

LESSON FOR SABBATH, OCTOBER 2, 2010

THE HEAVENS DECLARE TIME

Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 3.

Golden Text: Ecclesiastes 3:1.

1. What did the Children of the tribe of Issachar understand for the rest of the tribes of Israel? 1 Chronicles 12:32.
2. For what did Jesus rebuke the Pharisees and the Sadducees? Matthew 16:1-4.
3. By what did the wise men of the "east" know about the birth of Jesus? Matthew 2:2,7,9,10.
4. What fact becomes clear to us that the starry heavens declared? Psalms 19:1,4,6; Ecclesiastes 1:5; Psalms 104:19.
5. What was created on the fourth day of creation? Genesis 1:14-18; Psalms 136:5-9. The greater light, the sun, is a type of Christ. Malachi 4:2; John 1:4,5,9. The lesser light is the Church of God. It reflects the light of the sun. Revelation 12:1. The stars are the Believers who also are light from the son, Jesus. Philippians 2:15,16.
6. This heavenly regulation causes time on the earth. How long will this endure? Psalms 72:5,7,17; Psalms 104:19.
7. How long will the covenant made with David last? Psalms 89:4-6,35-37.
8. If the ordinances of time depart what would happen to the Children of Israel? Jeremiah 31:35-37; 33:20-22,25,26.
9. What did God promise Noah would remain firm for the people on the earth? Genesis 8:22; Time is very important. "If time should be no more" the mystery of God would also be ended. Revelation 10:5-7.
10. What does the sun and moon produce for the good of mankind? Deuteronomy 33:13,14; 1 Corinthians 15:40,41.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, OCTOBER 9, 2010

THE OLD TESTAMENT CHURCH

Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 30.

Golden Text: Acts 7:38.

NOTE: The word "Church" in the Old Testament is called a Congregation. Leviticus 4:13-16. Called "Congregation" 86 times, "Assembly" 17 times, and "Company" 17 times.

1. Israel had covenants, promises, callings, service of God, etc. Were they to share these apportionments

with other people? Genesis 12:1-3; Romans 2:17-20.

2. What were Paul's feelings toward his kinsmen, Israel? Romans 9:3,4; 11:28-30.

3. What are the Children of Israel called in Isaiah 9:17-19. Israel was the "called out" nation. Israel failed in every generation, from the time of her calling until the present day. She was to be the head of all nations of the earth. Deuteronomy 28:13,14.

4. Never did a nation have a better opportunity to be used by God among all other nations. Galatians 3:7-9; Isaiah 41:26,28,29.

5. Is this thought still prevalent today in the Church of the New Testament? Isaiah 52:6,7,10; Revelation 14:6.

6. What did God tell Abram He would do with his people? Genesis 15:13. They would become slaves to the Egyptians. Israel would become a nation after 400 years (v. 16) and would be called a "congregation." Exodus 12:3,6,7; Psalms 22:22,25-31.

The 22nd verse is Hebrews 2:12. Here we read, "In the midst of the church." This could only have been the Old Testament Church.

7. By what other appellations was the Church of the Old Testament called? Psalms 89:6,7; 111:1; 149:1,9; 148:14.

8. What did God provide for the "congregation" of Israel? Jeremiah 3:14,15; 30:20; 6:18,19; Lamentations 1:10.

9. Jesus purchased the Church in the New Testament (Acts 20:28). Who purchased the Church in the Old Testament? Psalms 74:1,2,4,7,8; Exodus 15:16.

10. Where was the first Church headquarters in Israel? It was called an amphictyony and was established first in Gilgal. Joshua 5:9,10,14,15; Judges 2:1,4,5; 1 Samuel 10:8,9; 13:4,8,9; Micah 6:5.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, OCTOBER 16, 2010

THE CHURCH IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4.

Golden Text: Ephesians 3:21.

NOTE: The Church of God Is mentioned 108 times In the New Testament. It Is made up of "ekklesia." A local church may consist of as few as two or three people Matthew 18:15-20.

