

years of the Jewish age would free slaves and cancel debts. In this thousand-year Jubilee of the Millennial Age, the entire time will be needed to return all mankind to perfect manhood, a perfect earth, and friendship with God. Men have been captives of Death and slaves of Sin, but they shall be released by God's power.

Parents' reference: W.T. 2819

Jesus loved Thomas, and he knew that if Thomas did believe in the resurrection, he would be a strong and faithful Christian. So Jesus again appeared in a body like the one which had been crucified. He urged Thomas to feel his wounds of crucifixion. And Thomas became a firm and lasting believer.

Parents' reference: W.T. 4994

"We trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel."

Then the Lord explained that they were right: Jesus would redeem all Israel. But his death and suffering were necessary first. He explained it all so clearly. He had restored their faith.

Parents' reference: W.T. 5623 (top)

even now. Surely it would do no harm to befriend this loving miracle-worker.

And Jesus answered kindly, "Yes, I will remember you." He will remember all mankind. "I say unto you today," although he was dying with no one to help save his life, "you shall be with me in the Kingdom."

If you read your Bible, Luke 23:43 says: "Verily I say unto thee, Today thou shalt be with me in paradise." Now look at your memory text at the head of this lesson. Can you find the difference? Why did I change it? these are the reasons:

1. When the writers of the Bible put down what they wanted to say, they did not use commas or periods or any other punctuation. In their own language it would look like these words look to us:

AND JESUS SAID UNTO HIM VERILY I SAY UNTO THEE
TODAY THOU SHALT BE WITH ME IN PARADISE

When printers printed the Bible 500 years ago, they put the commas and periods and other punctuation where it made sense to them. Often they were correct. Sometimes they were wrong. Never were they inspired. You and I should use their punctuation only when it is correct.

2. We know it is not correct here because (a) Jesus did not go to Paradise that day and (b) neither did the thief.

He, too, would like the support of the Jews. They could be very troublesome if they didn't like you. And yet no one enjoys hurting a peaceful, quiet person who is not bothering you.

So Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate, and Pilate was forced to please the Jews, but he declared, "I am innocent and do not want him killed."

Parents' reference: Smith's Bible Dictionary, PILATE, PONTIUS

But then we also think of all the grapes that were crushed to get that juice. Jesus' followers must have their personal ambitions crushed to join the Lord in his sacrifice to death.

The lives of the Church are not necessary to redeem the world, but God has a great reward for those who eagerly walk in their Master's footsteps of sacrifice unto death.

Parents' reference: Volume 6, Chapter 11

It is not money which is the root of all evil, but the love of money (or anything else) that is dangerous. Sometimes the Lord gives us cars and homes and conveniences so that we can serve Him and His people better. But we will only have His peace and joy when we use all we have for Him.

Parents' reference: Volume 1, pages 207-215