

All the armour of the armed man . . . for fuel of fire (Rev. Ver.), v. 5. War is doomed. Its weapons shall be consumed. It has drained the nations of the earth. War Doomed more than any curse. The four wars from 1702 to 1814 cost the British people \$9,100,000,000. The wars of Julius Caesar destroyed about 2,000,000 men; those of Napoleon nearly 4,000,000. The number killed or who died of wounds and disease in war from 1853 to 1877 was: in the Crimea 750,000; American civil war 800,000; Franco-German war 225,000; smaller wars and massacres 175,000. The mind cannot estimate the loss and suffering that have been entailed. But all this energy that has been used to destroy men will be directed

to the work of saving them. Then what glorious results may we not look for? Before the great army that fights under the Captain of our salvation every foe will be vanquished, every evil will be overcome.

His name, v. 6. The name of Jesus has ever been potent for good. Uttered by the lips of the apostles, it healed disease, opened the eyes of the blind, mastered devils, and even breathed warm life into the cold form of death. Nor have the centuries robbed it of its power. Never has it been more effective than to-day, not indeed to startle the world with physical wonders, but to work moral miracles in the lives of thousands and to win ever increasing homage from the lips of mankind.

An
All-Powerful
Name

TEACHING HINTS

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades in the school.

For Teachers of the Older Scholars

This Lesson naturally follows the last. The word Messiah or Anointed One is used in the Old Testament of many of God's agents, as the high priests (Lev. 4:3), ministers (servants) of God (Ps. 105:15), of Cyrus (Isa. 45:1), of God's actual king (1 Sam. 24:6) and of God's expected King, Dan. 9:25. In Isaiah's time the land was in great distress. Palestine was assailed by the Assyrian. The land was cursed with the reign of idolatry. The world was in the darkness of night. There was also the expectation of a glorious king (compare 2 Sam. 7:16; 23:3-5). Isaiah's vision passes from the ideal of a helpless infant to a Deliverer, Hero, Immanuel.

1. Consider the word of hope, vs. 1-5. The future is painted in brilliant colors. Note the promise of light, the great deliverance, the joy, the freedom from the oppressor and the method of victory. This is sketched with the historical conditions as a background. For the tyranny of the Assyrians see 2 Kgs. 15:19, 20, 28, 29. A careful study of these historical references will make the situations real and suggestive.

2. Study the character of Messiah, vs. 6, 7. This also had a partial fulfilment in the history of deliverers, but only fully in Jesus.

It falls into two main divisions: (1) The personal character of Messiah. Note the terms used and examine their meaning carefully, "Wonderful," "Counsellor," "The Mighty God," "The Everlasting Father," "The Prince of Peace." What did these terms convey to the people? What do they convey to us? Advanced classes would do well to examine the Old Testament view of the character of the Messiah, and whether there is any clear revelation of His divinity, as that term is now understood. How far is the New Testament conception of Jesus an expression of the Old Testament view and in what respects is the New Testament view original? (2) The principles of His empire. Note its universality and permanence, its peace and righteousness, and its development of God's plan in the world. Again it is profitable to contrast the Old Testament and the New Testament conceptions of the kingdom of God and the development of thought. It is helpful also to trace the historical fulfilment of this vision, and to compare the principles of the kingdom with the revelation of the Lesson. The teacher should seek to trace the progress of doctrine and have the Messiah of the world stand out clearly before the class. Every light should be utilized to shew him in his real nature, and especially his relation to the world's redemption.

Having considered the person and work