1. Of what kind of people is the Church made up of? Hebrews 12:22-24. It is composed of holy people, united together 1 Corinthians 15:52. It is the Body of Christ Ephesians 1:21-23. It is the habitation of the power of God Ephesians 2:19-22. Saints become members of the Body of Christ Ephesians 5:29-32.

2. Can the Church be made up and structured by a human being and can it be totally managed by that being? 2 Timothy 2:15; 1 Corinthians 12:1,4,11.
3. How were the Churches established in the New Testament? Acts 16:4,5.
4. Why do we call the Church of God the "Body of Christ?" Colossians 1:16-19,27; 1 Corinthians 10:16; 12:12,23,25; Ephesians 3:6; Colossians 2:10. The Church being the "Body of Christ" is united with all Saints 1 Corinthians 6:17. The Saints become "one new man" 2 Corinthians 5:17. The Saints become "perfect" Philippians 3:15; Matthew 5:48. The word "perfect" implies sincerity, and growth in godliness. Being sinless is not the point in question.
5. When we join the Church what are we first called? 1 Corinthians 3: 1-3. This is the initial stage of the membership experience.
6. After receiving "the milk of the word," 1 Peter 2:2; Hebrews 5:12-14, what are the members then called? John 15:15,16. We are also called branches John 15:2,4-6.
7. What do the members become next in the Church of God? Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 3:1-4; 5:20.
8. What is the most precious name given to the Church? Jesus calls it "My Church" Matthew 16:18; Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 1:18,19; John 21:15, 16, 17.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, OCTOBER 23, 2010

ORGANIZATION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1.

Golden Text: 1 Timothy 3:15.

NOTE: The Church had its origin in the mind of God "before the foundation of the world" Matthew 25:34.

1. The Church of God is formed and built by the Spirit of God. What was the foundation of the Church? Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Corinthians 3:9-11.
2. How do the Scriptures present the Church and its organization by God and His power? Ephesians 4:4,7,11.
3. Why is the Church organization so important and necessary? Ephesians 4:12-15. "The work of the ministry" is doing the service of the Church 1 Corinthians 12:25.
4. Who did "set in the church" the units of organization for its proper functions? 1 Corinthians 12:27-30.
5. Was this type of system similar in the Old Testament Church? Numbers 1:44; 33:9; Exodus 24:4,9; Joshua 4:4.
6. When the Church organization needed to fill a vacancy how was it made complete? Acts 1:15,16,23-26; Acts 13:2; 14:14,15; Romans 1:1,5.

7. After the Day of Pentecost how many souls were added to the Church? Acts 2:41; 4:4. The Lord added to the Church. If there had been no Church there would be nothing to add to. We read of 120 persons in an upper room Acts 1:13,15. We read of Jesus meeting with over 500 brethren 1 Corinthians 15:6.

8. What two other personalities "were of note" among the Apostles? Romans 16:7.

9. Will there still be this type of organization when Jesus returns? Revelation 18:20. If the organization of the Church had ended with the first organized Apostles, then the Body of Christ would have been nullified 1 Corinthians 12:12,18,20.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, OCTOBER 30, 2010

ADMONITION TO THE CHURCH BY THE APOSTLES

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 3.

Golden Text: 2 Timothy 4:2.

1. What was one of the first decisions made by the Apostles for the advancement of the Church? Acts 6:1-7.

2. What was one of the greatest decisions that came before the Apostles which involved the whole Church? Acts 15:1,5,6,3. What were the thoughts of the Apostle Peter concerning this problem, that of the keeping of Moses law and circumcision? Acts 15:7,9,10.

4. What were the thoughts of the Apostle James concerning this matter? Acts 15:13,14,19,20.

5. What did Apostles and Elders do after hearing the words of James? Acts 15:23-27; 1 Corinthians 8:8-13; Romans 14:17-21.

6. What were some of the important words expressed by the Apostle Jude? vv. 17-19. We must adhere to them as well as what the other Apostles said.

