

BIBLE LESSONS
BOOK NUMBER TWO
THROUGH THE BIBLE IN 52 LESSONS

LESSON NUMBER EIGHT

“AND ABRAHAM WAS CALLED
THE FRIEND OF GOD”

James 2:23

BUT THOU, ISRAEL ART MY SERVANT, JACOB
WHOM I HAVE CHOSEN, THE SEED OF
ABRAHAM MY FRIEND—Isaiah 41:8

Galatians 3:6

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

When Abram was 99 years old, God changed his name to Abraham

Genesis 17 :5

“Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.”

Genesis 17:24

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

Abraham is called, in the Bible, “the Friend of God.” II Chronicles 20:7. Isaiah 41:8. James 2:23. Abraham was one of the truly great men of all times. We quote several Scriptures:

Genesis 12:1 to 5

1 “Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will show thee:

2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

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.

5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came."

Hebrews 11:8 to 12

8 "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9 BY faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable."

Universal idolatry prevailed at the time God called Abram, about 1917 B. C. The condition of the people on earth at the time Abram was called is told in Romans 1:18 to 32.

ROMANS 1:18 to 32

18 "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

21 BECAUSE THAT, WHEN THEY KNEW GOD, THEY GLORIFIED HIM NOT AS GOD, NEITHER WERE THANKFUL; BUT BECAME VAIN IN THEIR IMAGINATIONS, AND THEIR FOOLISH HEART WAS DARKENED.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves:

25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

28 AND EVEN AS THEY DID NOT LIKE TO RETAIN GOD IN THEIR KNOWLEDGE, GOD GAVE THEM OVER TO A REPROBATE MIND TO DO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE NOT CONVENIENT;

29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

30 Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

31 Without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

32 Who, knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.”

Note carefully verses 21 and 28.

Men and women rejected God and worshipped animals, fowls and serpents and made images of these creatures. God gave them up.

God had made a new start with Noah and his family, saved in the ark at the time of the flood. Then God made a new start with Abram and Sarai (Abraham and Sarah). Out of the nations there would be an elect nation, God’s Nation. This Nation was Israel. Note what God said about, that great Nation:

Isaiah 43:15

“I am the Lord your Holy One, the creator of Israel, your King.”

Isaiah 43:3

“For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee.”

Isaiah 41:13 and 14

“For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee. “Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, the Lord, and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.”

Isaiah 44:6 and 8

“Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of Hosts; I am the First and I am the Last; and beside Me there is no God. Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside Me? yea, there is no God; I know not any:”

Isaiah 44:21

“Remember these, O Jacob and Israel: for thou art My servant: I have formed thee; thou art My servant: O Israel, thou shalt not be forgotten of Me.”

ABRAHAM—THE NATION ISRAEL—JEWS

From Abraham and Sarah came this great Nation of God.

The first time the word “Jew” occurs in the Bible is in Esther 2:5, about 471 B. C., 1450 years after Abraham was called. The word “Jews” occurs first in II Kings 16:6, about 624 B. C. We learn in Genesis 32:28 that Jacob’s name was changed to Israel about 1739 B. C.

Genesis 32:28

“And He said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.”

Although the Israelites and Jews came from father Abraham, strictly speaking, Abraham was neither an Israelite nor a Jew. Abraham was not under the law. The law was given 430 years after the call of Abram. Galatians 3:16 to 19. “The law was given by Moses.” John 1:17. When the law was given at Sinai Israel entered into that Covenant which was made “Old” after Christ died on the cross. It is called “the Old Covenant” or “the Old Testament.”

WHEN THE OLD TESTAMENT BEGAN

For many years Christians have been taught that the Bible is divided into two parts, namely, the Old Testament and the New Testament. The common error has been taught that the Old Testament began with the first of Genesis and the New Testament began with the first of Matthew. But note that the Old Testament, or Covenant, is called “the first Covenant.” Hebrews 8:7. In Hebrews 8:9, as well as in Jeremiah 31:32, God tells us that that first Covenant was made when Israel left Egypt. That was about 1495 B. C. That Covenant was not made old until after Christ had died on the cross. Therefore, while God was dealing with Israel under the Sinai Covenant, it was not old.

The Bible Record of Israel being led by God out of Egypt, is not found in the Book of Genesis, but in the Book of Exodus. The Book of Exodus finds Israel in Egypt about 1700 B. C. This was more than 2200 years after Adam left Eden.

The Old Testament did not begin when Adam left Eden, but when Israel left Egypt. In no sense was Adam an Old Testament character. Neither were Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.

Let us see how Genesis ends.

Genesis 50:24 to 26

“And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die; and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which He sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence. So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.”

The beginning of man in Genesis is a man in the image of God in God’s paradise. Genesis closes with a man in a coffin in Egypt. What a difference! What made the difference? Sin. About twenty billion children of Adam have been placed in coffins since Adam sinned.

Now, who was Joseph? Joseph was the great-grandson of Abraham. Joseph was the grandson of Isaac. Joseph was the son of Jacob, whose name was changed by God to “Israel.” Joseph had one younger brother, whose name was Benjamin. Joseph had one sister, whose name was Dinah. Genesis. 34:13. Joseph had ten older brothers. The oldest brother was Reuben. Then Simeon, Levi and Judah. The Lord Jesus Christ is called in the Bible “the Lion of the tribe of Juda.” Revelation 5:5.

Note:

Hebrews 7:14

“For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda: of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.”

The other brothers of Joseph were Issachar, Zebulun, Dan, Napthali, Gad and Asher. See I Chronicles 2:1 and 2.

From these twelve sons of Israel (Jacob) came the twelve tribes of Israel. All of these twelve sons had been placed in their coffins for burial before God took Israel by the hand and led them out of the land of Egypt. Therefore not one of them was under the Old Covenant. They were not Old Testament characters. Even Moses was 80 years old before he became an Old Testament character.

Hebrews 8:9

“Not according to the Covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt: because they continued not in My Covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.”

In the Book of Genesis we learn of the Covenant that God made with Noah. We also there learn of God’s promise to Abraham and God’s oath to Abraham.

God’s oath was made when Abraham had placed his only son Isaac on the altar.

Genesis 22:15 to 18

“And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By Myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies. And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed My voice.”

It will be helpful to study concerning these two immutable things in Hebrews 6:18; that is, the covenant and the oath.

Galatians 3:16 to 19

“Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. 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. For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise. Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.”

Here we are told that the law, or the first covenant, or the Old Testament, could not, and did not, annul the Covenant that God made with Abraham 430 years before the first Covenant was given to Israel when they left Egypt.

God found fault with Israel under the Law Covenant. Hebrews 8:7. But because of God’s Covenant and oath with Abraham, God led Israel into Canaan (Exodus 32:13 and 14). He preserved and protected them and kept alive a remnant until Christ and His Twelve Apostles lived and died. Because of God’s Covenant and Oath He protected and preserved Israel even after the death of Christ until Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, said, “I have finished my course.”

(II Timothy 4:7). Then came the fulfillment, in part of Luke 21:24, God's awful judgment upon Jerusalem and Israel about 70 A. D.

Even now, because of the Covenant and Oath which God made with Abraham, an Israelitish remnant is being preserved. And God will yet do great things for Israel because of His covenant and oath.

ISRAEL'S FUTURE DELIVERANCE Romans 11:26 to 28

“And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer. And shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is My covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. As concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes.”

Not only did God do wonderful things for Israel (and shall yet do more wonderful things) because of His covenant with Israel, but note that individual Gentiles are blessed with wonderful spiritual blessings because of God's promise to Abram before he became Abraham.

Galatians 3:6 to 8

“Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.”

Romans 4:3

“For what saith the Scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.”

Romans 4:9 to 11

“Cometh this blessedness then upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness. How was it then reckoned? when he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision. And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also.”

Romans 4:23 to 25

“Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.”

BAD NEWS—GOOD NEWS

“There is none righteous, no, not one.” Romans 3:10. “Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?” I Corinthians 6:9. What a predicament! But here is the way out of this sad predicament. It is God's way. Those who accept God's way, and believe and receive, will be blessed with faithful Abram. Abram believed God. God declared Abram

righteous. Christ on earth said, “your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day: and he saw it, and was glad.” John 8:56. Today it is still true, “with the heart man believeth unto righteousness.”

