

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

## CALVARY: TRIUMPH THROUGH SACRIFICE

International Sunday School Lesson for March 17, 1940

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "He was despised, and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief."—Isaiah 53:3.

(Lesson Text: Matt. 26:57-27:56) About midnight or a little later, on Thursday of Passion Week, following the Last Supper and the agony in Gethsemane, the enemies of Jesus, led by Judas, who had betrayed him, arrived at the garden to arrest him.

We are told that the soldiers "fell back in the presence of the majestic appearance of Jesus, but the treacherous kiss of Judas brought them back to their purpose. Peter, impetuous and courageous here, drew his sword and struck a blow in defense of his leader. But the one he inflicted only proved to be the last occasion of a healing miracle by Jesus. As his enemies triumphed in his personal capture, the disciples of Jesus scattered and deserted him.

John and Peter followed him and through the influence of the former gained admittance to the quarters of the ex-High Priest Annas, before whom a kind of preliminary trial was had. It was while standing in this house that Peter's relationship to his master was publicly proclaimed, each time insistently denied by this disciple who a short time before had declared his readiness to die for his leader. Jesus crossed the courtyard as Peter completed his third denial, thus fulfilling the prophecy and a look from his leader was enough to send Peter out weeping in bitterness and humiliation. Later, he was restored to his discipleship and his splendid ministry in Jerusalem laid the foundation for the early church.

From Annas, Jesus was carried to Caiaphas, the ruling Priest, where false witnesses made conflicting statements in regard to Jesus. At last, however, Jesus by his own words apparently affirmed his claim to be the Christ, whereupon the religious officials cried "blasphemy," tore their clothes in despair and pronounced the verdict of death upon him. Later in the morning, this sentence was formally pronounced, inasmuch as it was illegal to have such a trial at night. Another rule violated in the procedure of the trial of Jesus was that which required a day to intervene between any trial and a verdict of guilty.

Having decreed the death of Jesus, the Jewish leaders had to receive the confirmation of the Roman Governor Pontius Pilate, for no authority to take life had been left with the Jewish leaders. Before this cruel, weak and corrupt provincial official, Jesus was carried by his Jewish antagonists.

They charged him with stirring up sedition inasmuch as they realized that their religious indignation over his supposed blasphemy would make no impression upon Pilate. The Governor asked Jesus about his claim to kingship and in reply was told that his kingdom was not of this earth. Pilate seems to have realized that Jesus was innocent of any infringement of Roman Law but, seeking a loophole from his embarrassment, suggested that they carry him before Herod, who at that time happened to be in Jerusalem.

Herod was in no way willing to solve the problem for Pilate and after questioning and mocking Jesus, returned the troublesome prisoner to the Roman Governor. As Jesus stood silent under the accusations of his enemies, Pilate marveled.

The custom had grown in Jerusalem to release some prisoner at this season and Pilate hoped that by reference to it he could effect the liberation of Jesus, but when this was

mentioned by him, the crowd was persuaded by the priests to demand the release of Barrabas who had committed murder during an insurrection. To add to the perplexity of Pilate, he received a message from his wife urging him to treat Jesus justly. He then had him scourged and crowned with thorns, possibly in hopes that this punishment would satisfy the Jews, but their only answer to his question as to the fate of Jesus was the reiterated demand that he be crucified. Without further examination, Pilate pronounced Jesus guiltless, washed his hands in token of personal denial of responsibility but in fear of the Jewish threat to report him to Caesar, delivered Jesus into the power of the Jewish ecclesiastical authorities.

No man in position of authority ever made as serious a mistake as Pilate did, for he sought temporary safety and ease and to purchase the same, denied the claims of justice and truth and sent a good man to an undeserved death. Many men occupy analogous situations every day and are called upon to decide whether or not their personal interests and comfort are more important than the fundamental issues of right and wrong.

With Jesus delivered into their hands, the soldiers mocked him. They arrayed him in a cloak, pressed a wreath of thorns upon his brow and handed him a reed, mocked him as king, soon changing to assault and abuse. Then, Jesus was compelled to carry his cross to the scene of the crucifixion, which he was unable to do because of physical weakness, and Simon of Cyrene was impressed by the soldiers to perform this service. Having reached the place, he was impaled upon the cross along with two robbers, and his enemies lingered around watching him in the agony of death.

Seven times Jesus spoke from the cross, which sentences can be taken from the acts of various gospels. The first was a prayer of forgiveness for his enemies. The second was spoken to the repentant robber. The third was addressed to his mother Mary, and John. The fourth was an expression of abandonment by God. The fifth was an expression of suffering from thirst. The sixth was triumphant that his work has been completed. The seventh was a commitment of his spirit into the hands of his father.

A violent earthquake marked the passing of Jesus. The soldiers who had witnessed his death were convinced he was a righteous man. Joseph and Nicodemus applied to Pilate and secured permission to give the body proper burial.

## HURDLETOWN

Mrs. Z. D. White spent the week-end with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smith, at Berea.

Mrs. Vick Stallings, Sr., and Mrs. Ernest Stallings and son, Ernest Carey, spent Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. George Roach, at Winfall.

