

BIBLE LESSONS

THROUGH THE BIBLE

IN 52 LESSONS

BOOK NUMBER ONE

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LESSON NUMBER ONE

“HOLY MEN OF GOD SPAKE AS THEY WERE
MOVED BY THE HOLY GHOST.”
II Peter 1:21

There are sixty-six Books in the Bible. The first Book is called Genesis. Genesis is the Book of beginnings. The first five Books of the Bible are called the “Pentateuch.” “Pente” means “five.” Some Jews refer to these five Books as “the Books of Moses.” The five Books are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

Moses was born in Egypt. Moses was a descendant of Levi, who was one of the sons of Jacob, or Israel. We shall study about Israel, Levi and Moses later on. Moses was the man whom God chose to write the first Books of the Bible.

The last Book of the Bible is called “The Revelation”, “The Revelation of Jesus Christ.” The Greek word translated “Revelation” is “Apokalupsis.” This word means “the unveiling.” The human author, whom God used to write “The Revelation of Jesus Christ”, the last Book of the Bible, was the Apostle John. While Jesus Christ was on earth He selected twelve apostles, four of whom were fishermen. These four apostles were Andrew and Simon and James and John. Andrew and Simon were brothers. Simon was later on named “Peter” by the Lord Jesus Christ.

James and John were also brothers. They were called “Boanerges”

Mark 3:17

“And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and He surnamed them Boanerges, which is, the sons of thunder.”

“Boanerges” means “the sons of thunder.” Simon Peter and John were partners in the fishing business

Matthew 4:18

“And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon, called Peter, and Andrew, his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.”

Then He saw James and John with their father. They were in their fishing boat mending their nets. Matthew 4:21. The Lord said, “Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.” Peter and John became partners in the business of fishing for men. They labored together in the service of the Lord, witnessing concerning His life and works and ministry, His death and resurrection. Luke 22:8; Acts 3:1, 3 and 11; Acts 4:13 and 19, and Acts 8:14.

John, the brother of James, outlived all the other apostles of Jesus Christ. He is called in the Bible, “that apostle whom Jesus loved.” John 13:23; John 19:26; John 20:2; John 21:7 and 20. Like Moses, the first human author, the Apostle John wrote five Books of the Bible: “The Gospel of John” and three Epistles, “I John”, “II John”, and “III John”, and “The Revelation of Jesus Christ.”

Concerning Moses, note this statement in the Bible:

Numbers 12:3

“Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.”

Moses died about 1455 B. C. (Before Christ). Moses was 120 years old when he died

Deuteronomy 34:7

“And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died.”

The Apostle John was about 100 years of age when he died. He died about 100 A. D. (Anno Domini), “the year of the Lord.” The last Book of the Bible was written between 1500 and 1600 years after the first Book of the Bible was written.

Moses was God’s appointed deliverer and leader of Israel. Moses was God’s law-giver. Later on we shall study concerning him as the mediator of a covenant, or agreement, a contract, that God made with His people Israel.

God’s call of Moses is recorded in:

Exodus 3:4 to 7 and 10 and 14

“And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst

of the bush, and said, ‘Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. “And He said, ‘Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.’” “Moreover He said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God. “And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of My people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows.”

“Come now therefore and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt” Exodus 3:10.

“And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and He said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.” Exodus 3:14.

At the time of his call by God Moses was a shepherd. Exodus 3:1. That was about 1495 B. C. At that time Moses was 80 years old.

Exodus 7:7

“And Moses was fourscore years old, and Aaron fourscore and three years old, when they spake unto Pharaoh.”

Other shepherds who wrote Books in the Bible were David and Amos.

I Samuel 16:11 and 13

“And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down until he come hither.”

“Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.”

Amos 1:1

“The words of Amos, who was among the herdmen of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jereboam, the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.”

Thus we see that the first Book of the Bible was written by a shepherd and the last Book by a fisherman. We learned also that Peter was a fisherman. Peter wrote two Books of the Bible: two Epistles, I Peter and II Peter. Peter was quite an old man when he died. When Peter and the Lord Jesus Christ were here on earth together the Lord Jesus told Peter when and how he would die.

John 21:18 and 19

“Verily, verily, I say unto thee, when thou wast young thou girdest thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. Thus spake He signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He saith unto him, Follow Me.”

Shortly before his death Peter referred to the statement of Jesus Christ:

II Peter 1:13 and 14

“Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance: Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.”

We have learned that Simon Peter, his brother Andrew, James and John, were four of the twelve apostles whom Jesus Christ, while on earth, selected from His many disciples. Of His twelve apostles, John wrote five of the Books of the Bible, Peter wrote two of the Books, Levi (Matthew) wrote one. Matthew wrote the first Book after the death of Christ; it is called “Matthew”. It is generally believed that James, who wrote the Epistle of James, was one of the twelve apostles. This James is thought to be the James called “the Lord’s brother”. Galatians 1:19. He was not the brother of John. John’s brother, James, was killed by Herod about 45 A. D.

Acts 12:1 and 2

“Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John, with the sword.”

So we learn that Christ had two apostles by the name of James.

Then the sixty-fifth Book of the Bible, one of the shortest Books in the Bible (one chapter of 25 verses) was written by Jude. It bears his name. It is generally believed that he was one of the twelve apostles. We have mentioned six of the twelve apostles, Simon Peter, John, James, Andrew, Jude, and James. It is thought that Jude was also called “Thaddaeus”. Matthew 10:3.

ADAM AND CHRIST

B. C. and A. D.

We have explained that B. C. means “before (Jesus) Christ”, that is, before He was born of Mary in Bethlehem. A. D. means years since that great event took place. Dating back B. C. from the birth of Christ to the creation of Adam there were about 4000 years of the history of the human race.

According to the Bible the first man was Adam:

I Corinthians 15:45 and 47

“And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening Spirit.” “The first man is of the earth, earthy: the Second Man is the Lord from heaven.”

If we date from the birth of Adam, we call the year “A. H.”, Anno Homini. This means, “the year of man”. Some people speak of A. M., “Anno Mundi”. This means, “the year of the world.” We have no way of telling how many thousands, or millions, of years since the world was made. But we can be quite accurate in fixing the date of the making of the first man and his wife, Adam and Eve. They were in the garden of Eden about 4000 years “Before Christ”. Therefore Christ was born about 4000 Anno Homini, “the year of man”.

Later on we shall study concerning Adam and Christ “the first man” and “the Second

Man”, “the first Adam” and “the last Adam”. But for the present we will note that about 4000 years elapsed between the time the first man was in the garden of Eden and the time that the little Child Jesus was in the manger at Bethlehem.

GOD—CHRIST

Now, note the first verse of Genesis and the last verse of The Revelation

Genesis 1:1

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”

Revelation 22:21

“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.”

Thus the Bible begins with God and the Bible closes with the Lord Jesus Christ. We shall study later on that the Lord Jesus Christ was God before He came to earth as a human being and He is included with God, His Father, in that first verse of Genesis. Note the words of Christ in Revelation 1:8: “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, the Almighty.”

The Bible is peculiarly God’s Book. It is God’s revelation to the human race. Note this plain and important statement in the Bible concerning the Bible.

II Timothy 3:16 and 17

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

The Greek word translated “given by inspiration of God” is “theopneustos”. This means “God-breathed”. This is somewhat explained in:

II Peter 1:20 and 21

“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

The Holy Spirit is infallible. Men who wrote the Books of the Bible did not write their own ideas or doctrines. They were moved or “carried along” by the infallible Holy Spirit. Hence these statements concerning God’s Word.

I Peter 1:24 and 25

“For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof fadeth away: But the Word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the Word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”

Psalms 119:89

“For ever, O Lord, Thy Word is settled in heaven.”

Psalms 138:2

“I will worship toward Thy holy temple, and praise Thy name for Thy loving kindness and for Thy truth; for Thou hast magnified Thy Word above all Thy name.”

Hebrews 4:12

“For the Word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Now let us note what Jesus Christ said about the Scriptures and Himself.

John 5:39

“Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me.”

Luke 24:25 to 27

“Then He said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”

Luke 24:45 and 46

“Then opened He their understanding that they might understand the Scriptures. And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day.”

Then note several other Scriptures, spoken or written after Christ went back to heaven:

Acts 4:27 and 28

“For of a truth against Thy holy Child Jesus, Whom Thou hast anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel were gathered together for to do whatsoever Thy hand and Thy counsel determined before to be done.”

Acts 26:22 to 24

“Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come: That Christ should suffer, and that He should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles. And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, ‘Paul thou art beside thyself: much learning doth make thee mad.’”

I Corinthians 15:3 and 4

“For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; “And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third

day according to the Scriptures.”

The Lord Jesus Christ is mentioned in the 27 Books, from Matthew to Revelation, by noun and pronoun, more than 6900 times.

The very heart of the Bible is the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ, Who was in the Godhead in creation, came down from heaven to die for sin; that is, He appeared once in the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. Hebrews 9:26. But note the fact also of His resurrection and ascension; for He went back to heaven where He now lives at God’s right hand: “This Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God.” Hebrews 10:12.

This was all in fulfillment of God’s infallible Scriptures, according to God’s infallible Word. God’s free gift is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:23.

