

# The Sunday School Lesson

MARCH 1

Christ Before Pilate, Matt. 27: 11-31. Golden Text — He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities.—Isa. 53: 5.

## ANALYSIS

- I. AMY THOU THE KING? 11-14.  
II. JESUS ON BARABAS? 15-26.  
III. A CROWN, BUT OF THORNS, 27-31.

**INTRODUCTION**—After his arrest, Jesus was brought before the supreme religious court of the Jewish people. This court, the Sanhedrin, composed of representatives of the priests, the scribes, and the elders of the people, gave Jesus a hurried trial. Caiaphas, who presided, after the preliminary citation of witnesses, whose evidence was apparently contradictory, put to Jesus the point-blank question: "Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" Jesus, who up to this moment had preserved absolute silence, answered "I am; and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven," Mark 14: 61-62. This was adjudged blasphemy by a court which did not accept his religious authority, and Jesus was sentenced to death.

But the Sanhedrin, while entrusted with jurisdiction in the sphere of the Jewish religion, did not possess the power of life and death. It might impose a sentence of death, but only the Roman authority could give the necessary confirmation. Since A.D. 6, Judea had been under a Roman procurator, holding office from Rome, and capital sentence of the Jewish court had to be referred to this officer for sanction. Consequently, Jesus is now led by the Jews before the tribunal of Pilate, who had been procurator since A.D. 26, and Pilate is obliged to go into the case before giving his verdict.

To understand the trial of Jesus by Pilate, it is necessary to observe that the Jews, in order to get the death-sentence confirmed by Pilate, put a political complexion upon the charge against Jesus. They knew that Pilate would not concern himself with matters of a purely religious or spiritual kind. Therefore, they misrepresented the Messiahship of Jesus as a claim of political kingship, and said that Jesus was a menace to the Roman power. Here lies the deepest and blackest guilt of the Jewish accusers. They put a false construction on the religious claims of Jesus. Jesus knew himself to be called by God to the highest religious office in the nation, namely, to the supreme task of bringing the nation at last to God. It has been made plain to him in spiritual experience that he was the "anointed" or Christ of God for this redemptive task. But all through his ministry he had refused to allow this office to be confused with any political or worldly dreams. In the wilderness, and afterwards in Galilee, he had declined the crown of earthly kingship. But, Jewish hatred for its own purposes now invests him with the very attributes he had disclaimed, and arraigns the sinless one as a politically dangerous person.

## I. AMY THOU THE KING? 11-14.

V. 11. The question which Pilate asks Jesus has been put into his mouth by the Jewish accusers. He had been "instructed" by Jewish lawyers, and conceives his duty to be confined to probing the truth of the particular charge that Jesus claimed to be the king of the Jews. Jesus answers simply: "Thou sayest." This means that he is indeed the king of the Jews, but that he will not explain. Pilate must himself accept the responsibility for any conclusions which he may come to. No! Jesus cannot discuss his claims with a heathen magistrate. Pilate cannot, the Jews will not understand. As the Gospel according to John explains, Pilate and the Jews have before them the sufficient evidence of Jesus' holy life and his pure spiritual teaching. Jesus has lived. He will not defend himself by argument.

Vs. 12-14. The majesty of Jesus' reserve, continued even when the Jewish authorities bent in again with the accusation, astonishes Pilate, and sets him thinking. Conscience, a certain perception of the real truth of the case, is not dead in Pilate. He suspects that the Jews are acting from malicious motives. But, besides conscience, other forces are at work to save him from an unjust consent to Jesus' death.

## II. JESUS ON BARABAS? 15-26.

Vs. 15-18. At the Passover, it seems to have been the custom of the procurator to release some Jewish prisoner of note as an act of grace to the Jews. Very possibly Pilate himself had instituted this custom as a means of keeping favor with the people. If so, he had here an opportunity of declaring Jesus absolved. The door seemed providentially opened for the release of Jesus. Thus, not only conscience, but the fortunate circumstance of this custom was on Pilate's side, had he chosen to do the right.

