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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson for December 25 Golden Text.-Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.-Luke 2:14 Approach to the Lesson

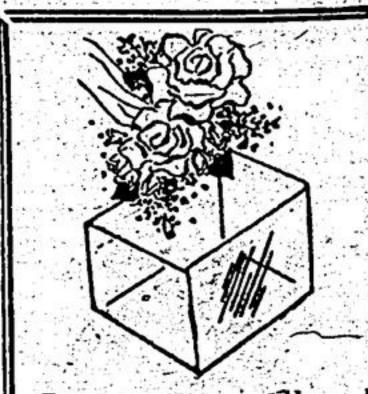
At this happy season of the year our hearts turn once more to the wonderful story of the coming into the world of God's beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, whose advent in grace was predicted so definitely hundreds of years before His birth Isaiah lived in troublous times and his heart must often have been cast down as he contemplated the perplexities faced by his nation and the seemingly interminable wars and sorrows of the world around. But the Spirit of God enabled him to look on with prophetic vision to the time when One should appear who should bring in an era of unbroken peace and everlasting righteousness. It is clear that He who was thus to man, for to no merely human sin's ravages, but the prophet forepersonality could the terms be uses. He had already spoken of the and bring in lasting peace. applied which the prophet here virgin's Son, whose name was to be called Immanuel, which means "God with us" (Isa. 7:14).

We know from many other Scriptures that there were to be two advents of this promised coming, but He decreed that at His second coming no question could receive Him. When He came the first time, He presented Himself as the promised King, but His own people cried, "We have no king but Caesar" (John 19: 15). So they refused to acknowledge His claims or submit to His authority. But when He comes again He will appear "in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God" (2 Thess. 1:8). Throughout the long centuries between these two advents the Gospel of the grace of God is sounding out and all men everywhere are called upon to repent and believe the glad tidings. Apart from personal faith in Him who suffered and died to make propitiation for our sins, there is no hope of salvation (Acts 4:12). It is vain to profess to honor Him by celebrating His birth, while refusing to trust in His atoning work. Bethlehem was but the first step down from the throne of glory to the cross of Cal-

vary. He Himself tells us definitely that He came "not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many" (Matt 20: 28). . . The Historical Setting In the reign of Ahaz, king o Judah, Palestine had become to a great extent a buffer state between the; ancient and somewhat decad-

ent kingdom of Egypt and the rising power of the Assyrian Empire. In his desperation, Ahaz first sought help from Egypt only to find that he was, relying upon a "broken reed" (Isa. 36:6). Isaiah protested against any alliances with either of these dominions and foretold the coming of a Deliverer would not come until some years after both Ahaz and the king of Israel had passed away (Isa. 7:: 16).

Verse by Verse Isa. 9: 2 .- "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light." The prophecy referred



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primarily to the coming of Messiah to Galilee, as the first verse makes clear, but it is truly descriptive of the world as a whole before the advent of Him who is the light of life. He it is who illuminates all men by manifesting their true character in the light of His

infinite holiness. Verse 3.- "Thou has multiplied the nation, and increased the joy." There seems no good reason for introducing the word "not" as in the A.V.; the R.V. omits it, and this seems to give the true sense of the Hebrew text and is in full accordance with the rest of the

Verse 4.- "Thou has broken the yoke and the rod of his oppressor." As in the days of Israel's oppression under the Midianites, when God raised up Footwear Prices Point Gideon to be their deliverer, so in His own time He raised up Christ Upward for Spring to bring His people out of sin's bondage.

Verse 5 .- "Every battle of the warrior is with confused noise.' Bloody warfare and cruel strife have cursed the world because of saw the coming of the one who Shoe Retailers' Association indicwas to destroy the effects of sin ates increases from 2% to 12% are

Verse 6.-"A child born a prophet distinguished between the lace tags and other items which humanity and the deity of our cannot be made economically in blessed Lord. As to His human Canada due to low volume, are nature, He was the virgin's child; imported from the United States. 17 Queen St., E. but as concerned the mystery of When the Canadian dollar went would reject Him at His first stempel Company the was the down, the cost of bringing this eternal Son of the Father, given material in went up. in grace for the redemption of a lost world. The names applied to Israel and the nations would Him show that He was more than man. These names should probably reported. There is a definite shortbe understood as a series of couplets. He is the Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, and the Peaceful Prince. Titles such as these can only be applied rightfully to one price of sole leather. who is divine. The expression "Everlasting Father" might be but some manufacturers doubt sations of God.

Verse 7.- "Of the increase of his be no end." His is to be an ever- even if prices hold. lasting Kingdom. The peace which He established shall remain unbroken, not only through all time, but throughout eternity. This Kingdom will be ushered in when had supper Friday evening with He leaves the Father's throne, Mrs. James and Mrs. Bond. which He now occupies, and takes His own throne, even the throne of Edgley with Mrs. Meno Smith last His father David, upon which He week. is to reign throughout the millen-

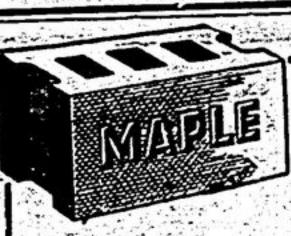
Isa. 11: 1 .- "There shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse." This corroborates what we have just noted. It is as the son of David that He will take possession of the Kingdom and reign righteousness over Israel and the onto with Mr. Cobb's parents.