QUESTIONS—LESSON ONE

1. Mention several things recorded in the Bible concerning the Scriptures, as to their origin, authority, purpose, and value.
2. By Whom were the human writers moved along?
3. Name six men whom the Holy Spirit used to write Bible messages.
4. Name the Books that Moses and John wrote. Mention two facts concerning each of these writers.
5. Name six of the twelve apostles. Which two were called “the sons of thunder?”
6. Which apostle remained alive the longest? How did he close the last Book of the Bible?
7. Which two apostles labored together for the Lord Jesus Christ? Which of these two were told by the Lord that he would be put to death?
8. By what name did the Lord call Himself when He appeared to Moses?
9. What did Jesus Christ call Himself in Revelation 1:8?
10. What are Adam and Christ called in I Corinthians 15:45 and 47?
11. About what year A. H. was Christ born? About what year B. C. did Moses die?
12. What shepherd was anointed by Samuel?
13. Who said, “The Scriptures testify of Me”?
14. Where is God’s Word for ever settled?
15. State two or three things the Scriptures said concerning Christ.
16. What did Christ do for sin and sinners?
17. Where is Christ at the present time?
18. Which apostle was called “the Lord’s brother”?
19. For what are the Scriptures profitable?
20. What Book did Levi write?

LESSON NUMBER TWO

“AND GOD SAID, LET THERE BE LIGHT;

AND THERE WAS LIGHT” Genesis 1:3

II Corinthians 4:5 to 7

“For we preach not ourselves but Christ Jesus the Lord: and ourselves your servants for Jesus’ sake. For God, Who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”

Here we learn that the true and faithful servants of God preached the Lord Jesus Christ. God’s Book states plainly and positively that the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord; that sinners justified by faith have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 6:23 and Romans 5:1.

Thus we see that men receive peace and eternal life through Jesus Christ.

Note some other reasons why God’s true servants preach the Lord Jesus Christ:

John 14:6

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.”

Acts 4:12

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

I Peter 3:18

“For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.”

John 8:12

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the Light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

God’s servants who preach Christ should live Christ.

Galatians 2:20

“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

“GOD HATH SHINED IN OUR HEARTS.”

Philippians 2:15 and 16

“That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world: Holding forth the Word of life.”

When and how did God command the light to shine out of darkness?

LET THERE BE LIGHT

Genesis 1:3 to 5

“And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.”

Isaiah 45:12

“I have made the earth and created man upon it: I, even My hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded.”

Isaiah 40:28

“Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of His understanding.”

CHRIST IN THE BEGINNING

“In the beginning, God.” This Hebrew word “God” is “Elohim.” “Elohim” is the plural of Eloah”. “El” is the simple form. of the Hebrew word. “El” denotes strength—God—the—Strong One. Note some of the words where “El” is used: “Elijah”, “Elisha”, “Eli”, “Elizur”, “Elizabeth”, “Joel”, “Daniel” “Ezekiel”. “Elohim” is plural. Note:

John 1:1 to 3

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made.”

John 1:14

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth.”

Colossians 1:17

“And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.”

John 17:5

“And now, O Father, glorify Thou Me with Thine own Self with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was.”

John 17:24

“. . . That they may behold My glory which Thou hast given Me: for Thou lovest Me before the foundation of the world.”

Now we can understand the “let us” in the statement:

Genesis 1:26

“And God (Elohim) said, Let US make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them

have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”

The Lord Jesus Christ was with the Father. “He was in the form of God.” Philippians 2:5 and 6. He said, while here on earth:

John 6:36

“All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me: and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.”

John 10:28 to 30

“And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand I and My Father are One.”

“And God called the light, Day, and the darkness He called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.” Genesis 1:5.

Note: “the evening and the morning were the first day.” This was the first day of God’s creative work in bringing cosmos, or order, out of chaos. But the question is: who created the chaos before God said, “let there be light?”

Let us read carefully the first two verses of the Bible:

Genesis 1:1 and 2

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” “And the earth was without form, and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”

Now we must note the difference between, “in the beginning,” of Genesis 1:1 and “the first day” of Genesis 1:5. How long was “the beginning” before “the first day?” We will never know until we get to heaven and God tells us that hundreds of thousands of years may have elapsed between “in the beginning” and “the first day” when God said, “let there be light.”

The statement in the second verse might read, “the earth became without form and void.”
Note:

Isaiah 45:18

“For thus saith the Lord That created the heavens: God Himself That formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain (void).”

Hebrews 11:3

“Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”

God’s original creation was not void, God’s original creation was made not out of something that already existed.

Job 26:7

“He stretcheth out the north over the empty place and hangeth the earth upon nothing.”

“In the beginning, God.” God is infinite, eternal and self--existent. No person or power created God. God had no beginning. This is too much for finite human beings to reason out or comprehend. We accept this as Divine revelation and at the same time the most plausible and intelligent explanation of the origin of life.

Acts 17:24 and 25

“God That made the world and all things therein, seeing that He is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands: Neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, seeing He giveth to all life, and breath, and all things.”

John 14:9

“Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known Me, Philip? He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?”

Some years after His death and resurrection the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to John (the writer of The Revelation) and said to him:

Revelation 1:8

“I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, Which is, and Which was, and Which is to come, the Almighty.”

Revelation 1:18

“I am He That liveth, and was dead: and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.”

Yes, by the Lord Jesus Christ were all things made and without Him was not anything made that was made.

Inasmuch as there may have been many, many years between the original creation of Genesis 1:1 and the re-creation of Genesis 1:3 to 31, you can see why we prefer not to attempt to date from the beginning of the world and use the words “Anno Mundi, year of the world.” We can be rather accurate in using the words “Anno Homini,” the year of man.

Let us read carefully:

Genesis 5:3 to 32

“And Adam lived a hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth: And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters: And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died. And Seth lived a hundred and five years, and begat Enos: And Seth lived after he begat Enos eight hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years: and he died. And Enos lived ninety years, and begat Cainan And Enos lived after he begat Cainan eight hundred and fifteen years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Enos were nine hundred and five years: and he

died. And Cainan lived seventy years, and he begat Mahalaleel: And Cainan lived after he begat Mahalaleel eight hundred and forty years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Cainan were nine hundred and ten years: and he died. And Mahalaleel lived sixty and five years, and begat Jared: And Mahalaleel lived after he begat Jared eight hundred and thirty years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Mahalaleel were eight hundred ninety and five years: and he died. And Jared lived a hundred sixty and two years, and he begat Enoch: And Jared lived after he begat Enoch eight hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Jared were nine hundred sixty and two years: and he died. And Enoch lived sixty and five years and begat Methuselah: And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him. And Methuselah lived a hundred eighty and seven years, and begat Lamech: And Methuselah lived after he begat Lamech seven hundred eighty and two years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years: and he died. And Lamech lived a hundred eighty and two years, and begat a son: And he called his name Noah, saying, This same shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the Lord hath cursed. And Lamech lived after he begat Noah five hundred ninety and five years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Lamech were seven hundred seventy and seven years: and he died. And Noah was five hundred years old: and Noah begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth.”

Again after the flood:

Genesis 11:10 to 32

“These are the generations of Shem: Shem was a hundred years old, and begat Arphaxad two years after the flood: And Shem lived after he begat Arphaxad five hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: And Arphaxad lived five and thirty years, and begat Salah: And Arphaxad lived after he begat Salah four hundred and three years, and begat sons and daughters. And Salah lived thirty years, and begat Eber: And Salah lived after he begat Eber four hundred and three years, and begat sons and daughters. And Eber lived four and thirty years, and begot Peleg: And Eber lived after he begat Peleg four hundred and thirty years, and begat sons and daughters. And Peleg lived thirty years, and begat Reu: And Peleg lived after he begat Reu two hundred and nine years, and begat sons and daughters. And Reu lived two and thirty years, and begat Serug: And Reu lived after he begat Serug two hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters. And Serug lived thirty years, and begat Nahor: And Serug lived after he begat Nahor two hundred years, and begat sons and daughters. And Nahor lived nine and twenty years, and begat Terah: And Nahor lived after he begat Terah a hundred and nineteen years, and begat sons and daughters. And Terah lived seventy years, and begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Now these are the generations of Terah: Terah begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran begat Lot. And Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his nativity, in Ur of the Chaldees. And Abram and Nahor took them wives: the name of Abram’s wife was Sarai; and the name of Nahor’s wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah, and the father of Iscah. But Sarai was barren: she had no child. And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son’s son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram’s wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there. And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran.”

Genesis 12:4

“So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken unto him: and Lot went with him: And Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.”

Genesis 17:24

“And Abraham was ninety years old and nine, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.”

Genesis 25:7

“And these are the days of the years of Abraham’s life which he lived, a hundred threescore and fifteen years.”

Genesis 25:20

“And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padanaram, the sister to Laban the Syrian.”

Genesis 25:26

“And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau’s heel: and his name was called Jacob: and Isaac was threescore years old when she bare them.”

Genesis 35:28

“And the days of Isaac were an hundred and fourscore years.”

Galatians 3:17

“And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.”

