FIRST LESSON- ISAIAH 11: 1-10

[1]A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
[2]The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
[3]His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
[4]but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
[5]Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
[6]The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
[7]The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
[8]The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
[9]They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.
[10]On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

SECOND LESSON: ISAIAH 35: 1-10

[1]The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus [2]it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.
[3]Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.
[4]Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."
[5]Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
[6]then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
[7]the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
[8]A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
[9]No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
[10]And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

THIRD LESSON--MATTHEW 1: 1-17

[1]An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David,
the son of Abraham.
[2]Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and
Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, [3]and Judah the father of
Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and
Hezron the father of Aram, [4]and Aram the father of Aminadab, and
Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of
Salmon, [5]and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the
father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, [6]and Jesse the
father of King David.
And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, [7]and
Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah,
and Abijah the father of Asaph, [8]and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat,
and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of
Uzziah, [9]and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of
Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, [10]and Hezekiah the father of
Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of
Josiah, [11]and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the
time of the deportation to Babylon.
[12]And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of
Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, [13]and Zerubbabel the
father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father
of Azor, [14]and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of
Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, [15]and Eliud the father of Eleazar,
and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of
Jacob, [16]and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom
Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.
[17]So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen
generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen
generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah,
fourteen generations.

FOURTH LESSON --LUKE 1: 26-38

[26]In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, [27]to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. [28]And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." [29]But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. [30]The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

[31]And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. [32]He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. [33]He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

[34]Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" [35]The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. [36]And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.

[37]For nothing will be impossible with God." [38]Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

FIFTH LESSON-MATTHEW 1: 18-25

[18]Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. [19]Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.

[20]But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. [21]She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

[22]All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

[23]"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

[24]When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, [25]but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

SIXTH LESSON-LUKE 1: 39-58

[39]In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, [40]where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. [41]When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit [42]and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. [43]And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? [44]For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. [45]And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[46]And Mary said,
"My soul magnifies the Lord,
[47]and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
[48]for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
[49]for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
[50]His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
[51]He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
[52]He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
[53]he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
[54]He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
[55]according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

[56]And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.
[57]Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. [58]Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

SEVENTH LESSON--LUKE 2: 1-7

[1]In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. [2]This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

[3]All went to their own towns to be registered. [4]Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

[5]He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

[6]While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

[7]And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

EIGHTH LESSON -LUKE 2: 8-20

[8]In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over
their flock by night. [9]Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the
glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

[10]But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you
good news of great joy for all the people: [11]to you is born this day in the
city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. [12]This will be a sign for
you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

[13]And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host,
praising God and saying,
[14]"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

[15]When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said
to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has
taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

[16]So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in
the manger. [17]When they saw this, they made known what had been told
them about this child; [18]and all who heard it were amazed at what the
shepherds told them.

[19]But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. [20]The
shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and
seen, as it had been told them.

NINTH LESSON--MATTHEW 2: 1-12

[1]In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea,
wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, [2]asking, "Where is the child
who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,
and have come to pay him homage."

[3]When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with
him; [4]and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he
inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

[5]They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the
prophet:
[6]'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

[7]Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the
exact time when the star had appeared. [8]Then he sent them to Bethlehem,
saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found
him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

[9]When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them,
went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place
where the child was. [10]When they saw that the star had stopped, they were
overwhelmed with joy. [11]On entering the house, they saw the child with
Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening
their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and
myrrh.

[12]And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for
their own country by another road.