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Sunday School ' Lesson '

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Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR OCTOBER 29

MESSIAH'S MINISTRY (WORLD'S
TEMPERANCE SUNDAY)

LESSON TEXT—Isa. 61:1-9.
GOLDEN TEXT—Righteousness ex-
alteth a nation; but sin is a reproach
to any people.—Prov. 14:34.
REFERENCE MATERIAL—Matt. 7:15-
20; Rom. 14:13.
PRIMARY TOPIC—How Four Boys Be-
came Healthy and Happy.—Dan. 1:3-20.
JUNIOR TOPIC—Destroying the World's
Enemy.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC
—The Next Step in the Prohibition Cam-
paign.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC
—Progress of Prohibition Throughout the
World.

The lesson committee has gratul-
tously named this lesson "World-wide
Prohibition." Neither the text nor the
context, directly or implied, says any-
thing about prohibition as we under-
stand the use of the word. However,
when Messiah shall reign upon the
earth the runa traffic with all other
iniquitous practices will be abolished.

I. Messiah's Commission (v. 1).

He was appointed by the Lord.
God's plan for the world is a time of
peace and blessing.

II. Messiah's Program (vv. 1, 2).

Messiah's program is twofold: to
"proclaim the acceptable year of the
Lord, and the day of vengeance of
our God." The careful reading of
Luke 4:18-21 will show that Jesus
suspended reading of this passage at
the comma, in Isaiah 61:2. His first
coming opened up the day of "grace
and the acceptable year of the Lord,"
and His second coming will usher in
"the day of vengeance of our God."
(II Thess. 1:7-10; cf. Mal. 3:1-3).

1. Proclaiming the Acceptable Year
of the Lord (vv. 1, 2). In His ministry
of grace He preached (1) "good tid-
ings to the meek." "Meek" here
means not only a grace, but a condi-
tion, that is, those in poverty and
affliction. (2) "Bind up the broken-
hearted." "Bind up" signifies healing.
(3) "Liberty to the captives." The
figure of deliverance from the Baby-
lonian captivity is used to describe
deliverance from sin and death (Heb.
2:15). (4) "Opening of the prison to
them that are bound." Messiah's
work was to give deliverance to those
who were enslaved by the conse-
quences of their sins. (5) "The ac-
ceptable year of the Lord." This
means a space of time in which God
would accept all who repent of their
sins and come to Him.

2. Proclaiming the day of vengeance
of God (v. 2). While the day of mercy
is lengthened out, the time of judg-
ment will surely come. The day of
vengeance will break upon the world
when the Lord shall be revealed from
heaven (II Thess. 1:7-10). The period
of mercy is called "year," while the
period of vengeance is called "day,"
showing that the period of mercy is
much longer than the period of wrath.

III. The Blessings of Messiah's
Kingdom (vv. 3-9).

1. "Comfort all that mourn" (v. 2).
The day of vengeance will bring sor-
row to many, but they shall be com-
forted when they shall see the King
on the throne.

2. "Give unto them beauty for
ashes" (v. 3). This peculiarly applies
to Israel.

3. "Oil of Joy for Mourning" (v. 3).
Israel has been mourning for cen-
turies. When the Messiah shall reign
as King they shall be glad.

4. "Garment of Praise for the Spirit

of Heaviness" (v. 3). Instead of
wearing the symbol of the burden of
sin they shall be clothed so as to in-
dicate their joyfulness.

5. "Called Trees of Righteousness"
(v. 3). These trees represent Israel
as planted by God and bearing fruit,
not as reeds bowed down with sor-
row.

6. "They Shall Build the Old
Wastes" (v. 4). Israel shall return
to their own land and shall rebuild
the city of Jerusalem and the cities
of Judah which lie waste.

7. "Strangers Shall Stand and Feed
Your Flocks" (v. 5). In the time of
the kingdom the Gentiles shall render
voluntary service unto Israel so that
Israel may devote her whole time to
the service of God.

8. "Ye Shall Be Named the Priests
of the Lord" (v. 6). God chose Israel
to be the priestly nation to represent
Him to the Gentiles.

9. "For Your Shame Ye Shall Have
Double" (v. 7). Instead of the shame
and confusion which Israel has expe-
rienced for centuries she shall have
double honor and rejoicing.

10. "I Will Direct Their Work, and
Make a Covenant With Them" (vv. 8,
9). God will vindicate His people and
cause the Gentiles to see the divine
favor upon them.

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made your prize winning selections?
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