7. What other important act of conduct was described by the Apostle Paul? 1 Corinthians 6:1,2,4,5,7,8.

8. What admonishing words come from the Apostle John concerning a domineering person? 3 John 9-11.

9. In the second Epistle of John what subject is he trying to tell to the members of the Church? vv. 7-11.

10. What were the thoughts of the Apostle Paul when he wrote to the membership of the Church? 2 Peter 3:15-17; 1 Corinthians 5:9,11,13.

NOTE: Much of the work of the Church of God is given to the Apostles. If you do not have time in Sabbath School let these verses be studied at home. They had to execute judgment upon members and nonmembers 1 Corinthians 4:17-21; 5:1-5; to appoint officers, elders, and deacons Titus 1:5; Acts

14:23; comfort members Acts 16:40; Acts 17:31; teach the doctrine Acts 13:12; Romans 13:1,2; Hebrews 13:9; 2 Timothy 3:10,16; 4:2.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, NOVEMBER 6, 2010

MAN DOES NOT HAVE A SET TIME TO DIE

Scripture Reading: Romans 13.

Golden Text: Psalm 91:16.

NOTE: Man often says, "When my time is come to die then I will die!" But this is not found in the Bible. We are going to disprove this thought in this lesson.

1. What was promised to children for them to have a long life? Ephesians 6:1-3; Exodus 20:12; Colossians 3:20.

2. What are men promised if they continue to be obedient to the Word of God? 1 John 2:24,25; 1 Peter 4:9; Proverbs 5:21,23; 2 Kings 8:19.

NOTE: It is the lack of obedience to the Laws of God which causes some men to die prematurely. A sinner seldom consults reason for his actions. He is lustful. As long as he remains so, he is condemned and brings death upon himself.

3. What did Paul say concerning man not discerning the proper time for the Lord's Supper? 1 Corinthians 11:23,30; To sleep is often meant to die Acts 7:60; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-16; Luke 8:52,53.

4. God made it a law that men who break the law shall die by it Romans 13:12; Genesis 9:5,6; Exodus 21:12; Proverbs 4:4.

5. Man who commits suicide takes his own life before it is the time of his death Ecclesiastes 3:16,17; 4:1,2.

6. How will our actions cause us to lose our lives sooner than necessary? 1 Corinthians 10:6-8; Numbers 25:5; Exodus 32:5,6,10.

7. By what other methods were people destroyed earlier than what life was allotted to them? 1 Corinthians 10:9-12; Numbers 21:6; 14:2,22,23.

NOTE: Man dies in many ways that are contrary to God's plans. They die before the time set for them to die Numbers 16:30; Job 20:4,5,8,11.

8. When man chooses to yield to Satan, (an illustration, DUI) it is his volition to submit to sin. When man experiences his own will to sin what happens? Psalms 37:1,2,9,10,35,36.

9. What happens sometimes suddenly to the man that willfully sins? Proverbs 24:20; 29:1,16; Isaiah 17:14; Acts 5:3-5.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, NOVEMBER 13, 2010

DIVINE HEALING AND HEALTH

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:18-39.

Golden Text: 1 Peter 2:24.

NOTE: The doctrine of healing and health is a poignant and prominent subject of the Bible.

1. What redemption experience came to Israel as they began their journey from Egypt? Exodus 15:22-25. Here Israel is tried. This trial is educatory and" not punitive. The tree is a symbol of the Cross of Christ Galatians 3:13; 4:4,5; 1 Peter 2:24.

2. What are some of the words used in Scripture that deal with healing and health?

A. HEALTH - Psalms 42:11; 43:5; 67:2; Isaiah 58:8.

B. SOUND HEALTH - Jeremiah 8:22; 30:17; 33:6.

C. TO BANDAGE UP - Isaiah 3:26; 61:1; Job 5:17,18; Psalms 147:3; Luke 10:33.

D. MAKE PERFECTLY WHOLE - Matthew 14:36; Luke 7:10.

E. SAVING THE BODY - Matthew 9:21,22; Mark 5:28,29.

F. FAITH MADE THEE WHOLE - Mark 10:51,52; Luke 8:48; 17:18,19.

NOTE: By reading these texts we can readily see that healing and health are a very great part of the Bible and all who will meet these conditions can and will be healed.

