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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson for December 21
Golden Text—Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.—Luke 2:14

The Lesson as a Whole
Isaiah is often called "The Evangelical Prophet," and this for a very good reason. He portrays the coming and redemptive work of our blessed Lord more fully than any other Old Testament writer.

As once again all Christendom is celebrating the remembrance of His lowly birth, we need to keep in mind the fact that it is not through His incarnation we are saved, but through His propitiatory work on the cross. Bethlehem was but the first step toward Calvary. The one apart from the other, could never have saved lost men, who, because of sin, were under divine condemnation. The very reason He became man was in order that He might die. He came into our humanity in order that He might give his life a ransom for many (Matt. 20:28). It is by His sacrifice—the immolation of His precious body upon the tree—that we are saved. As the Father's gift to us, He there settled the sin question, when He stood in our place and endured the judgment which our sins deserved.

The Book of Revelation is the Book of the consummation and tells us of the triumph of the once-rejected Jesus, when He shall put down all iniquity and reign over the entire universe, thus bringing peace on earth, as predicted so long before.

Verse by Verse
Isa. 9:2—"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light." This is a prophetic foreview of the coming into the world of the Lord Jesus, the "light of the world," who was destined to bring salvation and blessing to untold millions of earth's inhabitants, though rejected as such by His own nation and also by the nations of the Gentiles.

Verse 3—"Thou has multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy." The nation here is Israel and should not be understood as referring to any other people. It is questionable whether the negative

not should be retained or removed. The consensus of opinion among most spiritually minded scholars is that it should be omitted, as the passage looks forward to the future blessing of the favored nation when they shall be restored to the Lord and to their land, and have learned to know Jesus as the Messiah for whom they had waited so long.

Verse 4—"Thou hast broken the yoke of the oppressor." While these words had a local application to the destruction of the Assyrian army threatening Jerusalem, there will be a complete fulfillment when Christ returns to deliver His people from all their enemies.

Verse 5—"Every battle of the warrior is with confused noise and garments rolled in blood." Graphically the prophet describes the sad conditions destined to be the portion of the nations until Christ comes to bring lasting peace.

Verse 6—"A child is born... a son is given." In these two expressions we see the humanity and the deity of our Saviour. The child born refers to His humanity. He was a true man, spirit and soul and body, as born of Mary, His virgin mother. But He was also the Son given—the eternal Son of the Father, given in grace for our redemption, who linked His deity with our humanity apart from sin, and was thus God and man in one blessed, adorable person.

"The government shall be upon his shoulder." He is destined to exercise supreme rule over all the universe. "His name shall be called Wonderful." There is here suggested the mystery of His Sonship, which no man can apprehend (Matt. 11:27; Rev. 19:12). Under this name He appeared of old to the parents of Samson (Judges 13:18, R.V.). Only the Father comprehends the mystery of godliness (1 Tim. 3:16). It is beyond human understanding.

"Counsellor" is the second of His names. As the Eternal Word He is the revealer of the mind and heart of God, come to earth to show us the way to the Father (John 14:6). "The mighty God." Some would seek to tone this down to make Him less than the words imply, but He is so called in Romans 9:5 and in 1 John 5:20. Had He been anyone less than God, He could not have made atonement for sin. He had to be who He was in order to do what He did.

"The everlasting Father." A better rendering is "The Father of Eternity." The Son is not confounded with the Father though He and the Father are one (John 10:30; 14:10, 11). But He is the one in whom all the ages meet (Heb. 1:2, marg.).

"The Prince of Peace." As such, He was presented to the world and heralded by angels (Luke 2:14), but because of His rejection there can be no lasting peace for the nations until He returns. Then He will be manifested as the one who will speak peace to all peoples. (Isa. 32:1-18).

Verse 7—"Upon the throne of David." Christ has never yet sat upon the throne of David, though Scripture plainly predicts that He shall do so and reign in righteousness over all the earth (Luke 1:32). This will be at His second coming, after the present age has run its course (Acts 15:16,17). Then the Kingdom will be set up in power and glory, and righteousness and peace will prevail through all the world.

Rev. 11:15—"The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ." This tells of the glad day when the Kingdom of God will come in power at the glorious second advent of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Chap. 15:2—"Them that had gotten the victory over the beast..." There will be those who in the days of the Great Tribulation will be martyred for the sake of Christ. They will have their part in the first resurrection, though in a different cohort from the church of this age.

Verse 3—"They sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb." This is very suggestive and indicates their connection with the Jewish remnant of the last days. The song of Moses is that of triumph over their enemies.

Verse 4—"All nations shall come and worship before thee." Toward this time of blessing many of the prophets looked. It will be the era of righteousness, when Jesus will reign as "King of kings and Lord of lords."

The Heart of the Lesson
The supreme gift of God to mankind is that of His blessed Son, who was with Him before all worlds, but who came into this scene in obedience to the Father's will and became man (without ceasing to be God) in order that He might effect our redemption. Let us never think of the death of Christ as though it were that which enabled God to act in love toward sinners. It was because of the love in His heart that He sent His Son in order that dead souls might have life through His name, and lost sinners might have their guilt put away through His propitiatory work. At the Christmas season we need afresh to present to men the Gift of all gifts, the Lord Jesus Christ, through whom alone they may have eternal life and peace with God.