## V. 19. Not only so, but Pilate had

been specially advised by his wife, as the result of a dream, to take no action against Jesus of Nazareth. God often makes his will known to us through those who love us, and wish to shield us from harm.

Vs. 20-23. In spite of all, however, as the multitude, instructed by the priests and elders, clamor for Barabbas instead of Jesus, and demand that Jesus be crucified, Pilate, even though knowing that Jesus was guiltless, weekly consents. Appointed to administer justice, he prefers popularity, and infamously disgraces his name.

Vs. 24-26. Pilate may ostentatiously wash his hands, and declare he is innocent, but he is really guilty of the blackest of sins. This remains, even though the Jewish people encourage him, and say that they take all the responsibility for Jesus' death.

## III. A CROWN, BUT OF THORNS, 27-31.

Vs. 27-31. This closing scene, though due to the malice and cruelty of the Roman soldiers, serves to show Jesus to us in the real nature of his kingship. His sovereignty, his majesty is the sovereignty, the majesty of sacrifice, of suffering. The Roman soldiers dislike the Jews, and it is their hatred of the Jews that comes out in this mockery of the sinless Son of God. They do not know, as they hand him the crown and scepter of their mockery, that they are showing Jesus to the world in that character in which he will rule and govern it. Yet it is even so. Jesus saves us by his sacrifice, by wearing for us the crown of thorns.

## PILATE'S POLICE

About this time, the Roman military forces were organized in 30 legions of about 6,000 men each. Every legion was made up of 10 cohorts, and every cohort (of about 600 men) was divided into 6 centuries (that is, groups of 100 men). The army of occupation in Palestine consisted of half a legion of five cohorts, that is, about 3,000 soldiers. Some were kept at Caesarea, the usual residence of the procurator or Roman governor, but most were scattered through the country towns. For example, there was a company at Capernaum. A considerable force was kept at Jerusalem all the time; but at the Passover season, when large crowds gathered in the holy city and the religious temper became peculiarly inflammable, the Jerusalem garrison and police were reinforced.

The chief officers of the legion were tribunes and centurions. Of tribunes, there were six in every legion, and they were associated in command of the legion, though sometimes, in addition, a tribune is found in separate command of a cohort. Each century was under the command of a centurion. The "band" of verse 27 was a "cohort," but could hardly be a whole cohort.

## How to Kill Ox Warbles.

The grubs so commonly found in "boils" on the backs of cattle during winter and spring are the larvae of the ox warble-fly developed from eggs deposited by the fly when cattle are grazing. They are the source of much misery to their hosts, and may reduce milk yield or prevent normal growth and development, besides causing tremendous economic loss by the damage they do to the hides for leather. In time this menace and mischief might greatly be lessened, or possibly eliminated, were every owner of cattle invariably to protect his animals from flies by free and frequent spraying with a reliable repellent, and by squeezing out and destroying every grub he can find. The extraction of a grub from a mature boil may readily be accomplished by pressing down hard on it with the open mouth of a large bottle. A mixture of one part of iodine and five parts of lard should then be applied to the boil, and to immature ones, to induce healing or destroy forming grubs. Such treatment always proves profitable and certainly is humane.—Dr. A. S. Alexander.

It has been said that "Small minds dwell on small things." However, if someone did not look out for the "small" things of life the whole scheme of life would go to smash.

A cow giving 600 pounds of butterfat returns \$158 annually, above her feed cost, while the cow producing 100 pounds makes a return of only \$8. With six times the production the return is nearly twenty times as great, which shows the absolute necessity of weeding out the low producers and replacing them with more profitable individuals.

