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DECEMBER 2010

Level
2

DECEMBER BIBLE READINGS

DATE	Book	VERSE
1	Wed	1 Cor. 9:24-27
2	Thur	1 Cor. 10:12-13
3	Fri	1 Cor. 12:1-11
4	Sat	1 Cor. 12:12-20
5	Sun	1 Cor. 12:21-31
6	Mon	1 Cor. 13:1-3
7	Tue	1 Cor. 13:4-7
8	Wed	1 Cor. 13:8-13
9	Thur	1 Cor. 15:1-11
10	Fri	1 Cor. 15:12-19
11	Sat	1 Cor. 15:51-58
12	Sun	1 Cor. 16:1-9
13	Mon	Micah 1:1-7, 2:3-4
14	Tue	Micah 4:6-13
15	Wed	Micah 5:2-5
16	Thur	Luke 1:1-4
17	Fri	Luke 1:5-17
18	Sat	Luke 1:18-25
19	Sun	Luke 1:26-33
20	Mon	Luke 1:34-38
21	Tue	Luke 1:39-45
22	Wed	Luke 1:46-56
23	Thur	Luke 1:57-66
24	Fri	Luke 1:67-80
25	Sat	Luke 2:1-7
26	Sun	Luke 2:8-20
27	Mon	Luke 2:21-31
28	Tue	Luke 2:41-52
29	Wed	Luke 3:1-6
30	Thur	Luke 3:7-14
31	Fri	Luke 3:15-18

JANUARY BIBLE READINGS

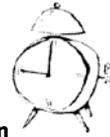
DATE	Book	VERSE
1	Sat	Luke 3:21-22
2	Sun	Luke 4:1-13
3	Mon	John 1:19-28
4	Tue	John 1:29-34
5	Wed	John 1:35-42
6	Thur	John 1:43-51
7	Fri	John 2:1-12
8	Sat	John 2:13-25
9	Sun	John 3:1-8
10	Mon	John 3:9-15
11	Tue	John 3:16-21
12	Wed	John 3:22-30
13	Thur	John 3:31-36
14	Fri	Joel 1:1-12
15	Sat	Joel 2:12-17
16	Sun	Joel 2:18-20, 28-32
17	Mon	Joel 3:16-21
18	Tue	Song of Songs 1:15-2:2
19	Wed	Song of Songs 2:14-3:4
20	Thur	Song of Songs 4:1-7
21	Fri	Song of Songs 4:8-11
22	Sat	Song of Songs 4:12-16
23	Sun	Song of Songs 8:5-7
24	Mon	Song of Songs 8:8-14
25	Tue	Luke 4:16-22
26	Wed	Luke 4:23-30
27	Thur	Luke 4:31-37
28	Fri	Luke 4:38-44
29	Sat	Luke 5:1-11
30	Sun	Luke 5:12-16
31	Mon	Luke 5:17-26

Get to Grips

WITH GOD'S WORD

1

Make a time when you can read the Bible each day



2

Find a place where you can be quiet and think



3

Get your Bible and a pen or pencil



4

Ask God to help you understand what you read



5

Read today's Bible reading



6

Pray about what you have read and learned



MEMORY VERSES

Week 1

[Jesus] will save His people from their sins.
Matthew 1:21

Week 2

Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace to men.
Luke 2:14

Week 3

They opened their treasures and presented [Jesus] with gifts of gold, incense, and myrrh.
Matthew 2:11

Week 4

In all things God works for the good of those who love Him.
Romans 8:28

YOUR MARKER COMMENTS ...

Jesus is Born

Key Verse:
**"[Jesus] will save
 His people from
 their sins."**

Matthew 1:21

Level 2 lesson 41

Read Luke 1:26-38 and 2:1-7

Last month we finished the story of Joseph. We learnt that even though his brothers had been cruel and mean to him, he loved them and forgave them. Finally, God used him to save his whole family and many other people from a terrible famine.

This month, we come to the most wonderful story of all! It tells us how God loved us and wanted to save us, not from famine, but from our sins. Nearly 2000 years ago, God sent Jesus to be born as a baby into this world. This was something wonderful only God could do. We call it a miracle. This is how it all happened...