3. Where do we read that healing is one of the gifts of the Spirit? 1 Corinthians 12:4,6,9,28,30.

NOTE: Healing is a definite act of God through faith in Jesus and through the power of God Matthew 8:16,17 Isaiah 53:4,5,2,11,12.

4. Why must we believe those things which shall come to pass? Mark 11:22,23; James 1:5-7,12; Hebrews 11:6.

5. What was James' admonition to those that are sick? James 5:13-15.

NOTE: The righteous man whose "prayer ... has great power in its effects" is the man committed to God's will, who prays for what his Lord wills and whose prayer is in consequence answered Matthew 6:9-13; Mark 11:24,25; Romans 8:26,27.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, NOVEMBER 20, 2010

ANSWER TO MAN'S GREATEST QUESTION

Scripture Reading: Acts 16:16-40.

Golden Text: Acts 2:37.

NOTE: During the average life span, we are faced with many questions. These are questions that call for vital decisions. There is a question of education, vocation, marriage, place of residence, etc. But of all the questions we must seek to answer, the most important is the one asked by the Philippian jailor Acts 16:30.

1. What does this question imply?

A. A sense of urgency Proverbs 27:1; James 4:14.

B. A sense of a lost condition Ecclesiastes 7:20; Jeremiah 17:9; Isaiah 64:6; Romans 3:23.

C. A willingness to act. Something must be done about this condition Acts 9:6.

2. There is a simple answer Acts 16:31; Acts 2:37.

A. To whom does this answer point? 1 John 5:11; 1 Corinthians 2:2. Who died for our sins? Acts 4:12.

B. We must obey. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God Romans 10:10; Ephesians 2:8,9; 1 John 2:3,4,17.

C. This is certain. If we obey we shall be saved Romans 10:9,10; John 10:27-29.

3. The transforming results Acts 16:32-34. (Note the order of events)

A. Paul and Silas were invited into the jailor's home Acts 16:32. He wanted to hear the truth.

B. The jailor ministered to the needs of Paul and Silas Acts 16:33.

C. The jailor accepted the truth and did what was necessary Acts 16:34; Acts 2:41; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21.

D. The jailor was rejoicing Acts 16:35; Isaiah 61:10; Acts 4:32-34.

4. Must this question still be answered by people of today? Acts 5:29,31,32; Romans 3:24-26; Acts 17:30.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, NOVEMBER 27, 2010

CONSECRATION FOR SERVICE

Scripture Reading: Romans 12.

Golden Text: Romans 9:4.

1. What was the Apostle Paul's desire of the Church of God at Rome? Romans 12:1.

2. What should they do to renew their mind to the acceptable and perfect will of God? Romans 12:2.

NOTE: All the sacrifices required in the Old Testament were brought to the altar in a living condition. So with us! We must come alive unto God and give ourselves in a living condition. Then we become dead to sin and alive to righteousness 1 Peter 2:24; 4:1; Ephesians 2:4,5.

3. What was the consecration of the priests in the Old Testament? Leviticus 8:2-5,10-12,33,34. The priests did not consecrate themselves; all was done by another Moses. He acted for the Lord. The priest simply presented their bodies, as a living sacrifice. This seems to be a mechanical way of consecration, but it was the way of the Lord.
4. What happened when the way of the Lord was not kept? Leviticus 10:1-3. What further words were spoken by Moses? vv. 6,7. The sons of Aaron were consecrated and in them was invested divine power so that they could not do as they were pleased to do.
5. Is our situation any better than the priests of the Old Testament? Romans 3:9-12; 2 Timothy 1:13,14; Titus 3:5.
6. What will a consecrated person practice? Romans 12:3. This certainly is the best advice that Paul could give.
7. How will a consecrated person perform his service? Romans 12:6-8.
8. What other traits will the consecrated person have to project his service? Romans 12:9-12.
9. What is the most important service that we can do for our neighbors? Romans 12:13-15.
10. Then to be complete in our service to the Church of God what must we do to each other? Romans 12:16,18,19; "To be of the same mind," one to another is the proof that you are consecrated to the service of the Church of God and to the Lord Jesus Christ Romans 13:13,14; 1:16,17.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, DECEMBER 4, 2010

THE KINGDOM OF GRACE

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 3.