ALBERTA WILL AMEND AUTO JUDGMENT FUND

Edmonton—Amendments to Alberta's Unsatisfied Car Accident Judgment Fund will be introduced at the next session of the legislature, Hon. A. J. Hooke, provincial secretary, has announced. He gave no details.

Only one claim, amounting to about \$400, has been paid to date out of the fund which now totals nearly \$100,000. Three other claims are pending.

A report on accidents in the province shows 1,375 occurring from the start of the fund until Sept. 12. Number of cars carrying insurance involved in these accidents totalled 1,148; 803 did not carry insurance.

Uninsured drivers involved in accidents forfeit their licenses until they can show financial responsibility for possible future accidents. The branch still is holding 104 licenses, and instructions have gone out to the RCMP to collect another 100.

NEW STOVE FOR THE FARM

New type range for farm kitchens permits housewives to burn coal or oil for winter cooking on one side; manufactured, natural, or bottled gas for cool summer cooking on the other. Oven of this U.S.-made stove is so designed that any fuel can be used.

VOTERS' LIST MUNICIPALITY OF THE Township of Pickering County of Ontario

Clerk's Notice of First Posting of Voters' List, 1947

NOTICE is hereby given that I have complied with section 9 of the Voters' List Act and that I have posted up at my office, Brougham, on the 6th day of December, 1947, the list of all persons entitled to vote in the said municipality for members of Parliament (or as the case may be) at Municipal elections, and that such list remains there for inspection.

And I hereby call upon all voters to take immediate proceedings to have any errors or omissions corrected according to law. Dated this 6th day of Dec. 1947

Lloyd Johnston, Clerk of the Township of Pickering

GOLDEN GARBAGE

This should catch the eye of Peter, the lad who moves the tins and what have you from the homes in town.

George Ploman, who lived by collecting refuse in a barrow, on the streets of Windsor, England, left an estate of \$50,000, when he died at 95. He lived in an unfurnished house and slept on the floor. His will directed that after 21 years, almshouses be built with the money he left.

ATTENTION!! Residents of Stouffville and Surrounding Districts.

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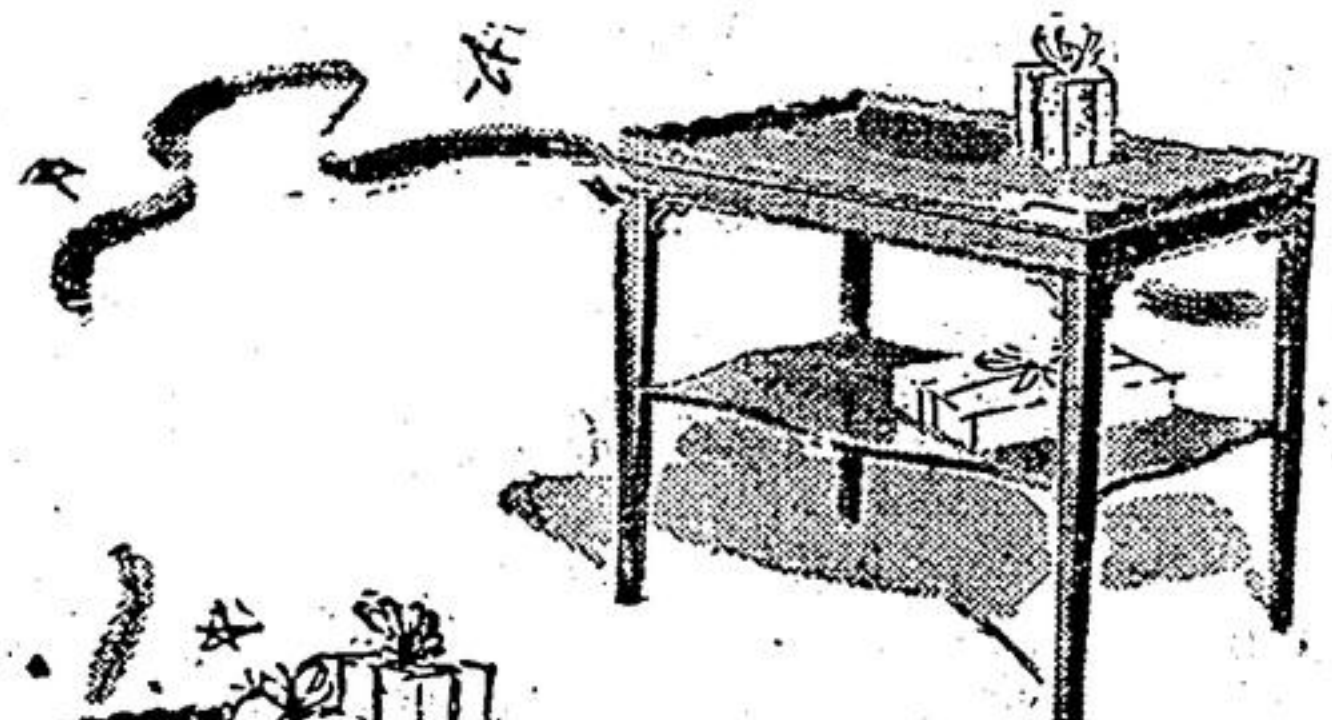
He will be located in the office of Dr. C. L. Houghton, Main Street. (The old Telephone building.)

