

of the occasion that there is peace to those with whom God is well pleased. No heavenly chorus was needed to tell men that. The most ignorant heathen knows it. But it was in every way suitable to the event to proclaim that God looked with pitying "benevolence" on the whole fallen race. (John 3:16; Eph. 2:7; 1 John 4:9, 10.) Godet says "*Men of goodwill*", meaning those on whom goodwill rests, is a mode of expression without any example." Dr. Scribner says, that the received text of our authorized version "has the virtually unanimous evidence of the Greek fathers, with an authority from which there is, or ought to be, no appeal." The Lewis manuscript of the gospels, discovered in 1892 in the convent at Mt. Sinai, has the common reading "goodwill towards men." Great importance is attached to this by scholars. If the words be taken to mean "men possessed of goodwill" i. e. towards God (as in the English version,) it is false theology and although an angel from heaven declared it we would not receive him. (Gal. 1:8.) If God gave peace only to those who first manifested "goodwill" none would be saved. In the highest—i. e. in the heavens, as is shewn by antithesis to "on earth." Others understand it to mean (1) in the highest strains; or, (2) among the highest angels; or, (3) the most high God. This was a familiar doxology. (ch. 19:38.) "The song suggests that heaven and earth have been united, are in a certain correspondence, and be simultaneously described; as the halo of glory spread out from God to all sides in heaven, so the halo of peace will spread out from God's people on all sides on earth." Rom. 5:1. (Lindsay.) Peace—Isa. 9:6. (1) Christ reconciles men to God by his atonement; (2) induces the sinner to lay down the weapons of his rebellion; (3) bestows a peace which passeth all understanding; and (4) infuses principles of kindness and goodwill amongst men, ultimately bringing about universal peace. The following clause stands in apposition and is explanatory of the reason why there is peace on earth, hence there is no connecting "and." There is peace on earth because God's kindness and compassion, his "goodwill," have found expression in this new-born babe, and are incarnate amongst men.

III. THE SHEPHERDS' VISIT. 15. Let us now go even unto—lit. "let us go, right off, as far as to Bethelchem." The words imply that they were at some distance from the town. 16. "They came hastening," shewing zeal as well as faith. The truth of the news is not for a moment doubted by them. Notice how graphic the narrative is. Found—"discovered," implying more or less prolonged search.

SUMMARY AND REVIEW.

By members of St. Enoch's Church, Toronto, Sabbath School Teachers' Association.

(We regret that our space does not permit us to give, in full, the excellent notes accompanying these outlines.)

BLACKBOARD.

GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY.

THE ANGELS' MESSAGE. {A Saviour is Born.
Ye Shall Find Him.

THE HEAVENLY SONG. {Glory to God.
Peace on Earth.
Goodwill to Men.

CHRIST'S MESSAGE TO US. {Come unto Me.
Go Tell All Nations.

For Junior Classes the following Outline may be followed to advantage:

THE ANGELIC ANNOUNCEMENT.

“ “ CHOIR.

“ HUMBLE WITNESSES.

“ BIRTH PROCLAIMED.

In arranging the lesson this way we have a series of word pictures which can be made exceedingly interesting to the Junior scholars.