And from the Scriptures we have the following table:

(A. H.—the year of man)

Genesis 5 to 11	Born	Died	
Adam _____			930
Seth _____	130	1042	
Enos _____	235	1140	
Cainan _____	325	1235	
Mahalaleel _____	395	1290	
Jared _____	460	1422	
Enoch _____	622	967	
Methuselah _____	687	1656	
Lamech _____	874	1651	
Noah _____		1056	2006
Shem _____	1558	2158	
Eber _____	1723	2187	
Peleg _____		1757	1996

Terah _____ 1878 2083
Abram _____ 2008 2183

Noah was 600 years old when the flood was on the earth. Genesis 7:6. And Noah lived 350 years after the flood. Genesis 9:29.

Noah's father, Lamech, was 168 years old when Adam's son, Seth, died, in the year 1042 A. H. (year of man). Genesis 5. Noah's son, Shem, (from whom Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David and Mary, the mother of the Lord Jesus, descended) was 98 years old when the flood was on the earth. Shem died 502 years after the flood. Genesis 11:10 and 11. Shem died in the year of man 2158, or about 1842 B. C.

Abram was 75 years old in 2083 A. H. Genesis 12:4 (about 1917 B. C.). Abraham died when 175 years old (Genesis 25:7) therefore, about 1817 B. C. Note then, that although Abraham was the ninth generation from Shem (Genesis 11:10 to 29) Shem lived until Abraham was 150 years old. For many years they could have talked about the events before and during the flood; for Shem lived 98 years before the flood.

QUESTIONS—LESSON TWO

1. What is implied in the name "God" in Genesis 1:1 and 26?
2. Quote Scriptures to prove that Christ is in the Godhead.
3. What did Christ claim to be in John 14:6?
4. In what two-fold sense did God command light to shine out of darkness?
5. What is said about Christ in Colossians 1:17?
6. What did Christ claim in John 17:5?
7. According to Hebrews 11:3, out of what was the world framed?
8. Explain the difference between the original creation and the first day of Genesis 1:5.
9. In what form was Christ before He became Man?
10. What is said about Christ in John 1:14?
11. Mention seven men whose names have in them the Hebrew "El".
12. In John 10:28 to 30, what did Christ give to men?
13. In John 10:28 to 30 and John 14:9, what did Christ claim for Himself?
14. Who lives in the believer according to Galatians 2:20?
15. What is the meaning of B. C.? Of A. D.?
16. What is the meaning of A. M. and A. H.?
17. In what year A. H. was the flood upon the earth? About what year B. C.?
18. What happened to Enoch according to Genesis 5:21 to 25?
19. Note that Methuselah died the year of the flood. What year?
20. How old was Methuselah when he died? Jared? Noah? Adam?

LESSON NUMBER THREE

GOD RESTED—THE SERPENT BEGUILLED—MAN SINNED

Genesis 1:31

“And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.”

Genesis 2:1 to 3

“Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them, And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made: and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made.”

“And He RESTED on the SEVENTH day.” “And God blessed the SEVENTH day and sanctified it.”

God rested. The Hebrew word translated “rested” is “shabbath.” From this word comes the other Hebrew word “shabbath” translated “sabbath.” There are several Hebrew words translated “rest”; but the word in Genesis 2:2 is “shabbath”. God “sabbathed” on the seventh day. God blessed and sanctified the seventh day. In the Bible the words “seven” and “seventh” occur 549 times.

When God had finished His six days of work He saw everything He had created was very good. He finished His creative work. It was perfect. So He rested in a finished, perfect work.

But God’s rest was soon broken. Something happened to His perfect work. We read in Romans 5:12 that sin entered into the world. Sin and rest do not go together.

We might speak of man as the climax of God’s perfect creation.

THE FIRST DAY—Light—Day and Night. (Genesis 1:4 and 5)

THE SECOND DAY—The Firmament—Dividing the Waters—Heaven. (Genesis 1:7 and 8)

THE THIRD DAY—The Land—Earth—Grass—Herbs—Plants—and Trees. (Genesis 1:9 to 13)

THE FOURTH DAY—Lights in the Firmament for signs—Seasons—Days—Years—Two Great Lights and The Stars. (Genesis 1:14 to 18)

THE FIFTH DAY—The Fish and Creatures of the Sea and the Winged Fowls of the Air. (Genesis 1:20 to 23)

THE SIXTH DAY—The Cattle—Creeping things Beasts of the Earth—Adam. (Genesis 1:24 and 25 and 27)

THE SEVENTH DAY—God Rested on the Seventh Day. (Genesis 2:3)

In Genesis 1:12 and 21 and 24 and 25, we learn that in the vegetable kingdom and in the animal kingdom God’s law is “after its kind.” Plants cannot be changed to fish, fowl or beast. Fish, fowl and beast each propagate and reproduce “after its kind.”

Man was originally created in the image and likeness of the eternal, living, personal Creator. Man did not evolve from some lower order of life. Every theory of evolution has been disproved. At the present time there is not one scientific proof of any evolutionary hypothesis that is being taught in our schools. Improvement of the species is not an evolutionary change of

species.

Methods of planting corn may change, but the seed corn is the only seed that will bring forth corn.

Carefully note God's warnings:

I Timothy 6:20

“O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called.”

Colossians 2:8

“Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”

THE SECOND MAN BEFORE THE FIRST MAN

In our first two lessons we learned from the Bible that Adam was the first man and that the Lord Jesus Christ was the Second Man, the last Adam, the Lord from heaven. And we learned that all things were made by the One called “the Second Man from heaven.” Therefore, the Lord Jesus Christ created the first man Adam. At the time of Adam's creation Christ was in the form of God.

“CHRIST JESUS WHO BEING IN THE FORM OF GOD.”

Philippians 2:6

The first two men born into the world were Cain and Abel. About them we shall study in another lesson. Of course, Cain was the first man born of woman. Adam was not born of woman. He had no mother. Adam was created by “Elohim” (God). Eve was created by God; but she came out of Adam. More than 4000 years after Adam and Eve were created and placed in the Garden of Eden, the Holy Spirit wrote these words

THE WOMAN FROM THE MAN

I Corinthians 11:8 and 9

“For the man is not of the woman: but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman: but the woman for the man.”

I Timothy 2:12 to 14

“But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”

Ephesians 5:23

“For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the Head of the Church: and He is the Saviour of the body.”

ADAM AND EVE CREATED

We turn to the very first two chapters of the Bible for the Divine record of the Creation of Adam and Eve.

Genesis 1:26 to 31

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. “So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him: male and female created He them. “And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so. And God saw everything that He had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.”

Genesis 2:7 and 8

“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden and there He put the man whom He had formed.”

Genesis 2:18 to 25

“And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone: I will make him a help meet for him. And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof: And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast Of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made He a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.”

Thus we learn that the first man was created in the image and likeness of God. Adam was created on the sixth creation day. Then note what followed:

Genesis 2:2 and 3

“And on the seventh day God ended his work which He had made: and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made and God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made.”

HOW SIN ENTERED THE WORLD

THE CURSE PRONOUNCED—THE CURE PROMISED

The Third Chapter of Genesis

1. “Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”

2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

8 And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

13 And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

14 And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the

field:

19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

22 And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:

23 Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life."

We have here recorded the beginning of sin and death on earth. In our, next lesson we shall study the beginning of sin in heaven.

Romans 5:12 to 14

"Whereby as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of Him That was to come."

Romans 3:22 and 23

"Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

Romans 5:18 to 21

"Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of One the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of One many shall be made righteousness. Moreover the law entered that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord."

I Corinthians 15:21 to 23

"For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive . . . They that are Christ's at His coming."

Eve preferred Satan's lie to God's truth. Millions are today rejecting God's truth and believing Satan's lie. God has warned men in this matter:

II Thessalonians 2:8 to 11

“And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie.”

It is strange how men believe that they can get into God’s heaven with many sins when God banished Adam and Eve from an earthly paradise because of one act of disobedience.

Let us read:

Romans 8:19 to 24

“For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope; Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for ?”

Here we learn that “the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.” And we read in I John 5:19, “the whole world lieth in the evil one.” The translation is “lieth in the lap of the devil.”

But note the good news of :

Romans 16:20

“And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.”

When God pronounced His judgment upon Adam and Eve, He promised (in Genesis 3:14 and 15) the Redeemer, the Seed of the woman. Then God sacrificed His creatures and provided a covering for the nakedness of Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve had tried to cover their nakedness with aprons made of fig leaves.

It is interesting to study the symbolic garments of the Bible. Isaiah 64:6. Isaiah 61:10. Exodus 28:2. Genesis 37:3. Luke 15:22. Luke 23:11. Matthew 22:12. Revelation 19:8 and 13.

Now note:

I John 2:16 and 17

“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”

We learn in Genesis 3:6, that Satan made the three-fold appeal to Eve: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life.

The first question of the Bible was asked by Satan and the second one by God. Satan asked, “hath God said?” Genesis 3:1. God asked, “Adam, where art thou?” Genesis 3:9. Satan is

still causing men to question, doubt and reject the sayings of God, in the Bible. God is still saying to the children of Adam, “Where art thou?”

The first question of Matthew is, “Where is He That is born King of the Jews?” Where is Jesus Christ?

This question was asked of a little Christian girl by an infidel man, “Where is this Christ you love?”