**ONTARIO BREED BETTER STOCK**  
Improvement Committee

**Farmer Proves Value of Pure Bred Bull**  
W. G. Potter received \$22.25 more for steers sired by a Pure Bred Bull than for steers sired by a Scrub Bull. He shipped five steers from common grade cows of equal merit. The two steers sired by a Scrub Bull brought \$25.55 each, while the three steers sired by the Pure Bred Bull brought \$47.80 each. The steers received the same care. Fewer and better cattle are more profitable than a larger number of Scrub animals.  
Make your cows work for you rather than you should work for them.  
Send 1933 resolution was to get rid of that Scrub Bull—Have you done it?  
**BETTER BULLS PAY**

# SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

HEAD OFFICE - MONTREAL

## A Statement of Remarkable Progress

### Extracts from Directors' Report

Your Directors present this 25th Annual Report with much satisfaction. The report contains a statement of the company's financial position, and a statement of the company's operations during the year.

As to the company's financial position, the directors are pleased to state that the company's assets have increased during the year, and that the company's liabilities have decreased.

There has been a further strengthening of the life policy reserve. Dividend payments have been increased, and the company's financial position is now stronger than ever.

Recent investigations have shown a steady increase in the average health of Canadians. A special survey of 100,000 people has shown that the average age at death has increased, and that the average length of life has increased.

The company's financial position is now stronger than ever. The company's assets have increased, and the company's liabilities have decreased. The company's financial position is now stronger than ever.

After making these heavy allowances, the undivided surplus has yet been increased by \$4,524,500, bringing it to a total of \$21,107,000.

The company is, of course, in a position to increase its already generous scale of profits to policyholders, and your Directors have pleasure in announcing, for the 25th year in succession, that such an increase will be made.

While many factors have contributed to this remarkable showing, the most noteworthy has been the large decline from investments. As has been mentioned in previous reports, it has for many years been the policy of the company to invest in long-term bonds and similar secure securities, in order that by this means the high rates of interest then prevailing as a result of the abnormal conditions produced by the war, might be projected into future years.

This policy is now bearing fruit. Current rates of interest, though still very satisfactory, are materially lower than those of former years, and as a consequence there has been a marked rise in the quotations for most of the securities owned by the company. During the past year some of these improved values have been capitalized by sale, and a net profit of \$2,000,000.00 has been realized from this source. In addition there has been an increase of \$1,524,500 in the market value of the securities still held.

Although part of this increased value is undoubtedly permanent, and due mainly to the readjustment of interest rates to a more normal basis, it will be noted that the company has earned \$2,000,000.00 of the amount is continuously accruing, as already explained.

The rate of interest earned during the year on the money loaned outside has been 4.25 per cent., exclusive of profits from sales. This is a substantial increase over the rate of the previous year, and is the result of our having realized on some of our holdings of government and other bonds which had risen to high figures, the proceeds being then reinvested in securities yielding better returns.

1924

New Assurances Paid For	\$137,466,000
Increase . . . . .	\$2,055,000
Total Income . . . . .	\$62,245,000
Increase . . . . .	\$5,200,000
Payments to Policyholders and Beneficiaries . . . . .	\$31,881,000
(Total paid since organization, \$28,788,000)	
Assets at December 31st . . . . .	\$274,130,000
Increase . . . . .	\$24,923,000
Reserves for Unforeseen Contingencies . . . . .	\$7,500,000
Surplus Over All Liabilities and Contingency Reserves . . . . .	\$22,107,000
Increase . . . . .	\$4,524,500
Assurances in Force (Net) . . . . .	\$871,636,000
Increase . . . . .	\$167,871,000

Policies in force (excluding Group Policies) . . . . . 384,113  
Employees of firms protected by Group Policies . . . 30,160

Dividends to policyholders again increased

## The Sun Life ranks amongst the Foremost Life Assurance Institutions of the World

Incorporated 1863

Began business 1871

## A CROSS-WORD PUZZLE PARTY

BY BEATRICE PLUMB.

Cross-word puzzling has become a national sport. So of course you'd like to make it a Cross-word Puzzle Party. Here's your invitation: Oh, the world has grown so clever. Since the cross-word puzzle craze—Just to think that once we'd never in the dictionary gaze! Here's an invitation hearty To my cross-word puzzle spree. Be a puzzler at my party; Come and work a few with me.

Write the day, date, time, and place of your party beneath the verse. Clip from old newspapers and magazines crossword puzzle diagrams, without the definitions, and paste on each invitation.