Golden Text: Ephesians 3:2.

1. Who was the first one to herald the Kingdom of Grace? Matthew 3:1-3; Mark 1:1,2,7,8.
2. What was to be accomplished by this preparatory message of John? Isaiah 40:3-5. In the Kingdom of Grace, the lowly are saved. The Lord raises him up on equality in Christ. Thus every mountain and hill and every valley will be exalted.
3. What does the Lord say about a Gentile ruler that would help in beginning the Kingdom of Grace? Isaiah 44:28; 45: 1-4. Here we have the only place where a Gentile is called, "Shepherd." Cyrus is like a type of Christ. Both are conquerors of Israel's enemies Isaiah 45:1; Luke 1:71,74. Both are restorers of Jerusalem Isaiah 44:28; Zechariah 12:10; Luke 19:28,37,38,41,42. Both glorified God the Father Isaiah 45:6; John 13:31,32; 17:1,2.
4. What did Jesus and His disciples do to reinforce this Kingdom of Grace? Matthew 4:17; 10:5-8.

5. What is the basic experience for entrance into this Kingdom of Grace? John 3:3. The necessity of being born again of the water first, grows out of the incapacity of the natural man to "see" the kingdom. Through the birth of water the Believer becomes a part of the Kingdom of Grace Galatians 2:20,21; Ephesians 2:5,16,19; 4:7,17,24; 2 Peter 1:10,11.

6. What is another way of saying "Kingdom"? Ephesians 3:2; Colossians 1:25,12,13. The dispensation of Grace is given as a mystery of the Gospel. We come into this Kingdom "through change toward God." We change from enmity and aversion to love and trust. God is propitiated and man is reconciled 2 Corinthians 5:18-21.

7. Upon what action does the Kingdom of Grace depend? Matthew 24:14; Luke 24:46-48. Part of the Grace Kingdom is the "Gift of God" Ephesians 2:6-9. It is giving the Believer eternal life Romans 6:23. It accounts to him perfect righteousness Romans 3:21,22; 4:4,5. It accords to him a perfect position Ephesians 1:5,6.

8. How does grace reign? Romans 5:20,21.

9. Of what did the Apostle Paul rejoice? Acts 20:24,25.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, DECEMBER 11, 2010

CHRIST AND HIS KINGDOM

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 11.

Golden Text: Isaiah 9:7.

1. What does the prophet Isaiah say about the Kingdom of Christ? Isaiah 9:6,7.

2. What did the archangel Gabriel say to Mary in Luke 1:29-33?

NOTE: No prophecy is as gloriously sublime as that of these readings we have just read. Isaiah 11:10. Jesus is depicted as the helper of Creation, from eternity. John 1:1-4. His Kingdom begins with the throne of David, about 2000 years. Then Jesus is born of the flesh and again we have from His birth to when He sets up His Kingdom another 2000 years.

3. What will be Jesus' ruling qualities? Isaiah 11:2-5. This will be the character of His Kingdom.

4. What will be the quality of Jesus' Kingdom? Isaiah 11:6-9.

5. What other prophecy will be fulfilled in the day of Christ's literal Kingdom? Isaiah 12:1-6.

6. What were some of the words of Simeon concerning these prophecies? Luke 2:25,29-32. Many do not take these words seriously. Just as John the Baptist wanted to know what Jesus was doing. Matthew 11:2,3,8-11; Luke 7:27,28.

7. When the Pharisees wanted to know about the Kingdom what was the reply of Jesus? Luke 17:20,21,24. This is the Kingdom of Grace. It begins in the heart of every Child of God.

