

# HOME STUDY LEAFLET.

LESSON 12.

DECEMBER 23rd, 1894.

4th QUARTER.

## The Prince of Peace. ISA. 9: 2-7.

### GOLDEN TEXT.

Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." Isa. 9: 7.

### PROVE THAT

Jesus is the only Saviour. Acts 4: 12.

### SHORTER CATECHISM.

Quest. 107. *What doth the conclusion of the Lord's prayer teach us?* A. The conclusion of the Lord's prayer (which is, *For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen*), teacheth us to take our encouragement in prayer from God only, and in our prayers to praise him, ascribing kingdom, power and glory to him. And, in testimony of our desire, and assurance to be heard, we say, Amen.

### LESSON HYMNS.

CHILDREN'S HYMNAL, Nos. 17, 19, 167, 164.

### DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the I. B. R. A.)

MONDAY—The Prince of Peace.  
Isa. 9: 2-7.

TUESDAY—Message of the Angels.  
Luke 2: 8-20.

WEDNESDAY—The Glory of Israel.  
Luke 2: 25-32.

THURSDAY—Life and Light.  
John 1: 1-14.

FRIDAY—In the Light.  
1 John 1: 1-7.

SATURDAY—Born a King.  
Matt. 2: 1-11.

SABBATH—Reign of Peace.  
Micah 4: 1-7.

## HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY. The happy Christmas season has come round again, and all are invited to study what one of the ancient prophets said about the birth of Jesus seven hundred and thirty-five years before it took place. The words of Isaiah had an immediate reference to the troubled state of the Jewish kingdom, and promised a deliverer who should restore the national prosperity. But their complete fulfilment is only found in Christ and his redemption of sinful men. Read the history of the time in 2 Kings 15: 37; 16: 4-8, 17; 2 Chron. 28: 5-8. For the moral and religious condition of the country read 2 Kings 16; Isa. 2: 6, 8, 20; 8: 19; 2 Chron. 28: 24; 29: 5, 16.

LESSON PLAN. I. Vanquished Foes. vs. 1-5. II. A Royal Birth. v. 6. III. An Everlasting Reign. v. 7.

I. VANQUISHED FOES. 2. In darkness—The Jews were in great trouble at this time. They were attacked by enemies on every hand (Isa. 1: 7), and the grossest forms of idolatry were practised (2 Kings 16); the temple was closed and allowed to fall into decay (2 Chron. 28: 24; 29: 5, 16). They had forsaken God, and he had abandoned them to their enemies. A great light—This was the light of prophetic promises such as Isa. 7: 14; 11: 1-10. God sent relief to his distressed people. The shadow of death—the darkening that comes over the eyes of the dying. Expressing the hopeless despair of the nation. From Matt. 4: 16, we see that this prophecy found its complete fulfilment in the advent of Christ. He came to illuminate the moral darkness of the world. Read Eph. 5: 8, 14; John 1: 9; 9: 5; Mal. 4: 2. 3. Multiplied the nation—

The spiritual Israel is vastly more numerous than the descendants of Jacob ever were. Increased their joy (R. V.)—The R. V. reads "their" instead of "not," which gives an easier meaning, and is believed by most scholars to be the correct reading. It is a joy like that of harvest or victory. 4. Broken the yoke—The yoke of the Assyrians in the first place. Christ broke the yoke of sin, and gave his gentle yoke instead. (Matt. 11: 28-30.) The staff of his shoulder—A bar of wood placed on the necks of slaves to assist them in performing laborious tasks. The day of Midian—the victory of Gideon (Judg. 7: 8-22). So a small host under Christ shall overcome the mighty forces of evil. 5. This verse reads quite differently in the R. V.: "For all the armour of the armed man in the tumult, and the garments rolled in blood, shall even

be for burning, for fuel of fire." Everything employed in war shall be destroyed, so completely shall the reign of the Prince of Peace be established (Isa. 2: 4; 11: 6, 7; Ps. 46: 9; Ezek. 39: 9; Mic. 5: 5, 10; Zech. 9: 9, 10). The meaning of the verse as we have it in our Bibles is "Every human victory involves conquest, din and bloodshed, but the victory of Christ shall be like that over Midian, by God's power alone and fire from heaven" (2 Thess. 1: 7, 8; Mal. 4: 1.)