Divide your guests into groups of four, each group to sit around a small table and solve a cross-word puzzle together. Label your tables alphabetically.

Mark off on small squares of cardboard four of each of the table letters. Fasten to each cardboard letter a half-yard length of thread. Mix the letters and arrange between the leaves of a large dictionary, leaving the threads hanging out. When your guests have arrived announce that out of the thousands of letters in the dictionary you are going to allow each to draw one. When all have drawn, the four who have letter A sit at table A as partners; the four with letter E sit at table E, and so on until all are seated.

Put a puzzle face down on each table, together with a scratch pad and four well-pointed pencils. Be very sure each pencil has an eraser. If you supply each table with a dictionary have them all the same. Announce that on signal the puzzles may be turned face up and solved.

The four players at the table first to turn in the correct solution may receive the same prize—some of the little dictionaries which have been in use would be appropriate rewards. If you wish to give one single prize among the four, let them compete with each other by seeing who can make the best nine-word telegram, using only the letters C-E-O-S-S-W-O-R-D as the first letter of each word. Label the telegrams 1, 2, 3, and

4 and let your other guests vote for the one they like best.

Try a letter race. Place a bowl in the centre of each table, filled with the vermicelli letters used in soup. Stand a saucer in front of each guest with a few toothpicks. Each guest is to lift out a tiny letter on the toothpick and carefully place it on the saucer. He is to continue doing this, never using more than one toothpick at a time, until the signal to stop. Award a prize to the one with the most letters in his saucer. A can of soup would be a suitable prize.

Cross-word puzzles add variety to the entertainment. Divide your guests into two groups. One group secretly selects a proverb and gives one word to each player. If the group is large give the same word to more than one player. At a signal the members sing their individual words in chorus to a given tune while the other side tries to guess them.

Alphabetical answers is a game that never fails to prove a winner. Make cards, writing on each a different letter of the alphabet. Pin on each guest a lettered card. On the signal to start, each player asks any other player a question. The first word of the answer given by the person questioned must start with the same letter as the one on his card. Replies must be completed before the questioner can count ten, otherwise the player surrenders his letter to the one who has "counted him out." The player with the largest number of letters at the end of the game wins.

Games over, serve refreshments. If you wish to serve at the little tables, a double strip of tile design crepe paper in black and white would make a suitable cloth.

I'm an enthusiastic cross-worder myself. How I wish I could come to your party!

Cows are better natured and better producers when furnished a variety of feed.

Here is some recognition of the great industry of agriculture: A noted physician has indicated to convalescent patients in need of light outdoor employment, that farming is not considered a light occupation.

## Efficient Farming

### ROUP AND KINDRED AILMENTS.

Roup in its beginning simulates very closely a common cold, but is more sudden of onset, produces greater disturbances in the subject, is prolonged in its course, and brings serious consequences.

The mucous membranes of the upper air passages, nostrils, sinuses of the head or eye show evidence of irritation by a discharge, which at first is fluid and watery, and is accompanied by sneezing, coughing and shaking of the head. Cold or catarrh of these. On the other hand, roup passes from these symptoms to those of greater severity. The discharge becomes denser and more viscid in consistency, sticking the eyelids together, filling the sinuses and blocking the nasal passages. Attempts to clear the eye by wiping the head against the hackle leaves the feathers in a wet and sticky condition. Once the lids are closed the discharge becomes cheese-like in consistency, a similar change taking place in the sinuses and nostrils. The features become greatly distorted through swelling. A similar process may take place in the windpipe, lungs, or abdominal air-sacs.

Cankerous areas may form in the mouth, which are usually covered with a tenacious yellowish-colored false membrane. The larynx may likewise be the seat of these lesions, the membrane occluding the passage, and a fatal termination resulting through suffocation.

As a general rule the subject shows considerable systemic disturbances. The affected bird early isolates itself, becomes listless, takes food sparingly, or not at all; the feathers become ruffled, and the egg-yield diminishes or ceases entirely. Diarrhoea appears early, in which the feces are of a greenish-yellow color.