Vivian Hurdle, of Norfolk, Va., visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Hurdle, during the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Bunn Lamb, of Ryland, visited Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Baccus Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Quinton Hurdle and children called on Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Harrell Sunday afternoon. They were accompanied by Mrs. Nellie Sumner and Emily Anne.

Mrs. Robert Stallings, Sr., Mrs. Robert Stallings, Jr., and son, Bobby, spent Friday with Mrs. Ernest Stallings.

Jesse Turner, of Portsmouth, Va., visited his sister, Mrs. Z. D. White, recently.

J. C. Baccus was painfully injured recently. He was trying to move a log with a pry pole when the pole slipped, striking him under the chin.

The blow caused Mr. Baccus to bite his tongue so badly that three stitches were necessary to close the gash.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Simons and children, Mr. and Mrs. John Hall were guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Symons Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Hurdle and children visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. Q. Hurdle, of Camden, Sunday afternoon.

## WEDGE KILLS WORKER

Brooklyn, N. Y.—A heavy wooden wedge which fell from the top of an elevated structure, struck William Winslick, 45-year-old iron worker, on the head and killed him instantly.

## PAID OFF, PAID UP

Franklin, Mass.—As 350 snow shovellers lined up to be paid off by the town treasurer, the town tax collector stood by, put the finger on tax delinquents and collected on the spot.

## "MRS. CAESAR"—DRAMATIC NEW NOVEL

The story of a husband and wife caught in the toils of unhappiness. How they worked out their misunderstandings forms the basis for one of the best novels of the year.

BEGINS MARCH 24 IN The American Weekly The big magazine distributed with the Baltimore American On sale at all newsstands

## Approaching 26th Anniversary Of Furniture House

## Sixth In a Series "Reviewing Hertford Businesses"; W. M. Morgan's One of the Oldest

One of the largest, most modern and most complete furniture houses in this section of the State is the W. M. Morgan furniture store on Church Street.

For twenty-five years the genial, enthusiastic head of the Morgan business, "W. M." himself, had been meeting the trend in this section before he moved into his present huge surroundings a little less than a year ago. For years, even before that, he had been in the furniture business.

"W. M." is furniture-wise. He almost religiously attends the big furniture shows up-State. He sees where the trend is going in advance and then plans his stock accordingly. It was because of businesses that

grow and prosper with the years, that The Perquimans Weekly wrote on May 8, 1939, when Mr. Morgan celebrated the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary, that "Businesses that endure and expand with the years are the ones that evidence the high esteem in which they are held by their patrons. For only by patronage can any business expand . . . or even survive. Hertford is well-stocked with firms that count their records of service, not in single years, but in tens of years."

It was Mr. Morgan's sincere hope at that time that his new store would reflect credit on the Town of Hertford and on this section. It has. Personnel in the huge Morgan store includes besides "The Furniture Man" himself, Mrs. Morgan, his daughter, Miss Helen Morgan, and W. T. (Bill) Elliott.

## PINEY WOODS NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Chappell, Mr. and Mrs. Verne Mitchell, of Rich Square, visited Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Chappell and Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Raper Sunday afternoon.

Miss Agnes Ward called on Mrs. E. N. Chappell Friday afternoon. Mrs. T. C. Perry, Mrs. R. Q. White, Mrs. V. C. Lane and Mrs. Vivian Dail visited Mrs. Louis Winslow and Mrs. Carroll Ward Wednesday.

## TAYLOR THEATRE

EDENTON, N. C.

Friday, March 15—Alice Faye, Richard Greene and Fred MacMurray in "LITTLE OLD NEW YORK"

Saturday, March 16—George O'Brien in "RACKETEERS OF THE RANGE"

Sunday, March 17—Double Feature Laurel and Hardy in "CHUMP AT OXFORD" Leslie Howard in "INTERMEZZO, A LOVE STORY"

Monday, March 18—Return Engagement Dorothy Lamour and Maxine Sullivan in "ST. LOUIS BLUES"

Tuesday, March 19—Edward G. Robinson in DR. EHRICH'S MAGIC BULLET

Wednesday, March 20—The Jones Family in "YOUNG AS YOU FEEL"

## Dance

Friday Night

March 15th

WESTERN STEAKS

BARBECUE

CHICKEN

OYSTERS

HOYT'S CAFE

CRESWELL, N. C.

day afternoon.

Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Triyett visited Mrs. E. N. Chappell recently.

Harry Chappell spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Chappell.

Mrs. W. P. Chappell and son, Harry, were in Elizabeth City one day recently.

Mrs. W. P. Chappell and Mrs. Ida White visited Mrs. Percy Chappell Monday. Mrs. Chappell's daughter, Gloria, has been very ill.

Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Chappell and Mr. and Mrs. Verne Mitchell, of Rich Square, visited Mr. Chappell's father, T. S. Chappell, Sunday evening.

Mrs. N. D. Chappell called on Mrs. Purvis Chappell Monday afternoon.

James F. Perry visited at the home of Ben Jordan Friday evening. J. F. Perry and W. W. Chappell made a business trip to Hertford on

Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Raper visited in Elizabeth City on Wednesday.

Jamie Perry visited his sister, Mrs. C. T. Winslow, last week.

Could Afford to Sell Them Cheaper Customer: "But if it costs \$20 to make these watches and you sell them for \$20, where does your profit come in?"

Shopkeeper: "That comes from repairing them."

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