

*The Light - Junior Series*  
*Lesson 97*

*God Kept His Promise*



*2016*

## **BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

If YOU have never personally believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior; you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sins of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave is One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



## **LESSON**

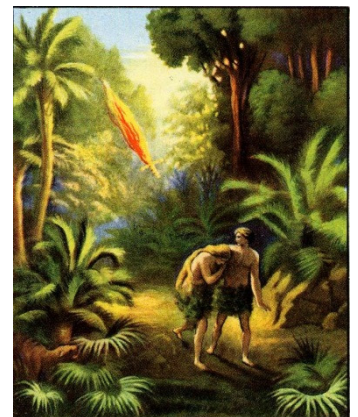
***John 3:16 "God so loved the world that He gave His One and only Son that whoever believes in Him will not die but have eternal life. (17) For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him."***

***John 3:18-21 "Whoever believes in Him is not judged, but whoever does not believe stands judged already because he has not believed in the name of God's One and only Son. (19) This is the result: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because they did bad things. (20) Everyone who does bad things hates the Light, and will not come into the Light for they are afraid that his bad things will be seen. (21) But whoever lives by the truth comes into the Light, so that it may be seen plainly that what He has done has been done through God."***

## **INTRODUCTION**

Since the day that Adam and Eve got sent out of the Garden of Eden into a darkened world full of sin, there had been a promise from God that a Light would come to set everything right and He would rescue or save us.

We left off in our last lesson where Jesus was born Bethlehem but He was just a little child then. Thirty years later Jesus was a man. He was going to start to do what God the Father promised He would do...save us.



The Jewish people lived under the Roman Government which had very strict rules. The world seemed dark, and God's people still hurt and felt forgotten. But in the middle of this darkness, the Jewish people will see the New Light in person! Jesus was going to show Himself to the people and start His job of saving all of us.



***Isaiah 9:2 “The people walking in darkness have seen a great Light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a Light has dawned.”***

God was preparing to send His Promised One, Jesus, the Light of the world. Jesus would show Himself to the people of Israel just like how the sun rises. We know that before the sun starts to rise, it's very dark.

For the Jewish people, it was dark, and it seemed like God had forgotten them. They were living in the land of the shadow of darkness, just like Isaiah the prophet had described. But just as Isaiah had said, a Light was about to dawn...Jesus was going to show Himself to the Jews. Oh what a great day that was.

**Question: Do you see the sun right away in the morning? What do you see when the sun begins to rise?**

**Answer: You see the light of the sun before you actually see the sun.**

### **Bible Story: - The Light Breaks Up the Darkness**

Jesus the Light comes to the people of Israel just like the sun rises. Before the sun comes all the way up, you can see the light long before you see the actual sun. That's how it was when God started bringing Jesus, the Promised One into the world.

First, God sent a Prophet named John, to get the Jewish people ready for the Jesus. Like the sky at sunrise, John would tell about the Light of the coming Son of God, Jesus. The Son rise came on the darkened land of the shadow of death.

***Scripture: John 1:6-9 “There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to be a witness to that Light (Jesus), so that through Him all men might believe. He himself was not the Light; he came only as a witness to the Light. The true Light (Jesus) that gives light to every man was coming into the world.”***

***Scripture: Luke 1:68, 78b-79 “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because He has come and has saved His people...the rising son will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”***

**Question: Who is this verse talking about?**

**Answer: Jesus.**

Zechariah, John the Baptist's father was praising God for making His promises in the Old Testament come true. The son was rising! The Promised One, Jesus, was coming! Hallelujah! And about six months after his son, John the Baptist was born, THE SON, the promised Light, the Savior of the world, Jesus was born! We learned about that yesterday.

Now John and Jesus were all grown up. They were 30 years old when John started to tell the Good News about Jesus, the Promised One, Who was right there with them now. They would finally see Him as a man.

Jesus is God and He is Man. He was born from Mary His human mother and He is God's Son, too, so He is both God and Man...100% each!

Just as you can now see the bright light in the morning and just as you can see the sun when it crosses the horizon and begins to rise higher into the sky...John announces that Jesus, the true Light, had come!

***Scripture: John 1:29 “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, ‘Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!’”***

Lamb of God is another name for Jesus in the Bible.