Colds seemingly are due to unsanitary environment, and the undesirable condition that is responsible should be sought out and remedied. Colds frequently are brought about by the combination of two or more factors working together, such as dampness followed by a sudden drop in temperature.

Dusty litter, and especially when the dust is due to accumulated pulverized fecal matter is another fruitful cause of irritation likely to result in colds.

Actual causes of colds are exciting causes of roup since derangement of the membranes open up avenues of infection to the actual microbial cause of the latter. It is, therefore, imperative that the first consideration should be directed towards the practice of good hygiene. The patients must be made comfortable. Draughts, dampness, dust or chill must be corrected or avoided. Birds showing serious illness should be removed from the rest of the flock and kept isolated until recovery has taken place.

A purgative is indicated (confining to one pound of Epsom salts per hundred birds) in order to equalize the circulation (thus relieving congestion) and to clear the gut of effete materials.

The administration of drugs to the alimentary tract by means of the drinking water is of questionable value, and may do actual harm by deranging digestion. Sick birds are likely to take a smaller quantity of such fluids when the consumption of a large quantity of water is most desired.

Local medication can be highly recommended and should be applied to all birds in the flock whether or not they are showing evidence of disease or otherwise. The substance should be non-irritating and of known germicidal value. Argylol in a ten per cent. watery solution has given best results in our treatment, and should be applied with a medicine dropper, one drop to each eye, each nostril and to the throat. Daily applications should be given for three or four days, or until cessation of disease is evidenced.

In the inclosed cases, the cheesy matter should be removed with tweezers or probe, after which argylol should be applied. Where membranes have formed in the mouth they should be removed and the parts painted with Tr. Iodine—C. H. Weaver, A. M. Nat. Pathologist.

Halifax, N. that of insul... ably be estab... Provinces as a... of two members... ology of Toront... actively engag... during 1924... to the report, w... fishing grounds... station at St... they have work... ods by which s... be obtained fro... cod and pollock... St. John, N... from the provin... been greatly in... period in 1922... being 423,153 b... 208,214 respecti... shipments are... and Cuba.

Quebec, Que... has been starte... a pulp and pap... charge, Que... distance from... now in progress... account of the... Co. It is unde... will cost \$5,000... output will be o... Port Arthur, B... Bay Paper Co... that a contract... Port Arthur Sh...

## MAKING MONEY FOR

Good Roads... ducers—M... Make Good

Time is money... one that is onl... Natural Resour... view. Especially... condition when... to call in the p... or any mechanic... charges are bas... time he occupie... work required o... time also is va... paid for by the... ducts. If he r... perform a certai... entitled to be p... sumed, and no o... his charge.

This applies... log markets or... dispose of his... highway condit... were mainly the... many valuable b... In reaching the... were limited in... capacity of the... over the p... considerable dist... ed, a start had to... hours of the m... market on time... they had to be st... entailing the ac... prices in order t... times have chan... the coming of g... can get over the... half or less of th... toot, and he can... comfort. He nee... in the morning... time to sell his... early evening se... His day is consequ... life is made more... lustration of wh... in actual cash re... daily company tra... within a wide ran... pays a higher pr... lishing on good r... situated or highw... proved. The resu... It costs the com... to collect the mil... Canada has no... 600,000 in impro... has nearly 200,0... roads. Millions... spent yearly to r... and to improve... would be interest... ed in good roads... a record of the... and of the great... able to find over... would lead to a p... of what the gov... wants to them.

And what is so... good roads, m... Canada's road... made the road b...

Disturbance in Cause... employees as a... system, says Dr... own physician, a... an article to a B... "The Man of Men... that there are nar... ed cases where th... short history abo... of saving ones sel... traces of "backsl... ger who had been... the announcement... were on was about... D. Lehmann, ho... here sickness is... imagination. He... whose inner ears... young babies, who... yet developed, neve... turbances in the... the ear, in the op... man, are commun... centres, which pr... ed sickness.