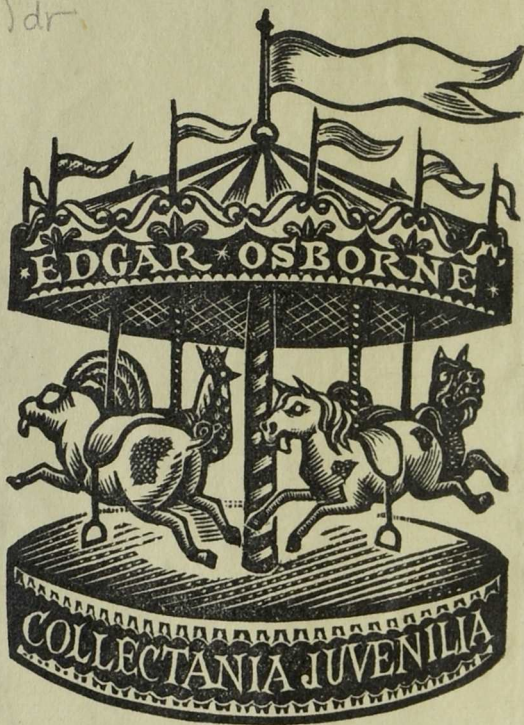




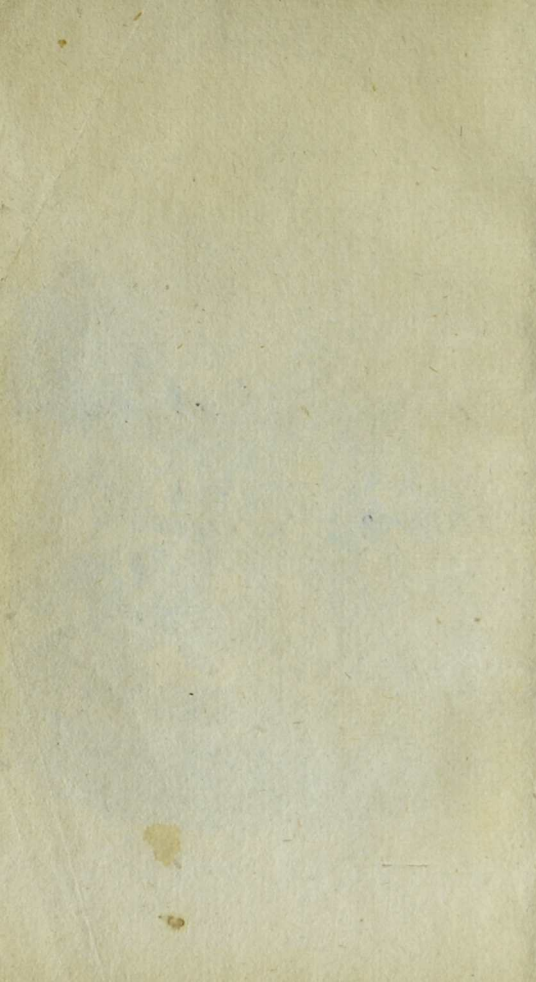
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Sarah Dunn.

June, 1815.





The Birth of Christ

THE
HISTORY
of our
BLESSED SAVIOUR,
taken from the
NEW TESTAMENT.

Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day,
and for ever.

LONDON:

Printed and Sold by R. HARRILD
20, Great Eastcheap.

HISTORY
of our
BLESSED SAVIOUR

taken from the

NEW TESTAMENT

Jesus Christ, the same year, to a
and forever.

LONDON:

Printed and Sold by H. BARNARD,
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THE HISTORY
OF
OUR BLESSED SAVIOUR.

1. *The Birth of Jesus Christ.*

IN the days of Herod, king of Judea, the angel Gabriel was sent from God, unto a city of Galilee called Nazareth; to a virgin, espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the family of David: and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel said unto her "Hail, " thou that art highly favour-
" ed! the Lord is with thee:
" blessed art thou among wo-
" men."