According to Galatians 3:8, 430 years before God entered into the Old Covenant with Israel and gave Israel the sabbath and nine other commandments, Abram, the uncircumcised Gentile, was declared righteous without the deeds of the law, or without any religious practices, except the offering of the sacrifice which spake of the death of Christ on the cross. More than 40 years after Abram was justified by faith, he was justified by works, when he had offered up Isaac on the altar.

Hebrews 11:17 to 19

“BY FAITH ABRAHAM, WHEN HE WAS TRIED, OFFERED UP ISAAC: AND HE THAT HAD RECEIVED THE PROMISES OFFERED UP HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, OF WHOM IT WAS SAID, THAT IN ISAAC SHALL THY SEED BE CALLED.”

James 2:21 to 23

“WAS NOT ABRAHAM OUR FATHER JUSTIFIED BY WORKS, WHEN HE HAD OFFERED ISAAC HIS SON UPON THE ALTAR? SEEST THOU HOW FAITH WROUGHT WITH HIS WORKS, AND BY WORKS WAS FAITH MADE PERFECT? AND THE SCRIPTURE WAS FULFILLED WHICH SAITH, ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD AND IT WAS IMPUTED UNTO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS: AND HE WAS CALLED THE FRIEND OF GOD.”

So the good news for any kind of a sinner today is:

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.”

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.”

NO OLD COVENANT IN GENESIS

But now we have learned that although the Book of Genesis covers about 2315 years of the history of man, from Adam in Eden to Joseph in his coffin in Egypt, there is not one line of the first covenant, or Old Testament, in Genesis. So we will not call Genesis, “the Old Testament Scriptures.” In the first eleven chapters of Genesis, God covers 2083 years from the creation of Adam to the call of Abram, at the age of 75.

Beginning with Genesis 12:1 to Malachi 4:6, that is, in 38 of the 39 Books B. C. and in the 39 chapters of the one Book (Genesis), the Scriptures deal with one Nation (Israel) and refer to other men, lands and nations only as they have dealings with Israel. We shall later see that Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Hebrews, Revelation, and other Books in the so-called New Testament Scriptures, are very largely Israelitish, some of them, more than 90 per cent.

QUESTIONS-LESSON EIGHT

1. Mention the Bible verses in which Abraham is called “the Friend of God.”
2. At what age was Abram circumcised? How long had he been justified by faith?
3. What happened to Abram when he believed God?
4. What did God promise to do for Abraham and his seed?
5. How were Isaac, Jacob and Joseph related to Abraham?
6. In what spiritual condition were the Gentiles when Abram was called?
7. What great Nation came from Abraham and Sarah?
8. With what nation and when did God make the covenant. which is called the Old Covenant?
9. About what year did the Nation Israel go to Egypt? About what year did God lead them out of Egypt?
10. Were Adam, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, or Joseph Old Testament characters? Why?
11. From which of Israel’s sons did the Lord Jesus come? By what title, including that name, is he called?
12. According to Exodus 32:13 and 14, why did God preserve Israel and take them to Canaan?
13. How many years between the Abrahamic Covenant and the giving of the law?
14. When did God make an oath to Israel?
15. What is to happen to Israel according to Romans 11:26?
16. According to Romans 4:9 and 10, why was Abraham circumcised? Why was he justified in uncircumcision?
17. When Abram was justified 430 years before the Old Covenant was made, what did the Scriptures foresee?
18. How much of the Book of Genesis and the 38 of the Books of the Old Testament Scripture deal with Israel?
19. Why are believers today made the righteousness of God in Christ?
20. About what year did the Old Testament begin? When was it made old?

LESSON NUMBER NINE

THERE SHALL COME A STAR OUT OF JACOB

Numbers 24:17 to 19

Psalms 135:4

“FOR THE LORD HATH CHOSEN JACOB UNTO HIMSELF, AND ISRAEL FOR HIS PECULIAR TREASURE.”

Luke 1:31 to 33

“And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shalt call His name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David: and HE SHALL REIGN OVER THE HOUSE OF JACOB FOR EVER: and of His kingdom there shall be no end.”

The Bible has very much to say about Jacob, about God's covenant with Jacob. God is called "the God of Jacob" several times. Psalms 20:1— Psalms 81:1— Psalms 84:8— Psalms 94:7— Psalms 114:7— Psalms 132:2 and 5.

The Lord Jesus is yet going to reign over the house of Jacob. Many times in the Bible we find the term, "the house of Jacob." The word "Jacob" is found 380 times in the Bible.

Note several statements concerning God's relation to Jacob:

Isaiah 41:8

"But thou, Israel, art My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham My Friend."

Psalms 75:9

"But I will declare for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob."

Psalms 47:4

"He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom He loved. Selah."

Malachi 1:2

"I have loved you, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, Wherein hast Thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the Lord: yet I loved Jacob."

Micah 2:7

"O thou that art named the house of Jacob, is the spirit of the Lord straitened? are these His doings? do not My words do good to him that walketh uprightly?"

Amos 9:8

"Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the Lord."

Jeremiah 30:10

"Therefore fear thou not, O My servant Jacob, saith the Lord; neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity: and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid."

The word "Jacob" means "supplanter" or "cheater" and until God wrought a change in him Jacob lived up to his name. We cannot understand why God ever chose Jacob, but He did. But can we understand why God should choose us and save us? We are so glad that God calls Himself "the God of Jacob" and "the God of all grace" I Peter 5:10. And we are glad for the truth of:

Romans 5:6 and 8

"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Ephesians 2:4 and 5

“But God Who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved).”

II Timothy 1:9

“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.”

Let us think over these “grace” statements and rejoice in the truth of:

Philippians 3:3

“For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.”

Now before we study the history of the man Jacob, let us note:

Jeremiah 46:27 and 28

“But fear not thou, O My servant Jacob, and be not dismayed, O Israel: for, behold, I will save thee from afar off, and thy seed from the land of their captivity: and Jacob shall return, and be in rest and at ease, and none shall make him afraid. Fear thou not, O Jacob, My servant, saith the Lord: for I am with thee; for I will make a full end of all the nations whither I have driven thee: but I will not make a full end of thee, but correct thee in measure; yet will I not leave thee wholly unpunished.”

Jeremiah 30:7

“Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.”

When the Scriptures here speak of Jacob, they speak of the Nation, or that part of the Nation Israel that shall be on the earth after God has accomplished his purpose during this present reign of grace. God is now calling individual Gentiles and Jews to receive Christ and be members of His Body. Ephesians 2:11 to 17. In this day of grace in the Body of Christ there is neither Jew nor Gentile. We are all one in Christ. Galatians 3:28.

Note these words:

Romans 11:25 and 26

“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. An so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:”

Jacob and Israel are one and the same. Today we call Israel “the Jews.” There are nearly 18 million Jews on earth today. There are about 1800 million Jews and Gentiles. So about one per cent of the population of the earth are Jews. Palestine is called, in the Bible, “the land of the Jews.” Acts 10:39.

Note what Christ on earth said about the land of the Jews and the Jews:

Luke 21:24

“And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations; and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.”

This has been fulfilled for more than 18 centuries. The Jews are scattered among all nations. They are having much trouble. The Gentile nations seem to think that the Jews are causing them much trouble. This will continue until “the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.” Civilization is headed for Jacob’s trouble and the end of “the times of the Gentiles.” Jacob’s Messiah will come and save Jacob out of their trouble. “Call His name JESUS.” “He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever.”

Let us be careful not to confuse “the house of Jacob” with “the House of God, which is the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” I Timothy 3:15. This House is the Body of Christ. Christ is the Head of this Body. The house of Jacob is made up of the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Christ is the King of Israel.

JACOB AND ESAU

Genesis 25:29 to 34

“And Jacob sod pottage and Esau came from the field, and he was faint:

And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom.

And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright.

And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me?

And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he sware unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob.

Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.”

Genesis 26:34 and 35

“And Esau was forty years old when he took to wife Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite:

Which were a grief of mind unto Isaac and to Rebekah.”