Lord (that is, of Jehovah) shall Leek's recently. rest upon him." In this verse wel have the explanation of the visited with Mr. and Mrs. Abe mysterious symbol used in the Sheffer on Sunday. Book of Revelation, where the Lamb is said to possess the seven few days visiting friends in Stouffspirits of God. It is the one Holy ville. Spirit in the sevenfold plentitude three shafts, holding six additional evening in the Harvey home. lamps, picture in order: first, "the Mr. Clinton Baker spent the spirit of wisdom and under- weekend with his parents in Fordstanding"; second, "the spirit of wich. counsel and might;" third, "the spirit of knowledge and of the fear is on the sick list. We wish her a of the Lord," that is, of reverence.

Verse 3.-"Quick understanding in the fear of the Lord." All that ing for Miss Ruth Gooding. A large Jesus said and did while He was crowd attended and she received here on earth was in the energy many lovely gifts. of the Holy Spirit. In His humi iation He chose not to act in His Australia has the world's biggest own omnipotence and omniscience oyster farm. as the eternal God. He took the servant's place, being under the control of the Holy Spirit as the entering New York City, now will obedient one. So when, at last, He transfer loads just outside, to small takes over the government of this zone-delivery vehicles. world, He will judge, not according

and haughty potentates who have Railways. exercised authority over the nations, He will rule the world Lord Jesus shall be revealed from (Luke 24: 44). heaven in flaming fire taking The Heart of the Lesson vengeance on them that know not The prophets of old predicted God, and that obey not the gospel." the sufferings of Christ and the like a potter's vessel.

ter. The same Lord Jesus who once God's appointed time.



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PLAZA 1373 - PHONE MAPLE 6

Increases in shoe prices are in the cards come spring. That's the latest word, from the Engineers retail trade, although some manufacturers feel differently.

A recent survey by the Canadian expected.

Devaluation is blamed. Certain son given." By these terms the types of linings, fiffer material,

In additional, a seasonal problem has developed in hides which will also affect spring prices, it is age of some hides, particularly calf skins. To make up, some manufacturers, have had, to buy more U.S. hides. Further, some tanners reportedly want to increase the

Costs have definitely increased rendered "Father of the Ages." It whether the market can absorb identifies our Lord as the one who them, without a substantial drop Come and See our Fine Selection has dominion over all the dispendin volume. Some in the trade are looking for an increase in volume whether prices go up or not: government and peace there shall Others are expecting a slight drop

GORMLEY

(Dec. 15) Mrs. Victor Appleton of Toronto

A car full of ladies spent a day at

Miss Bealah Heise is back in Gormley again after spending couple of months at St. Jacobs. .. Word has been received by Mr. Ern Hunt that Marion and Willis have arrived safely in Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Cobb, Johnnie and Bruce spent Sunday in Tor-Mr. and Mrs. Frank Warwick of

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Brillinger

Misses Iriadel and Elva Hunof His power, as illustrated in the king, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Jackson

Mr. Jas. Stevens is spending a

who would save Judah from her golden candlestick in the holy and Mr. Wraggett of Toronto grave perplexities. He made it place of old. The central shaft visited in the Hunt home recently. clear, however, that deliverance would answer to the expression, Mr. Jas. Stevens, Mrs. Bond and "the spirit of Jehovah;" the other Mrs. B. Jones had supper Sunday

Sorry to hear Mrs. Helen Henry

speedy recovery. A shower was held Monday even-

Large Motor trucks, formerly

to merely human standards, but as The Federal government will the representative of the divine subsidize construction of 83 miles of railroad in B.C., from Quesnel to Verse 4 .- "With righteousness Prince George, to link the incomshall he judge and reprove with plete Pacific Great Eastern Railequity." Unlike the many proud way to the Canadian National

with perfect righteousness. Those came to suffer, is the one who is who in the beginning shall dare to coming again to reign. In Him all oppose His authority will be des- God's promises of blessing for the troyed as He wields the iron rod earth shall find their consummaof inflexible equity. All who dare tion, even as He declared to His to defy Him shall be slain by the disciples on the evening of the day "breath of his lips." This is in full of His resurrection, that all things accord with that which the Holy written in the Law of Moses, in the Spirit emphasizes in 2 Thessalon-Psalms, and in the Prophets conians 1, where we are told that "the cerning. Him must be fulfilled

In that day the promise made to glory which should follow. They Him by the Father, as recorded in foretold His birth of a virgin, in Psalm 2, shall be fulfilled when He Bethlehem, the city of David; His shall smite the nations with a rod lowly life of perfect obedience to of iron and break them in pieces the Father's will; His rejection by His own nation and by the Gentile .Verse 5.-"Righteousness shall world; His sacrificial death and His be the girdle of his loins, and faith- resurrection; and ascension to fulness the girdle of his reins." Heaven. They also foretold His What a glorious day it will be coming again in power and glory when, after earth's long centuries to set up the Kingdom of God; in of oppression and misrule, God's righteousness over all this world. King shall take over the affairs of Both these advents are predicted the world and rule mankind in in the passages we have been conaccordance with the righteousness sidering. The first has been fulof God's Holy Word and the faith- filled in every detail; the second fulness of His own divine charac- will have complete fulfilment in

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Verse 2.—"The spirit of the Thornhill visited at Mr. Bert companies of the Mr.

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