

Nine Lessons and Carols 2001

Disclaimer: this is an automatically generated machine transcription - there may be small errors or mistranscriptions. Please refer to the original audio if you are in any doubt.

Date: 23 December 2001

Preacher: Harry Robinson

- [0 : 0 0] Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords
Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords
Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords
Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords
Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords
Transcription by CastingWords Transcription by CastingWords O God, let thy soul still and grow.
- I am God and I am God. Beloved in Christ, at this Christmas tide, let it be our joy and delight to hear again the wonderful news of God's grace in giving his son, Jesus Christ, to be born of a virgin in the town of Bethlehem, to be the savior of us all.
- [5 : 0 9] Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience until the glorious redemption brought to us by Jesus himself.
- First, let us pray for Christ's church, asking him to fill it with all truth and all peace, to purify it where it is corrupt, to direct it where it is in error, to reform anything that is amiss, to strengthen and confirm what is right, and to bring unity amongst all who believe.
- Let us pray for peace on earth, that all people might hear the good news of Jesus Christ and be saved. Let us pray for those working at home and abroad who are seeking to call people to repentance and faith in Christ, that those whose hearts are closed will be opened, and that the light of Christ will shine upon those who live in darkness and the shadow of death, and that the gift of God to them this season would be repentance and faith.
- Let us pray for the grace of God. Let us pray for the grace of God. Let us pray that the Prince of Peace would deepen his reign and draw many to salvation for the glory of God. Let us remember in his name all those who do not know the Lord Jesus or do not love him, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love, those who are poor and helpless, who are cold, hungry, and powerless, all those who are sick, those who mourn, those who are lonely and unloved, and those who are aged.
- These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God in the words which Christ himself taught us. Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
- [7 : 0 0] Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them their trespass against us.
- And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever.
- Amen. Amen. The first lesson is a reading from Genesis chapter 3, verses 8 to 15.

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day. And the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, Where are you? And he said, I heard the sound of thee in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.

[8 : 13] He said, Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree which I commanded you not to eat? The man said, The woman who thou gavest to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.

Then the Lord God said to the woman, What is this that you have done? The woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I ate.

The Lord God said to the serpent, Because you have done this, cursed are you above all cattle, and above all wild animals.

Upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat, all the days of your life. 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. This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. I will ■ to sleep.

[9 : 23] I will make the Lord, He will above you, and the Lord.

I will keep him, and in King of all■■■, and in King of allagu■■■■■■■■■■. CHOIR SINGS psi psi eight eight

Thank you.

A reading from Genesis, chapter 22, verses 15 to 18.

And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, By myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you and I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore.

[12 : 01] And your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your descendants shall all the nations of the earth bless themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

[14 : 28] Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

A reading from Isaiah chapter 9, verses 2, 6, and 7.

Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

[18 : 11] Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. A reading from Isaiah, chapter 11, verses 1 to 9.

[20 : 29] There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots, and 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 the fear of the Lord.

And 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, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

And he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the girdle of his waist, and faithfulness the girdle of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall feed, and their young shall lie down together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

[21 : 58] The sucking child shall play over the whole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. Thank you.

Thank you.

May He be light and may He be By the sweet and all of me May He be the wind of delight
Soft and strobe in holy night Give He such a gentle voice Making all the males rejoice
Little Lamb who may be But the song of No Six

[24 : 12] Little Lamb of Telly, Little Lamb of Telly, He is God by the name, for He calls Himself the land.

He is me and He is mine, He became a little child.

I am child and now I am, we are called by His name.

Little Lamb of Telly, Little Lamb of Telly. Little Lamb of Telly, Little Lamb of Telly.

Little Lamb of Telly, Little Lamb of Telly. Little Lamb of Telly, Little Lamb of Telly, Little Lamb of Telly.

[25 : 48] Little Lamb of Telly, Little Lamb of Telly, Little Lamb of Telly.

A reading from St. Paul's letter to the Galatians, chapter 4, verses 1 to 7. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate.

But he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the Father. So with us, when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe.

But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

[27 : 03] So through God, you are no longer a slave, but a son. And if a son, then an heir. This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Thank you.

Ma con. Mac. Ya. MC. Yea.

περι... whom The stars I live to my station, to call my truth unto my dance.