Hebrews 12:16 and 17

“Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.

For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.”

GENESIS 27:18 TO 29

“And he came unto his father, and said. My father: and he said, Here am I; who art thou, my son?

And Jacob said unto his father, I am Esau thy firstborn; I have done according as thou badest me: arise, I pray thee, sit and eat of my venison, that thy soul may bless me.

And Isaac said unto his son, How is it that thou hast found it so quickly, my son? And he said, Because the Lord thy God brought it to me.

And Isaac said unto Jacob, Come near, I pray thee, that I may feel thee, my son, whether thou by my very son Esau or not.

And Jacob went near unto Isaac his father; and he felt him, and said, The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.

And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands: so he blessed him.

And he said, Art thou my very son Esau? And he said, I am.

And he said, Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's venison, that my soul may bless thee. And he brought it near to him, and he did eat: and he brought him wine, and he drank.

And his father Isaac said unto him, Come near now, and kiss me, my son.

And he came near. and kissed him: and he smelled the smell of his raiment, and blessed him, and said, See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field which the Lord hath blessed.

Therefore God give thee of the dew of heaven, and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine:

Let people serve thee, and nations bow down to thee: be lord over thy brethren, and let thy mother's sons bow down to thee: cursed be every one that curseth thee, and blessed be he that blesseth thee."

HEBREWS 11:21

"By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff."

Jacob and Esau were the sons of Isaac and Rebekah. They were twins. The story of their birth is recorded in Genesis 25:19 to 26.

The story of the courtship and marriage of Isaac and Rebekah is a very interesting one. When Abraham was a very old man he made his faithful servant swear that he would go to Abraham's country and get a wife for his son Isaac. Genesis 24:1 to 4 and 24:9. The servant went to Mesopotamia. His camels were kneeling down by a well of water and while the servant stood near the well the daughter of Bethuel (Bethuel was Abraham's nephew) came to draw water from the well. Her name was Rebekah. Abraham's servant asked Rebekah for a drink of the water she drew from the well. Then Rebekah watered the camels of the servant.

Genesis 24:22

"And it came to pass as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold."

Genesis 24:29 and 31

"And Rebekah had a brother, and his name was Laban: and Laban ran out unto the man, unto the well."

"And he said, Come in thou blessed of the Lord; wherefore standest thou without? for I have prepared the house, and room for the camels."

Read this very interesting story in the twenty-fourth chapter of Genesis.

Genesis 24:51

“Behold, Rebekah is before thee, take her, and go, and let her be thy master’s son’s wife, as the Lord hath spoken.”

Genesis 24:56 to 60

“And he said unto them, Hinder me not, seeing the Lord hath prospered my way; send me away that I may go to my master. And they said, We will call the damsel, and inquire at her mouth. And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go. And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham’s servant, and his men. And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister; be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them.”

Isaac meets Rebekah:

Genesis 24:64 to 67

“And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel. For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant had said, It is my master: therefore she took a vail, and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done. And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mothers death.”

Here we have one of the beautiful love stories of the Bible.
But now for another story.

JACOB LEAVES HOME

In this story is another story of love in the family of the brother of Rebekah, Laban. Let us see the circumstances that drove Jacob to Laban’s home. First we quote:

Genesis 27:41 to 44

“And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand, then will I slay my brother Jacob. And these words of Esau her elder son were told to Rebekah: and she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said unto him, Behold, thy brother Esau, as touching thee, doth comfort himself, purposing to kill thee. Now therefore, my son, obey my voice; and arise, flee thou to Laban my brother to Haran; And tarry with him a few days, until thy brother’s fury turn away.”

Genesis 28:5

“And Isaac sent away Jacob: and he went to Padan-aram unto Laban, son of Bethuel the Syrian, the brother of Rebekah, Jacob’s and Esau’s mother.”

Now let us follow Jacob:

GENESIS 28:10 to 22

“And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran.

And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep.

And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.

And, behold, the Lord stood above it, and said, I am the Lord God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed;

And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not.

And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it.

And he called the name of that place Bethel: but the name of that city was called Luz at the first.

And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on.

So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the Lord be my God:

And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee."

GENESIS 28:9 TO 11

"Then went Esau unto Ishmael, and took unto the wives which he had Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael Abraham's son, the sister of Nebajoth, to be his wife. And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran. And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep."

Genesis 28:14

"And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed."

JACOB AND LABAN

Then Jacob bargained with Laban to give him seven years for Rachel, his daughter. At the end of the seven years Laban gave his oldest daughter, Leah, to Jacob. Then Jacob served seven other years and Laban gave him Rachel also. Read the story in Genesis 29:16 to 35. The first four sons born to Jacob and Leah were Reuben, Jacob's firstborn, Simeon, Levi and Judah. Genesis 29:32 to 35. Unto Rachel were born Joseph (Genesis 30:22 to 24) and Benjamin.

Genesis 35:18

“And it came to pass as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: but his father called him Benjamin. And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem.”

Two other women were the mothers of Jacob’s other four sons, Bilhah and Zilpah. Genesis 35:25 and 26. The sons of Leah were Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah, Issachar and Zebulun. The sons of Rachel, Joseph and Benjamin. The sons of Bilhah, Dan and Naphtali. The sons of Zilpah, Leah’s handmaid: Gad and Asher.

The twelve tribes of Israel came from the twelve sons, but we shall see in another lesson how Ephraim and Manasseh, the sons of Joseph, were brought in for special blessing.

JACOB AS A BUSINESS MAN

The very interesting story of the business transactions between Jacob and Laban are recorded in Genesis 30 and 31. Some have spoken of Jacob as having been very clever. Others have called him crooked or dishonest. But his good management brought prosperity to Laban. Note Jacob’s words in Genesis 30:30: “For it was little which thou hadst before I came, and it is now increased unto a multitude; and the Lord hath blessed thee since my coming: and now when shall I provide for mine own house also?”

Note again:

GENESIS 31:1 to 7

“And he heard the words of Laban’s sons, saying, Jacob hath taken away all that was our father’s: and of that which was our father’s hath he gotten all this glory.

And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before.

And the Lord said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee.

And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field unto his flock,

And said unto them, I see your father’s countenance, that it is not toward me as before; but the God of my father hath been with me.

And ye know that with all my power I have served your father.

And your father hath deceived me, and changed my wages ten times; but God suffered him not to hurt me.”

Then note Jacob’s statement to Laban:

Genesis 31:41 and 42

“Thus have I been twenty years in thy house: I served thee fourteen years for thy two daughters, and six years for thy cattle; and thou hast changed my wages ten times.

Except the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac, had been with me, surely thou hadst sent me away now empty. God hath seen mine affliction and the labour of my hands, and rebuked thee yesternight.”

Genesis 32:1

“And Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him.”

JACOB AFRAID OF ESAU

Jacob very much feared his brother Esau, whom he thought would slay him. Note Jacob's prayer to God.

Genesis 32:10 to 12

"I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands.

Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau; for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children.

And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude."

God heard Jacob's prayer for deliverance.

Genesis 33:4, 9 to 11

"And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept."

"And Esau said, I have enough, my brother; keep that thou hast unto thy self.

And Jacob said, Nay, I pray thee, if now I have found grace in thy sight, then receive my present at my hand: for therefore I have seen thy face, as though I had seen the face of God, and thou wast pleased with me.

Take, I pray thee, my blessing that is brought to thee; because God hath dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough. And he urged him, and he took it."

Jacob had a very wonderful experience at that time:

Genesis 32:24 to 32

"And Jacob was left alone; wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.

And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob.

And he said, Thy name shall be no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell until the me, I pray thee, thy name? And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.

And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose upon him, and he halted upon his thigh.

Therefore the children of Israel eat not of the sinew which shrank, which is upon the hollow of the thigh, unto this day: because he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh in the sinew that shrank."

GENESIS 33:18 to 20

“And Jacob came to Shalem, a city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padanaram; and pitched his tent before the city.

And he bought a parcel of a field, where he had spread his tent, at the hand of the children of Hamer, Shechem’s father, for an hundred pieces of money.

And he erected there an altar, and called it Eleloheisrael.”

