

LESSON FOR SABBATH, OCTOBER 3, 2009

WITNESSING UNTO OUR LORD

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-14.

Golden Text: Acts 1:8.

1. What does our Lord want us to be? Matthew 4:19.
2. What title does Paul give to God's children? 2 Corinthians 5:20.
3. What responsibility does our Lord Jesus place upon His followers? Matthew 5:13-16.
4. What should children of God be in their daily lives? 2 Corinthians 3:3.
5. What is defined as an essential accompaniment of salvation? Romans 10:9-10.
6. What does Luke 6:45 tell us about the abundance of the heart?
7. What did Jesus say about good treasure and evil treasure? Matthew 12:35.
8. What are we told about fear and trust? Proverbs 29:25.
9. To have God's guidance in his life, what must a person do? Proverbs 3:6.
10. After receiving the power of redemption, what does one owe God? Psalms 107:2.
11. What does Jesus promise to do for those who bear witness for him? Matthew 10:32. What does he say about those who do not bear witness for him? Matthew 10:33.
12. What should all followers of Christ be able to say? Romans 1:16.

NOTE: All followers of Christ must be missionaries. The Bible does not divide the world into home and foreign mission fields. The saved have a responsibility of telling the unsaved about Christ's redeeming power.

Not only is confessing Christ to others a necessity, but it is an essential means of spiritual development for the child of God. The more we assert and declare a truth, the stronger will be its hold upon us.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, OCTOBER 10, 2009

OUR FATHER'S GIVING

Scripture Reading: Philippians 4:10-23.

Golden Text: James 1:17.

1. Was the Apostle Paul able to find contentment in any circumstances? Philippians 4:11-12.
2. How can one be contented even in the poorest of earthly circumstances? Hebrews 13:5.

3. Are we sufficient of ourselves? 2 Corinthians 3:4-5.
 4. What does God supply? Philippians 4:19.
 5. Who is the best judge of our real needs? Matthew 6:25-32.
 6. What will God never withhold from the upright? Psalms 84:11.
 7. Before he supplied their true needs, what did God have to do to the Israelites? Deuteronomy 8:3-4.
- NOTE: God sometimes today has to humble his children in order for them to recognize that before he supplies their needs, they must draw closer to him.*
8. What is one condition of God's favor that is often overlooked? Proverbs 3:9-10 .
 9. What keeps God from pouring out blessings upon some? Malachi 3:10.
 10. What is God able to do for us? 2 Corinthians 9:8.
 11. How should our requests be made to God? Philippians 4:6.

NOTE: We may plan our own method of relief and instruct God as to what he should send us. He may disregard our plans in order to give us something much better.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, OCTOBER 17, 2009

GOD REVEALS HIMSELF

Scripture Reading: Romans 1:18-32.

Golden Text: Romans 1:20.

1. God surely has some way to reveal truth concerning Himself. How has His revelation of truth in both the past and present been made in Hebrews? Hebrews 1:1-2.

2. Is God distinguished from all the works of His hands? Jeremiah 10:10-16; Acts 15:18; Acts 14:15.

NOTE: Many rationalists endeavor to make God and the world identical in meaning. They say the law of the universe is God, and that He is not distinct from the universe, but He is a part of it. This is not true.

3. Is God actively present in the affairs of the universe? Psalms 104:27-34; Matthew 6:26-30; 10:29-34.

4. What is said of God's visibility? John 1:18; 1 Timothy 1:17; 1 Timothy 6:16.

5. May we say that God is an invisible and living reality? John 4:24; Acts 17:24-25.

6. Is God limited by any bounds of time? Psalms 9:7.

7. What does James tell us of God's unchangeable character? James 1:17.

8. Is God dependent on anything for His existence? John 5:26.
9. What does Jeremiah say of God's omnipresence? Jeremiah 23:23-24.
10. Are all things possible with God? Matthew 19:26.
11. Is God's knowledge limited? Psalms 147:5; 1 John 3:20.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, OCTOBER 24, 2009

THE MAJESTY OF GOD

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1.

Golden Text: Genesis 1:1.

1. Does the Bible attempt to prove God's existence, or does it state God's existence as a fact? When did God create the universe? Genesis 1:1.
2. Does nature reveal the fact that there is a God? Romans 1:19-20.
3. Do the heavens bear witness to God? Psalms 19:1.

NOTE: Astronomy bears witness to the fact that God is all powerful (omnipotent). For example, the earth is a relatively small planet. It weighs six sextillion tons. The sun is large enough to hold one and one half million worlds the size of our earth. Only an all powerful God could create such an earth and sun!

