

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

GOD'S MESSIAH

International Sunday School Lesson for December 28, 1949

Memory Selection: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased." —Luke 2: 14.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 9: 2-7; 11: 1-5.

Out of the depths of Israel's darkest days in her national and spiritual history, a voice arose telling of the coming of the redeemer, one who would save the people from their sin. The voice was that of Isaiah, the greatest prophet of the Israelites.

The redeemer would be known by a number of names. "Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." His reign would be eternal and justice and judgement were to result from his authority and power. Such was the bold prophecy of this Israelite prophet more than seven hundred years before the coming of Jesus Christ to the earth.

The prophet foresaw an era of peace picturing a time when the wolf and lamb, the leopard and kid, and calf and the young lion would exist amicably in the same world. We sheltered and unfamiliar with the dread of wild beasts hardly grasp the striking meaning of the picture used.

The world's thinking at the present time has been prepared by the growing influence of Christianity for consideration of peace on earth and good will to men but in Isaiah's day his idea of a warless world was revolutionary.

The world is suffering today because of the ravages and destruction during the two great World Wars. Financial and material resources were recklessly expended in a non-productive rampage of death and destruction.

Beyond the material damage, the moral fibres of mankind suffered seriously as a result of the passions and hatreds stirred up during the contest. Sorrow and misery visited millions of homes. Should not all this impel mankind to the abolition of war?

The individual rational mind often questions the necessity for men to be enemies. Christianity for centuries has been advertising the blessings and necessities of human brotherhood. Why is it that nations and races cannot be mutually helpful rather than destructive?

Millions of individuals see the foolishness and wickedness of war but the political machinery of the world is beyond the power of these single units of humanity to reconstruct and control in the interest of their own welfare.

The function of war in civilization has been to settle disputes between nations. No other good purpose is served by such conflicts. As a method of deciding disputes war favors the strong, regardless of right or merit, merit.

Surely, it is reasonable to ask that justice and righteousness be the basis for adjusting international disputes. It is a fairer and better method not to mention the fact that it operates without waste of lives and treasure.

Christianity should exert itself to prevent war. To accomplish this we must provide peaceful machinery to perform the functions of war, that is, for the arbitration or judicial determination of international disputes.

The nations of the world are trying desperately to set up the machinery for lasting peace in the world through the medium of the United Nations. At times, it seems, their efforts will be in vain because of the bitterness and spirit of antagonism exhibited between the member nations.

However, it is a part of the Christian's responsibility in our day to help keep the hope of international peace alive and to do everything possible to assist in the smooth functioning of any agency whose ultimate aim is world peace.

BE A BETTER

CITIZEN!

GO TO SOME

CHURCH

NEXT SUNDAY

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

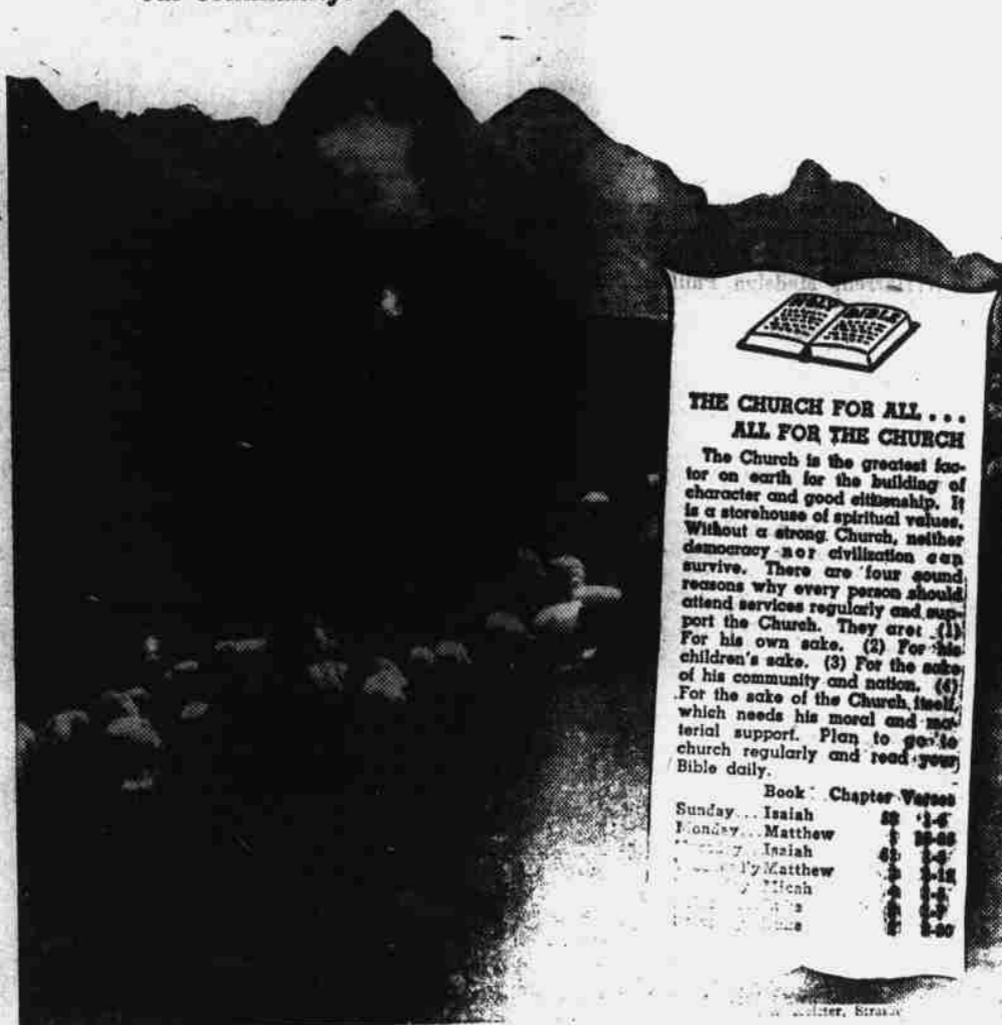
Bethlehem is a long way from the Pyrenees. And the Nativity was more than nineteen centuries ago. But shepherds have changed but little.