At this Mary was afraid:—
 then the angel said, “Fear not;
 “ for thou hast found favour
 “ with God; and the Holy
 “ Spirit shall descend upon
 “ thee, and thou shalt con-
 “ ceive and bear a son, and
 “ shalt call his name Jesus.
 “ He shall be great, and shall
 “ be called the Son of the
 “ most Most High; and the
 “ Lord God shall give him a
 “ throne and mighty power;
 “ and he shall reign for ever;
 “ and of his kingdom there
 “ shall be no end.” And Mary
 said, “I am the servant of
 “ the Lord; be it unto me
 “ according to thy word.”

And, after some months
 were past, Joseph went up
 from Nazareth unto Bethle-

hem, with Mary his espoused wife; and while they were in Bethlehem, she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes; and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

*2. The Angel appears to the
Shepherds.*

And there were, in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto

them, "Fear not; for behold
 " I bring you good tidings of
 " great joy, which shall be
 " to all people. For unto
 " you is born this day, in the
 " city of David, a Saviour,
 " who is Christ the Lord:
 " And this shall be a sign
 " unto you; ye shall find the
 " babe wrapped in swaddling
 " clothes lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was,
 with the angel, a multitude
 of the heavenly host, praising
 God; and saying, "Glory to
 " God in the highest, and on
 " earth peace, good-will to-
 " wards men."

And it came to pass, as
 the angels were gone away
 from them into heaven, the
 shepherds said one to another,

“ Let us now go even unto
 “ Bethlehem, and see this
 “ thing which is come to
 “ pass, which the Lord hath
 “ made known to us.

3. *The Shepherds go to Beth-
 lehem—Christ is presented
 in the Temple.*

And the shepherds came
 with haste; and found Mary
 and Joseph, and the Babe ly-
 ing in the manger: and when
 they had seen it, they made
 known abroad the saying that
 that was told them concerning
 the Child.

And all they that heard it,
 wondered at those things,
 which were told them by the
 shepherds; but Mary remem-

bered all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all these things which they had heard and seen.

And there was at Jerusalem a devout Man, named Simeon; to whom it was revealed by the Holy Spirit, that he should not die, until he had seen the Lord's Christ. When therefore JESUS was presented in the temple, according to the law of the Jews, Simeon took him in his arms, and blessed him, and said, "Lord, now let thy
 " servant die in peace; for
 " I have seen thy salvation;
 " which thou hast given as
 " the light of mankind, and

“ the glory of thy people
 “ Israel.”

4. *The Adoration of the Wise Men.*

About that time, there came wise men of the East to Jerusalem ; saying, “ Where is he,
 “ who is born King of the
 “ Jews? For we have seen
 “ his star in the East, and
 “ are come to worship him.”

But when king Herod heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him : and he asked the chief priests and the scribes, where Christ should be born; and they said,
 “ It is written in the prophets,
 “ that he shall be born in
 “ Bethlehem of Judea.” Then

Herod sent the wise men to Bethlehem, and told them to go and search for the young Child; and, when they had found him, to bring him word; saying to them, that he also would go and worship him.

The wise men therefore departed: and lo, the star, which they saw in the East, went before them, till it came and stood over the place where the young Child was; at which they were very glad. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary his mother; and they fell down and worshipped him; and when they had opened their treasure, they presented to him gifts; gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

5. *The Murder of the Innocent Children.*

But the wise men, being warned by God in a dream, that they should not return to Herod, departed into their own country another way. And an angel appeared unto Joseph, and said, "Take the young Child and his mother, and flee into Egypt: for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy him." Then Joseph arose and took the young Child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt.

And when Herod found that the wise men did not return to him, he was in a

great rage: and hoping to destroy the young Child, he sent and slew all the children in Bethlehem, and in all the country round it, that were under two years of age. But Joseph, with Mary and the young Child, continued in Egypt until the death of Herod; after which they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth.