OFFICE HOURS: 12.30 to 8.00 p.m.

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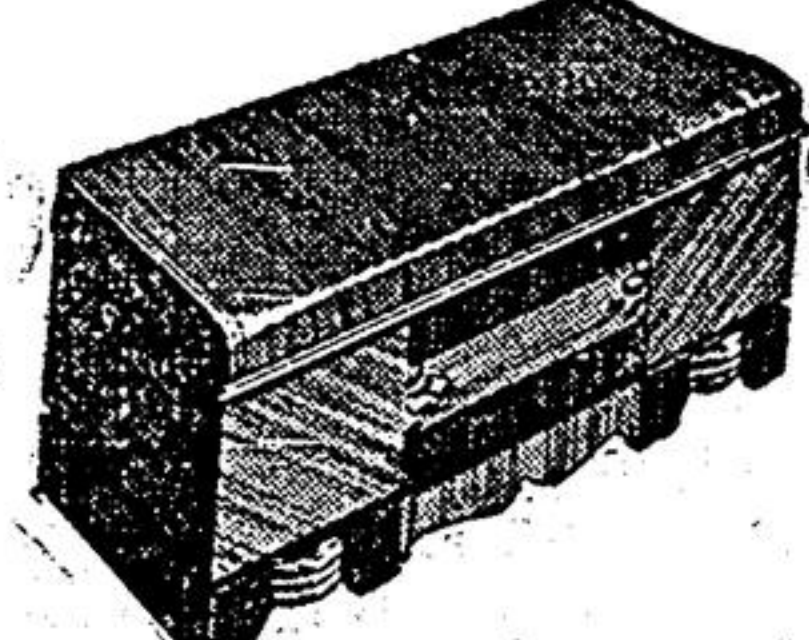
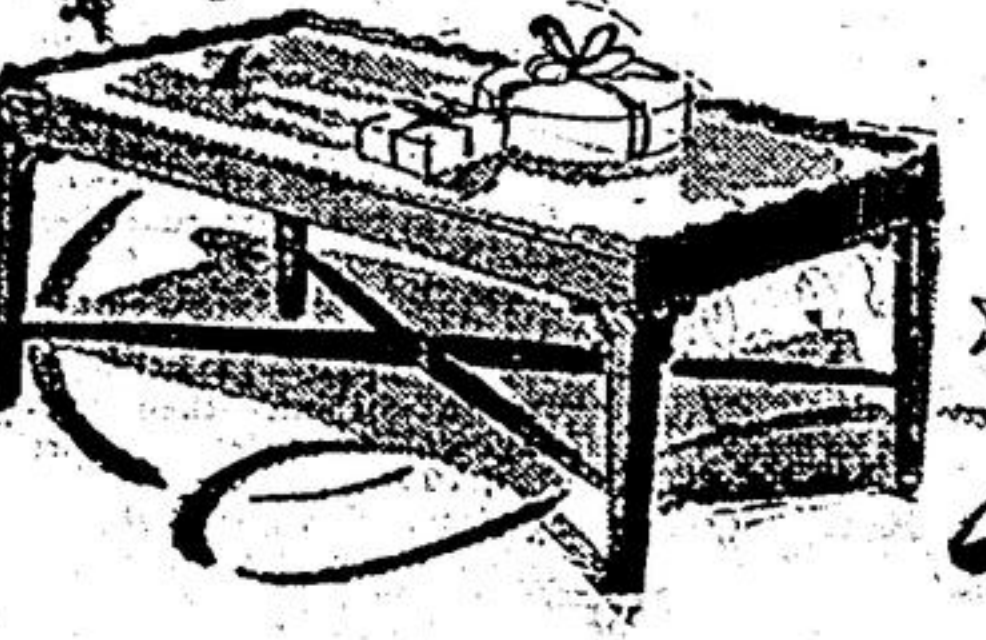


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Choose tables for Christmas gifts — choose more than one if you wish, to beautify the living room — they'll be welcome gifts in any home — lamp tables, coffee tables, end tables.

Cedar chests and a host of other wonderful furniture gifts are here for your choosing.



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Nothing brings out the artistic beauty of your living room fittings like a generous sprinkling of lovely lamps. Let's have plenty of light — our selection of lamps will delight you — have one put away NOW for sure delivery at Christmas.



O'Neill's Furniture Store

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a 3.50 p.m.	d 7.05 p.m.
b 8.20 p.m.	b 11.40 p.m.
a—except Sun. & Hol.	b—Sun. & Hol.
c—Sat. only	d—Fri. & Sat.

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