitude cried, "Away with him, crucify him," and protested their loyalty to Caesar. Thus they refused to acknowledge God's anointed, preferring an earthly potentate in His place. How they have suffered under the Caesars and other rulers of kingdoms of this world ever since!

Verse 16.—"Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified." Though convinced of the innocence of Jesus, the crafty Pilate, fearful that he might be charged with disloyalty if he released Jesus, gave sentence that He should die by crucifixion, and so they led Him away to Calvary.

Verse 25a.—"There stood by the cross of Jesus his mother." She who had been chosen of God as the one through whom His holy Son was born into the world was standing by the cross, gazing with breaking heart upon Him, who was Son of Mary as well as Son of God.

Verse 26.—"Woman, behold thy son!" In tender compassion the Lord Jesus looked upon His mother and committed her to the care of John, the youngest of the apostolic band.

Verse 27.—"Behold thy mother!" In these words He called upon John to do a son's part in caring for Mary, and in response she was taken to his home.

Verse 28.—"I thirst." This cry, we are told, came from the lips of Jesus, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled (Psa. 69:21).

Verse 29.—"A vessel full of vinegar." This was a refreshing drink, though sour and acrid, but it seems to have been presented to the Lord Jesus Christ on a sponge in derision.

Verse 30.—"It is finished." After receiving the vinegar the Lord Jesus cried with a loud voice, just one word in the Greek, Tetelestai! Finished! Completed! The work of redemption was accomplished. The typical dispensation was ended. Now God could save in righteousness all who put faith in Christ, whose death had settled the sin question.

The Heart of the Lesson
Condemned to die without a fair trial, the Lord Jesus willingly went out to Calvary, there to suffer, "the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God." If there had been no cross, there would have been no salvation for sinners. So He took our iniquities upon Himself and bore the penalty our sins deserved. Through His finished work there is justification and cleansing for whosoever will come to Him and believe in His name.

3,700 BOX CARS
One of the largest orders ever placed by the Canadian National Railways for the construction of new box cars was announced last week. It calls for the building of 3,700 cars at the earliest possible date.

"The addition of these new cars to the Canadian National equipment will help to relieve the present box car shortage in Canada," said Mr. Vaughan. "It will also mean work for thousands of Canadians in various industries across the Dominion not only in building the cars but in supplying the necessary materials."

The cars have been designed by the company's mechanical engineers to meet the diversified requirements of Canadian shippers as well as all specifications and clearances of the Association of American Railroads. They will be conducted by three large car building companies, Canadian Car and Foundry, Montreal, Eastern Car, New Glasgow, N.S., and National Steel Car, Hamilton, Ont.

Hundreds will testify to the good results obtained in Tribune classified ads.

W.P.T.B. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.—We have had our notice to move from our house for over a year. As we could not find any other house we recently bought one of our own. The landlord wants his house and we want ours. As my husband was in the army could we give the tenants in our house three months' notice to vacate.

A.—No..... servicemen who owned their homes before enlistment and had them rented while in the service were allowed to give three months' notice to tenants, but not those who purchased homes after their return. Your tenants are protected the same as any others and you cannot give them notice to vacate. While this may seem very unfair to you it must be remembered that there are more veterans living in rented accommodation than their own homes and they, too, must be protected.

Q.—I paid 29c for a 15 oz. tin of salmon, 19c for a can of peas and 26c for a 13½ oz. bottle of ketchup. Was I overcharged?

A.—For the brands which you purchased the salmon was sold at ceiling price, the ketchup under the ceiling, and the peas seem to be about three cents over. If you would write in again giving your name and address we will write a personal letter giving you correct ceiling prices. There are many brands manufactured in all these lines and, naturally, the price differs according to grade, etc. and we cannot mention brand names in the column.

Q.—How much notice must I give to the couple in my house? We need the two rooms for our own use.

A.—You must give your tenants six months' notice to vacate. This notice may be given any time, but must be given on the proper forms provided by the Rentals Administration. To save you the trouble of writing in again we have mailed the necessary forms to you today.

Q.—The other day my neighbor was using a book with instructions on remaking clothes. She said she received it through this column. Could I obtain a copy?

A.—While all the Re-make Centres in Canada have been closed down we still have a few copies of this booklet on hand and one has been mailed to you today. It contains helpful hints about remaking clothes, specially for children, and we're sure you will find it very useful.

BIBLE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.—Will the devil ever die?

A.—Hebrews 2:14 tells us that our Lord Jesus Christ took our flesh and blood and died "that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." So you see, he will be destroyed at last.

Q.—How can I get more joy in my religious life?

A.—By exercising more faith in God. Romans 15:13: "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

Q.—Doesn't the Bible say something about the end of time being near when the gospel is preached to all nations?

A.—Read Matthew 24:14: "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

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