And the Child grew, and waxed strong in spirit; and was filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him; and he was subject unto his parents; and increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

6. *The preaching of St. John.*

In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea; and saying, "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." And many went unto him from Jerusalem and from the country about Judea; and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Then the Jews doubted, whether he were the Christ; and they asked him, who he was; John answered, "I am
" not the Christ; but he who
" cometh after me, is preferred
" before me; for he was be-
" fore me. I am come to pre-
" pare the way of the Lord.

“ I indeed baptize with water
 “ unto repentance; but one
 “ cometh, who is mightier
 “ than me; the strap of whose
 “ shoe I am not even worthy
 “ to untie: he shall baptize
 “ you with the Holy Spirit,
 “ and with fire. *For the law*
 “ *came by Moses, but grace*
 “ *and truth by Jesus Christ.*
 “ No man hath seen God at
 “ any time; but the only be-
 “ gotten Son, who is in the
 “ bosom of the Father, he
 “ hath revealed him.”

7. *The Baptism of Jesus Christ.*

The next day John seeth
 Jesus coming unto him, and
 said, “ *Behold the Lamb of*

“ God, which taketh away
 “ the sins of the world!—
 “ This is he of whom I said,
 “ After me cometh one who
 “ is preferred before me; for
 “ he was before me.”

And Jesus came to be baptized by John; but John forbade him, saying, “ I have
 “ need to be baptized by
 “ thee, and dost thou come
 “ to me?” But Jesus said,
 “ Suffer it; for so it ought
 “ to be.” Then John baptized Jesus. And as Jesus went up out of the water, the heavens were opened; and the Spirit of God descended like a dove, and lighted upon him. And a voice was heard from heaven, saying, “ This
 “ is my beloved Son, in whom
 “ I am well pleased.”

And Jesus, being then about thirty years of age, returned in the power of the spirit into Galilee: and the fame of him went out through all that country, and many disciples followed him.

8. *Christ appointeth the Twelve Apostles.*

And Jesus chose out of his disciples twelve men, who should be his apostles; and whom he might send forth, to preach the gospel. And the names of these twelve apostles were, Simon Peter, Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas,

James the son of Alphaeus, Judas his brother; Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him. And Jesus gave them power to preach the gospel, to heal the sick, to cleanse lepers, to raise the dead, and to cast out evil spirits.

9. *John beareth witness to Christ.*

After these things Jesus came with his disciples into the land of Judea, and there he staid and baptized; and John was also baptizing in that country. Then John's disciples came unto him, and said, "Master, he who was
" with thee beyond Jordan,

“ to whom thou bearest wit-
“ ness, behold he baptizeth,
“ and all men come to him.”

John answered and said,
“ A man can receive no
“ power, except it be given
“ him by God : I told you I
“ was not the Christ ; but
“ only his messenger sent
“ before him : He must in-
“ crease, but I must decrease.
“ He who cometh from above
“ is above all : he who is
“ of the earth is earthly ;
“ but he, whom God hath
“ sent, speaketh the words of
“ God, and God giveth him
“ his Holy Spirit. The Fa-
“ ther loveth the Son, and
“ hath given all things into
“ his hand ; he, who believeth
“ in the Son, hath eternal life ;

“ but, he who believeth not
 “ the Son, shall not see life;
 “ but the wrath of God abideth in him.”

10. *Herod killeth John.—*
Little Children come to
Christ.

Now king Herod had put John into prison, because he had reproved him for marrying his brother's wife; and Herod did still more wickedly, for he caused John to be beheaded. But afterwards, when Herod was told of the mighty works which Jesus did, he was troubled in his mind; and he said, “ This is John the Baptist, whom I have beheaded; he is risen

“ from the dead, and there-
 “ fore mighty works do shew
 “ forth themselves in him.”

