

Sunday School lesson

THE ANNOUNCEMENT.
(Luke 1:26-38)

"He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David."
(Luke 1:22)

With today's lesson we begin a four part unit of studies under the theme "To You A Savior." These lessons take us through the Christmas season, and the end of December. First, a few words about the author Luke. Luke was a Greek, a physician and a missionary. He authored the only two books of the Bible written by a non-Hebrew; Luke and Acts of

the Apostles.

He was a very thorough, meticulous historian, and an orderly writer. Can we possibly imagine the miles of hard travel, and the hours of interviewing eyewitnesses of events to compile the records required to write these two books of the Bible. We must not suppose, however, that his work was solely humanistic.

He was God's man, inspired and empowered by God's spirit to write an historical record that would be included in the Bible, God's word, and His truth. Putting the events surrounding Christ's birth in a historical con-

text, W. Carl Ketcherside, writing for the International Sunday School Lessons, had this to say, and I quote, "The birth of Jesus occurred at what Scripture calls "The fullness of time.

Rome was at the height of her power. The Greek language was universal. The Jewish people, who were intensely awaiting the Messiah, had been scattered all over the known world. There has never been another event for which such adequate preparation had been made.

The world realized it's hope-

lessness. Man was enslaved physically, mentally and spiritu-

ally. He could not free himself. He had to be delivered." (Unquote) About fifteen hundred years prior to this time God had delivered His people from Egyptian slavery. He was now setting in motion His plan to deliver people from the bondage of sin. The time was right, and He had selected a young maid from the town of Nazareth to be the mother of His Son, Jesus.

(Lesson based on the International Sunday School Lessons)

Church news

The Junior Usher Board of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Hertford, recently held a Little Miss Calendar Program. The funds netted will be used in making further improvements to the church.

By being a participant in this program, the youth had an opportunity to take an active role in church activities. The age of participants ranged from 4 years to 13 years.

The Calendar Girl participants were: Felicia Downing—top winner; Natasha Downing—1st place winner; and Phillis Wrighton and Diana Harney tied for 2nd place. Other Calendar Girl participants were: Tonya Brothers, Ebony Brothers, Ebony Copeland, Salina Honeyblue, Angela Manley, Doretha Phelps, Tamra White, Jerri Zachary and Kim Zachary. The escorts were: Robert Copeland, II, Calvin Coston, Jr., Bryan Downing, Kevin Downing, Tony Downing, Wayne Downing, Jamie Honeyblue, Donald Manley, Joseph Phelps, and Clary Rouson. Participants and escorts were introduced by Mrs. Mary J. Copeland.

Poems and solos were among the special performances and were provided by the young participants. Music for the program was rendered by the New Spiritual Singers under the direction of Mr. Jerry Zachary. Mrs. Joyce Wrighton and Mrs. Shirley Manley presented flowers, certificates, and gifts to overall calendar winners, participants, and escorts. All of the youngsters were considered to be a winner in that they participated in the program.

Program Committee members were: Mrs. Mary Copeland, Mrs.

Jeroline Coston, Mrs. Sarah Downing—Chairladies; Mrs. Vanora Brothers, Mrs. Johnetta Downing, Mrs. Evangeline Downing, Mrs. Shirley Manley, and Mrs. Joyce Wrighton—members.

Mrs. Johnetta Downing also served as the Mistress of Ceremonies for this program.

SAUNDERS GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. with the Superintendent McCarthy Mitchell in charge. Morning worship service starts with the Rev. Larry Moore, the pastor, bring the message. Music will be rendered by the junior choir; the young adult ushers will also serve.

Saunders Gove Baptist Church Sunday School is planning an appreciation service for Deacon McCarthy Mitchell. The special guest will be Steve & New Birth Harmonies in concert, for the benefit of the church, and the honoree Deacon Mitchell. This event will be Sunday, Dec. 1, 1985 at 1:30 p.m.

The public is invited to attend.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
The morning worship youth day begins at 11:00 a.m. The young adult choir will render the music. The Rev. F.H. London, pastor will be preaching from the subject "God For Us"; Luke 4:18-19.