1. He is in the Bible.
2. He is at God’s right hand in heaven.
3. He is in my heart, the Hope of Glory. Colossians 1:27.

BY ADAM—BY CHRIST

There are about one billion, seven hundred and fifty million (1,750,000,000) people in the world. It is estimated that more than 20 billion people have been born of woman since Adam was created. Adam was not born, but concerning all others, with the exception of Enoch and Elijah, the story of every human being, up to the present time, (excluding the living 1,750,000,000) can be briefly told “he was born”, “he lived”, “he died”, “he was buried”.

This is not all of the story, for God has an answer to the question of:

Job 14:10

“But man dieth, and wasteth away: yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?”

Together with this question, let us study:

Romans 14:12

“So then every one of us shall give an amount of himself to God.”

And:

John 5:28 and 29

“Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”

RUIN BY ADAM—REDEMPTION BY CHRIST

The twenty billion people who have been born into this world have all been descendants of Adam.

The twenty billion have followed the first man Adam into sin.

Galatians 3:22

“But the Scripture hath concluded all under sin.”

Romans 3:23

“For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”

Note these words of the Second Man, the Lord Jesus Christ:

John 8:24

“I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sins.”

And then carefully note:

II Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

In Adam all die. In Adam all men are dead in trespasses and sins. From ruin to redemption means out of Adam and in Christ.

By one man judgment and condemnation came upon all men. By one man, (Adam) came sin and death. This universal law of sin and death still prevails. The hope of Adam’s children is to become God’s children by a new creation in Christ Jesus.

IN ADAM—IN THE FLESH

John 3:6

“That which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”

Romans 8:8

“So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.”

Romans 7:18

“For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) dwelleth no good thing, for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.”

Galatians 5:19 to 21

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.”

Mark 7:20 to 23

“And He said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness, All these evil things come from within and defile the man.”

REDEMPTION IN CHRIST

Romans 5:20 and 21

“Moreover the law entered that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded grace

did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Sinners now live under God’s reign of grace.

Hebrews 2:9

“But we see Jesus, Who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man.”

I Peter 2:24

“Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness by whose stripes ye were healed.”

II Timothy 1:9 and 10

“Who hath saved us and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began. But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, Who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.”

Titus 2:11 to 14

“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world: Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”

We learn then that Jesus Christ became flesh to taste death and put away sin, to abolish death. Now note:

Hebrews 2:14

“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.”

About 4000 years after Christ (Elohim) created Adam, the first man; Christ the Second Man, was born of Mary, the Seed of the woman. Eve descended from the first man, Adam.

I Corinthians 15:21 to 23

“For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”

Note the first statement in Romans 5:20: “The law entered that the offence might abound.” When did the law enter? About 1497 B. C., or about 2500 years after Adam brought sin and death into the world.

John 1:17

“For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”

“Death reigned from Adam to Moses.” Romans 5:14. From Adam to Moses means, from the day Adam left Eden until the day that Moses, at the age of eighty years, was on Mount Sinai, receiving the ten commandments and God’s law to govern Israel.

Note Romans 3:19 and 20 and then the good news of Acts 13:38 and 39:

Romans 3:19 and 20

“Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law; that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

Acts 13:38 and 39

“Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this Man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by Him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.”

By Adam the entrance of sin.

By Moses the knowledge of sin.

By Jesus Christ the forgiveness of sin.

QUESTIONS—LESSON THREE

1. Who was the first man born of woman?
2. On what day was Adam created?
3. Which were created first, plants or animals?
4. What are the first recorded words of God in His creative work?
5. How was Adam’s body formed and from what was Eve formed?
6. What did Adam say concerning Eve because of the manner in which she was created?
7. How many creative days were there and on what day did God rest?
8. In what form was the Second Man when He created the first man?
9. What lie did Satan speak to Eve?
10. According to Romans 8:22 and I John 5:19, what happened to creation because of Adam’s sin?
11. How many human creatures hath God declared to be under sin?
12. What came as the result of sin? Is the law of sin and death universal?
13. According to Genesis 3:14 and 15, who was to come as the Seed of the woman and what would He do with Satan?
14. What judgment did God pronounce upon the ground? Upon man? Upon woman? Upon the serpent?
15. What great sacrifice was typified by the coats of skins which God provided for Adam and Eve?
16. In what three-fold manner did the serpent appeal to Eve?
17. In I John 2:16 and 17, what does God say about the world and its lusts? About those that do the will of God?

18. What came by the first man and by the Second Man?
19. In John 8:24, what did Christ say would happen to the one who believed not in His Deity?
20. What happens to the man in Christ Jesus according to II Corinthians 5:17?

LESSON NUMBER FOUR

THE TRAIL OF THE SERPENT

THE CHRISTIAN'S SABBATH

Continuing from lesson three our study of Satan

II Corinthians 11:3.

“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”

Satan was able to bring the first man, made in the image and likeness of God, into sin by beguiling Eve through his subtilty. But he could do nothing with the Second Man, Who was the express image of God's Person and the effulgence of His glory. Hebrews 1:3.

Satan existed before Adam and Eve were created; but at that time he was not Satan. As to his origin, we believe the record is found in:

Isaiah 14:12 to 17

“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning? how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations: For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. “Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms: That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?”

Ezekiel 28:14 to 17.

“Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.”

Thus we see that the personality of Satan is plainly taught in the Bible. He is a real,

living, active person. “Satan” is from the Hebrew word meaning “adversary.” No man is a match for him. We can only overcome him by putting on the whole armour of God as described in:

Ephesians 6:12 to 19.

12. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God:

18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel.

Revelation 12:11.

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony: and they loved not their lives unto the death.”

Sin began with the “I will” of the anointed cherub in heaven. There are several definitions of sin in the Bible. But sin is saying to God “I will have my way” instead of saying “Thy will be done.” Eve believed the devil’s lie in preference to God’s Truth. There are very many people today who still prefer Satan’s lie to God’s Truth. Note what Christ said about Satan:

John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Now we know how sin entered into the world. Sin will be here as long as Satan is here. But remember, that where sin abounded grace did much more abound.

The Bible states that Satan was “more subtle than any beast of the field,” not “MORE subtle than any OTHER beast.” The Hebrew word, “serpent” is “nachash” “to hiss” or “to whisper a magic spell.”

We may be troubled as to why God permits Satan to live and deceive and ruin and destroy; and surely abounding sin disturbs us. But we may rejoice that where sin abounded, grace doth much more abound.

Satan is mighty. Christ is Almighty. Christ can conquer Satan for the believer today. In a sense Christ has already conquered sin for the believer. Christ will ultimately put Satan in his eternal prison, a place of torment.

In the last Book of the Bible, we read these words:

Revelation 12:9.

“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

Revelation 20:10.

“And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”

Thus we see the destiny of this creature who is called the serpent, the devil, the dragon, Satan. He is also called in the Bible “the prince of this world” (John 16:11) “the prince of the power of the air,” (Ephesians 2:2) “the god of this age (world)” (II Corinthians 4:4), “the strong man” (Mark 3:27 and Matthew 12:29).

He is accused of the crime of deceiving the whole world. Note some other statements concerning him:

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.” (II Corinthians 11:13 to 15)

“Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” (I Peter 5:8)

“But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. II Corinthians 4:3 and 4

“The sower soweth the word. And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. Mark 4:14 and 15

Let us carefully note the account of the propositions which Satan presented to Christ in an endeavor to tempt the Son of God.

Luke 4:1 to 13

1 And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

2 Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered.

3 And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.

4 And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.

5 And the devil, taking him up into a high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.

6 And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will, I give it.

7 If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.

8 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

9 And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence:

10 For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee:

11 And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

12 And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

13 And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.

Satan's appeal to Christ was also the three-fold appeal: "the lust of the flesh", "the lust of the eye", and "the pride of life." But there was neither lust nor pride in the holy Son of God.

In writing to the Corinthians concerning Satan, Paul said, "we are not ignorant of his devices." II Corinthians 2:11. The devil is very clever and tricky.

In Hebrews 2:14 we are told that the Lord Jesus Christ, by death, destroyed him who had the power of death; that is, the devil.

Satan desired to have Simon Peter to sift him as wheat. Luke 22:31. Satan made Ananias lie to God. Acts 5:1 to 12. Satan, transformed into an angel of light, is a very religious creature and has many preachers who pretend to be Christ's messengers. Let us put on the whole armour of God.

THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH

Hebrews 4:1 to 9

1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

4 For He spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.

5 And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest.

6 Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief

7 Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time: as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

8 For if Jesus had given them rest then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.

9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

The only place that any sinner can find rest today is in obedience to the invitation of Christ.

Matthew 11:28 and 29

Come unto Me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me: for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.”

Under the reign of law, which began about 1497 B. C., God’s people had a religious sabbath, but they found no rest under the law. A sabbath, but no rest. They received the spirit of bondage unto fear. Romans 8:15. They were all their lifetime subject to bondage through fear of death. Hebrews 2:14 and 15.

About 1656 years after Adam sinned, God destroyed all the human race with a flood. This we will study in another lesson. This was in the days of Noah.

But let us consider the world today and remember the words of Christ concerning a time that is coming on this earth again “As it was in the days of Noah so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.” Luke 17:26.