And they brought young children to Jesus, that he should touch them; and his disciples rebuked those who brought them: but when our Lord saw it, he was much displeased; and he said unto them, “ Suffer little children
 “ to come unto me, and for-
 “ bid them not; for of such
 “ is the kingdom of God.” And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

11. *The Transfiguration of Christ.*

And at that time, Jesus

took with him Peter, and James, and John, and went up into a mountain to pray : and as he prayed, his face did become bright as the sun ; and his raiment became shining and white as snow. And, lo, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias, and talked with him ; and spake of his death, which was to happen in Jerusalem. Then said Peter, “ Lord, it is good that
 “ we are here ; if thou wilt,
 “ let us make here three tabernacles ; one for thee, one
 “ for Moses, and one for
 “ Elias.” And while he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them ; and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “ *This is my beloved*

“ Son, in whom I am well
 “ pleased ; hear ye him.”

But when the three disciples heard the voice, they fell on their faces, and were sore afraid ; then Jesus came and touched them, and said, “ Arise, be not afraid :” and, when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only. And as they came down from the mountain, our Lord charged them not to tell what they had then seen, until he were risen from the dead.

12. *Christ goeth to the House of Zaccheus.*

And as Jesus passed through Jerico, a Publican, named

Zaccheus, sought to see him; and could not, for the croud, because he was little of stature: and he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree; to see him. Then as our Lord came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zaccheus come down: for to day I will stay at thy house." Upon this Zaccheus came down with haste, and received him joyfully: but the Jews murmured, saying, that Jesus was gone into the house of a Publican and a sinner. Zaccheus then said, "Lord, behold; half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have unjustly taken any thing from any man, I will restore him fourfold." Jesus said unto him,

" This day is salvation come
 " into this house; for the
 " Son of Man is come to
 " seek and save that which
 " was lost."

13. *Christ foretelleth his
 Crucifixion.*

And as our Lord went up
 to Jerusalem, he took the
 twelve disciples apart, and said
 unto them, " Behold, we go
 up to Jerusalem; and the Son
 of Man shall be betrayed un-
 to the Chief Priests, and un-
 to the Scribes; and they shall
 condemn him to death, and
 shall deliver him to the Gen-
 tiles. And they shall mock
 him, and shall scourge him,
 and shall spit upon him, and

shall crucify him ; and on the third day he shall rise again."

Then upon the next day, when the people, that were come to the feast, heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him ; and the multitude that went before and that followed, cried, saying, "*Hosanna to the Son of David!*
" Blessed be the King that
" cometh in the Name of the
" Lord : peace in heaven, and
" glory in the highest."

14. *Christ's Entry into Jerusalem.*

And as he came into Jerusalem, all the city was mov-

ed, saying, "Who is this?" And the multitude said, "This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth." Then our Lord went into the Temple; and began to drive out them that sold and bought in the Temple; and overthrew the tables of the money-changers, and the seats of them that sold doves; saying, "Is it not written, my house shall be called, of all nations, the House of Prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves."

And he taught daily in the Temple. But the Chief Priests and the Scribes, and the Elders of the people sought to destroy him; but could not find how they might do it; for all the people were very

attentive to hear him. And when they desired to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude; for they all believed him to be a prophet."

15. *Judas is bribed to betray Christ.*

And our Lord said unto his disciples, "Ye know that
 " after two days is the feast
 " of the Passover; and the
 " Son of Man shall then be
 " betrayed to be crucified."

And the Chief Priests and Scribes and Elders assembled, and consulted how they might take Jesus, and kill him; but they said, "Not on the feast
 " day, lest there be an uproar
 " among the people." Then

Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve disciples, went unto the Chief Priests; and said unto them, "What will you give me, and I will deliver him unto you?" And they agreed with him for thirty pieces of silver. And, from that time, Judas sought an opportunity to betray him.

