THE MESSIAH’S REIGN OF PEACE

Isaiah 11:1–9

Key Verse: 11:6

1. What does the image of a shoot coming from a stump suggest? (1; cf. 6:13) [Who was Jesse? (Ru4:17; 1Sa17:58)]
2. What else does the Bible say about the fruit-bearing “Branch,” and how does this look forward to the coming of Jesus? (4:2; 27:6; cf. Jer23:5; 33:15; Zech3:8; 6:12)
3. How would God equip his Messiah to reign? (2,3a) Why are these qualities in a leader necessary? What characterizes the way the Messiah judges, and why is this important? (3b–4a) What will be his weapon of judgment? (4b) What does his description in verse 5 signify?
4. Read verses 6–8. How are all these creatures very unlikely companions, and how might they symbolize individuals, groups or nations? What will cause this miraculous peace to happen?
5. Read verse 9. What does this future vision tell us about the Messiah’s main work and about how true peace on earth is possible? (9:6,7; 32:17,18) How can we experience his peace in our own lives? (26:3; 53:5; 54:13)