There are nearly one billion men, women and children in the heathen lands worshipping Satan and his gods. Then we know that the rest of humanity, the so-called civilized, or Christian nations, are preparing to rush into war for blood-shed, murder and destruction. The prisons, asylums and hospitals are filled with suffering humanity. The world is surely in a state of unrest. God “sabbathed” in a perfect work of creation. But the whole creation travaileth in pain together now. After God’s’ rest on the Seventh day the first command concerning the sabbath is:

Exodus 16:23

“And he said unto them, This is that which the Lord hath said, Tomorrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the Lord bake that which ye will bake today, and see the that ye will see the; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.”

Now let us note some statements concerning the sabbath:

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.” Exodus 20:8. “Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering; of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.” Exodus 25:2. “Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee. Six days thou shalt labour and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou.” Deuteronomy 5:12 to 14. “And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day. And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation. And they put him inward, because it was not declared what should be done to him. And the Lord said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp. And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died: as the Lord commanded Moses. Numbers 15:32 to 36. “Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily My sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations: that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you. Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for who soever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his

people. Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. IT IS A SIGN BETWEEN ME AND THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL FOR EVER: FOR IN SIX DAYS THE LORD MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND ON THE SEVENTH DAY HE RESTED, AND WAS REFRESHED.” Exodus 31:13 to 17.

CHRIST AND THE SABBATH

“And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up: and, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.” Luke 4:16. “And He said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.” Mark 2:27 and 28. “And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments: and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment” Luke 23:56. “Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more lest a worse thing come unto thee. The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus, which had made him whole. And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus and sought to slay Him, because He had done these things on the sabbath day. But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work. Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill Him, because He not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.” John 5:14 to 18.

THE SABBATH IN ACTS

“And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.” Acts 16:13. “And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the Scriptures.” Acts 17:2.

THE CHRISTIAN NOT UNDER THE LAW OR ISRAEL’S SABBATH

“Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross.” Colossians 2:14.

“Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days.” Colossians 2:16. “The sabbath days” should read “the sabbath.”

“The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdelene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.” John 20:1. “Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.” John 20:19.

The first mention in the Bible concerning “the sabbath” (Exodus 16:23) was after Israel had left Pharaoh and Egypt, about 1495 B. C., or about 2500 years after the statement of Genesis 2:2: “And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made: and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which God created and made.” God then gave the sabbath (the

seventh day) to Israel when He gave them the other nine commandments. Their sabbath was from the sixth day, at sundown, until the seventh day, at sundown. Leviticus 23:32. Israel was on the way to Canaan, the land of promise, when the sabbath was given. The land was given to them as an everlasting possession. The sabbath was given them to keep in their land. There could be no universal Sabbath today because sundown in one land is sunrise in another Israel is not now possessing Canaan.

The sabbath was a sign to Israel. Exodus 31:13 to 18. Christ was the King of Israel. He was made under the law. Galatians 4:4. While on earth Christ ministered to Israel under the law. Romans 15:8. Matthew 10:5 to 8. The Sabbath-keepers put Christ to death when a heathen judge wanted to let Him go free. Christ was dead and in the sepulchre on Israel's sabbath.

Romans 10:4

“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.”

Now note again Colossians 2:14 and 16. (previous page)

“Let no man judge you with respect to the Sabbath.”

How plain then is the language that when Christ died on the cross and was buried God took the law out of the way. Christ arose on the first day of the week. Israel's sabbath day was not changed from Saturday to Sunday. Christ became the Head of a new creation.

II Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new.

Christians are a resurrection people. We thank God for the first day of the week when we have the privilege of gathering in the name of Christ. But the first day of the week is not the Christian's sabbath.

Abraham was justified by faith, without the deeds of the law, 430 years before the sabbath was given to Israel. Abraham found rest in a Person.

Genesis 15:6

“And he believed in the Lord: and He counted it to him for righteousness.”

Galatians 3:6

“Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

We find rest not in, or on, a day, but in Christ Jesus.

As to Revelation 1:10, the expression “the Lord's day”, some teach this to mean the first day of the week. But there is no positive proof for this teaching.

If the Lord Jesus Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth (Romans 10:4) there is a sense in which He is the believer's sabbath or rest. We should be careful in referring to the first day of the week as “the Christian sabbath.”

QUESTIONS-LESSON FOUR

1. Mention five names by which Satan is called.

2. According to Ezekiel 28 and Isaiah 14 who and where was Satan before he beguiled Eve?
3. What is said about Satan in II Corinthians 11:13 to 15?
4. Name five things mentioned in the Christian's armour in Ephesians 6:12 to 19.
5. How do saints overcome Satan according to Revelation 12:11?
6. Is the serpent called a beast in Genesis 3:14?
7. What will be done to Satan when Christ comes? What will be the final destiny of Satan?
8. What three propositions did Satan present to Christ?
9. What did Christ do to Satan by His death and resurrection?
10. What did Satan desire to do to Peter?
11. What is the first Scriptural mention of the sabbath after the sin of Adam?
12. Between God and whom was the sabbath a sign?
13. Which of the ten commandments mentioned the sabbath?
14. Why did Jesus of Nazareth keep the sabbath?
15. Where does the believing sinner find rest in this day of grace?
16. What did God do with the law when Christ died on the cross?
17. What verse of Scripture teaches that the believer is not to be judged with respect to the sabbath?
18. What is Christ for the believer in Romans 10:4?
19. According to Galatians 4:4, how was Christ made and for what purpose?
20. According to Luke 4:20 to 22, what did Christ do on the seventh day sabbath?

LESSON NUMBER FIVE

THE CURSE—THE CURE

Jesus Christ "The Seed Of The Woman"—"The Lord"

CAIN AND ABEL

When the Lord Jesus Christ was on earth He said to the Jews concerning their Scriptures, "they are they which testify of Me." John 5:30.

In this connection let us carefully note:

Acts 13:29 and 30

"And when they had fulfilled all that was written of Him, they took Him down from the tree, and laid Him in a sepulchre. But God raised Him from the dead."

Then after God raised Christ from the dead, in His resurrection body He talked with His disciples. Note His words in one of His conversations:

Luke 24:25 to 27

“Then he said unto them, ‘O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory? into His glory?’ And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”

Luke 24:46

“And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day.”

Thus we see that the Lord’s prophets, from Moses to Malachi, wrote concerning the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ from heaven to earth. The first prophecy is found in Genesis 3:14 and 15 where Christ is promised as the Seed of the woman. There is a sense in which all of the Bible, from Genesis 3:14 and 15 to Revelation 22:21, is the unfolding or fulfilling of Genesis 3:14 and 15.

When the Lord Jesus Christ finishes his work, not only will Satan be vanquished and all of God’s enemies destroyed, but ultimately there will be a new heaven and a new earth where dwelleth righteousness.

II Peter 3:13

“Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.”

There will be a realization of:

Ephesians 1:10

“That in the dispensation of the fulness of times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in Him”

PRECIOUS PROMISES—PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE

Let us again note

Acts 13:29 and 30

“And when they had fulfilled all that was written of Him, they took Him down from the tree, and laid Him in a sepulchre. But God raised Him from the dead.”

When was the Lord Jesus Christ taken down from the cross and put in the sepulchre? When they had fulfilled all that was written of Him. The Prophets of God, from Moses to Malachi, wrote concerning the coming, the ministry, the death and the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

HE THAT SHOULD COME—HE THAT SHALL COME

It is interesting to link together a question and a statement concerning Christ.

Luke 7:19

“And John calling unto him two of his disciples, sent them to Jesus, saying, Art Thou He

That should come? or look we for another?”

Hebrews 10:37

“For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry.”

Note concerning the two advents of the Lord Jesus Christ: “Art Thou He that SHOULD come?” “He that SHALL come.” Christ came to earth once and was rejected, crowned with a crown of thorns. He was judged by the people. Christ will come again. He will be crowned with many diadems (Revelation 19:12), and then He will judge the people. But He will appear again for redemption also.

Hebrews 9:28

“So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many: and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”

Christ, on earth, said, concerning the Scriptures (the thirty-nine Books from Genesis to Malachi), “they are they which testify of Me.” John 5:39. “He that should come,” “He that shall come.” According to God’s Word, beginning with Genesis, Christ was to come and according to God’s Word Christ is to come again.

There are thirty-nine Books in the Old Scriptures. Moses wrote the first Book and Malachi the thirty-ninth. Before we consider some of the prophecies concerning Christ, from Genesis to Malachi, let us read:

II Peter 1:4

“WHEREBY ARE GIVEN UNTO US EXCEEDING GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES: THAT BY THESE YE MIGHT BE PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE, HAVING ESCAPED THE CORRUPTION THAT IS IN THE WORLD THROUGH LUST.”

God has made some very precious promises to man. Some of them have been fulfilled. Others are going to be fulfilled. By them believing sinners have become partakers of the Divine nature. We are now relying upon the fact of Christ’s redemptive work. In addition to the Divine nature the Lord Jesus Christ took on Himself human nature (Hebrews 2:14), that believing sinners, in addition to their human nature might become partakers of His Divine nature.

In Genesis 3:21 we read:

“Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins and clothed them.”

Note what God’s Book states in:

Leviticus 17:11

“For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.”

Hebrews 9:22

“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood: and without shedding of blood is no remission.”

Matthew 26:28

“For this is My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of

sins.”

I John 1:7

“But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son, cleanseth us from all sin.”

“And without shedding of blood is no remission.” “The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.”