- Sing, oh my love, oh my love, oh my love, oh my love. This town I know, oh my true love.
- [28 : 33] In a nation they encounter us, somewhere we call this lost my chance. It is the most of the city for us, to call my truth unto my dance.
- Sing, oh my love, oh my love, oh my love, oh my love. This town I know, oh my true love.
- For now shall we, my dancing day, my world, my true love. It's no chance to see the legend of my day.
- To call my truth unto my dance. Sing, oh my love, oh my love. Sing, oh my love, oh my love, oh my love.
- Murray depends on exactly the Princess fromantes' land. This is a transport pass when burning eye.jä. ■■■■■■ .
- [29 : 55] I was born dear, my dear, my friend of the very story, for I safe love that I add a fall. I died, my very viele from pelo open and dear members of the Home.
- Duchy Shuster takes a sticky and tearing up a little deep into the sand. All is better, love, and a soul.
- Come still, glory, and still, glory, as the King is born alone.
- Sing thou dreaming, angels singing, thou art singing, thine is dreaming, as the way is born alone.
- As the way is born alone. Lots who sing, angels singing, angels sing, the glory of you, saw the glory and the story, hiding some of us, all true.
- [31 : 16] As rejoicing, praise our Son, praise His glory sing, with the love of God, as the great, the soul for me.
- As the big, the soul for me. Could you all sit down except children?
- And if you're a child, come up to the front, please. Come on, please. Thank you.
- It's very important that you should be here, because I have some questions to ask, and I'm not sure that anybody out there will know the answers. And so, it's important for you to listen, and I will tell you the questions, and if you know the answer, will you put up your hand, and I'll ask you to tell us.
- All right? The first is about a person, and he was a very important religious leader. He was a...
- [32 : 56] Let me give you some more clues. He was a Pharisee, and so was very pious.
- He was impressed with Jesus' miracles. He thought Jesus must have been sent by God to be able to do such miracles.
- And he suspected that Jesus had something very important to teach. Now, when you're like him and know almost everything, for somebody to be able to teach you something is quite surprising.
- But he thought Jesus had something very important to teach, and perhaps even to teach him, though he was an old man.
- Do you know what his name was? Yes. No. I'm sorry. Do you know? Sorry? God. God.
- [34 : 05] God. That covers a lot, but that's not quite the... We want a more specific person. Now, can anybody think what his name was? Shall I ask those people out there if they know?
- I'm a little embarrassed that... Does anybody out there know who it was? Ah, yes. Is it Nicodemus? Well done. Thank you very much.
- I would tell you to stand up, except you almost are already. That was Nicodemus. And you know what Jesus said to him to teach him something?

He said, Nicodemus, you only need one thing, and that is to be born again, to be a little child.

Because for all that you know, the one thing you need to know, you have to become a little child. Now I want to tell you some more clues about another person and see if you can handle this.

[35 : 15] It says, A great king, he established a rich and powerful empire. He died and his son succeeded him.

The Lord told the son in a dream, you can have anything you wish for. The new king answered, I am among your people, and they are too many to count.

And I am like a child who does not know his way around. Give me an understanding mind.

Who was that king? Yes? Solomon. Solomon. Well done. And he was a king, but he knew in his heart that he was a child and needed to be led by God.

Well, I have another story, and there are several answers to this one. And I don't know whether you can get them or not, but I suspect you might be able to.

[36 : 36] When a wolf comes trotting along and sees a lamb out in a field, what does it do? Yes?

What to do? He goes after the lamb and tries to kill it. Do you know what it said in the book?

It said the wolf and the lamb will start living together. Isn't that a surprising thing to happen? Then there is a leopard in this story, and the leopard is up in the mountains, and he sees climbing up the mountains a kid.

Do you know what a kid is? What? You're not one of them, though. A goat. Thank you. He sees a baby goat.

And what does the leopard do when he sees the baby goat? Yes? He eats it.

[37 : 44] It says here that they live at peace together. Strange. It's not what I would have expected. And then there's a story of a calf that has been lost by its mother, and it's bleeding loudly, or mooing loudly, which is, I guess, what calves do.

And a lion comes along. And what does the lion do? Live with it. Well done.

Yes. He sees that the calf is safe to go and find its mother. But if you take all those things together, the wolf and the lamb, the leopard and the goat, the lion and the calf, it says somebody is needed to lead them so that they live together at peace and look after each other.

And you know who has to look after them? Yes? A shepherd? No, not a shepherd, but... Jesus.

Well, I think you're right, but we don't know that. All we know is that they need a little child that will lead them. The child is to bring the wolf the wolf and the lamb, the leopard and the goat, the lion and the calf together.