16. *Appointment of the Holy Communion.*

Now, before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come, that he should depart out of this world, unto the Father; having loved his own, which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. And

when even was come, he sat
 down with his twelve disci-
 ples: and he took the bread,
 and gave thanks, and brake
 it; and gave it unto them,
 saying, "Take, eat; this is
 " my body, which is given
 " for you: this do in remem-
 " brance of me." And he
 took the cup, and gave thanks,
 and gave it to them, saying,
 " Drink ye all of it; for this
 " is my blood of the New
 " Testament, which is shed
 " for you, and for many, for
 " the remission of sins. And
 " I say unto you, I will not
 " drink any more of the fruit
 " of the vine, until I drink it
 " new, in the kingdom of
 " God." And as they did
 eat, he said, " Verily, I say

“ unto you, that one of you
 “ shall betray me.” Then
 “ the disciples asked one by
 “ one, “ Is it I ?” And ano-
 ther said “ Is it I ?” And Ju-
 das also said, “ Master, is it
 “ I ?” Jesus answered, “ Thou
 “ hast said.” And Judas de-
 parted :—and it was then
 night.

17. *Christ prayeth in the
 Garden.*

When Jesus had spoken
 these words, he went forth
 over the brook Cedron, where
 there was a garden ; and he
 said unto his disciples, “ Sit
 “ ye here, while I pray.” And
 he taketh with him Peter and
 James and John ; and he said

unto them, " My soul is very
 " sad, even unto death ; tarry
 " ye here, and watch, while I
 " go and pray yonder."

And he went a little farther,
 and kneeled down, and pray-
 ed, saying, " Father, if thou
 " be willing, remove this cup
 " from me:—yet not my
 " will, but thine be done."

And there appeared an angel
 unto him from heaven, to
 comfort him : and being in
 an agony, he prayed more
 earnestly ; and his sweat was
 as it were great drops of
 blood falling to the ground.
 And when he rose up from
 prayer, he came to his dis-
 ciples, and found them asleep ;
 and he said unto them, " Why
 " sleep ye ? Watch and pray

“lest ye enter into temptation.”

18. *Christ is betrayed by Judas.*

And, while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve disciples, came, and with him a great multitude, with swords and staves, from the Chief Priests and Elders of the people. Now Judas had told them, “whomsoever I shall kiss, the same is he: hold him fast:” and forthwith he came up to Jesus, and cried, “Hail, master,” and kissed him. Our Lord then said unto him, “Judas, betrayest thou the Son of Man with a kiss?” And they came,

and laid hands on Jesus, and took him: and his disciples forsook him, and fled.

19. *Christ is carried before the High Priest.*

And they bound Jesus, and led him away to the High Priest: but Peter followed him afar off, even into the palace of the High Priest: and he sat with the servants, and warmed himself at the fire. And the Chief Priests and Council sought for witness against Jesus, to put him to death; but found none: then they asked him, saying, "Art thou the Christ?" He replied, "Hereafter shall ye see the Son of Man sit

“ on the right hand of the
 “ power of God ;” they all
 said, “ Art thou then the Son
 “ of God ?” And he answer-
 ed, “ I am.” Then they all
 cried out, “ What need we
 “ any further witness ? for we
 “ ourselves have heard it
 “ from his own mouth.—
 “ He is guilty of death.”

20. *Peter denieth Christ.*

Meantime, as Peter sat in
 the palace, a maid-servant
 said to him, “ Thou also
 “ wast with Jesus of Naza-
 “ reth ;” but Peter denied it ;
 saying, “ Woman, I know him
 “ not.” Then another ser-
 vant said unto him, “ Thou
 “ also art one of them ;” Pe-

ter replied, "Man, I am not." And, about an hour after, another said, "Of a truth, " this fellow also was with " him;" and Peter said, " Man, I know not what thou " sayest:" and, while he yet spake, the cock crew. And our Lord turned, and looked upon Peter: then Peter remembered the words which he said unto him, " Before the " cock crow, thou shalt deny " me thrice;" and Peter went out, and wept bitterly.

