

Young People's Column

A VIEW OF CHRIST

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulders; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him. Isaiah 53:10. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us. I Cor. 5:7.

As we have just passed that time of the year when we commemorate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ—a time when our hearts are made to rejoice as we think of the great plan of salvation and as we think of the One who so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life, let us for a short time take a view of Jesus as our atoning Saviour, as wounded for our transgressions, bruised and pierced for our iniquities and crucified as the propitiation for the sins of the world. Praise His precious name! From the time that Jesus entered upon His public ministry the leading characters in the Jewish nation began to pursue Him with bitter opposition. At one time they declared that He had a devil and was mad; and at another, that He cast out devils through Beelzebub, the prince of the devils. Let us now follow Him to the garden, where commenced the scene of His atoning sufferings. Here He began to drink that bitter cup of which He once said, "The cup which my heavenly Father giveth me, shall I not drink it?" Accompanied by three of His disciples He now began to be very sorrowful and said unto them, "My soul is exceeding sorrowful; tarry ye here and watch". And He withdrew from them a short distance and prayed "Father if thou be willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless not my will but thine be done." This petition He repeated at three different times nearly in the same words: "And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly; and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground". Luke 22:44. Having finished His conflict in the garden He entered upon another scene of striking interest. It was night and there met Him a band of soldiers from the chief priest and elders with lanterns and torches, armed with swords and staves as if to arrest a man who had been guilty of the greatest crimes. Strange to tell, Judas is at their head. He advances slowly, as if ashamed, and approaching the Saviour says: "Hail, Master" and kissed Him. Jesus meekly replies, "Judas betrayest thou the Son of Man with a kiss". It was not enough that Jesus should be arrested by bitter persecutors, He must be wounded by the treachery of Judas, one of His chosen disciples. His disciples now forsook Him and He meekly consented to be bound and murmured not while led as a prisoner to the palace of the high priest. Here again He experienced indignities as His enemies spit upon Him with contempt and smite Him with the palms of their hands. Here again He is pained by the cowardice of one of His disciples, Peter, who declared with curses that He knew not the man. In the judgment hall of Pilate, the Roman governor, they asked Him many impertinent questions, but He answered nothing. "He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter and as a sheep, before her shearers is dumb, so He opened not His mouth. Here He was denied the privilege of an impartial trial. Again we behold Him at the bar of Pilate amidst

the outcries of priests and scribes, "Crucify him! Crucify Him!", meek and lowly, although acknowledge just, He is condemned to die.

Let us now stand on Calvary and take a new view of Christ in the last scene of His sufferings. Exhausted with what He had already endured He comes bearing the cross to the place of execution. They nailed His hands and feet to the accursed tree and this with two other crosses with malefactors upon them was reared. "He was numbered with the transgressors". His persecutors wag their heads in contempt and lift their voices in scornful triumph. "Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save Thyself and come down from the cross". A superscription also was written over Him in letters of Greek, and Latin and Hebrew, This Is The King Of The Jews. They gave Him to drink, vinegar mingled with gall. Soon after this Jesus said, "It is finished", then bowed His head and died. His dying pang convulsed the world. The veil of the temple was rent in twain. The earth quaked; the rocks rent; the sun was darkened and graves were opened. Many watching Jesus, when they saw those things that were done said, "Truly this was the Son of God."

These are the leading facts in regard to the sufferings of Jesus whom they slew and hanged on a tree. But why was the Saviour pierced? Let a prophet give the answer: "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquity; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him and with His stripes we are healed. Is. 53:5. We beheld Jesus, though holy and guiltless, expire upon the cross for our sins to satisfy divine justice; and now let us follow Him a step farther. "Joseph of Arimathea, an honorable counsellor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came and went in boldly unto Pilate and craved the body of Jesus. And he brought fine linen and took Him down and wrapped Him in the linen and laid Him in a sepulchre which was hewn out of a rock and rolled a stone unto the door of the sepulchre" Mark 15:43,46. But death could not hold Him long. Praise His Holy Name! Early on the third day after His burial, "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. His countenance was like lightning and his raiment white as snow. And for fear of him, the keepers did shake and became as dead men." Matt. 28:2-4. Jesus rose in triumph from the grave, appeared several times to His disciples; showed them His hands and side which were pierced; gave them instructions pertaining to His kingdom; and then led them out as far as Bethany; and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. And it came to pass while He blessed them, He was parted from them and carried up into heaven." Luke 24:50,51. "Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification". Rom. 4:25. It is God that justifieth; who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea, rather that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us Rom. 8:33,34. The resurrection of Christ is to all His followers an earnest, that they also will rise from the dead with bodies incorruptible; His ascension to heaven is an earnest to them that they also shall be caught up, together in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall they ever be with the Lord. "Father, I will that they whom thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am that They may behold My glory, which thou hast given Me". "To Him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne". Is it not worth while to follow Jesus even though we have to

suffer persecutions (think of what Jesus suffered) seeing we have such a glorious reward? Let us who know Him as our personal Saviour become more zealous and determined.

With Jesus, my Lord all the way I am going,
Because His great love in my heart is o'erflowing
My faith in His grace to the world I am showing
Jesus is precious to me.

Jesus is precious to me
Always His lover I'll be
Wherever He leads by His grace I will follow,
Jesus is precious to me.

Yours in Him.

JENNIE HENRY,
Killams Mills.

JENNIE'S GOOD TURN

"Mother's cross," said Jennie, coming out into the kitchen, with a pout on her lips.

Her aunt was busy ironing, but she looked up and said, "Then it is the very time for you to be pleasant and helpful. Poor mother was awake a good deal of last night and the night before with the baby, you know."

Jennie made no reply. But a new idea came to her as she walked away. "The time to be pleasant is when other people are cross."

"Yes," thought she. "That would do the most good. I remember when I was sick last winter. I was so tired and achy that if any one spoke to me I could hardly help being cross and snappy; but mother was quite patient with me. I ought to pay it back now; I will!"

And she went towards the room where her dear, tired mother sat, soothing and tending the fretful, teething baby.

"Couldn't I take him out in his mail-cart, mother? It is such a sunny morning," she suggested.

Mother said, "Yes, dear," and looked relieved. The hat and coat were soon brought, and the baby was soon ready for the little outing.

"Take a quiet nap while we're gone, mother dear," Jennie whispered. The kiss that accompanied the kind words was warmly returned, and with a happy heart Jennie wheeled the mail-cart up the street.—The Christian Witness.

TAKE TIME TO PRAY

By Mrs. F. R. Dawson

Ah, there is no other way
To keep the victory every day;
You can reason as you may—
Matters not what others say—
You MUST take time to pray.

When the tempter is too strong,
Everything is going wrong,
When the day is dark and long,
And you've lost your happy song—
Then is when you need to pray.

When your burden's hard to bear,
And there's none who seems to care;
Those you trusted proved unfair,
And you long to be elsewhere—
Then is when you need to pray.

When you need financial aid—
All your bills are still unpaid—
Heavy burdens on you laid,
Do not fear nor be dismayed—
Then is when you need to pray.

When your body suffers pain,
And your health you can't regain,
Do not grumble or complain;
If you would be well again—
You must take time to pray.

—The Free Methodist