Apples of Gold

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FOR THERE IS BORN TO YOU THIS DAY

Many times I wonder why I must change jobs so often. But recently the Lord reminded me it is so I may reach more people with the gospel.

Recently at my new job, some were discussing Christmas. I silently listened until someone asked me, "What do you think about Christmas?"

I was glad for this opportunity and silently prayed. Then I said, "You must study the Bible. It is the only Book that will give you the truth about the incarnation of the Lord Jesus."

They became very upset. One shouted, "Jesus is not written of in our Bible, only in the Christian Bible!"

I responded, "I am sorry I did not bring a Bible with me today, but I will bring one tomorrow. Then you can see the truth with your own eyes." So I took a Bible to work the next day. They all were waiting for me to arrive with the Bible.

I turned to Isaiah 7:14 and read, "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." I explained, "This verse speaks about Jesus. Immanuel means God with us."

One of the men said, "This is only a story."

I replied, "In your own Bible, Isaiah prophesied, 'For unto us a Child is

born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace' [Isa. 9:6]. At times like this I know I am in the right place, and I am not sorry I must change jobs so often. I am glad to give you the gospel."

Surprisingly, for the first time at any job I have worked, they continued to listen attentively. One even said, "We know Christmas is a Christian holy day, but we want to understand what it is all about."

I then asked, "Why do you say Christmas is only a Christian holy day? I just read to you from your own Scriptures about the Lord's birth." I then read Isaiah 53, and they asked many questions.

Even my foreman asked, "If you are a Christian, how can you have any feelings for Israel?"

"Good question," I said. "I love Israel very much. I have served in all of the wars, from 1948 until now. All of my children also now serve. How many of your children serve in the army?"

He was silent for a long time. Then he finally said, "I have only one son. And I will never let him go!"

"Well then," I asked, "are you as good a Jew as you think you are?"

"I am sorry for what I said," he responded.

From then on he allowed me to freely speak about the New Testament. I said, "On that first Christmas, the angel said to the shepherds, 'Do not be afraid, for I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord' [Lk. 2:10–11]."

After this, the foreman said, "If everything you have told us is true, then we should be happy in the Lord. But we cannot decide today. Perhaps someday we will believe as you do."

I told him, "You can believe right now if you will open your hearts and allow the Lord to come in."

Please pray the Lord will open their minds and hearts to receive the truth, so that one day they too will be able to rejoice in the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ who came to Earth to die for the sins of the world.