21. *Judas hangeth himself.*

And Judas, who had betrayed Jesus, when he saw that he was condemned, repented? and he brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the Chief Priests and Elders;

saying, "I have sinned, in
 " that I have betrayed inno-
 " cent blood." And they
 said, "What is that to us?
 " see thou to that." And he
 cast down the thirty pieces of
 silver before them in the tem-
 ple, and departed, and hanged
 himself.

22. *Christ is brought before
 Pilate.*

When the morning was
 come, all the chief Priests,
 and Elders, and the Scribes,
 took counsel against Jesus,
 to put him to death; and,
 when they had bound him,
 they led him away, and de-
 livered him to Pontius Pi-
 late, the Governor; but they

went not into the Judgment-hall, lest they should be defiled; but that they might eat of the Passover. Pilate went out unto them, and said, "What charge do ye bring
 " against this man?" They answered, and said unto him, "If he were not guilty, we
 " would not have brought
 " him unto thee." Then said Pilate unto them, "Take ye
 " him, and judge him according to your law." The Jews therefore said unto him, "It is not lawful for us to put
 " any man to death."

23. The Trial of our Saviour.

Then Pilate entered into the judgment-hall again, and

called Jesus and asked him,
 “ Art thou the king of the
 “ Jews ?” Jesus answered him,
 “ Sayest thou this thing of
 “ thyself, or did others tell
 “ it thee of me ?” Pilate an-
 swered, “ Am I a Jew ! Thine
 “ own nation, and the Chief
 “ Priests have delivered thee
 “ unto me : what hast thou
 “ done ?” Jesus replied, “ My
 “ kingdom is not of this
 “ world : if my kingdom were
 “ of this world, then would
 “ my servants fight, that I
 “ should not be delivered
 “ to the Jews : but now is
 “ my kingdom not of this
 “ world.” Pilate therefore
 said unto him, “ Art thou
 a king then ?” Jesus answer-
 ed, “ Thou sayest true, that

“ I am a king: to this end
 “ was I born, and for this
 “ came I into the world, that
 “ I should bear witness unto
 “ the truth. Every one, that
 “ is of the truth, heareth my
 “ voice.”

And while Pilate was seated
 on the judgment-seat, his
 wife sent unto him, saying,
 “ Do no evil to that just
 “ man: for I have suffered
 “ many things this night in a
 “ dream, because of him.”
 Then Pilate went out unto
 the Jews, and said unto them,
 “ I find in him no fault at all:
 “ but ye have a custom, that
 “ I should release unto you
 “ one at the Passover. Will
 “ ye therefore that I release
 “ unto you the king of the

“Jews?” Then cried they again, saying, “Not this man, but Barabbas.” Now Barabbas was a robber.

24. Christ is condemned to be Crucified.

Then Pilate said unto the Jews, “And what shall I do with Jesus, who is called Christ?” They all say unto him, “Let him be crucified.” Then Pilate said, “Shall I crucify your king?” The Chief Priests answered, “We have no king but Cæsar.” And when Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the people, say-

ing, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person; see ye to it;" then answered they all, and said, "His blood be on us, and our children."

25. Christ is scourged and mocked.

Then Pilate released Barabbas unto them : and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified. And the soldiers of the governor took Jesus unto the common hall, and gathered around him the whole band ; and they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand : and they bow-

ed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews." And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head: and after they had mocked him they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him.

And there were also two thieves led with him, to be put to death. And they gave him vinegar to drink, mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.

