

LESSON FOR SABBATH, JULY 3, 2010

MORDECAI, A VIRTUOUS SAINT

Scripture Reading: Esther 2:5-23.

Golden Text: Esther 9:4.

1. What is the genealogy of Mordecai? Esther 2:5,6; Daniel 1:1,4.

He was of the same group as that of Daniel and his friends, who refused to compromise with the actions of the world. Daniel 3:10,11,14,18; Esther 3:1-5.

2. From what tribe of Israel did Mordecai come from? Esther 2:5. Kish, the father of Saul, was an early forebear. 1 Samuel 9:1;3; 10:11,21. The eponymous tribe of Benjamin had many outstanding persons. 1 Samuel 16:1; Romans 11:1; Genesis 49:25,26. Mordecai was interested in witnessing for the acts of God upon his people. Esther 9:3,4.

3. What good admonition did Mordecai give to Esther? Esther 2:10; 4:13,14.

4. What brave answer did Esther give in return to Mordecai? Esther 4:15,16.

5. What statement is made in Esther 5:1 that is of interest to us? The expression "third day" is a time through which saints can begin a new life. The giving of God's Law came after the three days. Exodus 19:16. An answer to prayer was received 2 Kings 20:5; It brought about a time of refreshing Hosea 6:2. Three days and three nights were the time Jesus spent in the sepulcher Matthew 12:40; Three days of excitement Luke 24:21.

6. Mordecai did not wish to break one of God's Ten Commandments by bowing down to Haman. What other reason did he have for not doing this? Exodus 20:4,5; He refused to honor any enemy of God. He said in the Apocrypha: "I did this that I might not prefer the glory of man above the glory of God; neither will I worship any but God."

7. What is the final testimony concerning the works and Testimony of Mordecai? Esther (the tenth chapter).

LESSON FOR SABBATH, JULY 10, 2010

ISAIAH, AND HIS VISION FOR US

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 6.

Golden Text: Ezekiel 1:28.

1. What were the conviction and the effect of this vision on Isaiah? Isaiah 6:5. Isaiah saw the Lord and then saw himself. Acts 2:37; 16:30.

2. Who had a similar experience concerning a vision of this sort? Revelation 10:9,10; Ezekiel 3:1-4.

3. What was Isaiah's cleansing in this vision? Isaiah 6:6,7. Contact with God brings deliverance to His servants. Acts 9:5-7; Ephesians 2:12,13.

4. What was the new calling and commission of Isaiah? Isaiah 6:8,9. This made Isaiah ready and placed him in a position to hear. Romans 1:16,17; 1 Corinthians 9:16,17.

5. How did Isaiah accept the commission which brought about consecration? Isaiah 6:8. Conversion means that Jesus Christ has taken possession of your life. Romans 12:1,2; 2 Peter 1:5-8.

6. What will happen to people that hear of the prophet's commission? Isaiah 6:10; Acts 28:26,27; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6. When Christ takes possession of a person's heart He will also commission that person. Luke 5:4-6; Acts 26:16,17.

7. What was Isaiah's relationship to this vision and how did he deal with it? Isaiah 6:11-13. He needed fellowship until his task was finished. Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5.

NOTE: Little is known of the Gospel prophet, Isaiah. He is described as the son of Amoz. Isaiah 1:1; 2:1; 7:3; 13:1. Amoz his father was the uncle of Uzziah which would make Isaiah the king's cousin.

Isaiah's wife presented him with two sons. Isaiah 7:3 and 8:1-4. Often the names were given for signs and wonders to the people of God. The writings of Isaiah are full of picturesque illustration, epigrams and metaphors. Isaiah 1:13; 5:18; 12:1-6; 13:3. He was the prophet that was sawn asunder. Hebrews 11:37.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, JULY 17, 2010

DAVID, AND HIS NEW CART

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 6.

Golden Text: Acts 13:22.

NOTE: At this time David, "A man after God's own heart," was trying to do God's work in his own way.

1. King David had good intentions. 2 Samuel 6:1,2. The road of good intentions is paved with failures. It was not what David was doing, but the method he was using. 1 Samuel 4:3,4,5; Matthew 17:4; Romans 10:2,3.

2. King David had neglected God's Word concerning the treatment of the Ark of the Covenant. 2 Samuel 6:8,9; Deuteronomy 17:14,15,18-20; 1 Timothy 4:14.

NOTE: Here is where so much of our own problems begin. Matthew 22:29; 2 Samuel 6:19.

