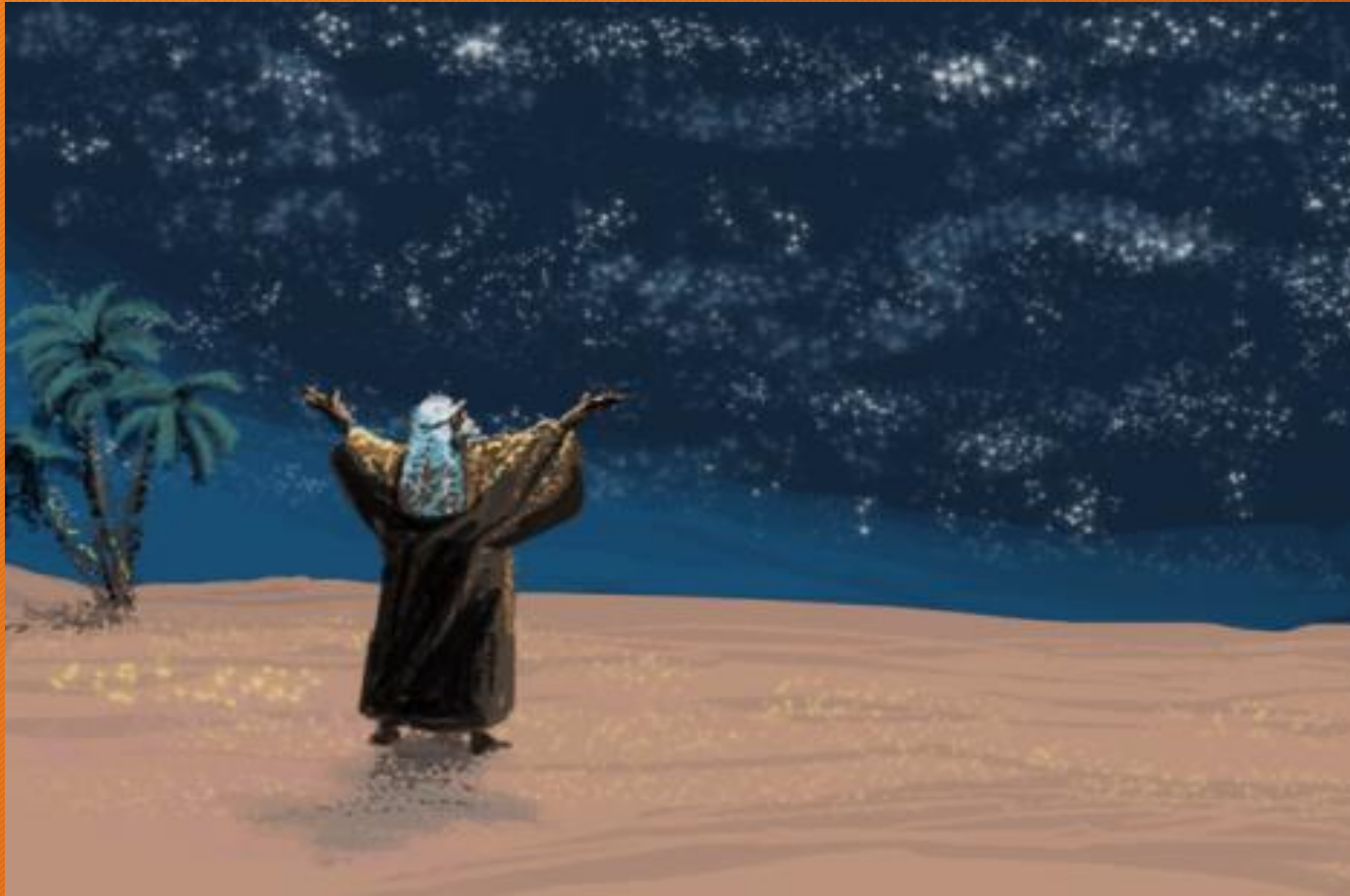


JESUS: LIGHT OF THE WORLD AND BELOVED SON

Lesson 2 - Tuesday 19th January

UNIT E - YEAR 4 - Spring Term

Lesson 2: God's Promises



The Nunc Dimittis - The Canticle of Simeon

The **Nunc dimittis** is a hymn from the [Bible](#). It was sung by Simeon when he saw the baby [Jesus](#).

The story told in the book of Luke was that Simeon, who was a [Jew](#), had been promised by the [Holy Ghost](#) that he would not die until he had seen Jesus. When [Mary](#) and [Joseph](#) brought the baby [Jesus](#) to the [Temple in Jerusalem](#) for the ceremony of consecration of the firstborn son, Simeon was there, and he took Jesus into his arms and said the words which are now known as the Nunc dimittis. He was saying to [God](#) that he could now die happily because he had seen the Saviour.

Translation of the Canticle of Simeon:

**Salva nos, Domine, vigilantes, custodi nos dormientes,
ut vigil emus cum Christo et requiescamus in pace.**

Save us, O Lord, while we are awake, and guard us when we sleep, that we may watch with Christ and rest in peace.

**Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine, secundum verbum
tuum in pace: Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum
Quod parasti ante faciem omnium populorum: Lumen ad
revelationem gentium, et gloriam plebis tuae Israel.**

Now Thou dost dismiss Thy servant, O Lord, according to Thy word in peace; Because my eyes have seen Thy salvation, Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples: A light to the revelation of the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Watch the clip for the traditional Canticle of Simeon – Read the translation to help you understand the latin words.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GrDTzQtfwvk>

Watch the clip below for a translated version:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plj3tu8mFgA>

God's Promises to Abraham

What do you think these promises mean?



The land of Israel

God told Abraham:

“I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed”

‘Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.’ And He said to him, ‘So shall your descendants be.’

How do you think these promises link to the words spoken by Simeon?

Simeon told Mary and Joseph that Jesus had been sent to save the people of Israel, the descendents of Abraham.

“Then the LORD appeared to Abraham and said, ‘**To your descendants I will give this land.**’

And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

God's fulfilment of his Promises.

What do you think the word '**fulfilment**' means?

Simeon saw the coming of Jesus as God fulfilling not only his promise to Simeon but the promises made to Abraham.

Why do you think Simeon described Jesus as the light of all Nations?

Independent Task:

Write the questions in your book and answer in full sentences.

1. What is the Nunc Dimittis?
2. How do you think Simeon felt at the presentation of Jesus at the Temple? explain why you think he felt like this.
3. What did God promise Abraham?
4. Why do you think Simeon described Jesus as 'The light of all nations'?
5. Write a prayer entitled 'Jesus, Light of the World'



WHO'S AWESOME?
YOU'RE AWESOME

I look forward to
reading your
work, well done
Year 4