26. *Christ is crucified.*

And when they were come to the place which is called Cal-

vary, there they crucified him, and the two thieves; one on his right hand, the other on his left. Then said Jesus, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." —And it was then about the third hour, or about nine in the morning. And Pilate wrote a title, and put on the cross: and the writing was, *This is Jesus, the king of the Jews.* Then said the Chief Priests to Pilate, "Write not the king of the Jews; but that he said, he was king of the Jews." Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

27. *Christ dies for our sins.*

And they who passed by reviled him wagging their heads,

and saying, "If thou canst destroy the Temple, and build it again in three days, save thyself: if thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross." Likewise also the Chief Priests mocking him, with the Scribes and Elders, said, "He saved others, himself he cannot save: if he be the king of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God: let him deliver him now if he would have him." And one of the thieves which were hanged, railed on him, saying, "If thou be Christ, save thyself and us." But the other answering, rebuked him, saying, "Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou

art in the same condemnation ? And we indeed justly ; for we receive the due reward of our deeds : but this man hath done nothing amiss." And he said unto Jesus, " Lord, remember me when thou comest to thy kingdom." And Jesus said unto him, " Verily I say unto thee, this day shalt thou be with me in Paradise."

And it was about the sixth hour (or about twelve at noon,) and there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour : and the sun gave no light, and the veil of the Temple was rent in two. And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, " Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit;" and having said thus,

he gave up the ghost—And when the Centurion who commanded the soldiers, and stood over against him, saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, “*Truly this man was the Son of God.*”

28. *The burial of Christ.*

And all the people that came together to that sight, beholding the things which were done, smote their breasts and returned.—And all his acquaintance and the women that followed our Lord from Galilee, stood afar off beholding these things.

And when the evening was come, there was a rich man named Joseph; who also himself was one of the disciples—

of Jesus : he went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth ; and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out of the rock, where never man had been laid : and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb, and departed. And that day was the day before the sabbath. And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after ; and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid : and they returned, and prepared spices and ointments ; and rested the sabbath day,

according to the commandment of the Lord.

29. *A guard is placed at his tomb.*

Now on the next day, the Chief Priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate; saying, "Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. Command therefore, that the tomb be made sure until the third day; lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away; and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first." Pilate said unto them, "Ye have a watch: go

your way, and make it as sure as you can." So they went, and made the tomb sure; sealing the stone, and setting a watch of soldiers around it.

30. *Christ riseth from the dead.*

Now, upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came unto the tomb; bringing the spices which they had prepared. And behold there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came, and rolled away 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 soldiers who watched the tomb did shake, and became as dead men.

And the angel said unto the woman, " Fear not ye : for I know that ye seek Jesus, who was crucified : he is not here, for he is risen ; as he foretold unto you.—Come, and see the place, where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell his disciples, that he is risen from the dead ; and behold he goeth before you into Galilee : and there ye shall see him. Lo, I have told you." And they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples : and as they went behold, Jesus met them, say

ing, "All hail!" And they came, and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. Then said Jesus unto them, "Be not afraid: go tell my brethren, that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me."

And some of the watch came into the city, and told unto the Chief Priests all the things which came to pass at the sepulchre. And when they were assembled with the Elders, and had taken council, they gave much money unto the soldiers, saying, "Say ye his disciples came by night, and stole him away, while we slept: and if this come to the Governor's ears, we will persuade him, and

secure you." So they took the money, and did as they were taught by the Chief Priests and Elders.

31. *Christ appeareth to his Disciples.*

After this, our Lord appeared unto two of his disciples, as they walked into the country: and they went and told it unto the other disciples. And while they were yet speaking, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and said unto them, "Peace be unto you." But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed they had seen a spirit: and he said unto them, "Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?"

behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have."

And, when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. And while they yet believed not, for joy and wonder, he said unto them, "Have ye here any meat?" and they gave him a piece of broiled fish, and some honey: and he took it, and did eat before them. And he said unto them, "These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you: that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the Law of Moses, and in the Prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning me."

33. *Christ ascendeth into Heaven.*

Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures. And he said unto them, "Thus it is written; and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead on the third day: in order that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name, among all nations; beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are the witnesses of these things.—All power is given unto me, in heaven and on earth: go therefore and teach all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to keep all things which I have commanded you. And behold I send the promise of my Father upon you: —but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. And lo I am with you always unto the end of the World. Amen.” And he led them out as far as to Bethany; and he lifted up his hands and blessed them. And it came to pass, that while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and he was received into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: and were daily in the Temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

THE CONCLUSION.

