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The Sabbath-School.

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

Third Quarter-Lesson 1.-July Studies in the Gospel according to

Matthew. THE INFANT JESUS .- MATT. 2

GOLDEN TEXT .- Thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins .- Matt. 1 :21,

We now turn from the Old Testament to the new. We began the he actually did afterwards. year with an account of the creathe world's history.

the Jews.—Ver. 1.

His Pre-existence (John 1:1-3). The Word, who became Jesus on earth, was with his Father in heaven from eternity. By him the worlds were created. He was with God, and was God.

His coming foretold. From the beginning there were prophecies, by word and by type, of his coming (see Gen. 12:3; Deut. 18:15, 18; Ps. 2 and 72; Isa. 9 and 53; Dan. 7:27;9:24.27). The daily sacrifice was a perpetual symbol.

Preparations for His-Coming. At the coming of Christ the world was peculiarly prepared for him He appeared as an inquirer, desirous and his work. There were many of knowing what the Scriptures lands, but nearly all the world was subject to the one government at Rome, so that the preachers of the gospel could travel in safety, and be protected in their work. The Greek language was spoken everywhere with their other languages, so that the Gospel could be heard been dispersed through all lands, Prophet Micha. carrying the Old Testament, which bore witness to one God, and held the prophecies of the Messiah. It was a time of great intellectual activity, and there was a widespread disbelief in the existing religions.

Jesus was the Virgin Mary; but his matic lie based on the truth. It the Holy Ghost. Both Joseph and David, of whose line the Messiah the star. Uuexpectedly the star so that, both legally and really, the young child was, Jesus was the son of David.

much doubt, the last of December. The Place of His Birth was Bethlehem of Judea, a village five or six miles south of Jerusalem. Here Ruth gleaned for grain, and

was born, and annointed king. The Angel's Welcome, and the visit of the shepherds, are described in Luke 2:: 8-19.

when he was 40 days old, according

THE EAST. - Vers. 1, 2. Now when goods, we are to worship him. adorn in any way which her fertile Jesus was born. Not at the exact Without them all, worship is but a little brain may devise; hers to time, but after he was born, and be- lame and maimed sacrifice, neither retire to when she wishes to be alone fore he had left Bethlehem. In the fit for wise men to give, nor Christ either to do stern battle with her days of Herod the king. Herod the to receive. We solicit an inspection of our stock Great, founder of the Herodian family. Though aliens by race, the Herods were Jews in faith. He rebuilt the temple in great magnificence in Jerusalem, which is consequently known in history as Herod's Temple, to distinguish it from Solomon's Temple. He died miserably in the 70th year of his dream, in the same manner as God age, and the 38th of his reign. The king. The title of king distinguishes him from the other Herods named in the Gospel. There came wise men. Originally a class of priests among the Persians and Medes, who formed the king's privy council and who cultivated astrology, medicine, and occult natural science. Afterwards the term was applied to all Eastern philosophers. The Gospel does not tell how many in number these wise men were, but tradition has made them three.

Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? They expected, no doubt, to find him in the capital city, and in the royal palace.-

The Expectation of the Messiah. We are informed by Tacitus, by Suctonius, and by Josephus, that with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so entire East, at this time, an intense monarch would arise in Judga, and gain dominion over the world.

Whence arose this expectation? were scattered everywhere, with their Scriptures and their hopes,

since the Babylonish captivity. east. This must have been a mira- namely, those who earnestly seek

some sign at his birth, as the darkened sun and quaking earth did at his death. And are come to worship him. To acknowledge his worthship; to do homage to him.

Why should the Star lead Them to think of the Messiah? The general expectation of the great king at this time would cause the wise men to think of him when they saw the wonderful star. They were doubtless pious men, looking for the hope of the world. And God may have made some communication to them, as we learn from ver. 12 that

The Wise Men and Herod. - Vers. tion; we now study the new crea- 3-8. When Herod the king had tion. The same God who created heard these things. In t eir simplithe world by his Eternal Son, now city of heart, the Magi addressed redeems the world by his Eternal themselves in the first place to the Son. This is the central point of official head of the nation. He was troubled, lest he should lose his The Birth of Jesus, the King of throne and his power. And all Jerusalem with him. Those in power, officials of Herod, would be afraid of anything that shook the throne. The progress of religion, the coming of Christ, is always a source of trouble to the wicked, for it means the turning of their world upside down.

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes. The chief priests were probably the heads of the twenty-four courses into which the sons of Aaron were divided. The "scribes" were the interpreters of the law, for the most part Pharisees. He demanded of them were Christ should be born. said about the place where their expected Messiah should be born.

And they said. The answer seems to have been given without any hesitation, as a matter perfectly well understood, and settled by divine authority.