8. What did Jesus declare to Pontius Pilate concerning His Kingdom? John 18:36,37; Psalms 45:1,3,7; Daniel 2:44.
9. When the disciples desired of Jesus to restore the Kingdom what was His reply? Acts 1:6,7.
10. Before Christ can restore His literal Kingdom what must be done? Acts 1:8; Matthew 24:14; Mark 16:15,19,20.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, DECEMBER 18, 2010

THE DOMINION OF THE KINGDOM OF GLORY

Scripture Reading: Micah 4.

Golden Text: Micah 4:8.

1. What marks the time of the dominion of the Kingdom? Zechariah 3:10. This dominion is for the Children of Israel. It speaks "of a security which Israel has never known since its captivity. Isaiah 14:1,2.
2. What will be this joy of having the dominion of this Kingdom? Isaiah 55:12,13; Isaiah 14:7,8.
3. How will this Kingdom of the dominion be set up? Isaiah 14:1-3.
4. How will the Lord God redeem and restore Israel to this dominion? Isaiah 43:1,2; Isaiah 59:20,21.
5. What did trouble Daniel the prophet, which he kept in his heart? Daniel 7:28,27; Daniel 4:1-3.
6. What was the dream the King of Babylon had forgotten? Daniel 2:36-40. The context shows that the earthly kingdoms which were depicted by Nebuchadnezzar's image came to an end. So will the kingdoms of the earth today be destroyed by the stone from heaven? Daniel 2:31,34,35.
7. What kind of a kingdom will be set up as the first dominion? Daniel 2:44,45. The stone (v. 34) representing the coming Kingdom of glory will become a great mountain (kingdom) and will fill the whole earth. Psalms 2:5-8.
8. What will be some of the pleasant conditions of this Kingdom? Micah 4:4; Isaiah 65:21-25; Revelation 5:9,10; 2:26.
9. What did the Apostle Peter say about this dominion and who would be sent to be the ruler of it? Acts 3:17-21.

LESSON FOR SABBATH, DECEMBER 25, 2010

THE GLORIOUS STATE OF THE KINGDOM

Scripture Reading: Revelation 21.

Golden Text: Revelation 22:14.

NOTE: The Apostle Paul spoke of the Believers' victory in obtaining the resurrection of the just. John 5:28,29; Luke 14:14,15. Revelation 22:14 tells us more of the saints victory and being in the glorious Kingdom.

1. Who will be the principal rulers in the glorious Kingdom? Matthew 19:27,28; Revelation 20:4; Who will be the next group in this Kingdom? Deuteronomy 30:3,8-10; Romans 11:26,31.

2. From where will the gathering of the saints (Gentiles and Israel) be? Matthew 8:11; Luke 13:28-30; Matthew 19:30.

NOTE: All the saints will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17. This includes saints of all ages. All saints come to Christ through the faith of Abraham. Galatians 3:27-29.

3. What promise of protection and blessings will be given to Israel that will not be caught up to Jesus? Zechariah 12:9-12; Romans 11:23-25.

4. Where will the saints of all ages dwell during the glorious Kingdom? Revelations 15:2-4.

5. What other names are given for the "Sea of Glass?" Isaiah 4:6; 16:5; 33:6; Psalms 91:9; Ezekiel 37:27; Ezekiel 48:35; Hebrews 12:22,23; Revelation 21:2,10,23,24.

6. As the saints of all ages are caught up to meet Jesus in the air what will be their witness? Acts 7:44-46; Hebrews 8:1,2,5,6.

7. What else will be established in this glorious Kingdom? Revelation 22:11,12; Ezekiel 43:2;5; 47:7-9,12; Zechariah 14:8-9.

8. What is the final view of this glorious Kingdom? 1 Corinthians 15:20,24-28; Psalms 110:1-3; Romans 11:34-36.

NOTE: Every one of the Children of God will be filled with Joy. 1 Peter 1:8; 1 Corinthians 15:57,58.