September 10th – The Kingdom of Christ

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them...they shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." (Isa. 11:6, 9)

We live in a world filled with violence. Terrorism has become a word that is used all too often. We read stories of men and women strapping bombs to themselves, walking in public places, and blowing themselves up in an attempt to kill many others. We read stories of one nation invading another nation, and countries joining in coalition to attack someone else. Will the violence ever end?

When you think about it, violence is as old as the earth. Adam and Eve had two sons – Cain and Abel. You may recall that both men brought sacrifices to God. The Lord respected Abel's offering, but he rejected Cain's because he refused to offer the best he had. Overtaken with jealously and anger, Cain "rose up against Abel his brother and killed him" (Gen. 4:8). Since that time, brother has fought against brother, sister against sister, and neighbor against neighbor.

The good news is that the violence won't last forever. Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace and the Bible says that He is coming to establish His kingdom following His victory at the battle of Armageddon (Rev. 16:16). Christ's eternal kingdom will be filled with peace, pictured in the beautiful words of our passage – wolf with the lamb, leopard with the goat, etc. All the violence will be done away and we will spend our eternity enjoying everlasting rest and endless peace. If you have placed your faith in Jesus, your future is bright indeed!