A lovely young lady called Mary lived in the little town of Nazareth. She was engaged to be married to a man called Joseph. (This is a different Joseph from our lessons last month. That Joseph lived hundreds of years earlier). One day, the Angel Gabriel visited Mary. He told her she was going to have a special baby.

At first Mary felt afraid, but the Angel explained that her baby was the One God had promised. He was to be the Saviour of the world. Then Mary was really happy! The Angel also spoke to Joseph and told him the same thing. The baby inside Mary was God's holy Son, and not Joseph's son. The angel then said, "You are to give him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins."

When it was nearly time for the baby to be born, Joseph and Mary had to go to Bethlehem. Joseph walked and Mary rode a donkey. It took them quite a while to get there. The town was so crowded they could only find a stable to sleep in! There was no room anywhere else. That very night Jesus was born.

Imagine that! Jesus came from his beautiful home in heaven to be born in a stable. He did this because He loved us so much. I hope you have lots of room in your life for Him. Will you pray, "Oh, come into my heart Lord Jesus, save me from my sins, and make my heart anew!"?



Colour in

1. Complete this sentence from the story:
 At first Mary felt afraid, but the Angel explained.... Then Mary was...

2. Circle the right answer: The baby was to be called...

JOSEPH JESUS GABRIEL

3. In the space below, draw a heart with Jesus' name on it!

The Good News of Christmas

Read Luke 2:8-20

Key Verse:
“Glory to God
in the highest,
and on Earth
peace to men.”

Luke 2:14

Level 2 lesson 42

Christmas is such an exciting, happy time with lots of fun, decorations, good things to eat, and presents! Of course, while these things are all good, we should always remember what Christmas is REALLY about. That's the BEST part! So what is it all about? Well, some angels from Heaven told us what this good news was!

One starry night, a long time ago, some shepherds were sitting in the fields near Bethlehem. They were looking after their sheep and talking together around their fire. Suddenly, they saw a very bright light, much brighter than the stars or the moon. They were scared stiff! Then from the light a shining angel spoke to them. “Don't be afraid!” he said. “I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all people. This very day, the Saviour was born in the city of Bethlehem. He is Christ the Lord!”

For a long time the Jewish people had been waiting for the Saviour. So the shepherds could hardly believe what the angel said. “Is it really true, after all this

long time, that the Saviour has come?” they wondered. The angel said, “Go into

Bethlehem and there you will find the baby wrapped up in warm clothes, sleeping in a manger [this is a wooden box that holds straw].”

When he finished speaking, a great crowd of angels appeared in the sky and started to sing. It is hard to imagine how wonderful that must have been. Heavenly angels were singing in a glorious choir! “GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST HEAVEN, AND PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TOWARDS MEN.”

We may not be able to sing as well as those angels long ago. But we like to sing songs of praise and glory to God too at Christmas time! They are called Christmas carols. Many of these songs remind us of this wonderful time when Jesus came into the world as a tiny baby.

God sent Jesus to save us from our sins. That is the GOOD NEWS of Christmas—the best gift of all! The shepherds ran excitedly into Bethlehem to find the baby Jesus. They soon found Him, just where the angel had said. They bowed humbly and worshipped Jesus. Here at last was the Saviour of the world, Christ the Lord!



1. The Angel brought

news!

2. At last the

S _____ R was born.

3. The Angels sang

G _____ to G _____.

4. Who are these men? What are they doing?

.....
.....

The Wise Men Visit Jesus

Read Matthew 2:1-12

Key Verse:
“They opened their treasures and presented [Jesus] with gifts of gold, incense, and myrrh.”

Matthew 2:11

Level 2 lesson 43

In a land far away from Bethlehem lived some very wise men called “Magi.” They liked to study the stars. One night they saw a beautiful, new star in the sky. They knew it meant that God had sent a new baby into the world to be King.

The Wise Men wanted to worship Him, even though they knew He was far away. Quickly they packed food, water, and clothes for the long trip. They also packed some very special gifts to give to the newborn King. They mustn’t forget them!