[39 : 34] And it's a little child that's needed to lead them. Now I've got another story for you and another question for you. And this is about a very elderly couple.

And their name, their names were Abram and Sarai. Only God changed their names to Abraham and Sarai.

And God told them that one day they would have so many descendants, that is children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He said, you look at the stars up in the sky and your descendants will be more than the stars in the sky. And that was the promise God gave them. And they accepted that promise from God, but they got older and older and older until Abraham was a hundred years old and Sarah was almost as old.

And finally, they had a baby. And through that baby, the promise to them was to be fulfilled.

[40 : 56] Do you know what the baby's name was? Yes? Abraham? Abraham. Abraham Junior. Abraham Junior. But I... Do you know what the baby's...

Isaac. Isaac. Good for you. And it was through Isaac that all God's promises were to be fulfilled. Well, I have another story.

One day, Jesus was busy teaching. And you know what? Some parents were rude enough to push into where Jesus was and to bring their children.

And they wanted Jesus to touch their children and to bless them. And the disciples said to the parents...

Do you know what they said? Yes? Go away, Jesus is busy. What did they say? Go away, Jesus is busy. Go away, Jesus is busy. But do you know what Jesus did?

[42 : 07] What did he say? Benjamin? What? Let them come. Yes, he said, let the children come to me. And the reason he said that is that children have the kind of faith that adults need.

And so, Jesus wanted to show them, through the children, what kind of faith would be required. Well, now I have one more story I want to tell you.

One day, Jesus told his disciples, I'm going to be betrayed. And they didn't have any idea what he meant. And he meant that he was going to be betrayed and arrested and crucified.

But the disciples thought that he was so popular and everybody loved him so much that he would soon become a king.

And then the disciples thought quietly to themselves, when he becomes a king, how important we will be. Because we will be his closest companions.

[43 : 29] And they dreamed about what they might be when Jesus became a king. And they didn't let Jesus know what they were thinking. But he knew anyway.

And so, do you know what he did? What did he do? Do you remember? For the disciples. What did he do?

He told them. Right, he did. He said to a child that was near there, you come and stand with me.

Okay, do it. You've got to have a humble smile on your face. You've got to have a humble smile on your face. And when he got there, he told the disciples, whoever is least among you is the greatest.

And that's because he was talking about not the world in which we live, but he was talking about the kingdom.

[44 : 49] In the world in which we live, the greatest people are generals who command armies, politicians with great power, businessmen who are very wealthy, actors who become great stars, athletes who rise to the top of their profession.

Those are the great people. people. But in the kingdom of God, he said, and he pointed to this child, those who are least among you are the greatest of all. So that you people here are the greatest of all in this congregation because of what God has to do for you and with you. And you see what Jesus went on to tell them. He said, if you are careful to welcome a child like this, then you are welcoming me. And if you welcome me, you welcome my father. And so in this wonderful way, you see, with the lions and the calf, with Abraham and Isaac, with King Solomon, with Nicodemus, it was all very important that they should become a child. Because as far as the kingdom of God goes, the person who will lead you there is not the great and powerful people in the world, but it's going to be a little child.

And so in the wonderful purpose of God, at Christmas, he came among us as a little child.

And that's why children are very important at Christmas, because Jesus was a little child, and he was the instrument of people coming to all people in all ages and times, coming to know God.

And when John was nearly closing the New Testament, he said, everybody who believes Jesus is the Christ is a child of God. Now, I tell you this for one reason. When you're little, you think that it's very important to grow up and be big and all the things you're going to do when you're grown up. But do you know what Jesus says to grownups?

[47 : 58] You might grow up to be like your father or your mother or somebody important. But Jesus says, what I want you to do is to become as a child in order to enter the kingdom.

among us at Christmas time. And because he came as a child, we are to become as children.

in order to be a part of his kingdom. Bow your heads and I will pray. Lord Jesus, we thank you for all the children in Scripture that help us to know you and to know your purpose. Thank you for all the children in this congregation.

And thank you for Christmas, which is especially a time for children. And we ask that you will bless children and make them a blessing to their parents and friends, that they will help to lead their friends to the kingdom. We ask this, Lord Jesus, in your name. Amen.

Thank you, boys and girls, for coming up and helping. And thank you very much for all your answers. Thank you, folks. Bye.

[50 : 22] Amen. CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS

CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS And praise the sea to God, O King, and peace to heaven, O King.

