

Lesson 7: PROPHECIES OF THE LORD'S COMING
Genesis 3:15, 49:10; Numbers 24:17; Isaiah 11:10, 23:9

READING:

Give to each child a copy of both pages of the prophecies from the Word. Read aloud "Waiting for the Lord to Come: A Christmas Talk for Children" (enclosed) from the Christmas 1992 issue of *New Church Kids*. There are quotes included in the talk. When the quotes come up, have a child read the quote aloud from their own sheet. (The order of quotes on the sheets coincides with the quotes in the talk.)

After you have finished reading the talk, have the children take turns reading aloud the rest of the quotes on the sheets. When there is some smaller text following the text, you (the teacher) read that, because it explains a little something about the quote. Feel free to bring up or encourage any other discussion about any of the prophecies.

PROJECT: Prophecies of the Lord's Coming & word search

Supplies:

- pens that write in gold.
- scissors
- two sheets of dark blue poster board. (Divide one sheet into square or rectangular pieces, according to the number of students.)
- old Christmas cards, or paper of various colors
- copies of "The Names of the Lord" word search from *New Church Kids' Connection*.

Procedure:

Have each student choose a prophecy quote that they will write out to make into a display of prophecies of the Lord's coming. (Each must choose a different prophecy, since they are all going onto the same display.)

Now divide the students in half. Have one group work on the word search. To the other group, hand out the smaller squares of dark blue poster board and the gold pens. Have them carefully write out their quote onto the squares. If some finish more quickly than others, they could add stars, angels, Bethlehem, anything Christmasy, or else something mentioned in the quote like a branch, a banner, *etc.* (They could do this with the pens, or you could have other colored paper available for cutting and pasting – perhaps even old Christmas cards with religious themes.)

When the first group is finished writing, switch the groups, and have the second group start writing out their quotes (even if they haven't finished the word search). The squares can be trimmed down when finished if it seems like a good idea. Otherwise, leave them the same size. Mount them all on the other sheet of dark blue poster board. Display it somewhere at church as decoration for the Christmas season.

**WAITING FOR THE LORD TO COME
A Christmas Talk for Children**

(published in *New Church Kids Connection*)

For hundreds of years before His *birth*, the Lord had spoken a message through His prophets that He would be born on earth and would live among men, so that people could see Him. These messages, called prophecies, were promises from the Lord, who gave His first promise when Adam and Eve disobeyed Him and had to be sent out of the Garden of Eden. At that time the Lord said to the serpent:

*And I will put enmity
Between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her Seed;
He shall bruise your head,
And you shall bruise His heel (Gen. 3:15).*

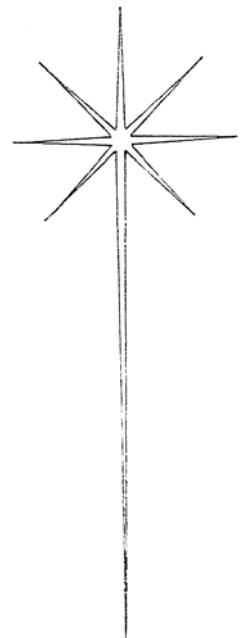
This may not seem to mean that the Lord would be born on earth, but actually it does mean just that — the woman's Seed is the Lord. The next prophecy was given through Jacob, when he blessed his sons in Egypt. He said:

*The scepter shall not depart from Judah,
Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes;
And to Him shall be the obedience of the people (Gen. 49:10).*

“Shiloh” means peace, so it is one of the names of the Lord. He is also called the Prince of Peace. “Until Shiloh comes” means until the Lord, the Prince of Peace, comes.

Then, after the Children of Israel had come out of Egypt and were journeying through the wilderness, the Lord gave a prophecy through Balaam, a man who had been called by the king of Moab to *curse* Israel! But when he opened his mouth to give the curse, the Lord put the words of a prophecy in his mouth, and Balaam said:

*I see Him, but not now;
I behold Him, but not near;
A Star shall come out of Jacob;
A Scepter shall rise out of Israel,
And batter the brow of Moab,
And destroy all the sons of tumult (Num. 24:17).*



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From this prophecy the people knew that the Lord would not come for a long time. Many, many years later, the Lord raised up a great prophet named Isaiah, and through him gave another prophecy:

*“And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse,
Who shall stand as a banner to the people;
For the Gentiles shall seek Him,
And His resting place shall be glorious” (Isaiah 11:10).*

Then, indeed, people in the land of Canaan who loved, believed, and worshiped the Lord, looked for Him to come soon. They waited for Him and watched for the prophesied signs of His coming – they knew to look for a star. And when He was finally born in Bethlehem, the star was a signal that the Lord had finally come, as Isaiah had foretold:

*And it will be said in that day:
“Behold, this is our God;
We have waited for Him, and He will save us.
This is the Lord;
We have waited for Him;
We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation” (Isaiah 25:9).*



PROPHECIES OF THE LORD'S COMING

- 1) And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel. (Gen. 3:15)
- 2) The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people. (Gen. 49:10)
- 3) I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; a Star shall come out of Jacob; a Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and batter the brow of Moab, and destroy all the sons of tumult. (Num. 24:17)
- 4) And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious. (Isaiah 11:10)
- 5) And it will be said in that day: "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for Him; we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation." (Isaiah 25:9)
- 6) For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)
- 7) There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. (Isaiah 11:1,2)

[A "rod" and a "branch" symbolize the Truth. The Lord is called a Rod or Branch because He came on earth to show people the real Truth from the Word.]

- 8) And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious. (Isaiah 11: 10)

[A root is the source of life for a plant—it's what keeps the plant alive. The Lord is called a "Root" because He is the Source of all Divine Truth—all Truth comes from Him, and is alive from Him. A banner was used long ago to call people together for war. Some prophecies say the Lord will "stand as a banner" because he will call people together to fight against evil.]

- 9) I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth. (Isaiah 49:6)

[A light makes people able to see. The Lord would be a Light, because He would make people able to see the truth about how to live happily and come into heaven.]

- 10) Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles. (Isaiah 42:1)

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- 11) “Behold, the days are coming,” says the **Lord**, “That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: **The Lord Our Righteousness.**” (Jeremiah 23:5,6)
- 12) In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David a Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. (Jeremiah 33:15)
- 13) When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son. (Hosea 11: 1)

[Remember how Joseph took Mary and the infant Jesus to Egypt to be safe from King Herod? When Herod was dead, God called Joseph to bring them back out of Egypt.]

- 14) But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. (Micah 5:2)
- 15) Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, you and your companions who sit before you, for they are a wondrous sign; for behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the **branch.** (Zechariah 3:8)
- 16) Behold, the Man whose name is the **branch!** From His place He shall branch out, and He shall build the temple of the **Lord.** (Zechariah 6:12)
- 17) Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)

[Immanuel means “God with us.”]

WORD SEARCH – THE NAMES OF THE LORD

Can you find all of the following names of the Lord in the puzzle below? They are hidden across or down. (To make this more challenging, cover the list of names and see how many you can find on your own.)

ADONAI
ANOINTED
CHRIST
COUNSELOR
CREATOR
DIVINE HUMAN
FATHER
GOD
GOD OF ISRAEL
HOLY SPIRIT
I AM

IMMANUEL
JEHOVAH
JESUS
KING
LAMB
LORD
MAKER
MESSIAH
MORNING STAR
ONLY BEGOTTEN SON
PRINCE OF PEACE

REDEEMER
ROCK
ROOT OF JESSE
SAVIOUR
SHADDAI
SHEPHERD
SHILOH
SON
STONE OF ISRAEL
THE WORD
WONDERFUL

P A B I A M C C O U N S E L O R
R E D E E M E R D W E H F G H I
I J A K L O J E H O V A H M N O
N P N Q R N E A T N S D L A M B
C S O N M L S T H D T D U V W X
E Y I Z O Y U O E E A A B D L E
O F N G R B S R W R H I K S O N
F L T M N E O P O F A T H E R Q
P R E S I G T V R U W X Z G D S
E A D B N O C E D L F H J O D H
A K M O G T Q R O C K S U D I E
C H R I S T M E S S I A H O V P
E O W M T E A K H A N D X F I H
Y L Z M A N K A I V G O D I N E
B Y C A R S E E L I F N G S E R
H S I N J O R K O O L A M R H D
N P O U P N Q S H U T I U A U V
W I X E Y A C E G R H J L E M O
P R Q L R T V X Z B D F H L A I
J I R O O T O F J E S S E K N L
S T O N E O F I S R A E L N P R