When everything was ready, they climbed onto their camels and rode away. The bright star led them firstly to the city of Jerusalem. They went to King Herod’s palace and asked him, “Where is the new King?” King Herod knew nothing about it. In his heart, he was angry that another King was born.

So Herod asked the chief priests where this ‘new King’ should be born. “In Bethlehem,” they replied. “Alright,” Herod said to the Magi, “Go to Bethlehem and make a careful

search for the child. When you find Him, let me know, so that I can go and worship Him too.” But really, Herod was lying. He wanted to kill the baby, not worship Him!

The Wise Men left the palace and followed the star until it stopped right over the place where the new baby King was. Who do you think the baby was? Yes, of course, it was the Lord Jesus! They knew He was to be a great King and save people from their sin. How happy they were to worship Him and give Him their special gifts.

We can also give Jesus gifts. Not toys, money or games, although they are all nice gifts. No, what He really wants is US—yes YOU and ME! When we ask Jesus to be our Saviour and take away the sin from our lives, it is like giving Him the gift of our lives. Then we can love, obey, and serve Him with our whole heart and all our effort.

Later, an angel warned the Wise Men not to go back to King Herod’s palace. God knew wicked King Herod only wanted to kill baby Jesus, but God would not let him do that!

1. What did the wise men bring to Jesus?

G _ _ _ S

2. What is the best gift (write your name)

.....

can give to the Lord Jesus?

Some money

Some food

My life

My toys

A game

A book

(circle your answer)



colour in

The Secret Journey

Key Verse:
"In all things
God works for
the good of
those who love
Him."

Romans 8:28

Level 2 lesson 44

Read Matthew 2:13-16

What an exciting time it had been for Mary and Joseph! So much had happened and they had seen so many visitors. First, there had been the shepherds. They were excited and amazed at the wonderful news they had been told by the angel. They had never ever heard anything like that choir of angels singing glory to God! What a special night it had been.

Not long after that, the Wise Men had arrived from the East. What wonderful presents they had brought for baby Jesus, and how reverently they had worshipped Him! It made Joseph and Mary feel so honoured that God had chosen them to be the earthly parents of such a special baby.

A little time went by, and then one night an angel again spoke to Joseph in a dream. "Get up!" he said, "Take the Child and His mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the Child to kill Him!"

Joseph obeyed instantly, without wasting a minute. He took Mary and the baby far away

to Egypt. They stayed there as the angel had instructed them, until the evil, cruel King Herod died. No power on earth, not even an evil king, could harm this special baby! God was watching over Him.

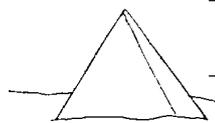
The angels did their part, Joseph and Mary obeyed, and all was well. How glad we can be that these people all obeyed God's messengers. We trust that you too, learn to obey God while you are still young. A good way to start is by obeying your parents.

Did you know that God is watching over you too? He has been caring for you all through the year. As a New Year is about to start, it would be wonderful for you to thank Him for His care. Trust Him to save you from sin. Perhaps you would like to pray this song as a prayer?

"Be near me Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay,
Close by me forever, And love me I pray."

If you want some help in asking Jesus to be your Saviour, write and ask us.

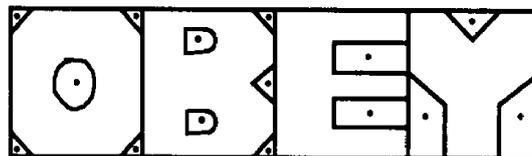
(Join the dots and colour in)



