

Lesson XIII. **CHRISTMAS LESSON—THE PROMISE** December 24, 1916
OF THE KING: THE COMING OF THE KING

Isaiah 9: 2-7; Luke 9: 49-62. *Scripture Memory Verses, Luke 2: 19, 20.

Golden Texts—For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.—Isaiah 9: 6 (Rev. Ver.).

He that is not against you is for you.—Luke 9: 50 (Rev. Ver.).



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THE LESSON RETOLD

Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas! Listen to the glad words which the Christmas bells seem to say!

The Christmas story! Yes, you shall hear the same dear old Christmas story which your fathers and mothers and grandfathers and grandmothers heard when they were little boys and girls. It is old, but always new—the story of how Jesus came into the world more than nineteen hundred years ago.

Many, many years before he came, one of God's holy prophets or wise men, whose name was Isaiah, had told God's people that God would send a wonderful child into one of the families of the tribe of Judah. This child would be their king and would break the power of their enemies.

The people of Judah had been in very great distress. An enemy, the fierce Assyrians, had come with armies of soldiers and fought with them and conquered them, and were treating them very cruelly. God knew how

much his people needed something to cheer them, so he sent Isaiah to give them this beautiful promise.

The people who were living in fear and dread of enemies should see a great light, and the light would shine upon them. Their nation would again become strong and happy. This promised one would cause all the armor and weapons of the Assyrians to be burned like wood upon the fire.

This great light would come when a little child was born who should be the king of Israel. His name would be: "Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." His kingdom should spread over all the world, and this Prince of Peace should at last bring peace to the world.

Now, one night, years and years after Isaiah lived, some shepherds were out on the hillsides near the village of Bethlehem, in the land of Judea, which was the home of these people to whom Isaiah had brought God's message long ago. It was night. The shepherds were keeping watch over their sheep. The stars were shining overhead and everything was still, for the sheep and the shepherds were resting.

Suddenly the shepherds started up. They saw a great light in the sky, and the angel of the Lord appeared before them, and they were very much afraid, but the angel said to them, "Fear not, for I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

* For correct recitation of the Scripture Memory Passages of the three Parts of List II., at one sitting for each Part, a Certificate in Colors is given. For Form of Application, apply to Rev. J. C. Robertson, our General Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Confederation Life Building, Toronto.