GENESIS 35:6 to 8

“So Jacob came to Luz, which is in the land of Canaan, that is, Bethel, he and all the people that were with him.

And he built there an altar, and called the place Elbethel; because there God appeared unto him, when he fled from the face of his brother.

But Deborah, Rebekah’s nurse died, and she was buried beneath Bethel under an oak: and the name of it was called Allonbachuth.”

THE COVENANT RE-STATED

Genesis 35:9 to 15

“And God appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padanaram, and blessed him. And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name; and he called his name Israel. And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land. And God went up from him in the place where he talked with him. And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he talked with him, even a pillar of stone: and he poured a drink offering thereon, and he poured oil thereon. And Jacob called the name of the place where God spake with him, Bethel.”

THE TWELVE SONS OF JACOB (Israel)

Genesis 35:27 to 29

“The sons of Leah; Reuben, Jacob’s firstborn, and Simeon, and Levi, and Judah. and Issachar, and Zebulun:

The sons of Rachel; Joseph, and Benjamin:

And the sons of Bilhah, Rachel’s handmaid; Dan, and Naphtali:

And the sons of Zilpah, Leah’s handmaid; Gad, and Asher: these are the sons of Jacob, which were born to him in Padanaram.”

Genesis 25:27 to 29

“And Jacob came unto Isaac his father unto Mamre, unto the city of Arbah, which is Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned.

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

And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died, and was gathered unto his people, being old and full of days: and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.”

Some other statements about Jacob:

Genesis 37:1

“And Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan.”

Genesis 42:1 to 3

“Now when Jacob saw that there was corn in Egypt, Jacob said unto his sons, Why do ye look one upon another? And He said, Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt, get you down thither, and buy for us from thence; that we may live, and not die. And Joseph’s ten brethren went down to buy corn in Egypt.”

GENESIS 46:1 to 7

“And Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices unto the God of his father Isaac.

And God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I.

And he said, I am God the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation.

I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again; and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes.

And Jacob rose up from Beersheba: and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, and their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him.

And they took their cattle, and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his seed with him:

His sons, and his sons’ sons with him, his daughters, and his sons’ daughters and all his seed brought he with him into Egypt.”

Genesis 47:7 to 12

“And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh: and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

And Pharaoh said unto Jacob, How old art thou?

And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.

And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from before Pharaoh.

And Joseph placed his father and his brethren, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded.

And Joseph nourished his father, and his brethren, and all his father’s household, with bread, according to their families.”

JACOB’S PROPHECIES AND BLESSINGS

GENESIS 49:1 to 33

“And Jacob called unto his sons, and said Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days.

2 Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father.

3 Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power:

4 Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy fathers bed; then defiledst thou it, he went up to my couch.

5 Simeon and Levi are brethren; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations.

6 O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united, for in their anger they slew a man, and in their selfwill they digged down a wall.

7 Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.

8 JUDAH, THOU ART HE WHOM THY BRETHREN SHALL PRAISE: THY HAND SHALL BE IN THE NECK OF THINE ENEMIES; THY FATHER'S CHILDREN SHALL BOW DOWN BEFORE THEE.

9 JUDAH IS A LION'S WHELP: FROM THE PREY, MY SON, THOU ART GONE UP: HE STOOPED DOWN, HE CROUCHED AS A LION, AND AS AN OLD LION; WHO SHALL ROUSE HIM UP?

10 THE SCEPTRE SHALL NOT DEPART FROM JUDAH, NOR A LAWGIVER FROM BETWEEN HIS FEET, UNTIL SHILOH COME; AND UNTO HIM SHALL THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE BE.

11 Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine, he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes:

12 His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

13 Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he shall be for an haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon.

14 Issachar is a strong ass couching down between two burdens:

15 And he saw that rest was good, and the land that it was pleasant; and bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant unto tribute.

16 Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel.

17 Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward.

18 I have waited for thy salvation, O Lord.

19 Gad, a troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last.

20 Out of Asher his bread shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties.

21 Naphtali is a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words.

22 Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall:

23 The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him

24 But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the stone of Israel:)

25 Even by the God of thy father, who shall help thee; and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb:

26 The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren.

27 Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.

28 All these are the twelve tribes of Israel: and this is it that their father spake unto them, and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them.

29 And he charged them, and said unto them, I am to be gathered unto my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite,

30 In the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Cannan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a buryingplace.

31 There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah.

32 The purchase of the field and of the cave that is therein was from the children of Heth.

33 And when Jacob had made an end of commanding his sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed, and yielded up the ghost, and was gathered unto his people.

In our next message we will study concerning Joseph and his brethren in Egypt.

But note verses 8 to 10 above. Jacob's prophecy concerning the coming of Shiloh from the tribe of Judah. In Revelation 5:5 Christ is called the Lion of the tribe of Judah."

QUESTIONS—LESSON NINE

1. Name three verses in which God is called "the God of Jacob."
2. What kind of a treasure was Jacob unto God? Give Scriptures.
3. What does Jacob mean? What is the meaning of the new name God gave Jacob?
4. According to Luke 1:31 and 33, what place was Christ to occupy with respect to the house of Jacob?
5. To what House do Christians of this age belong?
6. What is the present condition of the house of Jacob? Is this condition to be changed?
7. Mention three facts concerning Jacob's dealings with Esau. What did Esau sell to Jacob?
8. What did Abraham say to his servant concerning a wife for Isaac? Where did that servant find Rebekah?
9. How was Laban related to Isaac? To Jacob?
10. Why did Jacob flee to Laban's home?
11. What name did Jacob give to Luz? Why?
12. Who was Jacob's youngest son and what happened to Rachel at his birth?
13. How many years did Jacob serve Laban for Leah and Rachel? How long in all?
14. Whom did Jacob fear when he left Laban to go home? How was Jacob delivered?
15. What happened to Jacob at Peniel and what does Peniel mean? What does Bethel mean?
16. Name the twelve sons of Israel and Joseph's two sons.
17. Where did Jacob send his sons for corn? Did Jacob himself go to that country?
18. What did Jacob say concerning Judah when he was blessing his sons?
19. Who is called the lion of the tribe of Judah? Quote verse.
20. What is to happen to the house of Jacob according to Jeremiah 30:7 and Jeremiah 46:27 and 28?

LESSON NUMBER TEN

JOSEPH AND HIS BRETHREN

Before we study concerning Joseph, let us note a few facts concerning

ISHMAEL AND ESAU

Genesis 36:1 to 8

“Now these are the generations of Esau, who is Edom.

Esau took his wives of the daughters] of Canaan; Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite, and Aholibamah the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon the Hivite;

And Bashemath Ishmael’s daughter, sister of Nebajoth.

And Adah bare to Esau Eliphaz; and Bashemath bare Reuel;

And Aholibamah bare Jeush, and Jaalam, and Korah: these are the sons of. Esau, which were born unto him in the land of Canaan.

And Esau took his wives, and his sons, and his daughters, and all the persons of his house, and his cattle, and all his beasts, and all his substance, which he had got in the land of Canaan; and went into the country from the face of his brother Jacob.

For their riches were more than that they might dwell together; and the land wherein they were strangers could not bear them because of their cattle.

Thus dwelt Esau in mount Seir: Esau is Edom”

Esau married Ishmael’s daughter. Ishmael was the son of Abraham and Hagar, the Egyptian woman. Hagar was Sarah’s servant.

HAGAR AND ISHMAEL

Genesis 16:1 to 3

“Now Sarai Abram’s wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar.

And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the Lord hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai.

And Sarai Abram’s wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife.”

Genesis 16:15 and 16

“And Hagar bare Abram a son: and Abram called his son’s name, which Hagar bare, Ishmael. And Abram was fourscore and six years old, when Hagar bare Ishmael to Abram.”

Genesis 21:2 and 3

“For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac.”

Genesis 21:9 to 11

“And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking. Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac. And the thing was very grievous in Abraham’s sight because of his son.”