4. Did Isaiah describe the omnipotence of God? Isaiah 40:12-14.
5. How does David describe the all-wise (omniscient) God? Psalms 139:7-18.

NOTE: Astronomy tells us of the complex mechanism of the universe. Billions of galaxies are in space. They all move at fantastic speeds on fixed paths and in accordance to changeless laws. They move with great mathematical exactness. Astronomers can predict the visit of a comet or the occasion of an eclipse years in advance.

NOTE: Notice that Psalms 139:7-18 also describes the omnipresence (present everywhere) of God.

6. Is it possible for science to have all the answers about the origin, nature and purpose of the universe? Isaiah 55:8-9; Romans 11:33-36.
7. How must the Bible's statements concerning the origin of the universe be accepted? Hebrews 11:3.
8. Can a person be a child of God and not believe in Him? Hebrews 11:6.
9. Why do some people choose not to believe in God? Psalms 14:2-3.
10. Will the atheist escape the ultimate consequences of his sins? Revelation 20:11-15.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, OCTOBER 31, 2009

BASIC PRINCIPALS OF SALVATION

Scripture Reading: John 3:1-21.
Golden Text: John 3:5.

NOTE: The fundamental basis of salvation is that men are lost without Jesus Christ. Apart from acceptance of His vicarious sacrifice, man cannot receive eternal life or enter into the kingdom.

1. Must lost men be regenerated? John 3:6-7.

Regenerated Encarta Dictionary (religion transitive verb to restore and renew somebody morally or spiritually). The question here is does the note address the whole of the scriptures in its explanation of John 3.

NOTE: One must be born of the water or baptized. Then he becomes begotten of the Spirit. At the resurrection he becomes born of the Spirit.

2. What is our state by nature as we enter this world? Psalms 51:5.

3. How soon do we begin to go astray? Psalms 58:3.

4. In what condition is the unregenerate heart? Jeremiah 17:9.

5. Of what are we all guilty? Romans 3:23.

6. Of what might we be made partakers? 2 Peter 1:4.

7. What is the man who is in Christ called? 2 Corinthians 5:17.

8. What has God done for His children? Ephesians 2:5; Colossians 2:13.

9. Does the Bible reveal the one way to salvation? John 14:6.

10. Through what name alone does God give salvation? Acts 4:12.

11. Who offered the one and only atonement for sin? Hebrews 9:22 and 28.

12. Who alone has saving power? 1 John 5:12; John 6:44.

13. What does the Bible say of one who would preach some other way of salvation? Galatians 1:8-9.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, NOVEMBER 7, 2009

RULES OF CONDUCT FOR OUR LIVES

Scripture Reading: John 15:1-14.
Golden Text: Matthew 4:4.

NOTE: There are many rules of conduct for our lives found throughout the Bible. Many of them are in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Others are in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) and the New Testament epistles.

1. Do most people observe the rules of conduct perfectly? Romans 3:9-10,23.

2. Has anyone ever kept all of the rules? If so, who was he? Matthew 3:17; 17:5; 1 Peter 2:22.
3. What did the Apostle Paul say about one of the Ten Commandments? Romans 7:7.
4. What does James say about those who keep the whole law but sin by breaking one of the commandments? James 2:10.

NOTE: Suppose a man were to be found guilty of breaking the sixth commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," and were condemned to death for murder. It would do the man no good to say to the judge, "But, sir, I have only broken one of the commandments and done my best to keep the others."

5. What is the penalty for breaking the law? Genesis 2:17; Ezekiel 18:4; Romans 6:23.
6. Who spoke the words of the Sermon on the Mount? Matthew 5:1,2.
7. What did our Lord say about people who display certain qualities? Matthew 5:3-12.
8. What indicates that God's viewpoint and man's viewpoint are often at odds? Isaiah 55:8-9.
9. How, did Jesus expose the faulty view of some ideas of men? Matthew 5:21-48.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, NOVEMBER 14, 2009

JESUS - BETTER THAN MOSES

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 3:1-19.

Text: Hebrews 3:6.

1. To what two phases of Christ's work does the writer of Hebrews call attention? Hebrews 3:1.
2. In Malachi 3:1, what is the title of the coming Messiah?
3. Did Moses possess any special characteristic? Numbers 12:7; Hebrews 3:2.
4. What does Hebrews 3:3 tell us about the worth of Christ? Why is Christ superior to Moses?
5. What is accorded to Christ? Colossians 1:18.

