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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON XII. DECEMBER 18.

THE RESURRECTION.

Matt. 28: 1-20.

GOLDEN TEXT.

"Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."—Matt. 28: 20.

POINTED SUGGESTIONS.

By Rev. D. W. Snider.

The fact of the ages, which beyond the reach of any comparison is the greatest and, from every point of view, the most momentous, is the fact of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, of which the lesson takes account. The Apostle Paul claims that man's salvation hinges wholly upon it. The faith of the Christian is utterly baseless without this fact.

For this reason there can be no incident or statement or slightest fact, which stands related to an event which lays such an immense tax upon the reason to receive, which is without importance and vital concern to the thoughtful heart. The lesson recites a few things which are precious to the men whose reason consents and whose faith grasps the colossal doctrine of the resurrection.

The power of God can circumvent the most wily and pertinacious purposes of men. They may plant their stones and seal the rocky gates of the grave of Jesus, and loving hearts may fear because of it all, but though soldier-guards are added who dare not sleep on pain of death, an angel of the Lord will open that grave or rock-hewn sepulchre and the captive of it will break its captivity.

No word that Jesus has said shall ever fail. There is no record of any such failure. All along the course of His relations with men there is found the fullest and most far-reaching confirmation of everything which He spake. It is not strange, therefore, that for the encouragement of the women who came to the sepulchre, this statement was added to the announcement that Jesus was risen, namely, "even as He said."

The friendship of Jesus suffers, unless there is a richer current in it by reason of His resurrection. Notice the greeting, the warmth and the goodly fellowship of it, which He gives to those who are in eager search of Him; "All hail!" Why should not that greeting be taken as prophetic of that which will be the welcome of those who pass from us, and our own when we shall pass?

Nothing concerning the evidence of the resurrection of Jesus is to be left unsatisfactory or incomplete. Not one or two appearances will be granted to one or two persons in one or two places. But many appearances to many persons in different places. And some of them by definite and unmistakable appointment. Jesus met with His disciples in Galilee exactly as Dr. Carman or Dr. Chown might keep an appointment to meet a committee in Ottawa or Winnipeg.

No better method has been discovered even unto this day by which to account for the disappearance of the body of Jesus from the sepulchre in which it was undoubtedly placed than that which was devised by the elders. It was crooked, corrupt and altogether contemptible for both the bribers and the bribed. But they did their best in their eagerness to do their worst. What a pitiful exhibit verse thirteen makes in an attempt to discredit the resurrection! Yet no other try at it can present an exhibit which is half so splendid.

The final commission is worthy of all acceptance. The Church is just beginning to realize what it means or to set about to meet its obligation in an earnest and believing way. The authority of Jesus Christ is unrivalled and undisputed. It is time that it was heeded and obeyed.

Obedience is the evidence and proof of faith. Whether it demands sacrificial dollars and cents to prove one's faith or a personal and sacrificial response to a field of service or anything else, let it not be forgotten that faith without works is dead.

PUBLIC INDIGNATION IN CITY OF TORONTO.

TORONTO, Dec. 8.—Following a public meeting held in Massey Hall, calling to protest against the high-handed methods of the street by-laws, which is introducing the pay-as-you-enter system without proper cars and whose treatment of the citizens of Toronto is worse than Street last night and pelted the cars with stones.

NEARLY FIVE INCHES OF SNOW IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Nearly five inches of snow—4.7 to be exact—have fallen in New York since yesterday afternoon and it was still snowing intermittently tonight. Predictions are for more snow tomorrow.

tions are for more snow tomorrow.

The minimum temperature for the day in the greater city was 22; the maximum 27. Eight hundred and fifty men, twenty-nine women and nine children were sheltered from the storm in the municipal lodging house tonight.

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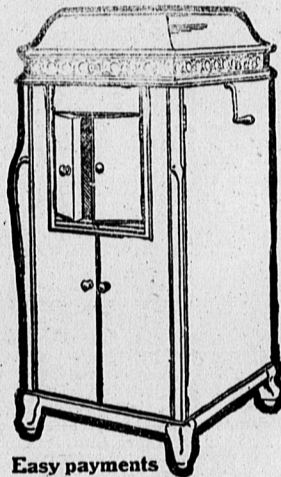
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