### **BIBLE STORY – The Full Light of Day**

John told all the people that Jesus was with them...right there. John said, “Hey everybody, that's HIM! That's the Promised One! He's the Light whom God promised and who the old prophets said was coming. Pay attention to Him!” And from that moment on, Jesus started to speak to all the people as He walked all over Israel. This is called His public ministry. For three years, Jesus healed the sick, made blind people see, fed thousands of people with just a little bit of food, brought people back after they died, and preached the Good News that He was there to save them. He was the Light, like the sun at noontime, shining down on all the people.

***Scripture: John 8:12 “When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, “I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the Light of life.”***



Our light is high in the sky now much like the sun is brightest when it is high in the sky. This is to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World, and during this time He shined very brightly on whoever would listen to Him. Let's learn what happened to Jesus, the Light of the World.

### **Bible Story: The Light is Fading**

Even though John had told the Jewish people, "THIS IS THE PROMISED ONE," many of them did not choose to believe in Jesus. For three years of having Jesus with them, and even seeing all His miracles, many did not believe. This is very sad. Jesus was sad. He loved His people and all humans and wanted everyone to believe in Him. But they did not want to leave their darkness to go into the light. And so, just as the sun begins to go lower in the sky in the late afternoon, the time of Jesus, the Light, was coming to an end here on earth.

*Scripture: 1 Peter 2:22 "Before Jesus died, He had lived a life on earth that was different than any other life. Unlike every other person who had ever lived on earth, Jesus had no sin in His heart and He didn't sin even once!!! He was God's Son, and though He had done many wonderful things to help the people around Him, there were SOME people who saw Him as trouble."*

*Scripture: John 12:35a "Then Jesus told them, 'You are going to have the Light just a little while longer.'"*

**Question: What did Jesus say was going to happen?**

**Answer: Jesus the Light was going to be there only a little while longer.**

### **Bible Story: The Setting of the Son**

Soon after Jesus said this to the Jewish people, it was time for Jesus to finish what He came to do for all of us...SAVE us from our sins. Remember when we learned that if we choose to do something wrong that we are punished for it? Like in our homes. Mom or Dad has to teach us to behave the right way just like God taught Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. When we disobey, we get punished. Well that is what happened to Adam and Eve and all people who were ever born past, present and future.

All the sinful things human beings do are wrong and God can't have anything to do with the sins but He made a way for us to be forgiven of our sins through His wonderful perfect Son, Jesus. You and I sin BUT guess what? Jesus NEVER sinned...NOT once!!! That's why He is called the Lamb of God. Little lambs are pure and so was Jesus. In order for God to forgive us, Someone PERFECT and PURE had to take our place and be punished for our sins instead of us.

**Question: Guess who that was?**

**Answer: Jesus, the Perfect Lamb of God.**

So the Perfect Lamb of God, Jesus, was punished in our place on a cross, and He paid the price to take away the sins of ALL the people of the world. He was killed by those who would not accept him as the Promised One...the Light and Lamb of God. And as Jesus hung on the cross it got really dark so no one can see His pain. But guess what? He LOVES us so much that He was really happy to do this for us so we could be with Him forever and ever after in heaven. Isn't that wonderful?

***Scripture: Matthew 27:45 "From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land."***

Only the True Light of the world could save us. You see we could not save ourselves by being good because we can't be good 100% of the time, right? God needs 100% good and we could NEVER do that! We could be good for a while but there's always the time when we mess up and do something wrong, right? None of us are 100% good. Only Jesus was 100% good. So God used His perfect Son to be punished in our place. So because of that all sins...even your sins and my sins...went through Jesus' body on the cross and were destroyed forever! That is wonderful LOVE, isn't it?

But on that day when Jesus was on the cross, darkness fell on the earth. Jesus was in terrible pain because while He did this for us He was taken away from His Father...GOD. He didn't have any sin EVER and while He was on the cross our sins were pouring through His body. It was so painful. Even though this was terrible pain for Jesus, He wanted to do this for us because He loves us so much. And when He finished being punished for us, He said "It is finished" and He died. His work that saved us was finished and the Light went out.

When Jesus died, the Light of the world set like the sun, and darkness literally fell on the land. At last, the Light which had been promised to Adam and Eve, to all human beings had finally come and He died on the cross for us. But what happened next would change everything. The Son was setting. As Jesus was put to death, darkness fell on the earth again. But that darkness was about to be destroyed...

To be continued....

**End in Prayer**