II. A ROYAL BIRTH. **Q. Unto us a child is born**—The prince who was to lead the armies of Judah to victory, was so feeble a type of the Babe of Bethlehem that he has been forgotten, and we rightly think only of Jesus as we read these verses and ch. 7: 14. (Luke 2: 11; John 3: 16.) **The government**—the authority to rule (Matt. 28: 18; 11: 27; Ps. 2: 6; 89: 19; 110: 1, 3; Dan. 7: 14; Luke 1: 32; John 17: 2; Rom. 14: 9; Eph. 1: 20, 21; Heb. 2: 8; 1 Pet. 3: 22; Rev. 11: 15). The badge of office was worn upon the shoulder. **Wonderful**—The name is expressive of the character. Jesus was the greatest wonder of the universe. (1 Tim. 3: 16; Judg. 13: 18 margin.) **Counsellor**—the embodiment of wisdom. The Teacher and Guide of men (Isa. 11: 2; Rom. 11: 33, 34; 1 Cor. 1: 24; Col. 2: 3). **The Mighty God**—Jesus was and is God (John 1: 1; Rom. 9: 5; 1 John 5: 20; John 20: 28; 1 Tim. 3: 16; Titus 2: 13; Heb. 1: 8). This term could not be applied

to an earthly king without blasphemy. **The everlasting Father**—one whose paternal love and care can never cease (John 10: 28). **The Prince of Peace**—He reconciles God and man and teaches men to live as brethren (Luke 2: 14; Rom. 5: 1; Eph. 2: 14). See passages referred to under verse 5.

III. AN EVERLASTING REIGN. 7. His peaceful empire shall go on increasing until it fills the world (Dan. 2: 44; Luke 1: 32, 33). **The throne of David**—on which Christ sits as his son. The throne of Christ is called the throne of David because special promises were given to David that the Messiah should be among his descendants. (2 Sam. 7: 13; 16: 19; Ps. 89: 35-37; Isa. 55: 3, 4; Jer. 23: 5, 6; Matt. 1: 1; Luke 1: 69; 2: 4; John 7: 42; Acts 2: 30; Rom. 1: 3; 2 Tim. 2: 8; Rev. 22: 16). Christ is even called David in Jer. 30: 9; Ezek. 34: 23; Hos. 3: 5. **With justice and judgment**—It is not a kingdom resting on force and power, but upon righteousness. (Isa. 42: 21; Ps. 45: 6, 7.) The gospel of Jesus Christ will eventually put down all injustice and wrong-doing. His kingdom rests upon His atonement, and that satisfied the justice of God and provided a righteousness by which the sinner is made acceptable to God. *What is justification?* **The zeal of the Lord of Hosts**—God's earnestness in carrying out his purposes. When we give to missions we are supporting a cause which cannot fail, since God is pledged to its success.

- 1—How does the prophet describe the condition of the people? (3)
- 2—Who is the Light of which the prophet speaks? (3)
- 3—To what ancient battle does he compare His victory? (5)
- 4—What will be done with weapons of war in His reign? (5)
- 5—What names are given to Christ? (5)
- 6—Upon what will His kingdom be established? (4)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Teacher,—Please excuse my absence from Sabbath School to-day, I cannot come because \_\_\_\_\_ I have read the "Daily Portions" and answered the questions as well as I could. I have committed to memory \_\_\_\_\_ verses in addition to the Golden Text, and \_\_\_\_\_ Questions in the Catechism and have recited them to \_\_\_\_\_ I was at church \_\_\_\_\_ I send with this my Weekly Offering of \_\_\_\_\_ cents