THE Reader has now been informed of the birth of Jesus Christ—of the various things that happened to him while he lived upon earth—and especially of his grievous sufferings from the unbelieving Jews, until he died upon the cross, on Mount Calvary, near Jerusalem.

It is necessary, however, that we should know, WHO Jesus Christ is. He is God, and man. *Before* he became an infant, and received the adoration of the shepherds, *He* had lived from all eternity in heaven. In the most pro-

per time, he “took upon him our nature, and came in the likeness of man; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” We may therefore *pray* to Jesus Christ; for he is GOD as well as man—*God* able to save us from sin, and ruin, and wrath; and *man*, able to stand in our place, and suffer, and die for our salvation.—“Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever—that is, “from everlasting to everlasting *He* is God,”

My young Readers ought also to be informed of the *cause*, WHY the Blessed Lord Jesus Christ, should appear in our nature for 35 years in

this world. It was on account of *our* sins. You should know, that God Almighty, at the beginning, made Adam, *a very good man*. He was good in every respect, both in body, and in soul. But God commanded, as you will read in the beginning of the book of Genesis, that neither *Adam* nor his wife should eat of *one particular* tree. They were assured, that in the day they eat of it, they should certainly die. This was called the *covenant of works*; and the happiness of Adam was then made to depend upon himself. We all know, that he very soon sinned against his good and gracious God; and was, in consequence, driven

out of Paradise. According to this covenant of works, all the children of *Adam* and Eve, and *we* among them, have lost all prospect of eternal happiness thro' any thing we can do ; and the scriptures say, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." And—in *Adam* all die. For ever be adored the goodness and mercy of the God we have offended. "He laid help upon one mighty to save." He appointed the *second Adam*, the Lord from heaven. He sent forth his Son Jesus Christ, made of a woman, to redeem them that are under the law, from condemnation by it. "He died for us, the just for the unjust, that He

might bring us to God." "He did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth;" yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him, and to make his soul an offering for sin. He stood in our place—suffered for us—died for us—God Almighty, the Father, received from Jesus our holy Redeemer, the punishment, which our wickedness deserves—and for which, but for Him, we must have everlastingly suffered. And he accepts the obedience, and merits of Jesus Christ, and puts them to our account, so as to intitle us to a portion in heaven, as if we, of ourselves, had deserved it. Thus if we obtain eternal life, we shall obtain it only through Christ, and not

by any worthiness or deservings of our own. Perhaps some child may wish to ask this question—How can I obtain for myself the blessing of pardon through Christ's sufferings, and of happiness in heaven through Christ's holiness? You may obtain these blessings through faith, or by believing, that thro' Christ, and Christ only, you can be saved; by loving Jesus for coming to be your Saviour; and by hoping sincerely, and earnestly to live with Jesus in heaven. You may know whether you do thus believe, and hope, and love, by asking yourself whether you think of the example our dear Saviour has left us, of all love, and goodness,

and whether you pray, that the *Holy Spirit* would influence your heart, and sanctify your life, that you may live in love towards your Saviour, towards your parents, and other children.

This blessed Saviour, when he had done all, and suffered all that was necessary, to make our peace with God, arose from the dead, as he had promised he would; and after forty days ascended into heaven, "*to where he was before.*" He is said to *sit* at his Father's right hand, to shew us the authority, and honor, and happiness, which he is possessed of, as the God-man, who is the Mediator, between God and man. He lives in

heaven to intercede^r for us, that is, to ask of his Father, such blessings as we stand in need of, from day to day. With these he continually supplies us, by his providence, and his grace. When time shall be no more Jesus will come again; not as a little infant, or a man of sorrows, but with power and great glory, to judge the living and the dead. "We must all appear before the judgment seat of *Christ*, that every one of us may receive for the things done in the body, whether they be good, or bad."