And praise the joy unto heaven, and the world of God.

And praise the sea, O King, and the world of God. Amen.

Amen. Amen.

[53 : 44] Amen. Amen.

A reading from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians, chapter 2, verse 5 to 11. this mind among yourselves which is yours in Christ Jesus who though he was in the form of God did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped but emptied himself taking the form of a servant being born in the likeness of men and being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death even death on a cross therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed upon him the name which is above every name that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father this is the word of the Lord Lord no oh all

The Virgin, Mother and Child, Only in so tender and mild.

Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace, Silent night, holy night, Lembers wave at the sky, Glory stream from heaven on fire, Heavenly hosts sing hallelujah, Christ the Savior is born,

Christ the Savior is born. Silent night, holy night, Longer sky, and the light, With the angels' angels sing, Alleluia, and the light, Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

[58 : 09] A reading from the Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 2, verses 8 to 20.

And in that region, there were shepherds out in the field, Keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, And the glory of the Lord shone around them, And they were filled with fear.

And the angel said to them, Be not afraid, Be not afraid, For behold, I bring you good news of a great joy, Which will come to all the people.

For to you is born, This day, in the city of David, A Savior, Who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you.

You will find a babe, Wrapped in swaddling clothes, And lying in a manger. And suddenly, There was with the angel, A multitude of the heavenly host, Praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, And on earth, Peace among men, With whom he is pleased.

[59 : 37] When the angels went away from them into heaven, The shepherds said to one another, Let us go over to Bethlehem, And see this thing that has happened, Which the Lord has made known to us.

And they went with haste, And found Mary and Joseph, And the babe, Lying in a manger. And when they saw it, They had made known the saying, Which had been told to them, Concerning this child.

And all who heard it, Wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary kept all these things, Pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, Glorifying and praising God, For all they heard and had seen, As it had been told to them.

This is the word of the Lord. My feet Fatima, Holy colleges from dade Sweet baby sleep, what else I fear?

What else I've done if that's to hide? Please fear my child and let I fear To hear me sing the love of my life.

[61 : 39] Sweet baby love, your magic, Sweet baby sleep, sweet baby sleep.

When God with us was dwelling near, In little place he told me lie, Such innocence as thou, my dear, Still forever precious in his sight.

Sweet baby sleep, what else I fear? Sweet baby sleep, sweet baby sleep.

The king of kings that he was born, Had not so much for unto thee.

I am such a generous eternal joy, For when my saints saw love with my right, I am blessed, everyone so sweet baby come.

[63 : 53] ZANG EN MUZIEK A reading from Matthew chapter 2, verses 1 to 12.

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?

For we have seen his star in the east and have come to worship him. When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled and all Jerusalem with him.

And assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. And they told him, In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written in the prophet, And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, by no means least among the rulers of Judah, from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.

And Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word that I too may come and worship him.

[65 : 54] And when they had heard the king, they went their way. And lo, the star which they had seen in the east went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was.

And when they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him.

Then opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. Being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. So for the Lord.

Thank you.

[67 : 49] Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

[71 : 25] Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. a reading from the gospel of John chapter 1 verses 1 to 18 in the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God he was in the beginning with God all things were made through him and without him was not anything made that was made in him was life and the life was the light of men the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it there was a man sent from God whose name was John he came for testimony to bear witness to the light that all might believe through him he was not the light but came to bear witness to the light the true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world he was in the world and the world was made through him yet the world knew him not he came to his own home and his own people received him not but to all who received him who believed in his name he gave power to become children of God who were born not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man but of God and the word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth we have beheld his glory glory as of the only son from the father the father John John bore witness to him and cried this was he of whom I said he who comes after me ranks before me for he was before me and from his fullness have we all received grace upon grace for the law was given through Moses grace and truth came through Jesus Christ the Lord no one has ever seen God the only son who is in the bosom of the father he has made him known this is the word of the Lord thanks be to God

Dieu na wa Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. The Lord be with you.

[76 : 59] And with your spirit. As we remain standing, let us pray together. O God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Thine only Son, Jesus Christ, grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him, when we shall come again to be our Judge, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen. And now may the love of the Lord Jesus draw us to Himself. May the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen us in His service.

May the joy of the Lord Jesus fill our hearts and our lives. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always.

Amen. Amen. ■■■■ING Able■■■ GERRETS Tlus protests Able■■■ Thank you.

Thank you.

[79 : 19] Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

[84 : 19] Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.