NOTE: Moses was a type of Christ in several ways. While they were infants, they both were threatened by cruel rulers, yet marvelously sheltered. Moses and Christ were both prophets. Moses was a mediator between God and Israel, but Jesus, who was prophet, priest and king, is the superior and final mediator between God and man.

6. Over whose house was Moses faithful? Hebrews 3:4-5.
7. In contrast, what does Hebrews 3:6 tell us about Jesus?

NOTE: In Hebrews 3:5, the writer suggests that the things of Moses were typical and prophetic.

8. What did God reveal to Moses in Deuteronomy 18:15-19?

9. Of whom did Moses and the others prophesy? Luke 24:27, 44.
10. What did Jesus say about Moses? John 5:46.
11. Who is now the mediator between God and man? 1 Timothy 2:5-6.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, NOVEMBER 21, 2009

LOVE IS OF GOD

Scripture Reading: John 3:1-16.

Golden Text: 1 John 4:9.

1. Why did God send his Son into the world? John 3:16-17; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:9-10.
2. If we do not manifest love (charity), what are we? 1 Corinthians 13:1.
3. What does love (charity) do? 1 John 4:18; 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.
4. What did John say about God? 1 John 4:8-10.
5. How do we know that we are the children of God? 1 John 3:6-10
6. What must be written in every child of God's heart? 2 Corinthians 3:2-3; Psalms 40:8.
7. How is the love of God shed abroad in our hearts? Romans 5:5.
8. What is the result when God's commandments are written on the heart? Ephesians 4:31-32. What is that person declared to be? 2 Corinthians 3:3.
9. In whom do we dwell if we dwell in love? 1 John 4:16.
10. What is his commandment? 1 John 3:23-24.
11. How can we pass from death unto life? 1 John 3:14-15.

NOTE: Love and hate cannot dwell in a person's heart at the same time. The child of God must overcome evil with good. Unless love dwells in our hearts, we cannot be disciples of Jesus.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, NOVEMBER 28, 2009

THE MIND OF CHRIST

Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:1-16.

Golden Text: Philippians 2:5.

1. What is the cure for disunity? Philippians 2:3.

NOTE: One translation of the first part of verse 3 reads "Let nothing be done through partisanship and pomposity." This pair has been responsible for the ruin of many a good work.

2. How can we promote our best interest? Philippians 2:4.

3. What do our minds need? Romans 12:2.

4. How are we shown the things of Christ? John 16:13-14.

NOTE: Only the Holy Spirit makes it possible to understand the mind of Christ. The natural mind does not understand the things of God because they can only be grasped by those who have the Holy Spirit within them. Romans 8:7.

5. What did our Lord Jesus say we should do with our minds? Matthew 22:37.

6. What did Jesus say in John 5:19?

7. What did Jesus pray as he was about to return to heaven? John 17:6-8.

8. By coming to earth, what did our Lord give up for our sakes? 2 Corinthians 8:9.

9. How far down was Christ willing to go for us? Philippians 2:8.

NOTE: If Christ humbled himself and was obedient, should we not be the same?

10. Who is now the one Mediator between God and men? 1 Timothy 2:5.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, DECEMBER 5, 2009

THE OUTWORKINGS OF SALVATION

Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:12-30.

Golden Text: Philippians 2:12.

1. How many are going to be compelled to acknowledge Christ? Philippians 2:10-11.

2. While some shall awake to everlasting life, what will others awake to find? Daniel 12:2.

3. How did Paul instruct those at Philippi to be independent of him? Philippians 2:12.

NOTE: Paul is saying, "You're on your own, so be watchful. Fully sense your responsibility."

4. Although we do the Commandments, and we do many good works, what must we all admit? Isaiah 64:6.

5. How can we produce that which is well pleasing to God? Hebrews 13:20-21.

6. To what must we give the credit for everything that pertains to life and godliness? 2 Peter 1:3.

7. As representatives of the light of the world, what is our primary business? Philippians 2:15.

8. As we lighten the path of others, what lamp do we hold forth? Compare Philippians 2:16 with Psalms 119:105.
9. How can one be certain in the day of Christ that he has not run or labored in vain? Philippians 2:16.
10. What could Paul count upon as he looked forward to the future recognition of the saints? 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20.
11. How can one be assured of having great joy in that day? Compare Philippians 2:15 with Daniel 12:3.