The Ismaelites came from Ishmael. The Edomites came from Esau. Edom means “red.” The Mohammedans, who live in the countries surrounding Palestine, claim that Mohammed came from Ishmael. They claim that the inheritance belonged to Ishmael, because he was born before Isaac. God promised the holy land to the seed of Abraham. Inasmuch as Ishmael was born before Isaac, the Mohammedans claim Jerusalem and Palestine. There is quite a disturbance in that land at the present time, a conflict between Jews, Mohammedans and Christians.

Deuteronomy 23:7

“Thou shalt not abhor an Edomite; for he is thy brother; thou shalt not abhor an Egyptian; because thou wast a stranger in his land.”

I Chronicles 18:13

“And he put garrisons in Edom: and all the Edomites became David’s servants. Thus the Lord preserved David whithersoever he went.”

II Chronicles 28:17

“For again the Edomites had come and smitten Judah and carried away captives.”

Jeremiah 41:3

“Ishmael also slew all the Jews that were with him, even with Gedaliah, at Mizpah, and the Chaldeans that were found there, and the men of war.”

ISHMAEL AND ISAAC—LAW AND GRACE

Galatians 4:21 to 31

“Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law? For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a free woman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the free woman was by promise. Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free which is the mother of us all. For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband. Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what saith the Scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman

shall not be heir with the son of the free woman, So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.”

In this allegory we have the answer to the question of Galatians 3:21. “Is the law against the promise of God?” Note in Galatians 3:17, that the law which was given from Mount Sinai 430 years after God gave His promise to Abraham did not annul that promise.

After Paul had preached the gospel of grace throughout Galatia and many of the sinners had been saved, some very religious law-keepers went forth proselyting and preached a mixture of law, religion and grace. After Paul had declared God’s anathema and had given the Scriptural answers to the false teachings of the legalists he said that Hagar from Egypt, a bondwoman, spoke of the law, and that her son Ishmael was not the child of promise, but rather, was brought forth as the result of the flesh. Isaac was the child of promise. Sarah was the freewoman.

The bondwoman, Hagar, and her son, Ishmael, scoffed at Sarah and Isaac. God said, “cast them out.” God’s application of truth is that no part of the law can be mixed with God’s message of grace as a factor in the sinner’s salvation.

Galatians 2:21

“I do not frustrate the grace of God; for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.”

Romans 3:28

“Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.”

JOSEPH AND HIS BRETHERN

“Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours. And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not sneak peaceably unto him.” Genesis 37:3 and 4.

Genesis 37:5 to 11

“And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more. And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed: For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf. And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words. And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth? And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.”

Genesis 37:31 to 35

“And they took Joseph’s coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood; And they sent the coat of many colours, and they brought it to their father; and said, This

have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or no. And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces. And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days. And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him."

Genesis 37:23 to 28

"And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stript Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colours that was on him; And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit was empty, there was no water in it. And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt. And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood? Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren were content. Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt."

Genesis 37:36 and 39:1 to 4

"And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, and captain of the guard. And Joseph was brought down to Egypt and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hands of the Ishmeelites, which had brought him down thither. And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian. And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did prosper in his hand. And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand."

In Genesis 39:7 to 20 is recorded the wicked work and false charges of Potiphar's wife against Joseph. Because she could not persuade Joseph to commit sin she lied about him and although innocent he was sent to jail.

Genesis 39:20 and 22

"And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison."

"And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it."

In the Egyptian prison Joseph interpreted the dreams of Pharaoh's butler and baker. Genesis 40:1 to 23. Then later Pharaoh had a dream. Seven fat-fleshed kine were devoured by seven lean-fleshed kine. The butler, who had been restored to Pharaoh's service, told the king that Joseph could interpret the dream which the king did not understand.

"Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard say

of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it. And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.” Genesis 41:14 to 16.

Then Joseph interpreted the dream of the fat and lean-kine; that in Egypt there would be a bountiful harvest of grain for seven years and this would be followed by seven years of crop failure and famine (very grievous). Joseph advised Pharaoh to gather the surplus during the seven years and put it away into storehouses to take care of the seven lean years.

Note what Pharaoh said to Joseph: “Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art.” Genesis 41:39.

Pharaoh set Joseph over the Egyptians:

“And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph’s hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck: And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow the knee: and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt.” Genesis 41:42 and 43.

Joseph became ruler at the age of thirty:

Genesis 41:49

“And Joseph gathered corn as the sand of the sea, very much, until he left numbering; for it was without number.”

Genesis 41:57

“And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph, for to buy corn; because that the famine was so sore in all lands.”

Genesis 42:1 to 4 and 23

“Now when Jacob saw that there was corn in Egypt, Jacob said unto his sons, Why do ye look one upon another? And he said, Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt, get you down thither, and buy for us from thence; that we may live, and not die. And Joseph’s ten brethren went down to buy corn in Egypt. But Benjamin, Joseph’s brother, Jacob sent not with his brethren; for he said, Lest peradventure mischief befall him.”

“And they knew not that Joseph understood them; for he spake unto them by an interpreter.”

Joseph, unknown to his brethren, gave them grain to take back to Jacob. Joseph told them when they returned for more grain to bring Benjamin with them.

Genesis 43:1 and 2 and 15

“And the famine was sore in the land. And it came to pass, when they had eaten up the corn which they had brought out of Egypt, their father said unto them, Go again, buy us a little food.”

“And the men took that present, and they took double money in their hand, and Benjamin; and rose up, and went down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph.”

:Note the fulfillment of Joseph’s dream

“And when Joseph came home, they brought him the present which was in their hand into the house, and bowed themselves to him to the earth.” Genesis 43:26.

Then note how Joseph made himself known :

Genesis 45:1 to 5 and 15

“Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried, Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren. And he wept aloud: and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard. And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; doth my father yet live? And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence. And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.”

“Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.”

Then the brethren went back to tell Jacob the facts about Joseph:

Genesis 45:25 to 28

“And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan unto Jacob their father, And told him, saying, Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt. And Jacob’s heart fainted, for he believed them not. And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived: And Israel said, It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die.”

Genesis 46:6

“And they took their cattle and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob and all his seed with him.”

Genesis 46:28 to 30

“And he sent Judah before him unto Joseph, to direct his face unto Goshen; and they came into the land of Goshen. And Joseph made ready his chariot, and went up to meet Israel his father, to Goshen, and presented himself unto him; and he fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while. And Israel said unto Joseph, Now let me die, since I have seen thy face, because thou art yet alive.”

Genesis 47:11

“And Joseph placed his father and his brethren, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded.”

Genesis 48:3 to 5, 13, 14, 20 and 21

“And Jacob said unto Joseph, God Almighty appeared unto me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me, And said unto me, Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a multitude of people; and will give this land to thy seed after thee for an

everlasting possession. And now thy two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, which were born unto thee in the land of Egypt, before I came unto thee into Egypt, are mine; as Reuben and Simeon, they shall be mine.”

“And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel’s left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel’s right hand, and brought them near unto him. And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim’s head, who was the younger. and his left hand upon Manasseh’s head, guiding his hands wittingly; for Manasseh was the first-born.”

“And he blessed them that day, saying, In thee shall Israel bless, saying, God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh: and he set Ephraim before Manasseh. And Israel said unto Joseph, Behold, I die; but God shall be with you, and bring you again unto the land of your fathers.”

Genesis 49:33

“And when Jacob had made an end of commanding his sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed, and yielded up the ghost, and was gathered unto his people.”

Genesis 50:1, 4, 5, and 6

“And Joseph fell upon his father’s face, and wept upon him, and kissed him.”

“And when the days of his mourning were past, Joseph spake unto the house of Pharaoh, saying, If now I have found grace in your eyes, speak, I pray you, in the ears of Pharaoh, saying, My father made me swear, saying, Lo, I die: in my grave which I have digged for me in the land of Canaan, there shalt thou bury me. Now therefore, let me go up, I pray thee, and bury my father, and I will come again. And Pharaoh said, Go up, and bury thy father, according as he made thee swear.”

Genesis 50:14 to 26

“And Joseph returned into Egypt, he, and his brethren, and all that went up with him to bury his father, after he had buried his father. And when Joseph’s brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him. And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying, So shall ye say unto Joseph, Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin; for they did unto thee evil: and now, we pray thee forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father. And Joseph wept when they spake unto him. And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we be thy servants. And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God? But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them. And Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he, and his father’s house: and Joseph lived an hundred and ten years. And Joseph saw Ephraim’s children of the third generation: the children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were brought up upon Joseph’s knees. And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die; and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he aware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence. So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.”

