

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

BIBLE TEXT : Psalms 2:1-12; 22:1,18; 45:1-17; 68:16-19; 69:20, 21; 110:1-7; 118:21-24; 132:11.

LESSON 470 **Junior Course**

MEMORY VERSE: "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil" (I John 3:8).

BIBLE TEXT in King James Version

Psalms 2:1-12

1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, *saying,*

3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.

4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.

6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou *art* my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

8 Ask of me, and I shall give *thee* the heathen *for* thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth *for* thy possession.

9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

10 Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.

11 Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish *from* the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all they that put their trust in him.

Psalm 22:1,18

1 To the chief Musician upon Ajeleth Shahar, A Psalm of David. My God, my God, why hast

NOTES:

God's Love

In John 3:16 we are told: "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

It is impossible for us to understand the fullness of God's love. To think that He would send Jesus, His only Son, into this sinful world as the Babe in Bethlehem! He was born of the Virgin Mary to be brought up in humble surroundings, later to give His life on the Cross, because God, His Father, loved us with divine love.

God's Promise

God first told man of the coming "Redeemer" in the Garden of Eden. Though Adam and Eve had sinned, God would not let them go into eternity without a remedy for their sins. Christ was "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Revelation 13:8).

Through the centuries of the Old Testament, God renewed the promise of the coming Redeemer many times. The Law given by Moses, and its ordinances, pointed to the Saviour of men who would one day shed His Blood for the forgiveness of the sins of the whole world.

God's Patience to Slothful Men

God knew that man was slow to learn, and prone to disobey His commands. In his patience and love He took many years and various means in which to prepare His people for the coming of His Son into this world.

Through the prophets, they were told that the Son of God would be born of a virgin. They were even told the name of the place in which He would be born. It was revealed that the Spirit of God would be upon Him. He would be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

The Prophets, too, foretold of His sufferings, His death, burial and resurrection. They told of His atoning Blood and His stripes for our healing. Never has another been born of whom so much was foretold.

The Birth of the Redeemer

One night, more than two thousand years ago, an angel appeared to a few shepherds on Bethlehem's hillside to proclaim Jesus' birth. "And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:13, 14).

The shepherds made haste to go to the stable and see the Christ Child. With great rejoicing they returned to their flocks, telling others of the wonderful event.

When forty days old Jesus was taken to the Temple according to the Law (Leviticus 12:3,4 3 And in the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised. 4 And she shall then continue in the blood of her purifying three and thirty days; she shall touch no hallowed thing, nor come into the sanctuary, until the days of her purifying be fulfilled). While there, He was seen by two faithful children of God, Simeon and Anna. The Spirit of God revealed to them that this was the Redeemer. Their lifelong desire to see the Messiah had been fulfilled. They, too, prophesied of His future (Luke 2:25-38 25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. 26

thou forsaken me? *why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?*

18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

Psalm 45:1-17

1 To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim, for the sons of Korah, Maschil, A Song of loves. My heart is inditing a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made touching the king: my tongue *is* the pen of a ready writer.

2 Thou art fairer than the children of men: grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever.

3 Gird thy sword upon *thy* thigh, O *most* mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty.

4 And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness *and* righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.

5 Thine arrows *are* sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; *whereby* the people fall under thee.

6 Thy throne, O God, *is* for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom *is* a right sceptre.

7 Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

8 All thy garments *smell* of myrrh, and aloes, *and* cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.

9 Kings' daughters *were* among thy honourable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir.

10 Harken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and

And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, 28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, 29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: 30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, 31 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; 32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. 33 And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. 34 And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this *child* is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; 35 (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. 36 And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; 37 And she *was* a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served *God* with fastings and prayers night and day. 38 And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem).

Mingled Joy and Sorrow

With the hopeful promises of the coming Redeemer were the sorrowful prophecies of His rejection, suffering, and death. "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us" (Psalm 2:2,3). "Reproach hath broken my heart, and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none. They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink," (Psalm 69:20, 21).

We should be filled with gratitude to the Saviour who came so willingly, though He well knew that the rugged path that He would walk would lead to Calvary's hill.