1. Who were baby Jesus' first visitors?

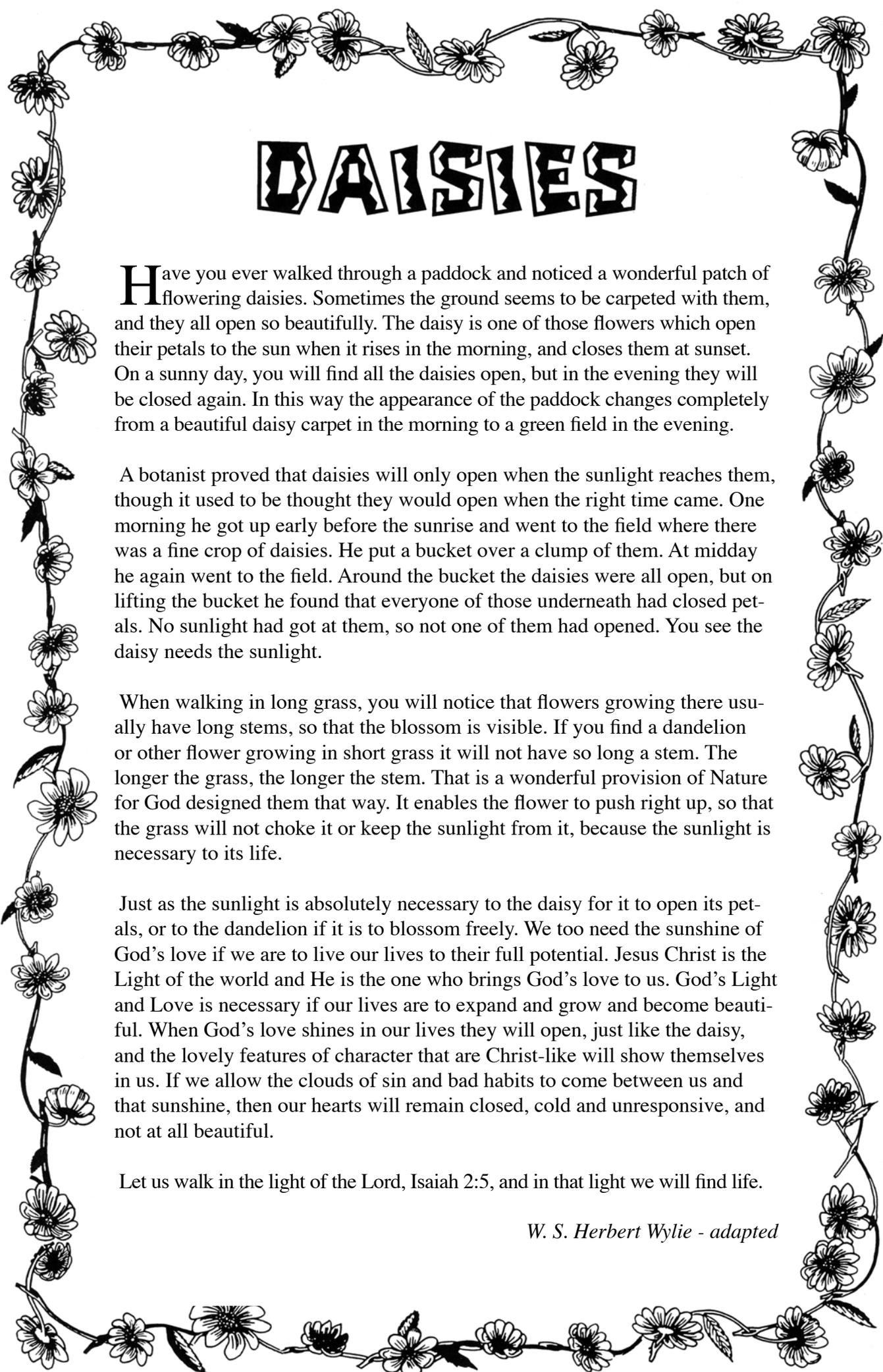
2. How did they know the good news?

3. We all need to do this...



(Colour in the shapes without the dots!)

THERE ARE NO LESSONS IN JANUARY. THE NEXT LESSONS WILL BE SENT IN FEBRUARY.



DAISIES

Have you ever walked through a paddock and noticed a wonderful patch of flowering daisies. Sometimes the ground seems to be carpeted with them, and they all open so beautifully. The daisy is one of those flowers which open their petals to the sun when it rises in the morning, and closes them at sunset. On a sunny day, you will find all the daisies open, but in the evening they will be closed again. In this way the appearance of the paddock changes completely from a beautiful daisy carpet in the morning to a green field in the evening.

