

"The Peaceful Playground"

Advent 1

November 28, 2010

By Rebecca Enney

One of the lessons we learn on this first Sunday in Advent is the promise that someday God's peace will come to the entire universe. That's why we lighted the Advent Wreath candle this morning.

"Wow," said Haman as he noticed the new necklace that Barabas was wearing. "What is that?"

"Peace Brother," said Barabas as he made a peace sign with his fingers. "I found it with some of Uncle Floyd's stuff. He said I could wear it!"



"I like that necklace!" said Haman. He wished he could have one just like it.

"Uncle Floyd told me that it means that nations should not have any more wars and there should be no fighting."

Haman noticed that when Barabas took off his jacket to play football with the bigger kids, that he laid the peace necklace on top of the jacket.

Soon the game was finished and Barabas left for home. Haman casually walked over and checked to see if the peace necklace was still there. And it was! Barabas had forgotten it.

Haman . . . picked it up and . . . put it on! "Ahhhh!" he thought to himself. "I look just as cool as Barabas."

By now, Barabas realized he had forgotten his necklace and he came back to the place where he had laid it. And there stood Haman wearing it!



"Hey, that's my necklace. Give it back," said Barabas. Haman stared at Barabas and did nothing.

"Give it back!" Barabas said with a bit more concern in his voice.

Haman blurted out "Finders Keepers, Losers Weepers!" as he clutched the necklace.

"Give it back now!" Barabas grabbed for the necklace. "No! I have it now! It's mine!" said Haman.

And they started to wrestle! First Haman was on top and then Barabas was on top. It was not a pretty scene.

Elizabeth saw the ruckus and ran over and shouted "Stop fighting!" Barabas rolled over with Haman and Elizabeth got knocked over and now she was in the middle of the fight! "Stop it!" she kept shouting!



Polly's smile turned to a frown and she ran to her father on the other side of the playground.

"Well, well, well!" shouted Mr. Potato Head very out of breath as he had run across the playground. "Stop it!"

At the sound of an adult voice, all three stopped the fight.

"Finders Keepers, Losers Weepers!" bawled Haman. "It's MINE!" demanded Barabas. "Stop it!" screamed Elizabeth.

And then, when they looked at the ground, they saw that the Peace necklace was bent and broken . . . and the necklace was not the only broken thing. The Peace of the playground had been broken.



Now, this was not a war of course, but every fight we have breaks the peace that God wants for us.

We want to be people of God's peace and light. That is why we lighted this candle this week and next Sunday we will light two candles.

THE END