



Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

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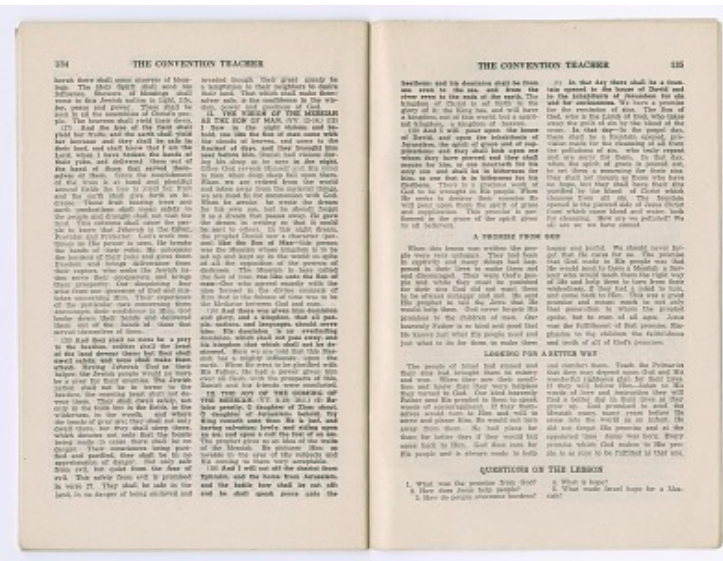
there shall come showers of blessings. The Holy Spirit shall send his influence. Showers of blessings shall come to this Jewish nation in light, life, joy, peace and power. These shall be seen in all the assemblies of Christ's people. The heavens shall yield their dew.

(27) And the tree of the field shall yield their fruits, and the earth shall yield her increase and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the Lord, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them. Since the nourishment of the trees is at hand and plentiful around fields the tree to yield her fruit and the earth shall give forth an increase. These fruit bearing trees and earth productions shall mean safety to the people and draught shall not visit the land. This outcome shall cause the people to know that Jehovah is the Giver, Provider and Protector. God's work continues as His power is seen, He breaks the bands of their yoke; He unloosens the burdens of their yoke and gives them freedom and brings deliverance from their captors, who make the Jewish nation serve their conquerors, and brings them prosperity. Our disquieting fear arise from our ignorance of God and mistakes concerning Him. Their experience of the particular care concerning them encourages their confidence in Him, God broke down their badns and delivered them out of the hands of those that served themselves of them.

(28) And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid. Having Jehovah God as their helper, the Jewish people would no more be a prey for their enemies. The Jewish nation shall not be in terror to the heathen, the roaming beast shall not devour them. They shall swell safely, not only in the folds but in the fields, in the wilderness, in the woods, and where the beasts of prey are; they shall not only dwell there, but they shall sleep there; which denotes not only that the beasts being made to cease there shall be no danger. Their consciences being purified and pacified, they shall be in no apprehension of danger. Not only safe from evil, but quiet from the fear of evil. This safety from evil is promised in verse 27. They shall be safe in the land, in no danger of being enslaved and invaded through their great plenty be a temptation to their neighbors to desire their land. That which shall make themselves safe, is the confidence in the wisdom, power, and goodness of God.

II. THE VISION OF THE MESSIAH AS THE SON OF MAN. (VV. 13-14)

(13) I Saw in the night visions, and behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. Daniel had visions during his sleep as he says in the night. Often God reveals Himself and His mind to men when deep sleep fall upon them. When we are retired from the world and taken away from the material things, we are most fit for communion with God. When he awoke he wrote the dream for his own use, lest he should forget it as a dream that passes away. He gave the dream in writing so that it could be sent to others. In this night dream, the prophet Daniel saw a character (person) like the Son of Man-this person was the Messiah whose kingdom is to be set up and kept up in the world in spite of all the opposition of the powers of darkness. The Messiah is here called the Son of man. one like unto the Son of man-One who agreed exactly with the idea formed in the divine counsels of Him that is the fulness of time was to be the Mediator between God and man.



(14) And there was given him dominion and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. Here we are told that this Messiah has a mighty influence upon the earth. When He went to be glorified with His Father, He had a power given him over all flesh, with the prospects of this, Daniel and his friends were comforted.

III.THE JOY OF THE COMING OF THE MESSIAH. (VV. 9-10; 10;1.) (9) Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: He is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon as ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. The prophet gives us an idea of the traits of the Messiah. He pictures Him as lovable in the eyes of His subjects and His coming to them very acceptable.

(10) And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the

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heathens; and his dominion shall be from sea even to the sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth. The kingdom of Christ is set forth in the in the flory of it; the King has, and will have a kingdom, not of this world, but a spiritual kingdom, a (10) And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grave and of supplications; and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son and shall be in bitterness for his firstborn. There is a gracious work of God to be wrought in His people. When He seeks to destroy their enemies He will pour upon them the spirit of grace and supplication. This promise is performed in the grace of the spirit given to all believers.

(1) In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness. We have a promise for the remission of sins. The Son of God, who is the Lamb of God, who takes away the guilt of sin by the blood of the cross. In that day - In the gospel day, there shall be a fountain opened, provision made for the cleansing of all from the pollutions of sin, who truly repent and are sorry for them. In that day, when the spirit of grace is poured out, to set them a mourning for their sins they shall not mourn as those who have no hope, but they shall have their sins purified by the blood of Christ which cleanses from all sin. The fountain opened is the pierced side of Jesus Christ from which came blood and water, both for cleansing. How are we polluted? We all are so; we have sinned.

A PROMISE FROM GOD

When this lesson was written the people were very unhappy. They had been in captivity and many things had happened in their lives to make them sad and discouraged. They were God's people and while they must be punished for their sins God did not want them to be always unhappy and sad. He sent His prophet to tell the Jews that He would help them. God never forgets His promises to the children of men. Our

heavenly Father is so kind and good that He knows just what His people need and just what to do for them to make them happy and joyful. We should never forget that He cares for us. The promise that God made to His people was that He would send to them a Messiah a Saviour who would teach them the right way of life and help them to turn from their wickedness, if they had a mind to turn, and come back to Him. This was a great promise and meant much to not only that generation to whom the prophet spoke, but to men of all ages. Jesus was the fulfillment of that promise. Emphasize to the children the faithfulness and truth of all of God's promises.

LOOKING FOR A BETTER WAY

The people of Israel had sinned and their sins had brought them to misery and woe. When they saw their condition and knew that they were helpless they turned to God. Our kind heavenly Father sent His prophet to them to speak words of encouragement. If they themselves would turn to Him and will to serve and please Him, He would not turn away from them. He had plans for them for better days if they would but come back to Him. God does care for His people and is always ready to help and comfort them. Teach the Primaries that they may depend upon God and His wonderful righteous plan for their lives if they will follow Him - listen to His words of love and instruction they will find a better day in their lives as they grow up. God promised to send the Messiah many, many years before He came into the world as an infant. He did not forget His promise and at the appointed time Jesus was born. Every promise which God makes to His people is as sure to be fulfilled as that one.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON

1. What was the promise from God?
2. How does Jesus help people?
3. How do people overcome burdens?
4. What is hope?
5. What made Israel hope for a Messiah?

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