It has been thought by many Bible students that Adam and Eve were saved because they received coats of skin, which spoke of the sacrifice of God’s Holy Son on the cross. There is no definite statement. Their nakedness was covered but there is no Scripture as to whether or not their sins were forgiven, whether or not they were really saved. Their names are missing in the heroes of faith in Hebrews 11.

The first definite, promise of the coming of Christ to be the sinners’ Redeemer is:

Genesis 3:14 and 15

“And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field: upon thy belly thou shalt go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life. And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”

God said, “Satan, you put this first man, made in My image under your feet. I will send another Man, the Second man, in my image and He will put you under His feet.”

Before we refer to this promise of the death and triumph of Christ, let us note that God foreknew, foreordained and foretold the death of Christ for sin:

I Peter 1:19 and 20

“But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.”

Acts 2:23

“Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain.”

II Timothy 1:9 and 10

“Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began. But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, Who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.”

In these Scriptures we learn that God had purposed man’s redemption before man’s ruin. He foreordained that Christ should die at the time and in the manner that He was put to death.

But now Genesis 3:14 and 15. “The Seed of the woman” will come. There will be a conflict between Christ, “the Seed of the woman”, and Satan.

Hebrews 2:14

“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.”

Also note:

“But this Man after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God. From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.” Hebrews 10:12 and 13.

“For He must reign till He hath put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For He hath put all things under His feet. But when He saith, all things are put under Him, it is manifest that He is excepted, which did put all things under Him. And when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him That put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.” I Corinthians 15:25 to 28.

“That in the dispensation of the fulness of times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in Him.” Ephesians 1:10.

“For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.” Romans 8:19.

“HE THAT SHOULD COME.” Christ was to come as the Seed of the woman. He was to be God manifest in the flesh, the Lord. Note Malachi, the thirty-ninth Book.

Malachi 3:1

“Behold, I will send My messenger, and He shall prepare the way before Me: and the Lord Whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the Covenant, Whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts.”

Here we note that “He that should come” is to be the Lord. Now note the combinations “the woman’s Seed” and the Lord in the prophecies of Isaiah

Isaiah 7:14

“Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”

Isaiah 9:6

“For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

So the coming One was to be, and was, the Lord, the Seed of the woman. Hear God’s Messenger speaking in Matthew.

Matthew 1:21 and 23

“And she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins.” “Behold, a virgin shall be with Child, and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”

Note this three-fold division of the Bible: 1. From Genesis to Malachi. 2. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. 3. From Acts to Revelation.

1. Some One is to come. Christ.
2. Some One has come. Christ.
3. The One Who was to come and came has gone back to heaven and will come again. Christ.

In another lesson we shall show how Christ, in His birth, home town, messages, betrayal, suffering, rejection, crucifixion, burial, and resurrection, did everything as He did that the Scriptures might be fulfilled.

CAIN AND ABEL

Hebrews 11:4

“By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.”

I John 3:12

“Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because works were evil, and his brother’s righteous.”

The story of Cain and Abel is recorded in Genesis 4:1 to 17.

Genesis 4:1 to 17

1 “And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.

2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord.

4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

6 And the Lord said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

6 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

9 And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother’s keeper?

10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother’s blood crieth unto me from the ground.

11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother’s blood from thy hand:

12 When then tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

13 And Cain said unto the Lord, My punishment is greater than I can bear.

14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me.

15 And the Lord said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the Lord set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

16 And Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

17 And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch; and he builded a city and called the name of the city, name of his son, Enoch.”

We-quote also the record of Seth’s birth:

Genesis 4:25 to Genesis 5:5

“And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the Lord.

This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;

Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:

And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters:

And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died,”

As faith cometh by hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:9 to 14) Abel must have heard God’s Word, God’s way of righteousness, either from Adam and Eve or from God. Cain heard that God-way very definitely even after he had tried his own way.

In the story of Cain and Abel we have God’s revelation of the right way and the wrong way. Some of the difference between man’s religious way and God’s redemptive way, the difference between God’s righteousness and man’s self-righteousness.

In Cain and Abel we have two men in a field. Now note the record of two men in the temple and two men on trees. In each case the difference between the two men is the blood of the innocent substitute.

Luke 18:10 to 14

“Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank Thee that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes

of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift so much as unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalted himself shall be abased; and humbleth himself shall be exalted.”

Luke 23:33

“And when they were come to the place which is called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.”

Luke 23:39 to 44

“And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on Him, saying, If Thou be Christ, save Thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily, I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with Me in paradise. And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness earth until the ninth hour.”

What was between the penitent thief on the cross and the impenitent thief? The blood of the Lamb. That precious blood will separate the believers in glory from the unbelievers in perdition. The Pharisee in the temple in his self-sufficiency felt no need for the blood on the mercy seat. The publican prayed, “God meet me, a sinner at the blood-sprinkled mercy-seat.”

What was between Cain and Abel? The blood of God’s sacrifice which sacrifice pointed to the bruising of the Seed of the woman. Genesis 3:14 and 15.

As to man’s way of righteousness and God’s way, note:

Romans 10:1 to 4

“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.”

Romans 10:10

“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Isaiah 64:6

“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”

Ezekiel 33:13

“When I shall say to the righteous, that he shall surely live; if he trust to his own righteousness, and commit iniquity, all his righteousnesses shall not be remembered; but for his iniquity that he hath committed, he shall die for it.”

Romans 4:4 and 5

“Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him That justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.”

Titus 3:5 to 7

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit; which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour. That being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

As to salvation by the goodness of the natural man, the betterment of the human nature, versus salvation by God’s workmanship, by the Divine transforming power creating in man a new nature, God settled that dispute in the experience of Cain and Abel. God had respect unto Abel and his offering. He rejected Cain’s offering out of the ground that had been cursed. Note God’s way and order in:

Ephesians 2:10

“For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

THE FOUR GREAT CURSES

1. “Unto the woman He said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception: in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. And unto Adam He said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake: and in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat of the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return.” Genesis 3:16 to 19

2. “For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.” Galatians 3:10.

3. “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: For it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.” Galatians 3:13.

4. “Then shall He say also to them on the left hand, Depart from Me, ye cursed, unto everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.” Matthew 25:41.

1. The curse that came when Adam and Eve sinned, when they were driven from Eden.

2. The curse of the law, 2500 years later:

Romans 3:19 and 20

“Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law where shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the law is

the knowledge of sin.”

Romans 4:15

“Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.”

Hebrews 12:20 and 21

“(For they could not endure that which was commanded, and if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: and so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake.)”

4. The final curse of the place of torment, the sorrows of the second death.

Revelation 20:14 and 15

“And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”

John 3:14

“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up.”

3. Now note curse number 3—Cursed was Christ on the tree

II Corinthians 5:21

“For He hath made Him to be sin for us, Who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him”

John 19:5

“Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe, And Pilate said unto them, Behold the Man!”

Matthew 27:45 and 46

“Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani, that is to say, My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken Me?”

John 19:30

When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, He said, It is finished: and He bowed His head and gave up the ghost.”

Because Adam was disobedient unto death.

Because Adam hid behind the tree.

Because Adam was driven from the Garden.

Because Adam went out to sweat.

Because Adam brought the curse.

Because Adam brought the thorns.

I Corinthians 15:22 to 24

“FOR AS IN ADAM ALL DIE, EVEN SO IN CHRIST SHALL ALL BE MADE ALIVE.

BUT EVERY MAN IN HIS OWN ORDER: CHRIST THE FIRSTFRUITS; AFTERWARD THEY THAT ARE CHRIST'S AT HIS COMING. THEN COMETH THE END, WHEN HE SHALL HAVE DELIVERED UP THE KINGDOM TO GOD, EVEN THE FATHER; WHEN HE SHALL HAVE PUT DOWN ALL RULE AND ALL AUTHORITY AND POWER."

The third curse will deliver God's' creation from the other three curses.

Christ was made a curse on the Cross. Christ is coming back from heaven to bring about the restitution of all things. Acts 3:21.

QUESTIONS—LESSON FIVE

1. What is the first Bible promise of the Redeemer?
2. Why did the Lord, in Luke 24:25 to 27, say to His disciples, "O, fools," or "O foolish ones"?
3. What had happened when they took Christ down from the tree and put him in the sepulchre?
4. Who was Christ according to the question of John the Baptist in Luke 7:19? According to the statement of Hebrews 10:37?
5. In what verse did Christ say, "the Scriptures testify of Me"?
6. Who was Christ to be according to Isaiah 7:14 and Malachi 3:1?
7. In what verse do we read that Christ, before the world, was foreordained to be God's spotless Lamb?
8. What cleanses from all sin? What is the fact concerning remission of sin in Hebrews 9:22?
9. What was the difference between Cain's sacrifice and that of Abel? Why did God accept Abel's and reject Cain's?
10. What did Cain do to Abel? Who caused Cain to commit that awful crime?
11. What do the Scriptures teach regarding the place of good works in salvation?
12. What is guaranteed to man by the exceeding precious promises in God's Book?
13. Why was the name "Seth" given to the son born to Adam and Eve?
14. What curse is mentioned in connection with the exile of Adam and Eve from Eden?
15. What is said concerning the curse of the law in Galatians 3:10?
16. What did Christ become on the cross, according to Galatians 3:13 and II Corinthians 5:21? With what blessing to believing sinners?
17. What does the word "Emmanuel" mean? What Scriptures give the prophecy and fulfillment of that name for Christ?
18. What will God ultimately do according to Ephesians 1:10?
19. For whom is the everlasting fire prepared?
20. What happened in the earth while Christ was on the cross?