3. King David definitely had a responsibility to His people. Hebrews 5:11-14. David was responsible for what he might have known. 2 Samuel 7:14-17.

4. King David made a great worthless preparation for the Ark of the Covenant. 2 Samuel 6:3-5. He made a valuable cart, a great demonstration and a big parade, but it all ended with the death of Uzzah. 2 Samuel 6:5-7. Luke 12:16,17,20,21; Ephesians 5:17.

5. King David had his work judged, and was found wanting. 2 Samuel 6:9,10. Uzzah, like David also had good intentions. 1 Samuel 15:22,23; 1 Corinthians 3:10,11.

6. King David repented and learned a satisfying lesson. 1 Chronicles 15:1-3,12,15,25. He who walks in the fear of God has a testimony. Romans 1:8,9; Hebrews 4:7; Romans 4:6-8.

7. Where are the remains of King David today? Acts 13:34-37; 2:25,29; Hebrews 11:32,39,40.

8. How will David be rewarded for his faithfulness after coming to realize God's will is the most important thing to do? Jeremiah 33:16,17; Ezekiel 34:23,24; 37:24,25.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, JULY 24, 2010

NOAH, "A PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS"

Scripture Reading: Genesis 7.

Golden Text: 2 Peter 2:5.

1. What was the ancestry of Noah? Genesis 5:28-32; 6:8. The name "Noah" means: "The same shall give us rest."

2. What were times like when Noah became five hundred and more years of age? Genesis 5:30; 6:3,5-7.

3. What were the words of Jesus concerning this wicked time, in the days of Noah? Matthew 24: 37-39.

4. In this age of wickedness who stood out for us to consider as an example for the saints of the Most High? Genesis 6:8,9; Ezekiel 14:12-14,20; Hebrews 11:7.

5. To what difficult task was Noah obedient? Genesis 6:14-21; 7:5; Hebrews 11:7; Philippians 2:12,13.

NOTE: Noah walked with God despite his surrounding iniquity.

6. In what way did God remember His servant Noah? Genesis 8:1-4; 2 Peter 2:5.

7. What was the first thing built by Noah ever recorded? Genesis 8:20.

8. What was the everlasting covenant by which Noah was honored by God? Genesis 9:12-17; Isaiah 54:8-10; Hebrews 9:15; Ezekiel 1:28 (first sentence).

9. What does the faithfulness of Noah and the flood remind us of today? 1 Peter 3:18-21.

NOTE: Noah was "perfect" before God. Matthew 5:48. This word implies full development, growth into maturity of godliness, not without sin. The word also can mean "sincerity." Noah was faithful in warning the world of the coming destruction from God. We too must warn the world of the destruction that comes with the second advent of our Lord Jesus.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, JULY 31, 2010

NEHEMIAH, "THE CUP BEARER"

Scripture Reading: Nehemiah 2.

Golden Text: Nehemiah 7:2.

1. What was the lineage of Nehemiah? 1:1; 2:5; 7:2. He was a prince of Israel. Nehemiah 9:38; 10:1. He was born in Babylonian exile and became a renowned "Cup Bearer." Nehemiah 1:11. His Babylonian name is found in Ezra 1:8.

2. How well was Nehemiah qualified to lead back Israel to their own home land? Nehemiah 2:5-7; 6:1-4. He illustrates the strength which comes from an inspiration, purpose and aim. Nehemiah 6:3.

3. What were the hostile methods directed at Nehemiah and the rebuilding of Jerusalem?
Ridicule: Nehemiah 2:19; 4:2.

Fear: Nehemiah 4:7-9. Swords and trowels were united. Nehemiah 4:18.

Guile: Nehemiah knew that conferences were useless and so he shunned them.

False Accusations: Nehemiah 6:5-9. Nehemiah had no selfish motives for his task of rebuilding Jerusalem.

Temptation to tempt God: Nehemiah 6:10-13.

Corruption of friends and associates: Nehemiah 6:17-19. This was the meanest act of his foes. True to God Nehemiah surmounted all his enemies and obstacles.

4. Who were some of the others that were assigned to help with the reconstruction? Nehemiah 3:12,32. Even the daughters were used to work. Notice the many names given to households that all worked together in the 3rd chapter. Read also Ecclesiastes 4:9,10.

5. What good verses of Scripture are given by the Apostle Paul concerning working together? 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. Putting the work of the Lord and fulfilling the obligations thereof, shows a willing heart with one mind given the chain of living fellowship in Christ Jesus.