The beginning of the Advent

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Dear Friends,

Thanksgiving is a day set aside for us to give thanks to God for the many blessings that He bestows upon us each day through the year. Wouldn't it be great if we would treat every day as Thanksgiving?

Respectfully,

Larry Swindell
Swindell Funeral Home, Inc.

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Season Worship service at First Baptist Church, the Rev. J.H. London will preach from the subject: "Is God On Your Christmas List", Mathew 2:11, at 7:00 p.m. The First Family Candle of the Family Circle will Light folling this worship. There will be a musical concert. The guest will be the "Peerless Four Quartet", of Suffolk, Virginia. The service begins at 8:00 p.m.

WARWICK BAPTIST CHURCH

On December 3, 1985 at 7:30 p.m., Eternity will be coming to Warwick Baptist Church in Hobbsville, N.C. Eternity is a body of Young Musicians serving the Lord with their talents to

reach people for Christ.

The 16 member group consists of 6 vocalists, accompanied by keyboards, rhythm bass and woodwind sections. Eternity has traveled throughout the USA, Canada, Central America, the middle East and Europe. They represent musical excellence and an endless source of vitality. For this concert they will be doing a variety of religious music as well as a selection of Christmas music.

There is no admission charge and the public is invited to attend. Warwick is located on Highway 22 north right at the Chowan-Gates County line.

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Do You Remember?

Kendall Hastings
Woodville Baptist Church
Rt. 4, Hertford

Remember the story of Adam and Eve, out of the Garden, how they looked for a place for shade, a place to plant seeds, how they found the ground hard and full of thistles and thorns with little rain to grow their crops, how Cain killed Abel, all the hardships they had when God did not care for them, when they rejected God? Listen to their story of finding God in later years - of once again feeling God's presence.

ADAM: Eve, How Wonderful! I can feel God's presence. I can feel freshness come back into my life. I feel happy. Come, let's walk with God. Let's sing praises to His name. Oh, God, thank you for your grace to forgive.

EVE: Adam, Do you remember what it was like when we walked with God?

ADAM: Wonderful! The beautiful paths lived with such beauty. The flowers - their colors were of such brilliance. Holding hands we could walk in splendor as the cool breeze soothed our cheeks. His voice from within, speaking words of love, giving all that we needed.

EVE: Yes, Adam, the berries were so juicy and delicious. The apples were so red and yellow and delicious - beyond imagination.

ADAM: Eve, the oranges, bright as the sun and juicy. The streams of water so refreshing for dips and so cool to the throat.

EVE: Adam, God did give us all that we needed. He clothed our world in beauty and splendor and nourished our appetites with delicious fruit, berries, food and clothed us with the warmth of His love.

ADAM: Eve, How can we ever thank God enough, that once again He is with us.

EVE: Adam, will He be with our children and children's children?

ADAM: Yes, Eve. I'm sure God loves those who respond to His love. Those who, like us, see that all God ever wanted or ever wants is to love and take care of us; to take away the thistles and thorns; to cause the fields of clover to be beautiful; to give a bountiful harvest; to have the trees of fruit to be in abundance; to speak to us words of comfort, words of kindness, words of encouragement.

EVE: All that's in the world, Adam, it's here for those who love God. Those who respond to His love. Come, Adam, let's go tell our children lest they go through life without God's care.

ADAM: We can try, Eve, but one must let God come in. One must open the door of his life to God that God might come in.

EVE: Adam, how could one not want God's love, God's tender mercy?

ADAM: Remember, Eve, we thought we didn't. We must assume others feel as we did.

EVE: Oh, Adam, if they only knew. Come, let us tell our story. Perhaps some will listen. Some will find love and happiness. If only one, what rejoicing that will be.

ADAM: Eve, how great God is to forgive, to forget, to accept ones such as us back into His fold.

EVE: Adam, I believe He was there all the while. He knew we needed Him if we were to live. He knew if we were to be happy, we needed His love. He knew we were a part of Him, and without Him we would suffer and die.

ADAM: Let us pray we will always be His. We can always keep His garden.

EVE: Hold my hand, Adam. Let's walk with God, together.

— Kendall Hastings

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