LESSON NUMBER SIX

AS IT WAS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

Matthew 24:30 and 36 to 39

“And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark. And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”

According to the Bible there are yet days to come on this earth which are designated “the days of the Son of man.” Those days are to be like the days of Noah.

Let us turn to Genesis and see what kind of days the days of Noah were and then we will study concerning the Son of man.

THE SONS OF GOD AND THE DAUGHTERS OF MEN

In the days of Seth, men began to call upon the name of the Lord. Genesis 4:26. But the descendants of Cain became great sinners. Note what God’s Book has to say about “the days of Noah.”

Genesis 6:1 to 22

1 “And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

3 And the Lord said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years.

4 There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

6 And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

7 And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beasts, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

9 These are the generations of Noah; Noah was a just man and perfect in his generation, and Noah walked with God.

10 And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

12 And God looketh upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

13 And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

14 Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.

15 And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.

16 A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it.

17 And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.

18 But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

19 And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee, they shall be male and female.

20 Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

21 And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them.

22 Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he."

GENESIS 7:1 to 6

"And the Lord said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female.

Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth.

For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

And Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him.

And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth."

GENESIS 7:18 to 24

"And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters.

And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered.

Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.

And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beasts, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man:

All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died.

And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and that were destroyed from the earth; and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.

And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days.”

GENESIS 8:18 to 22

“And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons’ wives with him:

Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark. And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

And the Lord smelled a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man’s sake; for the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.”

From the Scriptures we learn much about the days of Noah. Those were evil days. Men were so wicked that God had to judge the world and destroy all flesh outside of the ark. God said to Noah, “My Spirit shall not always strive with man.” That was God’s message for that particular period. We have no Scriptural authority for applying this statement to this present dispensation of grace.

Noah constructed the ark according to God’s instructions. That ark was judgment-proof. When Noah and his family went into the ark God shut them in. God shut the door. Noah and his family were safe from the judgment of death.

The place of security today is “in Christ.”

Hebrews 11:7

“By faith, Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.”

II Peter 2:5

“And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly.”

Apparently very few heeded the warning of Noah. But God’s awful judgment fell. Noah was spared.

Now let us note carefully these verses:

“But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.” Genesis 6:8.

“And the Lord said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before Me in this generation.” Genesis 7:1.

“And Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him.” Genesis 7:5.

“And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters asswaged.” Genesis 8:1.

“And God blessed Noah, and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth.” Genesis 9:1.

“And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, And I, behold, I establish

My Covenant with you, and with your seed after you.” Genesis 9:8 and 9.

“And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the Covenant, which I have established between Me and all flesh that is upon the earth.” Genesis 9:17.

There was abounding sin in the days of Noah. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. Remember God’s statement in Romans 5:20: “But where sin abounded grace did much more abound.” There is abounding sin today; but more abounding grace.

We learn that Methuselah died the year of the flood, 1656 A. H. Some Hebrews have taught that “Methuselah” means “cut off by many waters.” It is interesting to read concerning Methuselah’s father who never died.

Methuselah was 969 years of age when he died. Jared was 962 years of age. Adam was 930 years of age when he died. Noah lived to be 950 years of age and Seth 912 years.

ENOCH TRANSLATED

Hebrews 11:5 and 6

“By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”

Genesis 5:21 to 23

“And Enoch lived sixty and five years and begat Methuselah: And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years; and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years.

Hebrews 11:5

“By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.”

Jude 14 and 15

“And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousand of His saints. To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”

As Enoch was translated and did not taste death, so many believers, at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, will not taste death.

I Thessalonians 4:16 and 17

“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

This coming of the Lord Jesus Christ seems to be different from His coming as the Son of man as declared in Matthew 24:30, “the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”

Note the question concerning the coming of the Son of man in Luke 18:8:

“Nevertheless, when the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?”

The Son of man asked this very interesting question in Luke 18:8: “When the Son of man cometh shall He find faith on the earth?” In Luke 21:25 He declares what shall be on the earth when He comes: “upon the earth distress of nations.” In the question of Luke 18:8 the Greek construction calls for a negative answer. The Son of man will not find faith on the earth. There was very little faith on the earth in the days of Noah. The days of the Son of man shall be like those days, only worse, according to:

Matthew 24:21 and 22

“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened.”

Matthew 24:30

“And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”

If the Lord Jesus Christ should come at this time for the Church, which is His Body, He would find more faith on the earth than was ever here, because there are more saved people. There are, perhaps, more real Christians in Chicago today than there ever were in Corinth, Rome, Ephesus, Antioch or in any other city in the days of the apostles. Therefore these are not “the days of the Son of man.”

Christ is now far above in heaven, Head of the Church which is His Body. Ephesians 1:19 to 22. When Christ shall appear then shall the members of His Body appear with Him in glory. Colossians 3:3 and 4. Christ is not the Son of man in His relationship and ministry to the Body-members. He is the Son of man to Israel and in the coming judgment of that Nation and other nations.

The only disciple of Christ who called Him the Son of man was Stephen: “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.” Acts 7:56.

Here we note that Christ was in heaven some months after He had been put to death. He was standing while Stephen was giving to Israel a summary of Israel’s history.

In Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, Christ calls Himself by the title of Son of man 80 times. But it was He Who called Himself by that name and not others. As we study the different Scriptures we learn that it is difficult to understand just the significance of the title.

The hope of the Church, the Body of Christ, is the coming of Christ, the Head. The hope of Israel is the coming of Christ the Son of man as King. The Son of man was not speaking to the Body when He spoke in Luke 21:27 and 28 “And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.”

It is interesting to note “When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy

angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations.” Matthew 25:31 and 32. “Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” Matthew 25:34.

WHO IS THIS SON OF MAN?

Some preachers have thought we could make Christ less Divine and more human by calling Him “the Son of man” rather than “the Son of God.” But note the question of the perplexed Jews: Christ had said “When ye have lifted up the Son of man then shall ye know that I am He.” John 8:28. “The people answered him, We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up? who is this Son of man?” John 12:34. “Who is the Son of Man?” Christ Himself asked very much the same question: “Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?” Matthew 16:13. Note the answer of some who knew that He was some extraordinary Man. “Some say that Thou art John the Baptist: some Elias; and others Jeremias, or one of the prophets.” Matthew 16:14. Note whom Peter declared Him to be: “And Simon Peter answered and said, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Matthew 16:16.

“Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.” John 1:51. “And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but He that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.” John 3:13. “And hath given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of man.” John 5:27. “Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.” Matthew 26:64. “And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified.” John 12:23. “Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God.” Luke 12:8. “Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.” Luke 17:30. “And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined but woe unto that man by whom He is betrayed.” Luke 22:22. “But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins.” Mark 2:10 and Luke 5:24.

In Colossians 1:13, we are told that members of the Body of Christ are in His kingdom, but there is a difference between Christ’s relationship to Israel as King and His relationship to His Body as Head. Read the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew and the sixth chapter of the Revelation to know what the days of the Son of man will be like.

QUESTIONS-LESSON SIX

1. How was Noah related to Seth?
2. What did men do when Seth was born?
3. What was the moral and spiritual condition of the human race when Noah lived before the flood?
4. What did God tell Noah He would do with man because of man’s awful wickedness?
5. How many years did God give man?
6. What did Noah do according to Hebrews 11:7? What was Noah according to II Peter 2:5?
7. What did Noah build in obedience to God’s command?

8. Whom did God invite into the ark?
9. Who went in with Noah? How many of each animal went into the ark?
10. For how many days did the rain descend? Is there any record that there had been rainfall before the flood?
11. What did Noah offer on the altar that he built after he came out of the ark? Did his offering please God?
12. Who died the year of the flood and at what age, according to Genesis 5:27? What happened to his father, Enoch?
13. What new covenant and responsibility did God give to and through Noah? Why did God put the rainbow in the clouds?
14. What coming days are to be like the days of Noah?
15. What is that time to be called according to Matthew 24:21?
16. What signs in the heavens and on earth will immediately precede the coming of the Son of man?
17. State a few facts concerning Christ in connection with His title, “the Son of man.”
18. Describe the coming of the Son of man to deliver Israel in their time of distress.
19. Who saw the heavens opened and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God?
20. Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord in the days of abounding sin and was safe from God’s wrath in the ark. What about sin and grace in Romans 5:20? Who is the sinner’s ark of salvation today?

LESSON NUMBER SEVEN

FROM ADAM TO MOSES

THE ANTEDILUVIAN AGE—FROM ADAM TO NOAH—FROM THE FLOOD TO ABRAHAM—ABRAHAM TO MOSES

“Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam’s transgression.” Romans 5:14.

“Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to Whom the promise was made.” Galatians 3:19.

When Adam sinned, God declared the Seed of the woman would come as man’s Redeemer. About 2100 years later, God said to Abraham, “In thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.” Genesis 26:4. The Seed of the woman was to be Abraham Seed.