In many respects Joseph was a type of the Lord Jesus Christ. Joseph was his father's favorite son. He wore the coat of many colors. His brethren through envy, despised him, sold him and he became the world's saviour.

The Lord Jesus Christ was God's well-beloved Son. He was despised and rejected by Israel. Some day they will bow before Him and He will be their King and the Ruler of the world.

QUESTIONS-LESSON TEN

1. Who was Ishmael?
2. How was Ishmael born according to Galatians 4:23?
3. What people came from Esau?
4. State the allegory taught by the bondwoman, her son, and the free woman and her son?
5. How is a believer justified according to Romans 3:28?
6. What is said about Israel's love for Joseph?
7. What was the significance of Joseph's coat of many colors?
8. Give the details of Joseph's dream which he described to his brethren.
9. How did they receive the dream?
10. Did Joseph's dream come true? Quote the Scripture.
11. Who bought and sold Joseph?
12. Who became Joseph's master in Egypt?
13. Who conspired against Joseph and had him cast in jail?
14. Whose dreams did Joseph interpret in jail and how did they come true?
15. Who told Pharaoh that Joseph could interpret his dream?
16. What dream of Pharaoh's did Joseph interpret? Did it come true?
17. What caused Joseph's brethren to go to Egypt? When did they recognize Joseph?
18. Describe Jacob's visit to Egypt and his meeting with Joseph?
19. Describe Jacob's blessing of Ephraim and Manasseh and the death of Jacob and Joseph.
20. What is the last that we hear of their bodies?

LESSON NUMBER ELEVEN

ISRAEL IN EGYPT

Hebrews 6:13

"For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, He swear by Himself."

Romans 11:29

"For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance."

As we open the Book of Exodus we find Note these several verses:

Exodus 1:5 to 8

“And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls; for Joseph was in Egypt already. And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation. And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them. Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.”

The Nation Israel was born about 1700 B. C. About 70 Israelites went down to Egypt about that time.

Pharaoh gave orders to destroy the male babies born in the Israelitish families:

“And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.” Exodus 1:22.

THE BIRTH OF MOSES

Exodus 2:1 to 10

“And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river’s brink. And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him. And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along, by the river’s side: and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it. And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews’ children. Then said his sister to Pharaoh’s daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee? And Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child’s mother. And Pharaoh’s daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it. And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh’s daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.”

Moses lived in Egypt until he was 40 years old. Then he left Egypt and dwelt in the land of Midian. Exodus 2:15. There Moses became a shepherd for his father-in-law, and lived until he was 80 years of age.

In the meantime, Pharaoh, in Egypt, was persecuting and afflicting God’s people Israel. More than 400 years before this time God had told Abram about this

Genesis 15:13 to 16

“And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance. And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.”

Now remember that the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. In this connection we rejoice in Titus 1:2: "In the hope of eternal life, which God, That cannot lie, promised before the world began."

Reverently speaking, God cannot do anything but save the sinner who will receive Jesus Christ as Saviour. God cannot lie. The free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:23. And all of this means that God is going to do something about it: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

There are about 18 million Jews in the world today. Note what God says concerning Israel: "I know Ephraim, and Israel is not hid from Me: for now, O Ephraim, thou committest whoredom and Israel is defiled." Hosea 5:3. The Jews are suffering some from the hands of the Gentiles. They are going to suffer much more. And again God will hear, remember, look and have respect and act.

Romans 11:25 to 28

"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits, that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. "

God swore by Himself. Note again God's guarantee to Israel in:

Genesis 17:7 and 8

"And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

JEHOVAH APPEARS UNTO MOSES

Moses is to be Israel's deliverer.

Exodus 3:1 to 16

1 "Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

2 And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

4 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.

5 And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

6 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.

7 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;

8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

9 Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.

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

11 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

12 And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

14 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.

15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt:

17 And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

18 And they shall hearken to thy voice: and thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him, The Lord God of the Hebrews hath met with us: and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days' Journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God."

Moses brother Aaron, was sent with Moses to stand in the presence of Pharaoh, and, in the name of Jehovah, to demand the release and liberty of the children of Israel. The Lord gave Moses a rod. That rod is described in Exodus 4:1 to 5. That rod would turn into a serpent and then turn back into a rod. Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and told him what the Lord had commanded them. Note Pharaoh's reply: "And Pharaoh said, Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go." Exodus 5:2. "Then Pharaoh's heart was hardened and he added greater affliction to Israel."

GOD'S SIGNS TO PHARAOH

The following miracles were performed in the presence of Pharaoh

1. Moses' rod became a serpent. Exodus 7:10.

2. The waters of Egypt were turned into blood. Exodus 7:20.
3. “And Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt; and the frogs came up, and covered the land of Egypt.” Exodus 8:6.
4. There came a grievous swarm of flies into the house of Pharaoh. Exodus 8:24.
5. The cattle of the Egyptians visited with disease and death. Exodus 9:1 to 7.
6. God sent boils upon the men and beasts of Egypt. Exodus 9:10.
7. The hail plague. Exodus 9:24 and 26: “So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, very grievous, such as there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation. Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, was there no hail.”
8. The plague of locusts. “And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: very grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such.” Exodus 10:14.
9. The plague of darkness. “And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days.” Exodus 10:22.

THE SMITING OF THE FIRST BORN

Exodus 11:4 to 7

“And Moses said, Thus saith the Lord, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt: And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts. And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it any more. But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the Lord doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.”

Exodus 12:28 to 30

“And the children of Israel went away, and did as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they. And it came to pass, that at midnight the Lord smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt: for there was not a house where there was not one dead.”

THE PASSOVER

“For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.” I Corinthians 5:7. Thus we see that what happened that dark and awful night in Egypt spoke of the work of the Lamb of God Who suffered for sins and for sinners on Calvary’s cross.

Exodus 12:1 to 7

“And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you. Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house: And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next unto his house take it

according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.”

Exodus 13:3 and 4

“And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the Lord brought you out from this place: there shall be no leavened bread to be eaten. This day came ye out in the month Abib.”

Exodus 12:12 to 14

“For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord. And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt. And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations: ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.”

Exodus 12:26 to 28 and 42

“And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service? That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the Lord’s passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped. And the children of Israel went away, and did as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.”

“It is a night to be much observed unto the Lord for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the Lord to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations.”

Pharaoh’s heart was again hardened and he sent his army in pursuit of the Israelites who were leaving the land of Egypt to start for their promised land Canaan. The Israelites were sore afraid. Moses calmed them with these words

Exodus 14:13 to 15

“And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace. And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward;”

Exodus 14:19 to 31

“And the Angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them: And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night.

And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the Lord looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians. And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the Lord fighteth for them against the Egyptians. And the Lord said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen. And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them. But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. And Israel saw that great work which the Lord did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord, and his servant Moses."

We should study prayerfully and carefully this marvelous work of God in behalf of Israel.

In Exodus 15:1 to 19 is recorded the song of Moses and Israel, giving praise to Jehovah for their deliverance.

"So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water." Exodus 15:22.

ISRAEL ACROSS THE RED SEA

The bitter waters of Marah were miraculously made sweet. Israel came to Elim where there were twelve wells of water and 70 palm trees, and they camped there. Exodus 15:27. God sent manna down from heaven to feed His people: "And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground. And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wilt not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the Lord hath given you to eat." Exodus 16:14 and 15.

Now compare with this the statements of Christ in the sixth chapter of John

John 6:30 to 35 and 51

"They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work? Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat. Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

“I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”

Now compare:

EXODUS 17:1 to 7

1 “And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, after their journeys, according to the commandment of the Lord, and pitched in Rephidim and there was no water for the people to drink.

2 Wherefore the people did chide with Moses, and said, Give us water that we may drink. And Moses said unto them, Why chide ye with me, wherefore do ye tempt the Lord?

3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?