6. What beautiful prayer was given by Nehemiah as he trusted that the Lord would fight for him? Nehemiah 4:9,20.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, AUGUST 7, 2010

ELIHU, DESIRES TO EXALT GOD

Scripture Reading: Job 32.

Golden Text: Job 36:2.

NOTE: Elihu had a far more just and spiritual conception of Job's problems than his three friends, Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar had. Their thoughts were of a fatal misconception of all religious externalists and law demoralizers. Job 42:7-9.

1. What do the words of Elihu suggest to us? Job 33:2; 32:9.

2. What was God's word to Elihu in which He lays the very charge at his feet which he had sought to bring against Job? 34:35; 35:16.

3. What are the three thoughts of vindication for Job by Elihu?

A. He first condemns Job for his self-justification. Job 32:2; 33:8,9.

B. He sets out to modify the doctrine of Job's three friends. Job 34:10,11.

C. He then unveils the majesty of God and His great glory. Job 37:5.

4. What did Elihu claim for his presence and message? Job 32:8.

NOTE: Eagerness was his passion, but his youthfulness and modesty kept him from speaking. Job 32:4-8,18,19.

5. What important fact in the life of the Child of God did Elihu seem to forget? Job 34:16,17,19. Trials and persecutions can overtake the saintliest of men. 1 Peter 1:7; Job 34:22,23.

6. How did Elihu project God to Job? 36:1-5.

7. How did Elihu try to show forth the power of God? Job 37:2-5.

8. How did Elihu show Job he should act towards the works of God? Job 37:2,3,13,23.

9. What was God's answer to Job and Elihu? We can apply this same answer to us today. Job 38:4,5,18,19; 41:9,10, 31-34.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, AUGUST 14, 2010

ELIJAH, A MOST ROMANTIC CHARACTER

Scripture Reading: 1 Kings 17.

Golden Text: 1 Kings 18:21.

1. What was the main effort and venture put forth by Elijah? 1 Kings 18:17-19; 2 Kings 1:1-8. Elijah courageously stood up against King Ahab, his wife Jezebel, and his son Ahaziah. He denounced the kings because of their syncretistic attitude which permitted the worship of foreign deities together with the worship of the true God. 1 Kings 22:51-53.

2. For what other crimes did Elijah take Ahab to task? 1 Kings 20:42; 21:19,20. Elijah foretold the doom of Ahab and his reign. 1 Kings 22:35-40; Amos 3:15.

3. Who became Elijah's spiritual kinsman? 1 Kings 19:19-21.

4. Elijah was translated very similarly to Jesus. Matthew 17:2; 2 Peter 1:16,17; Enoch-Genesis 5:22,23; Jude 14,15; Hebrews 11:5. By being "translated" does not mean going to God the Father. John 3:13. Elijah and Enoch all died. Hebrews 11:13,19,39,40.

5. What other proof do we have that Elijah did not go to the Father in heaven but was removed to another territory on earth? 2 Chronicles 21:12-15. King Jehoram received a letter from Elijah about ten years later. He is still proclaiming punishment for the king's apostasy and fratricide.

6. How was Elijah honored in vision with the Lord's transfiguration? Matthew 17:1-4. Here is defined the reaping phase of Jesus' Second Advent. Elijah and Moses speak with Jesus. Moses stood for the resurrected saints. 1 Thessalonians 4:15,16. Elijah stood for the changed saints. 1 Thessalonians 4:17; 1 Corinthians 15:51,52.

7. What proved the steadfastness of Elijah for the power of God? 2 Kings 1:8,10,11,12; 1 Kings 18:36-38.

8. How does James record the significant example of Elijah's intercessory prayer? James 5:17,18.

9. What wonderful testimony was given by the Scriptures concerning the repentance of Israel? 1 Kings 18:24,39.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, AUGUST 21, 2010

ELISHA, WITH DOUBLE POWER OF GOD

Scripture Reading: 2 Kings 2.

Golden Text: 2 Kings 2:9 (last sentence).

1. How did Elisha become the successor of Elijah? 1 Kings 19:16,19-21. The Lord told Elijah to anoint Elisha for the tasks he wanted him to perform. 2 Kings 2:2,4,15; 2 Kings 3:11.