NOTE: Let us not forget that God's children are called to be lights in a dark and lost world.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, DECEMBER 12, 2009

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Scripture Reading: John 14:16-31.

Golden Text: John 14:26.

NOTE: The Holy Spirit is not a third person of a trinity. The Holy Ghost, or Holy Spirit, called the comforter in our golden text, is the power of God which proceeds from the Father through the Son. The personal pro-noun "He" is used instead of "It". This is because there was no pro-noun for the neuter gender in the language from which the New Testament was written.

1. According to Genesis 1:2 and Psalm 104:30, in what did the Holy Spirit have a part?
2. Will God's Spirit always strive with man? Genesis 6:3.
3. What came upon Othniel which made him able to judge Israel? Judges 3:9-10.
4. What two births are necessary before one can enter the kingdom of God? John 3:5-8.
5. Why was the Holy Spirit's descent at Pentecost essential to the disciples and the rapid spread of the gospel? Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8.
6. What signs accompanied the Spirit's coming at Pentecost which demonstrated that Jesus had kept his promise to send "another Comforter"? Acts 2: 1-4.
7. In this age, what is the relationship between the Holy Spirit and the believer? Romans 8:9.
8. What is the condition of receiving the Holy Spirit? John 7:37-39.
9. Of what day is the seal of the Holy Spirit a pledge? Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; Romans 8:23.
10. What special work does the Holy Spirit do? John 16:8-11.
11. What does 1 Corinthians 2:14 say of the natural man?

NOTE: Someone has said, "Christ is the door into God's presence (John 10:9). Faith is the key that unlocks the door (Romans 10:17). The Holy Spirit gives one the key and helps him turn the lock for access (Ephesians 2:18)."

LESSON FOR SABBATH, DECEMBER 19, 2009

NEW CREATURES IN CHRIST

Scripture Reading: John 3.

Golden Text: 2 Corinthians 5:17.

NOTE: Some translations use the word CREATION instead of CREATURE in our golden text.

1. What is said of religion personally experienced by the baptized and totally regenerated individual through the Holy Spirit? Can we trust it? Colossians 2:7-13; Romans 6:6-12; Galatians 3:26-27; Colossians 1:27.
2. How have we been saved and redeemed? Titus 3:4-6; 2 Timothy 1:9; 1 Peter 1:18-19.
3. With what did God beget us and why? James 1:18; 1 Corinthians 4:15.
4. What must we do because we have purified our souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit? 1 Peter 1:22.
5. With what are those who are born of the water and converted compared? 1 Peter 2:2; Matthew 18:2-3.
6. What is expected of those who have been children of God for some time? Hebrews 5:11-14; 2 Peter 3:18.
7. What must the heart experience? 2 Corinthians 1:22; 3:3; Ephesians 3:16-17.
8. Who can become Sons of God? John 1:12-13.
9. What promise is ours after we become children of God and new creatures? Romans 8:16-17; Galatians 4:4-7.
10. What does God ask us to do so he can be a father unto us? 2 Corinthians 6:17-18.

NOTE: To become a new creature in Christ, we must be born now of the water. We will be born of the Spirit in the first resurrection. We must be born of the water and of the Spirit before we can receive the final victory and enter the kingdom of God. John 3:5.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, DECEMBER 26, 2009

PRAYING TO OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

Scripture Reading: Luke 18:1-14.

Golden Text: Luke 18:1.

NOTE: Someone has said that he who does not pray, does not have power. Our Lord Jesus tells us to ask, and it shall be given, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you. See Matthew 7:7-8. Prayer is the only way by which we can talk to our Father in heaven.

1. Who set a good example of prayer? Luke 6:12.
2. What did Jesus say about praying and watching? Mark 13:32-37.
3. In whose name should we pray? John 16:23-26; Colossians 3:17.
4. How should we worship God in prayer? John 4:23-24; 1 Corinthians 14:15-16.
5. With what attitude should we come before the Lord? James 4:10.
6. How often would it be good for us to pray? Daniel 6:10; Psalms 55:17.
7. What does 1 Thessalonians 5:17 tell us to do?

NOTE: This verse means to have regular prayer periods.

8. Why should we pray often? John 15:1-7.
9. Why must we pray for ourselves? Matthew 26:41.
10. What did Jesus say we should do to those who hate us? Matthew 5:43-44.
11. What are some classes of people for whom we should pray? Ephesians 6:18-20; 1 Timothy 2:1-2.
12. How far reaching is our Lord's promise of answering our prayers? Luke 11:9-13; Luke 18:1-8.