4 And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.

5 And the Lord said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go.

6 Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

7 And he called the name of the place Massah, and Meribah, because of the chiding of the children of Israel. and because they tempted the Lord saying, Is the Lord among us, or not?”

I Corinthians 10:1 to 10

“Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

7 Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.

9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.

10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.”

Then the Israelites were attacked by the Amalekites. Joshua defeated them. Exodus 17:8 to 16

MOSES AND HIS LEADERS

Exodus 18:25 and 26

“And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.”

ISRAEL A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS

Exodus 19:3 to 6

“And Moses went up unto God, and the Lord called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles’ wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.”

IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE GIVING OF THE LAW

EXODUS 19:18 to 25

“And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly. And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice. And the Lord came down upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the Lord called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses went up. And the Lord said unto Moses, Go down, charge the people, lest they break through unto the Lord to gaze, and many of them perish. And let the priests also, which come near to the Lord, sanctify themselves, lest the Lord break forth upon them. And Moses said unto the Lord, The people cannot come up to mount Sinai: for thou chargest us, saying, Set bounds about the mount, and sanctify it. And the Lord said unto him, Away, get thee down, and thou shalt come up, thou, and Aaron with thee: but let not the priests and the people break through to come up unto the Lord, lest he break forth upon them. So Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them.”

Hebrews 12:18 to 21

“For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more: (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.)”

Acts 15:10

“Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?”

How many Israelites went down to Egypt about 1700 B. C.? Seventy. Exodus 1:1 to 5. How many Israelites came up from Egypt about 1495 B. C.? “And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.” Exodus 12:37.

Let us keep in mind then that there were no Israelites before the flood. There was no Nation Israel until several centuries after Noah left the ark. The Nation Israel began with Jacob and his twelve sons. Israel (Israelite, Israelites) is found 2571 times in the Bible.

The Nation Israel was preserved and protected in Egypt under the Abrahamic Covenant. From the call of Abram to the deliverance of Israel from Egypt God’s people were not under the law. Moses lived 80 years not under the law, and 40 years under the law. After Moses received the law he was under the Abrahamic Covenant and the Law (Old) Covenant during the last 40 years of his life.

QUESTIONS-LESSON ELEVEN

1. How many souls out of the loins of Jacob (Israel) went down to Egypt more than 200 years before the law was given?
2. In Genesis 15:13 to 16 what did God say He would do for Israel in Egypt and when?
3. Who was the first of the house of Israel to go to Egypt?
4. From what tribe of Israel did Moses come? Who was his brother?
5. What does the name “Moses” mean?
6. Who employed Moses’ mother to nurse Moses?
7. Show how Moses’ life was divided into three 40 year periods.
8. Describe God’s visit to Moses and his message when God chose him to deliver Israel.
9. Mention five of the miracles performed by Moses in Pharaoh’s presence.
10. What did God remember that caused Him to deliver Israel? What about the gifts and calling of God?
11. Tell the story of the smiting of the firstborn and the Passover.
12. Tell the story of Israel crossing the Red Sea.
13. Describe the giving of the manna, its meaning, and what did that manna typify?
14. According to I Corinthians 10:4, of what did the journeying Israelites drink?
15. Of Whom did that rock speak and of Whom did the Passover lamb speak?
16. Tell two of Israel’s murmurings.
17. What kind of a kingdom was Israel to be to God according to Exodus 19:6?
18. What did God tell Moses at Sinai immediately before giving the law?
19. About how many Israelites came out of Egypt about 1495 B. C. if there were 600,000 men?
20. Under what covenant was Israel before the law was added (Galatians 3:19)?

LESSON NUMBER TWELVE

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

THE RELIGION OF THE JEWS

About 1495 B. C. God revealed Himself to Israel, through Moses their mediator, as Jehovah, the I AM. Through Moses God gave to Israel His law, which was made up of many laws, commandments and ordinances.

“The law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.” John 1:17.

Let us carefully note these verses:

Hebrews 9:10

“Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.”

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.”

The ritualism, ceremonies, ordinances and religion of the Jews, called “meats and drinks, divers baptisms and carnal ordinances,” were imposed upon Israel until “the time of reformation.” Religion was given to Israel on Mount Sinai. That religious program was to be observed until the time of reformation.

About 1900 years ago the time of reformation was at hand. Since that time God has not required Israel to carry on that religious program, and most assuredly that program was never given to members of God’s Church today, which is known as “the Body of Christ.”

Note what God has told members of that Body

Colossians 2:13 to 16

“And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 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; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. 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.”

Here we have most important Divine instructions concerning the spiritual program for members of the Body of Christ in this day of grace. Here we learn that God, during one period of time, demanded of His people certain religious practices which He forbids them to observe in another period of time.

Now let us look into the truth of :

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.”

“The law entered.” The law entered at Sinai about 2500 years after sin entered in the Garden of Eden. “The law of sin and death” became effective after Adam sinned. His offence brought death to the human race. For 2500 years the sinner was unable to please God. Because of

his indwelling sin, the sinner was unable to do right and refrain from doing wrong. The sinner was condemned by his conscience.

Then the law was added because of transgressions until Christ came:

Galatians 3:19

“Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a Mediator.”

“The law was added”—The law was added to the Abrahamic Covenant the gospel which God preached to Abram. Galatians 3:8.

Romans 4:15

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

“The law worketh wrath.” Christ made peace by the blood of His Cross. Colossians 1:20.

Now note:

II Corinthians 3:7 and 9

“But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away; For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory.”

Here we note that the law is called “the ministration of death and condemnation.”

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 there shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

WHY THE LAW

Galatians 3:24 and 25

“Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.”

Romans 8:7

“Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.”

Romans 8:3

“For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh.”

INDWELLING SIN AND SIN THE TRANSGRESSION OF THE LAW

After 1492 B. C. God had two witnesses to convince man that he was a sinner, “conscience” and “the law.” There were then two laws, “the law of sin and death” and the law that was given by Moses.

Moses lived 80 years when there was no law. Men of many generations lived when there was no law, “from Adam to Moses”; about 2500 years.

When Christ spoke of sending the Holy Spirit to convince the world of sin, that sin was “because they believe not on Me.” John 16:7 to 11.

MOSES RECEIVES THE LAW

Exodus 20:1 to 26

1. “And God spake all these words, saying,
2. I am the Lord thy God which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage
- 3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- 4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:
- 5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a Jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;
- 6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.
- 7 Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.
- 8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- 9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:
- 10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, not thy son, not thy daughter, thy manservant, not thy maidservant, not thy cattle, not thy stranger that is within thy gates:
- 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.
- 12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.
- 13 Thou shalt not kill.
- 14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- 15 Thou shalt not steal.
- 16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
- 17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife, not his manservant, not his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, not any thing that is thy neighbor’s.
- 18 And all the people saw the thundering., and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off.
- 19 And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die.

20 And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not.

21 And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was.

22 And the Lord said unto Moses, Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, Ye have seen that I have talked with you from heaven.

23 Ye shall not make with me gods of silver, neither shall ye make unto you gods of gold.

24 An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee.

25 And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it.

26 Neither shalt thou go up by steps unto mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered thereon.”

MOSES RECEIVES THE PATTERN OF THE TABERNACLE ISRAEL’S RELIGIOUS PROGRAM

Exodus 25:1 to 10

1 “And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying,

2 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.

3 And this is the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass.

4 And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats’ hair,

5 And rams’ skins dyed red, and badgers’ skins, and shittim wood,

6 Oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense,

7 Onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod, and in the breastplate.

8 And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

9 According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

10 And they shall make an ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.”

EXODUS 25:23 and 31

“Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.”

“And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers shall be of the same.”

EXODUS 26:1

“Moreover thou shalt make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubim of cunning work shalt thou make them.”

EXODUS 26:7

“And thou shalt make curtains of goats’ hair to be a covering upon the tabernacle: eleven curtains shalt thou make.”

EXODUS 26:15

“And thou shalt make boards for the tabernacle of shittim wood standing up.”

THE VAIL AND THE MERCY—SEAT

Exodus 26:31 and 32

“And thou shalt make a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubim. shall it be made. And thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of shittim wood overlaid with gold: their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver.”

Exodus 26:34

“And thou shalt put the mercy seat upon the ark of the testimony in the most holy place.”