2. What were some of the recorded miracles of God that Elisha was able to do over the next 50 years?

A. Elisha's first act of faith - 2 Kings 2:14.

B. Healing of noxious waters - 2 Kings 2:19-22.

C. Irreverence not tolerated - 2 Kings 2:23,24.

D. Promise of water and the victory - 2 Kings 3:17-20.

E. Increase in the widow's oil - 2 Kings 4:6,7.

F. The promise of a son - 2 Kings 4:16,17.

G. Restoring life to son - 2 Kings 4:33,34,37.

3. What was Elisha's influence upon the historical events of Israel? Naaman's Leprosy - 2 Kings 5:7,9,10,25,27. Reveals Syrian king's plans - 2 Kings 6:12. Blinds the Syrians - 2 Kings 6:18. Predictions of Hazael - 2 Kings 8:10,14,15.

4. What important lesson do we receive from the life of Elisha? Romans 8:9-11; Ephesians 3:20,21. We must all receive the Holy Spirit in order to be raised at the resurrection. 2 Kings 13:20,21.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, AUGUST 28, 2010

APOLLOS, BY WHOM YE BELIEVED

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 3.

Golden Text: 1 Corinthians 3:6.

1. From where did Apollos come from and what was he noted for? Acts 18:24,25.
2. Who was responsible for the Scriptural knowledge that Apollos acquired? Acts 18:26-28,2.

NOTE: What a wonderful tribute to Apollos for "He mightily convinced" people of the truth.

3. What did some of the Believers say concerning the work of Apollos? 1 Corinthians 1:12; 3:4-6.
4. What was the outcome of this type of thinking? 1 Corinthians 3:21-23; 1:13; 3:7,8.
5. What lesson are we to learn from the spirituality of Apollos? 1 Corinthians 4:6,7.
6. With what group of ministers was Apollos later associated? 1 Corinthians 4:9-14. Apollos was further instructed by Paul and Peter. He went everywhere to expound the Gospel more fully and accurately. He became unashamed of the Children of God's faith. 1 Corinthians 4:5; 1 Peter 4:16; Romans 1:16; 5:5.
7. How well did Paul think of Apollos and what made him write for saints to look after him? Titus 3:13,14. Paul told of the hard times he and Apollos had at the beginning of their ministry. 1 Corinthians 4:11-13. This makes us think that we should also look after the needs of our ministers. Paul knew that a minister in distress could "not be fruitful."
8. Ministers like Apollos should have "nothing ... wanting." Romans 10:14,15; 1 Corinthians 9:13,14.

NOTE: Apollos was the influence of blessing - a consecrated eloquence. He was the influence of exposition, in the Book of books. He was the influence of fervency. He might have been the author of the Book of Hebrews?

LESSON FOR SABBATH, SEPTEMBER 4, 2010

JOHN, A SERVANT OF JESUS CHRIST

Scripture Reading: Revelation 1.

Golden Text: Revelation 22:20.

The word for "servant," in the Book of Revelation, means a slave, and is rendered "bondman" and "bond" (Revelation 6:15; 13:16; 19:18). John was commanded to write this Revelation of Jesus Christ. Through these ten thoughts we can learn to also be servants of Jesus.

1. REVELATION. "Show unto his servants" Revelation 1:1; 22:6. God reveals to His servants what He does not make known to the world.
2. POSSESSION "His servant John" Revelation 1:4,5. We are the Lord's by creation, calling, purchase and possession.

3. OPPOSITION. "Seduce my servants" Revelation 2:20.
4. PRESERVATION. "Sealed the servants of our God" Revelation 7:3. Things are sealed for security and secrecy, so the Lord hides and preserves His own.
5. COMPLETION. "As He hath declared to his servants" Revelation 10:7. God will fill to the full all He has declared shall be.
6. COMPENSATION. "Should give reward unto thy servants" Revelation 11:18. The Lord has eyes to see, a heart to appreciate any service done to Him, and a reward is in His hands for those who have served. Revelation 2:10.
7. RECOGNITION. "Moses the servant of God" Revelation 15:3. The Lord knows each of His servants by name.
8. RETRIBUTION. "Avenge the blood of his servants" Revelation 19:2. The saints who are saintly do not vindicate themselves, but the Lord does.
9. ASCRIPTION. "Praise our God, all ye his servants" Revelation 19:5. Worship is the outgoing of the heart in praise, gratitude and adoration to the Lord.
10. CONSECRATION. "His servants shall serve him" Revelation 22:3. "Serve Him." To serve HIM means loyalty, affection, thoroughness and disinterestedness in the world. Revelation 22:6,10,11; 1 John 5:4.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, SEPTEMBER 11, 2010

JESUS, AND HIS LOVING FACE

Scripture Reading: Luke 9:46-62.