Bethlehem of Judæa.-Then and read by all. The Jews had follows the quotation from the

> the wise men. etc. That he might true statement of the case, for in a know what was the exact age of lower rank of life he would have the infant whom he wished to slay. been called a drunkard—the word He sent them to Bethlehem, a

father was God himself, through was something like thekiss of Judas. The Wise Men worshipping the the insane of violes to a good side Mary were direct descendants of New-Born King.-Vers. 9-12. Lo,

Matthew is that of Joseph, and the evening as they went toward that in Luke probably that of Mary; Bethlehem and stood over where

They rejoiced. Because their The Time of His Birth. Without | journey was now ended, their search

When they were come into the house. This could scarcely have gained a husband. Here David remained for forty days in Bethle- family, but every little girl from ten The Presentation in The Temple, falling down, worshipping, and mother's chance, if she is only to Jewish law, is described in Luke the body; the second, of the soul; account. Encourage the little one THE WISE MEN AND THE STAR IN three, our bodies, our souls, our room is hers-hers to beautify and

should bring to Jesut our most spirit; our heart's love, deep, strong, and true; our true worship; our in the child all those elements of personal services for his kingdom; character so essential in the woman,

our property. Being warned of God.- In a may have spoken to them before. Into their own country another which, under other circumstances. way. They could easily go direct she might never obtain. from Bethlehem to the Jordan river, leaving Jerusalem to the north and

the only true wise men who use their learning to find out heaven .-Those who know about Christ should make every effort to find

PRACTICAL HINTS .- Those are

him. It is worth while to sell all we have to obtain this pearl of Wicked men are troubled by that

which brings hope to the world,as by revivals, temperance reform, preaching, and whatever interferes with unrighteous gains and pleasures.

The true glory of a town or a country does not consist in its numbers, but in the men it produces, and the spiritual good which flows from it.

Little Bethlehem became glorious because Christ was born there. We should bring our best

treasures to Jesus. Giving should be made a part of worship.

In this lesson we have "types of For we have seen his star in the four classes of men which exist still; the truth; those who rest in the tions. With scrupulous care, there Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and death with the resurrection. It is the second, Herod the third, and ed their little ones on it. Give it a also natural that nature should show Joseph and Mary the fourth."

Caution to Boys

My dear boys, I want to tell you a short story, which will be strictly true. It is a sad one and painful to relate; but I tell it with a hope that it may be of use to some of you, by showing you how important it is to avoid the path of temptation.

I knew a boy on whom his aged parents doted. His sisters were also very proud of him. Of course he was greatly petted, and very little self-denial was ever required of him. He grew to manhood and married an affectionate girl, who felt as if she could not do enough for him, and so he grew to think that all he wanted must be his at whatever cost to others.

Once when I was visiting at his home he went to the closet just before sitting down to dinner and prepared something for himself in a glass and drank it. I saw his wife glance at him with a sad, shy look. He saw it, too, whereupon, in a somewhat pompous way, he remarked for the benefit of both wife and visitors, "My father always took a little good brandy before eating. His son does the same. My father never became a drunkard, and his son will never become one either."

This remark, with the bold, assured tone of the speaker, coupled with his noble presence and a consciousness of his intellectual power, also the well-known fact of his father's good character, allayed my fears, while I wondered at the pained expression on the wife's face, growing deeper rather than otherwise. Alas! I was wholly unsophisticated. I did not know that such self confidence was no safe-guard, and that great intellect, even genius, is often accompanied by much moral weakness. Years later, in a foreign land, I heard occasionally through lapse of years that his health was failing. Overwork, late hours, nervousness, general debility. By Lace Leather and Larragin Leather a these terms the poor, sorrowful wife he so much despised but so little short six miles from Jerusalem. feared, that he entered boldly into His Parentage. The mother of Search diligently. It was a diplothe path which led him thither. Now, a hopeless victim of mania a potu, he languishes in an asylum for

So you see, my dear boys, it is not pride of birth or strength of path of temptation. Only the grace of God can do it, and "let him that he fall. - Christian at Work.

The Daughter's Room

The care of the sitting rooms and been the stable where our Lord kitchen come under the management was born. Joseph and Mary of the grown-up portion of the here, and would find temporary years old and upwards love to think lodgings. And worshipped him. that her bedroom is her very own, The homage of the Magi is the first | her special domain, where she may and typical acknowledgment of reign absolutely, with none to dis-Christ. Three acts are here, pute her right. Here, then, is the offering, - the first, the worship of judicious enough to turn it to the third, of our goods, With these by all means in the belief that the lessons or, girl-like, to dream her Our Gifts to our King. We wonderful day dreams; and hers above all to keep in perfect order precious gifts, ourselves, body and and neatness. This knowledge will go a long way toward fostering and will be the means of making her gradually exercise her individual tastes and ideas, and thus acquire an interest in domestic concerns

Don't Swear.

I know some good men, some of the best in the world, who will "confound" it, and even "doggone" it, and in New England even a deacon has been known under a terrible strain, to "condemn" it. terrible strain, to "condemn" it. But, as a rule, my boy, don't do it. Don't swear. It is not an evidence of smartness or worldly wisdom. Any fool can swear. And a good many fools do it. Ah! if you could only gather up all the useless, uncalled for, ineffective oaths that have dropped along the pathway of my life, I know it would remove BRUSSELLS CARPETS, stumbling blocks from many inexperienced feet, and my heart would WOOL CARPETS be lighter by a ton than it is to-day. UNION CARPETS, But if you are going to be a fool just because other men have been, oh, my son, what a hopeless fool you will be !- R. J. Burdette.

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