

What is meant by "the stem of Jesse?"

What was the condition of the royal family of Judah in Isaiah's time?

What do you know about the young prince Hezekiah and about his father?

To what matchless Person do "the stem" and "the Branch" here mentioned refer?

What does the Lord mean in the Old Testament when printed in small capital letters?

What is meant by "wisdom and understanding?"

What is meant by "counsel" and "might?"

Wherein shall this Messiah differ from merely human judges? (See verse 3.)

To what class of people will he especially turn his attention?

To what classes did our Lord Christ speak his first Beatitudes?

What does Isaiah promise will be the attitude of the Messiah toward the wicked?

How did Jesus treat the hypocritical Pharisees, priests, and traders?

What is the use of the girdle?

How can "righteousness" and "faithfulness" be called girdles?

2. His Kingdom, v. 6-10.

Tell what you know of the savage characteristics of wolves, leopards, lions, bears, and serpents.

Note the characteristics of the innocent young creatures that are to sport with these wild animals.

What has Christianity done for animals?

How does this prophecy picture to us the final triumph of Christ over mankind?

What is meant by God's holy mountain?

What does the ninth verse teach us concerning the triumph of Christ?

What did Jesus say of himself if he were "lifted up?"

Who are the Gentiles?

Have they sought Christ?

What is the "rest" or "resting-place" of the Messiah?

Practical Teachings.

Wherein does this lesson teach—

1. That the Spirit of the Lord gives power and adaptability to the soul on which it rests?

2. That God's cause often flourishes after unpromising beginnings?

3. That Christianity will eventually prevail over all the world?

4. That Christians owe special duty to animals?

5. That the kingdom of Christ brings peace and comfort every-where?

Hints for Home Study.

1. Write down five or six destructive forces or tendencies which may be said to have ravaged the world like wild beasts, but which are controlled by Christianity; like slavery, for example.

2. Note incidents in our Lord's life showing his possession of the Spirit of the Lord; of "wisdom

and understanding," to distinguish between purity and evil; of "might," to carry out his moral convictions with energy.

3. By what divine presence in the world are these attributes of the Messiah still made helpful to man?

QUESTIONS FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOLARS.

1. The King, v. 1-5.

What King is here meant?

Of whom was the King to be a descendant?

To what is he compared?

Whose Spirit was to rest on him?

How is this Spirit described?

When was this prophecy fulfilled? (See Ps.

61. 1; Luke 4. 16-21.)

What effect would the Spirit have on the King?

What would he not do?

How would he judge?

How would he punish wickedness?

With what would he be girdled?

2. His Kingdom, v. 6-10.

What promise of peace is here given?

What further promise in verse 7?

What is said of a child and a venomous beast?

Why would no harm come to any?

What would the son of Jesse be to the Jews?

What other people would seek him?

What is said of the rest he would give?

How extensive would be his kingdom? (GOLDEN

TEXT.)

Teachings of the Lesson.

Where in this lesson are we shown—

1. The lowly origin of Christ?

2. That Christ brings peace on earth?

3. That Christ is a Saviour for all men?

Home Work for Young Bereans.

Find some other prophecies of the coming King.

Find what Jesus said to Pilate regarding the character of his kingdom.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

Who was Jesse? **King David's father.**

What is meant by the "stem of Jesse?" **The house of David.**

Who is the Branch? **Christ.**

Why is it said the Branch grew out of Jesse's roots? **Because Christ came from the family of Jesse.**

What spirit rests upon Christ? **The Spirit of the Lord.**

What kind of a spirit is this? **A wise, strong, right spirit.**

How will Christ judge the poor? **With right judgment.**

How will the wicked be slain? **By the "breath of his lips."**

What is meant by this? **His word.**