A botanist proved that daisies will only open when the sunlight reaches them, though it used to be thought they would open when the right time came. One morning he got up early before the sunrise and went to the field where there was a fine crop of daisies. He put a bucket over a clump of them. At midday he again went to the field. Around the bucket the daisies were all open, but on lifting the bucket he found that everyone of those underneath had closed petals. No sunlight had got at them, so not one of them had opened. You see the daisy needs the sunlight.

When walking in long grass, you will notice that flowers growing there usually have long stems, so that the blossom is visible. If you find a dandelion or other flower growing in short grass it will not have so long a stem. The longer the grass, the longer the stem. That is a wonderful provision of Nature for God designed them that way. It enables the flower to push right up, so that the grass will not choke it or keep the sunlight from it, because the sunlight is necessary to its life.

Just as the sunlight is absolutely necessary to the daisy for it to open its petals, or to the dandelion if it is to blossom freely. We too need the sunshine of God's love if we are to live our lives to their full potential. Jesus Christ is the Light of the world and He is the one who brings God's love to us. God's Light and Love is necessary if our lives are to expand and grow and become beautiful. When God's love shines in our lives they will open, just like the daisy, and the lovely features of character that are Christ-like will show themselves in us. If we allow the clouds of sin and bad habits to come between us and that sunshine, then our hearts will remain closed, cold and unresponsive, and not at all beautiful.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord, Isaiah 2:5, and in that light we will find life.

W. S. Herbert Wylie - adapted

FREEDOM

Jonathan was a young man who craved for freedom. To him freedom meant 'no laws, no supervisors and no punishments'. According to him, there was no freedom at home and no freedom at school. There were restrictions everywhere.

One fine morning he decided to leave his home in the suburbs and go to the city to enjoy the freedom that he felt was his due. He packed up a few belongings and with the purse of money that he had stolen from his father, he set out.

For sometime everything went well. Soon reports appeared in the papers of a daring and dangerous criminal in the city. People feared to walk the streets after sundown as looting, beating and killing was rampant.



Finally the police nabbed the man behind the crimes. It was none other than Jonathan who desired total freedom and ended committing the worst crimes a man could ever get involved in. He had become a slave to sin and Satan.

We were made to live in fellowship with our Creator. God gave us a will by which we could choose to do good or evil. But the sad part is that we often prefer to do evil rather than good. The first man Adam chose to disobey God and through that single choice all mankind inherited the capacity to sin.

The Bible says: "By one man sin entered into the world and death by sin" (Romans 5:12). We continue to make choices every day of our life. Our life itself is the sum total of the choices we makes. We can choose to live in sin or in purity.

Your life does not cease with death. Death is the door to eternity. Where you will spend eternity will depend on a choice you make, not after death, but while you are still alive, here on earth. The Lord Jesus said, "Broad is the way to destruction and narrow is the path to life". Which way will you choose? Jesus Christ came to open the way of salvation; He came to offer true freedom from the enslavement of sin. By one man Adam, all mankind became sinners. By one man Jesus Christ all mankind

can become saints. By one man's disobedience all were made sinners, but by one man (Jesus Christ's) obedience, many will be made righteous. God in His mercy and love sent Jesus His son to die for the sins of the world (John 3:16), By His death He paid the penalty of our sin. He died to redeem us from the slavery of sin. By trusting Him today you can enjoy the abundant life that He promises.

He gives us freedom not only from the penalty of sin but also from the power of sin in our daily lives. He will come again one day to free us from the very presence of sin. Why don't you trust Him today and ask Him to forgive your sins? Jesus invites you to a freedom that no one else can give! Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed" (John 8:34-36).

By Betty Kurian

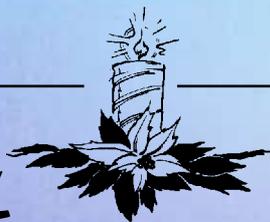
Courtesy *Facts for Faith* magazine

Christmas greetings
and love to you
and your family
from all of us at PSSM.
We pray that all of you
will know God's peace
and joy, both now and
throughout the year.



**"All glory to Jesus,
begotten of God
The great 'I AM' is
He. Creator, sustainer -
but wonder of all, The
Lamb of Calvary."**

John W. Peterson



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