Golden Text: 2 Corinthians 4:6.

NOTE: The face is indicative of character and attitude. A solemn face indicates a serious mind. A smiling face indicates approving attitude, etc.

1. What was the striking example of Moses after coming down from Mount Sinai? Exodus 34:29-33.
2. What did Jesus do as He began to teach His disciples? Luke 6:20. He lifted up His eyes and those that were present could see His countenance. The face can add a great deal to one's value.
3. At what time did Jesus face shine like the sun? Matthew 17:2. This showed in a vision what Jesus will look like when He returns. Revelation 19:12; 1:14-16.
4. The saints will see Jesus, as He comes for them, with glory and a shining face. What will the wicked people say at this time? Revelation 6:16; 20:11; Isaiah 2:11,12; Revelation 19:19. The wicked will be dreadful at the sight of Jesus face.
5. Jesus showed a purposeful face. What kind of determination did our Lord show here? Luke 9:51-56.

6. When Jesus was taken captive in the Garden of Gethsemane what did the temple guards do to him? Luke 22:63-65. Jesus lovely look became a smitten face. Luke 22:52-54.
7. What admonishment did the Psalmist David have for us as we seek the face of our Lord? Psalms 27:8,9.
8. As we seek the lovely face of Jesus, we can see Him now partly but when He comes visibly we shall see Him how? 1 Corinthians 13:12.
9. What does the face of Jesus symbolize for us? Revelation 22:4,5.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, SEPTEMBER 18, 2010

PAUL, TEACHES US LOVE AND SUFFERING

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 11:13-33.

Golden Text: 2 Corinthians 12:7.

1. What was the character of Saul (Paul) before his conversion? Acts 26:10,11; 9:1,2.
2. How did Paul feel about himself after his conversion? 1 Corinthians 15:8-11; Romans 1:16.
3. What was Paul given to keep him humble and loving towards all people? 2 Corinthians 12:7. Scofield says: "It has been conjectured that Paul's 'Thorn in the flesh' was chronic ophthalmia, inducing bodily weakness, and a repulsive appearance." Galatians 4:14,15; 1 Corinthians 2:3,4; 2 Corinthians 10:9,10.
4. How did the Apostle Paul accept the answer from heaven? 2 Corinthians 12:8-11.
5. What testimony did Paul give to the Ephesians brethren in his feelings toward his ministry? Ephesians 3:8-12.
6. To what assemblage does Paul write concerning the Ephesians' saints? Ephesians 5:22,23,24,27. This church is the called out ones from Paul's time to the present. We are still learning about the mystery "of Christ and the church." Colossians 1:26,27; 4:3; 1 Timothy 3:9.
7. What other title did Paul give to the church and the "called out ones?" 1 Timothy 3:9,15,16; Philippians 1:1; Philemon 2.

NOTE: Paul became very humble after his conversion. He became a very able and Spirit filled minister of the Gospel. Let us also be up and working in the service of the Lord Jesus, rescuing precious souls from destruction. Jesus is returning soon.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, SEPTEMBER 25, 2010

THE SECRET OF FELLOWSHIP WITH PEOPLE OF GOD

Scripture Reading: 1 John 2.

Golden Text: Philippians 1:5.

We have concluded this quarter with our studies of men that have taught us how to live and have fellowship together. The disciple of LOVE has received from the Spirit of God seven secrets of fellowship which we will look into now.

1. ABIDING IN HIM. 1 John 2:6. The result will be fruitful lives· John 15:4; Psalms 91:1,2.
2. WALKING AS HE WALKED. 1 John 2:7. The result will be following Jesus. Matthew 11:29,30; Amos 3:3.
3. LOVING ONE ANOTHER. 1 John 2:9-11. The result will be obedience to whatsoever was asked by the Father and the Son. John 13:34,35; Philippians 2:12-15.
4. KNOWING CHRIST AND HIS FATHER. 1 John 2:13. The result - drawn to Him and pleasing Him. Genesis 5:24 with Hebrews 11:5; Philippians 3:10.
5. THE WORD OF GOD ABIDING IN US. 1 John 2:14. The result will be overcoming; Victory. Ephesians 6:10,17; John 17:6.
6. SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD. 1 John 2:15,16. The result will be power. Acts 1:8; Romans 12:2; Isaiah 5:20.
7. DOING THE WILL OF GOD. 1 John 2:17. The result will be unbroken joy. Ephesians 5:17; 1 Corinthians 15:57,58; Acts 8:6,8; 1 Peter 1:8.