

Lesson I.

MISSIONARY LESSON

April 7, 1912

*Isaiah 2:2-4; 11:1-10. Read Micah 4:1-4—†Memory Verses, ch. 2:3, 4.

Golden Text—The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.—Isaiah 11:9.

THE LESSON RETOLD



One of God's good prophets of old was named Isaiah. Often he told the Jews of trouble and punishment that were coming upon them because of their sins, but the news that he told of the coming of a Saviour was good news. One strange thing that Isaiah told also, was that the Saviour's coming would bring peace and blessing, not only to them, but to all the nations of the earth. The Jews had always thought that the Messiah was to be a Saviour to them alone, but God meant Him to be a Saviour of the world—of the black man as well as the white, of the heathen as well as of the Jew—and Isaiah taught this to God's people hundreds of years before Jesus came to earth. After Jesus came, there would be no more quarrelling, no more war; but this would only be when they had learnt from Jesus all His law of love.

Isaiah went on to say something about Jesus Himself. Although He was the Son of God, He was to come down to earth as one of themselves—a member of the family of David. Yet He was to be not altogether like other men. "For the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him", said Isaiah, "the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord"; which meant that Jesus would be filled with wonderful wisdom and knowledge and power. He would not judge as men do, by their eyes and ears, but He would understand men's hearts. He would understand people's sorrow and poverty and weakness, too, although He would punish all who did wickedly.

Still, Jesus' love could change wicked men to good men; that is, if they gave up their sins and served Him. Isaiah then described the lovely condition of things that shall exist when all men have grown to love and serve Jesus. In that day, the wolf and the lamb shall live together; and a baby shall play safely beside the nests of snakes, and a little child shall lead about wild beasts, like the leopard and the bear. These things shall be done when wild, evil nations and ignorant heathen peoples have been made pure and sweet and childlike through the power of Jesus' love. Then, said Isaiah, the day will come, when no one will hurt nor destroy another, for the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the whole earth, as the waters cover the sea.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Who was Isaiah? 2. What sad things did he sometimes tell the Jews? 3. What good news did he tell them? 4. To whom was Jesus to be a Saviour? 5. What changes would there be after Jesus came? 6. What would Jesus Himself be like? 7. What would Jesus' love do for wicked men? 8. What effect would Jesus' love have upon the wild beasts? 9. What would sinners and heathen become through the power of Jesus? 10. How widely would the knowledge of the Lord spread? 11. What is the Golden Text?

* The Scripture Passage for the Lesson is omitted on account of the Special Easter Lesson on the next page.

†The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Leaflets are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. Their recitation leads to the obtaining of a beautiful Certificate or Diploma.