Shepherds are lonely men of the broad steeps. They have time to think and hope and pray. They learn to love the humble and helpless creatures of God. They are men of courage, yet men of mercy.

Perhaps that is why God chose the Shepherds to hear the Story first!

But as they hastened toward the little town to "see this thing which is come to pass" the glorious News could have meant no more to them than it can mean to every one of us.

And the King they worshipped in a humble stable, we may worship today—and always, in the churches of our community.



THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For the sake of his community and nation. (3) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	Isaiah	9: 2-7
Monday	Matthew	23: 23-28
Tuesday	Isaiah	11: 1-5
Wednesday	Matthew	23: 23-28
Thursday	Isaiah	9: 2-7
Friday	Matthew	23: 23-28
Saturday	Isaiah	11: 1-5

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Perquimans Church Services

HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH
C. W. Dunning, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Evening Worship, 8 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Wednesday at 8 P. M.

BETHLEHEM CHURCH OF CHRIST
Harold C. Turner, Pastor
Church services at 8:00 P. M.
Christian Union, 7:30 P. M.

BURGESS BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. J. R. Byerly, Pastor
Church services first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Sunday School at 10:00 A. M.
Church service 7:45 P. M. second and fourth Sundays.

PERQUIMANS CHARGE CHURCHES
E. B. Edwards, Pastor
First Sunday:
New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.
Oak Grove Church, 7:30 P. M.
Second Sunday
Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.
Cedar Grove Church, 10 A. M.
Woodland Church, 7:00 P. M.
Third Sunday
Oak Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
New Hope Church, 7:30 P. M.
Fourth Sunday
Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
Woodland Church, 10 A. M.
Winfall Church, 7:30 P. M.
Fifth Sunday
Woodland Church, 11:00 A. M.
Prayer Meeting each Wednesday at Winfall Church at 7:30 P. M.

WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. J. W. Davis, Supply Pastor
Sunday School, 11 A. M. every Sunday except third Sunday.
Church services every third Sunday at 3 P. M.

UP RIVER FRIENDS CHURCH
Elizabeth White, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Church Services, 11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor, 6:30 P. M.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. E. G. Willis, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Preaching first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Preaching second and fourth Sunday evening at 7:30.

PINEY WOODS FRIENDS CHURCH
Carl J. Yow, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Morning worship—11:00 A. M.
Youth Fellowship, 6:30 P. M.

WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
G. M. Singletary, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:30 A. M. on first and third Sundays and 2:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.
Church services, 8:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.

HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH
Ben O. Merritt, Pastor
Church School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Youth Fellowship, 6:45 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 P. M.
Mid-week Fellowship, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

BAGLEY SWAMP PILGRIM
Coy S. Saunders, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Young People's Meeting, 6:30 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
E. T. Jilson, Rector
Holy Communion, 9:00 A. M.
Every Sunday except first Sunday at 9:00 A. M.
Church School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Prayer and Sermon, 11:00 o'clock.
Holy Communion first Sunday at 11 A. M.

BERRA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Walker Perry, Pastor
Bible School 10:30 A. M., except first Sunday, at 10 A. M.
Morning worship on first Sunday at 11 A. M.
Evening worship first Sunday at 7 P. M.

CHAPPELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
A. H. Ostlaw, Pastor
Sunday School, 2 P. M. every first Sunday.
Church Service 3 P. M. every first Sunday.
Sunday School at 11 A. M. every second, third and fourth Sunday.

Go To Church Your Church Any Church But Go