Victory Through Death

Herod sought to slay Jesus in infancy; others tried to cast Him over the brow of the hill to slay Him as His teachings convicted them. "He came unto his own, and his own received him not" (John 1: 11). The rulers of the Jews finally succeeded in having Him condemned to die. They cried, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" saying, "His blood be on us, and on our children" (Matthew 27:25). It was on the Cross that He cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Psalm 22:1).

The death of Jesus was not His defeat, as the world would have liked to believe and teach. In His death, He was the Lamb without blemish and without spot! He fulfilled all the Old Testament types of the lambs, which had under the Law, been sacrificed to make atonement for sin. His Blood was shed for the remission of our sins.

But death could not claim our Saviour for long. On the third day He arose triumphant over death, hell and the grave. Once more an angelic proclamation was given: "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen" (Luke 24:5, 6).

A humble birth, a disgraceful death, a glorious resurrection! All He had done was in obedience to the will of the Father. God said of Him: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17).

Coming Again

With the prophecies of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection, which is often referred to as His first advent or coming, we find marvellous promises of Jesus' second coming to earth. There are the promises of a time when all enemies shall be put under His

thy father's house;

11 So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he *is* thy Lord; and worship thou him.

12 And the daughter of Tyre *shall be there* with a gift; *even* the rich among the people shall intreat thy favour.

13 The king's daughter *is* all glorious within: her clothing *is* of wrought gold.

14 She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.

15 With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the king's palace.

16 Instead of thy fathers shall be thy children, whom thou mayest make princes in all the earth.

17 I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations: therefore shall the people praise thee for ever and ever.

Psalm 68:16-19

16 Why leap ye, ye high hills? *this is* the hill *which* God desireth to dwell in; yea, the LORD will dwell *in it* for ever.

17 The chariots of God *are* twenty thousand, *even* thousands of angels: the Lord *is* among them, *as in* Sinai, in the holy *place*.

18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, *for* the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell *among them*.

19 Blessed *be* the Lord, *who* daily loadeth us *with benefits*, *even* the God of our salvation. Selah.

Psalm 69:21

20 Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked *for some* to take pity, but *there was* none; and for comforters, but I found none.

21 They gave me also gall for my

feet.

The promises of Jesus' second coming and the day when all is to be in subjection to Him hold no joy or hope for the sinner and the ungodly.

Satan and all who have served him will have had their day. "He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. . . . Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel" (Psalm 2:4-9).

Just as surely as the prophecies of Christ's first coming to earth were so wonderfully fulfilled, so shall those of His coming back to establish His everlasting Kingdom come to pass. "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre. Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows" (Psalm 45:6, 7). "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever" (Revelation 11:15).

God's Gift

God gave us His only begotten Son because of His great divine love. The Son of God, God's Gift, but so little appreciated. A gift must be received with thanksgiving to bring the intended joy to the receiver as well as to the giver.

You perhaps marvel and wonder at God's great sacrifice in sending His Son. In what attitude do you perceive the gift of God? Do you feel that Jesus was a gift for you personally, or do you just give the gift a glance of unconcern, and fail to see the untold value? The things of the world are not to be compared with the "pearl of greatest price." "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

QUESTIONS

1. When was the first promise of the Saviour given?
2. When did God institute His plan of salvation?
3. How did the Law point to Jesus?
4. Tell two Old Testament prophecies concerning Jesus' birth.
5. What words do we find in the Psalms uttered by Christ on the cross?
6. What was prophesied concerning Christ's garments?
7. Why was not Christ's death a defeat?
8. Why was Christ referred to as a lamb?
9. Who were the first to receive the message of Jesus' birth?

meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

Psalm 110:1-7

1 **A Psalm of David.** The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

2 The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.

3 Thy people *shall be* willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth.

4 The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

5 The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath.

6 He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill *the places* with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries.

7 He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head.

Psalm 118:21-24

21 I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.

22 The stone *which* the builders refused is become the head *stone* of the corner.

23 This is the LORD'S doing; it *is* marvellous in our eyes.

24 This *is* the day *which* the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 132:11

11 The LORD hath sworn *in* truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.