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**THE SABBATH-SCHOOL.**

**INTERNATIONAL LESSON.**

Second Quarter-Lesson I—April 2.

**THE RESURRECTION OF**

**CHRIST.—Matt. 28: 1-10.**

**AN EASTER LESSON.**

**GOLDEN TEXT.—Now is Christ**

**risen from the dead, and become the**

**first fruits of them that slept.—1**

**Cor. 15: 20.**

**THE STORY OF THE DEATH AND**

**BURIAL OF CHRIST.—Jesus was**

**crucified probably on Friday, April**

**7, A. D. 30, from nine to three**

**o'clock, beginning at the hour of**

**the daily morning sacrifice, and**

**yielding up his spirit at the hour**

**of the evening sacrifice. Joseph of**

**Arimathea asked permission of**

**Pilate to care for the body of Jesus.**

**He with Nicodemus took the body**

**from the cross, wrapped it in linen**

**clothes, with an hundred weight of**

**spices to preserve the body from**

**decomposition, and laid it in a new**

**sepulchre belonging to Joseph, in**

**a garden near by, and rolled a stone**

**against the door. The loving**

**women who had remained near the**

**cross saw where the body was laid,**

**and went home to prepare spices**

**and ointments for the completion of**

**the embalming, and then rested**

**over the Sabbath.**

**The Reality of Jesus' Death. It**

**was of the utmost importance,**

**though they knew it not at the**

**time, that the fact of Christ's death**

**should be proved beyond the possi-**

**bility of cavil or doubt, for other-**

**wise doubt would be thrown upon**

**the fact of his resurrection. Every**

**precaution was taken, not by his**

**disciples, but by the enemies of**

**Jesus. (1) The Roman centurion**

**assured Pilate of the death of Jesus.**

**(2) The soldiers pierced his body**

**with a spear, and from the wounds**

**flowed blood and water, a proof of**

**death. (3) At the request of the**

**chief priests, the stone against the**

**door of the sepulchre was sealed,**

**and a Roman guard placed around**

**the tomb, so that no one could take**

**away the body, and then pretend**

**that he has risen. (4) His friends**

**had no expectation of his rising in**

**the way he did. They expected**

**not his coming back to them in the**

**body, but if at all, "his second com-**

**ing in glory into his kingdom." (5)**

**The tomb was a new one, in which**

**no one had ever been buried, and so**

**there could be no doubt as to the**

**identity of the body of Christ.**

**THE STORY OF EASTER MORNING.**

**—Vers. 1-10. Sunday morning,**

**April 9, from five to seven o'clock.**

**Behold, there was a great earthquake.**

**Before the arrival of the women.**

**For the angel descended from heaven.**

**A divine messenger, to overawe the**

**guards, and show that Jesus rose.**

**Roll back the stone from the door.**

**The tomb was cut in the side of a**

**rock, like a cave, large enough for**

**several persons to enter. The en-**

**trance was protected by a large**

**stone, like a large millstone, rolled**

**in front of the opening. And sat**

**upon it. As a guard. His counte-**

**nance was like lightning. In bright-**

**ness. And his raiment white as**

**snow. This whiteness was the sym-**

**bol of joy and purity and glory.**

**And for fear of him the keepers. The**

**Roman guard. Became as dead.**

**Swoned away with terror. In the**

**end of the Sabbath. Our Saturday.**

**As it began to dawn. . . came Mary**

**Magdalene, i. e., Mary whom Jesus**

**had redeemed from being possessed**

**by demons. She is not the same**

**with "the woman who was a sinner."**

**So far as we know, she was always**

**a pure woman. And the other Mary.**

**The mother of James the less and**

**Joseph. As they went, they were**

**concerned about the question, "Who**

**shall roll us away the stone from**

**the door of the tomb?" But it was**

**removed before they reached the**

**place. Thus difficulties in the way**

**of duty are removed for those who**

**go forward. And the angel answered**

**them not yet. The enemies of Jesus**

**had reason to fear, but not these**

**disciples. He is risen, as he said.**

**Come, see the place, to convince**

**yourselves of his resurrection. Go**

**quickly, and tell his disciples. Go**

**to relieve their anxieties. He goeth**

**before you into Galilee. Where the**

**chief meeting of Jesus with his dis-**

**ciples took place. And as they**

**went. By other streets than those**

**by which Mary Magdalene and**

**Peter and John had gone. Behold,**

**Jesus met them, saying, All hail.**

**"Rejoice," the usual form of salu-**

**tation. Held him by the feet. Clapped**

**his feet, in reverent, affectionate**

**joy, to make sure that it was indeed**

**their Lord. And worshipped him.**

**Religious worship, not mere rever-**

**ence. Go tell my brethren that they**

**go into Galilee. The same message**

**which the angels had given them in**

**the sepulchre.**

**SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.**

**The resurrection of Jesus is the**

**crowning proof that he is the Son of**

**God. If he could not conquer death**

**and come back from heaven, he**

**could not prove that at the first he**

**came from heaven.**

**It is the proof of immortal life**

**beyond the grave; that death does**

**not end all, but the soul lives after**

**the body dies.**

**ILLUSTRATION. If some angel**

**from a distant star should come to**

**this world in the winter, and we**

**should show him the seeds and roots**

**and bulbs which were to bloom the**

**next spring, it would be hard for**

**him, with no experience, to believe**

**that such beautiful flowers could**

**come from such unsightly objects.**

**Then we could take him to a green-**

**house and show him specimens,**

**facts, which prove what would come**

**from seeds and bulbs. So the resur-**

**rection of Jesus was a specimen of**

**the resurrection, an incontrovertible**

**proof of what is possible to us all.**

**It proves that we have a living**

**Saviour, sitting on the right hand of**

**God.**

**It proves that our Saviour, who**

**could conquer death, has power over**

**all our enemies.**

**It is the assurance of our own**

**resurrection, with spiritual bodies**

**like his glorious body; all sickness,**

**weakness, and pain gone, and new**

**life, new powers, new joys, beyond**

**our highest conception.**

**ILLUSTRATIONS. Hints from**

**nature: the caterpillar changed to a**

**butterfly; the charcoal and the dia-**

**mond; the silver cup from the silver**

**ore.**

**Illustration from Paul. The best**

**of all illustrations of the resurrection**

**is that which Paul gives of a seed**

**buried in the ground springing up**

**into a plant. The little seed be-**

**comes a plant radiant with blossoms;**

**the acorn becomes a spreading oak,**

**with new powers and glories incon-**

**ceivable in the seed.**

**Illustration from a Watch. The**

**case represents the body, the works**

**the soul. The works can be taken**

**from the old case, and put into a**

**new one, and go on just the same as**

**before. It is really the same watch.**

**W. C. T. Union.**

**OUR MOTTO.—If God be for us,**

**who can be against us.**

**To-day being the usual time for**

**Mother's meeting a larger number**

**than usual were present.**

**The subject for reading was nar-**

**cotics, two or three papers were**

**read, treating of tobacco, in which**

**its deleterious effects were clearly**

**shown, not only on the parents**

**themselves, but their offspring, who**

**frequently inherited the desire for**

**it.**

**A brisk discussion followed, all**

**who took part deplored very much**

**indeed the almost universal use of**

**the noxious weed, the baneful ef-**

**fects, especially upon the young**

**were noted.**