



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE REEF

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Isaiah 9:6

To think that this "Christmas" verse was written so long before our Lord Jesus Christ was born! That first Christmas morn was a very special day for the "simple" shepherds who had been eagerly looking for the Messiah. Men who lived so close to God that He sent them an "Announcement of Birth."

Our preachers have no doubt preached many a sermon on this verse. I'll leave the preaching to them. Allow me though, using the names attributed to Jesus, to give my testimony. I'm glad the first name mentioned is "Wonderful". How often have we heard "Isn't it wonderful!" referring to our Salvation through Jesus Christ. And, as we grow in grace, it never ceases to be wonderful; one wonderful experience follows another wonderful experience through Him, Whose name is Wonderful. Praise Him! How glad I am that He found me when I was lost in sin and He picked me up out of the miry clay and set my feet on the solid rock! New converts find themselves in need of counsel. Often they get counsel from wrong parties, not understanding that Jesus Christ is the greatest of all counsellors. Don't you think it is quite appropriate that His "second" name should be "Counsellor"? His counsel to me down through the years has been greatly treasured. "The mighty God" — He is able to save them to the uttermost who come unto God by Him.—MIGHTY. "Everlasting Father — Our Lord Jesus is an everlasting Father. "I am His and His forever". Peace — Sinners have no peace, but Jesus, the Prince of Peace brings peace to the sin-sick soul. What peace when I found the burden of sin rolled away! Peace that the world cannot give.

And this same Jesus, when He went up into Heaven sent us the blessed Comforter, the Holy Spirit to guide and counsel us. How I do love and praise the Lord for His saving and sanctifying power!

We, the Reef Sanders, Paul and Mary, wish to convey to you, the Highway readers, our heartiest Christmas Greetings. May everyone of you receive a very special blessing from Him whose Birthday we expect to celebrate (D.V.) and through the year 1961 if He tarries.

The other day, actually about two weeks ago, many of you would have enjoyed being a little mouse under our diningroom cupboard. There was the dignified (??) Mary Sanders hopping on one foot round and round the table clapping her hands and shouting praises to God! And there was reason for praise! For weeks we had been waiting for the granting of that extra stand in Natalspruit. And here was the answer—not only that they had given us the stand adjoining our church stand, but that the two stands were registered as one Church stand. (which means one site rent to be paid, etc.) One reason for wanting this extra stand is that our Church stand is almost entirely on pavement — and old air landing strip — leaving no change for our preacher, Malaza to have a garden. Rejoice with us! "What are you waiting for now?" you may ask. This is the reply. These officials are demanding to see the cash in hand or to KNOW that it has been sent before they will even pass the building plans. Have we come up against another stone wall? I don't think so. The Lord has touched two hearts and now we have enough

on hand to make quite a start with Malaza's house. Can't you dear readers picture the great blessing these two people are receiving from the Lord? Our impulse is to go right ahead and build as long as the funds last. But the Municipality want to be certified first that the funds for the whole project are in hand.

Before closing, let me say a BIG "Thank You" to all who sent us such lovely parcels of second hand clothing. The Lord bless you everyone!

Yours for Souls at home and abroad,

Paul and Mary Sanders.

WHAT THE ANGEL SAID

by Joseph H. Smith, D.D.

Let us ponder what the angel said. There words give the key to His message. "GOOD." "GREAT." "ALL." And these three circle around the word "JOY." "I bring you good tidings of great JOY, which shall be to ALL people."

The first of these announces God's goodness in the gospel, and will stand for a general heading to all the list of mercies, graces and gifts which salvation brings to men. The second tells the unspeakable happiness of men who receive this goodness of God through Jesus, their Saviour. And the third is prophetic of world-wide missions.

What a pleasure is ours in taking up this word of the angel and carrying it to earth's remotest bound until all people have a Christmas!

The refrain of the heavenly host re-echoes the praises of God, proclaims the peace of Christ, and reign of love among men. "Glory," "Peace," "Good-Will," are the key words here. And when a man is born again, he, too, at once joins the choir, shouting God's good-will. Angels knew what earth needed, what Christ would be and what real Christianity would do among men.

Mother love is a good custodian of the things said about the child, Jesus. As shepherds told what they had seen and what they had heard, others "wondered," but Mary "pondered." That is the habit of love to meditate deeply. And from Mary's day till this day, other mothers have been teaching their own children the things that were spoken by angels and by God about Mary's babe—the Child, Jesus.

Let us then look upon this Child our-selves a little longer this Christmas day. This is that seed of the woman that was to bruise the serpent's head! This is that seed of Abraham in which all nations are to be blest! This is that prophet like unto Moses, whom even the Jews were bidden to hear! This is the root and stem of Jesse, that Lord and son of David, that is to reign forevermore! This is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world! This is He that coming after John, is greater than he, and who is to baptize with the Holy Ghost and fire. This is He who now liveth in the presence of God for us! This is He who is to come again in the clouds and with great glory!

For though He is to us the Child that is born, He is likewise THE SON THAT IS GIVEN.

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The birth of a revival is always preceded by the travail of the saints. There is a price to pay for everything that is worthwhile. Those who know the fulness of the salvation in Christ Jesus, have come to realise in a new way the prevailing power of prayer and the glorious might of the Holy Spirit. The prayers of holy men and women can do more than all the armies and navies of the nations! Prayer-craft is greater than aircraft!

J. Sidlow Baxter.

The King's Highway