Concerning the Lord Jesus Christ we read:

Hebrews 2:16

“For verily He took not on Him the nature of angels: but He took on Him the Seed of Abraham.”

Galatians 4:4

“But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law.”

We learn in Galatians 3:16 to 19 that 430 years after God made His promise to Abraham, Moses received the law from God on Mount Sinai. From Adam to Moses was about 2500 years. God made promise to Abram about 427 years after the flood. The law was added to the promise about 1495 years before Christ was made of a woman, made under the law.

Every member of the human race came from Adam and from Noah.

FROM ADAM TO NOAH—(The Flood)

By studying Genesis 5:3 to 32, we learn that Noah was born in 956 A. H., or about 3044 B. C. “Noah was 600 years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.” Genesis 7:6. Therefore the flood was upon the earth 1656 A. H. (year of man), or about 2344 B. C.. That was the year that Methuselah died. Genesis 5:27.

Noah’s three sons were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Genesis 5:32. Noah lived 350 years after the flood. Genesis 9:29. Shem was 100 years old two years after the flood. Genesis 11:10. Shem died 500 years later: 1656 plus 2 plus 500 equals 2158 A. H., or about 1842 B. C.

GOD’S COVENANT WITH NOAH Concerning The Earth and The Government of Man

Genesis 9:5 to 17

5 “And surely your blood of your lives will I require: at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man’s brother will I require the life of man.

6 Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

7 And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

8 And God spake unto Noah, his sons with him, saying,

9 And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you;

10 And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth.

11 And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood and to destroy the earth.

12 And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you, and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations:

13 I do set my bow in the cloud, and It shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

14 And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:

15 And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.

16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the

everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.

17 And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.”

Here we learn that God instituted, what we call, capital punishment for the crime of murder. This was about 845 years before man was put under the law, that is, before the Old Testament was entered into between Jehovah and Israel.

Here we note that God placed responsibility for the government of humanity upon man. Here we have the beginning of the rainbow. It is thought by man that there was no rain on the earth until the flood. It was not until after the flood that man was permitted to have flesh for food.

FROM NOAH TO ABRAHAM

Note what has been called the royal seed from Noah to Jacob (Israel): Noah—Shem—Arphaxad—Salah—Eber—Peleg—Reu—Serug—Nahor—Terah—Abram (Abraham)—Isaac—Jacob (Israel). Genesis 11:10 to 32 and Genesis 21:5. Genesis 25:20 to 28. Abraham was 75 years of age when God gave him His promise. Genesis 12:1 to 4. By comparing these Scriptures with Genesis 11, we learn that Abraham left his own land about 2083 A. H., or about 1917 B. C. Abraham died at the age of 175. Genesis 25:7. He died about 1817 B. C. Eber died about 1813 B. C. Shem died about 1842 B. C. Abraham was about 150 years old when Shem died. Note that there were nine or ten generations between Shem and Abraham.

The Semetic people came from Shem. Persecutions of the Jews are sometimes called “anti-Semitic” movements. The Jews came from Shem and Abraham and Isaac and Jacob. In Genesis 14:13 Abraham is called “the Hebrew.” There has been speculation and controversy as to the meaning of the word “Hebrew” here. Some have interpreted the word as meaning “Eberite” or a descendant of Eber. Note:

Genesis 9:18 to 29

18 “And the sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth: and Ham is the father of Canaan.

19 These are the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread.

20 And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard.

21 And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.

22 And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without.

23 And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father’s nakedness.

24 And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him.

25 And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.

26 And he said, Blessed be the Lord God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

27 God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

28 And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years.

29 And all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years: and he died.”

Here we learn of Noah’s sin. God’s blessing upon Shem and his seed. And God’s curse upon Canaan and the descendants of Ham.

Many think the negro race bear the curse pronounced upon Ham’s descendants. Mary, the mother of the Saviour, descended from Shem. The descendants of Shem gave us our Saviour and the Bible.

The name “Peleg” means “division.” Note:

I Chronicles 1:19

“And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg; because in his days the earth was divided: and his brother’s name was Joktan.”

We learn of a great judgment and division in:

Genesis 11:1 to 9

“And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech

2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.

3 And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar.

4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth

5 And the Lord came down to see the city and all the earth; and from thence did the Lord scatter the tower, which the children of men builded.

6 And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do; and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.

8 So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth; and they left off to build the city.

9 Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth; and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth. “

The word “Babel” or “Babylon” carries the thought of confusion. Here we see the beginning of nations, the beginning of tongues, and therefore, the beginning of wars among the nations. Among the descendants of Ham were Pharaoh, Nebuchadnezzar and Haman, who became great persecutors of Israel, the descendants of Shem. The Hebrew word translated “nations” is also translated “Gentiles” and “heathen.”

Perhaps the destruction and confusion at Babel took place in the days of Peleg. We learn in Romans, chapter one, how far into sin, paganism and darkness the Gentiles drifted.

HOW WERE MEN SAVED?

We read how Abel, Seth, Enoch, and Noah were saved before the flood. We would judge that Shem was saved. Abel, by faith and sacrifice obtained witness that he was righteous. Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord (Genesis 6:8) and then note what Noah did:

Genesis 8:20

“And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord: and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.”

Remember the words of the Lord in:

Leviticus 17:11

“For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.”

And again in:

Hebrews 9:22

“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood: and without shedding of blood is no remission.”

But we learn in:

Hebrews 10:4

“For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.”

Hebrews 9:12

“Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He (Christ) entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.”

So all, who were saved before the once-for-all sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ, were saved by looking forward to that sacrifice. Believing sinners are saved today by looking back to Calvary

Hebrews 10:10 to 14

“By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering He hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.”

Hebrews 10:17

“And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.”

TERAH

Abram’s father was Terah. Although Terah descended from Shem and from Eber, he was an idolater (Joshua 24:2) and certainly neither an Israelite nor a Jew. Although the Israelites and

Jews descended from Shem, so also did many Gentiles. Israelites and Jews all descended from Abraham. But they came from Isaac, the son of Sarah. Abraham had another son, Ishmael. The descendants of Ishmael were neither Israelites nor Jews. Then note the children of Abraham and Keturah. Abraham married Keturah after Sarah had died. “And she bare him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah.” Genesis 25:2.

FROM ABRAHAM TO MOSES

We will study this more in detail in our next lesson. But in Galatians 3:16 to 19 we learn that from the call of Abram to the year that Moses received the law, 430 years passed by. Abram was 75 years old when he was called. Moses was 80 years old when he received the law.

Let us remember that death reigned from Adam to Moses before God’s law of ten commandments, His ordinances and religion were given to Israel.

ABRAHAM—LOT—SODOM AND GOMORRAH

Note what God has to say about Sodom and Gomorrah and Lot in:

Jude 7

“Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them, in like manner giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”

II Peter 2:6

“And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly.”

Now let us read something of this Divine judgment in:

GENESIS 13:7 and 8

7 “And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram’s cattle and the herdmen of Lot’s cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelt then in the land.

8 And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.”

GENESIS 13:10 to 13

10 “And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

11 Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

12 Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

13 But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly.”

GENESIS 19:23 to 30

23 “The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

24 Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstones and fire from the Lord out of heaven;

25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

26 But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

27 And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the Lord:

28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

29 And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

30 And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.”

ABRAM AND MELCHISEDEC

Now let us carefully note concerning Abram and Melchisedec in Genesis 14:18 to 20:

Genesis 14:18 to 20

“And Melchisedec king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the Most High God, possessor of heaven and earth: and blessed be the Most High God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.”

“The Lord hath sworn and will not repent: Thou art a Priest for ever, after the order of Melchisedec.” Psalms 110:4. “As He saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.” Hebrews 5:6. “Called of God a High Priest after the order of Melchisedec.” “Whither the Forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made a High Priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.” Hebrews 6:20.

Abraham (Abram) met Melchisedec before there were any Israelites or Jews, even before Jacob was born, even several years before uncircumcised Abram became circumcised Abraham.

We should be interested to learn all we can about Melchisedec because Christ is a Priest after the order of Melchisedec.

QUESTIONS-LESSON SEVEN

1. About how many years from Adam to Moses (at Sinai)?
2. How long from Adam’s fall to the flood?
3. Who were Noah’s three sons? From which son did the Jews and the Saviour come?
4. How old was Shem when he died? How old was Abraham when Shem died?
5. What did God declare should be the punishment of the man who shed blood?

6. Why did God say, “Cursed be Canaan”? Who was Canaan?
7. Refer to Genesis 11 and state how Eber was related to Abraham.
8. What happened at the time God scattered the people abroad on the face of all the earth?
9. How were men saved from Adam to Moses?
10. Name the three wives of Abraham, and give the name of one son from each wife.
11. Was Abraham a Jew? An Israelite? A Hebrew?
12. Who was Melchisedec? What took place between Melchisedec and Abraham?
13. Who was Lot? What position did he hold in Sodom? What became of his wife?
14. About how many years from the flood to the call of Abram?
15. Whose Seed was Christ?
16. What did God say about sins and shed blood?
17. What happened to Christ after He had offered one sacrifice for sin?
18. Of what was the destruction of Sodom a sample?
19. What is said of the period from Adam to Moses? How long was that period?
20. To what was the law added?