Exodus 27:1

“And thou shalt make an altar of shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be foursquare; and the height thereof shall be three cubits.”

Exodus 25:22

“And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.”

In our next lesson we shall see how the high-priest sprinkled the mercy-seat with blood on the day of atonement which Israel was commanded to observe once each year. Then their sins were covered for a year when the ceremony was repeated.

THE ALTAR AND PEACE OFFERING

In Exodus 20:24, we read the Lord’s instructions concerning the altar and peace offerings. These instructions are given in the same chapter which contains the ten commandments, the law.

We read in Romans 4:15, “the law worketh wrath.” In Colossians 1:20 we read that Christ made peace by the blood of His cross. The Lord knew that no Israelite could perfectly keep His holy law. Sin is the transgression of the law: “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.” I John 3:4. Christ died on the cross to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. Hebrews 9:26. “Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin.” Hebrews 9:22. What the law could not do Christ did do. Romans 8:2 to 4. “The law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did, by the which we draw nigh unto God.” Hebrews 7:19.

Thus we see that the altar and the peace offering spoke of the Lord Jesus Christ dying on the cross of Calvary, so that lawbreakers might be delivered from God’s wrath and be at peace with God. In Romans 8:1 to 4 we are told that Christ did what the law could not do because the

law was weak through the flesh. We are saved by God's grace, which reigns through Christ Jesus. Romans 5:21.

This brings us to carefully note the Divine truth taught in the several Scriptures which we quote:

“For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.” Hebrews 7:19.

“But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son made of a woman, made under the law.” Galatians 4:4.

“For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.” “For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins.” Hebrews 10:1 and 4.

“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.” Romans 10:4.

“But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.” Romans 5:8 and 9.

“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.” Acts 13:38 and 39.

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:1.

“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.” John 3:36.

FIGURE AND SHADOW

We learn in Hebrews 9:10 and Hebrews 10:1 that the religious ceremonies and sacrifices which the Lord gave to Israel, with the ten commandments, and which they practiced for more than fifteen centuries, were figures and a shadow of better things; that is, the better things that were accomplished by Christ.

We are told in Hebrews 10:9 and 10: “Then said He, Lo, I come to do Thy will, O God. He taketh away the first that He might establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”

Let us carefully note the truth of Hebrews 9:11 and 12:

“But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, HAVING OBTAINED ETERNAL REDEMPTION FOR US.”

Here we learn that Christ, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, by His own blood, entered into heaven and obtained eternal redemption.

In Israel's shadow days, under the law, note what the highpriest did:

Hebrews 9:7

“But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not with. out blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people.”

Now note:

Hebrews 10:3 and 4

“But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.”

By carefully reading all of the ninth chapter of Hebrews, and by comparing this Scripture with God’s instructions concerning the construction and service of the tabernacle in Exodus, chapters 25 to 31, we learn that God was very particular as to the minute details in all of His instructions concerning the sanctuary and tabernacle

Hebrews 8:5

“Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith He, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.”

The sanctuary and all that pertained to it spoke of the life, ministry and sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ.

CHRIST THE SANCTUARY AND TABERNACLE

When the Lord’s messenger told Mary that she would give birth to the Son of God, he said. “that HOLY THING which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.” Luke 1:35.

Now note:

John 1:14

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

The Greek word translated “dwelt” is literally “tabernacled.” Christ, God’s true Sanctuary, the Lord Jesus Christ, tabernacled here on earth.

Believing sinners once met God in mercy and forgiveness in the tabernacle. Now God’s place of blessing is “in Christ Jesus.” Believers are blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus and are without condemnation in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 1:3 and 4. Romans 8:1.

At the entrance of the sanctuary there was an altar of brass. where the blood of animals was shed. Then the laver of water for washing and cleansing. Then inside, the sanctuary was divided into the holy-place and the most holy-place, or the holiest of all. This most holy-place was the figure of heaven where Christ now ministers for His redeemed ones. Hebrews 9:24.

In the holy-place there was the lamp with its light from pure oil, the table of bread, the altar of incense, with its never dying fire and fragrance going up. Then the veil separated the holy-place from the most holy-place. This veil was rent from top to bottom when Christ died on the cross. Matthew 27:51. Mark 15:38. Luke 23:45.

THE PRIEST IN THE SANCTUARY

Hebrews 9:3 and 4

“And after the second veil, the tabernacle, which is called the Holiest of all: Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron’s rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant.”

In the Gospel of John we are introduced to Christ as the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world. John 1:29. In chapter six, He is the Bread of God for God’s people to eat. In chapters eight and nine, He is the Light of the world. In chapter thirteen, He is washing the feet of His redeemed ones. In chapter seventeen, He is the praying High-Priest, the believer’s Intercessor, as prefigured by the altar of incense.

The colors used in the tabernacle, the blue, the red, the white, the purple, all spoke of the character and work of Christ. So also did the gold, the silver, the wood and the brass.

In another lesson we shall study concerning Solomon’s temple.

About 1012 B. C. Solomon began to build a temple for God and His people in the city of Jerusalem. From about 1495 B. C. until the temple was completed Israel continued to worship in the tabernacle.

We shall study more of the ministry of the Levites and the feasts and offerings of the Lord in our next lesson. But we have learned that when we speak of the law we must designate just what part of the law was referred to.

Let us again study carefully:

Galatians 3:19 to 25

“WHEREFORE THEN SERVETH THE LAW? IT WAS ADDED BECAUSE OF TRANSGRESSIONS, TILL THE SEED SHOULD COME TO WHOM THE PROMISE WAS MADE; AND IT WAS ORDAINED BY ANGELS IN THE HAND OF A MEDIATOR. NOW A MEDIATOR IS NOT A MEDIATOR OF ONE, BUT GOD IS ONE. IS THE LAW THEN AGAINST THE PROMISES OF GOD? GOD FORBID: FOR IF THERE HAD BEEN A LAW GIVEN WHICH COULD HAVE GIVEN LIFE, VERILY RIGHTEOUSNESS SHOULD HAVE BEEN BY THE LAW. BUT THE SCRIPTURE HATH CONCLUDED ALL UNDER SIN, THAT THE PROMISE BY FAITH OF JESUS CHRIST MIGHT BE GIVEN TO THEM THAT BELIEVE. BUT BEFORE FAITH CAME, WE WERE KEPT UNDER THE LAW, SHUT UP UNTO THE FAITH WHICH SHOULD AFTERWARDS BE REVEALED. WHEREFORE THE LAW WAS OUR SCHOOLMASTER TO BRING US UNTO CHRIST, THAT WE MIGHT BE JUSTIFIED BY FAITH. BUT AFTER THAT FAITH IS COME, WE ARE NO LONGER UNDER A SCHOOLMASTER.”

QUESTIONS—LESSON TWELVE

1. According to Romans 5:20, why did the law enter?
2. Why was the law added, according to Galatians 3:19?
3. What was the religion of the Jews called according to Hebrews 9:10?
4. What is the law called in II Corinthians 3:7 and 9?
5. Why was the law according to Galatians 3:24?
6. Who was the mediator of the Old Covenant or Old Testament?
7. Quote John 1:17.
8. In what chapter of Exodus is recorded the giving of the ten commandments? What is said in that chapter about the altar and peace offering?

9. Compare Exodus 20:4 and 23 and state which of the ten commandments was repeated.
10. State in what respect the tabernacle and sanctuary spoke of the Person and the redemptive work of Christ.
11. Where in the tabernacle did God meet and commune with Israel?
12. Where in the tabernacle did the high priest go every year? How and for what purpose?
13. What do we learn in Hebrews 10:1 to 4 concerning the sacrifices under the law?
14. Quote and explain Hebrews 7:19.
15. Quote and compare Romans 3:28 and Acts 13:39.
16. Where is Christ at this time? What is He doing? What work of the high priest of Israel pre-figured Christ's work in heaven?
17. For what was the altar of brass in the sanctuary used? Who was Christ according to John 1:29?
18. In what sense did the shewbread, lamps and altar of incense speak of Christ as He is revealed in the Gospel of John?
19. What happened to the veil in the temple when Christ died on the cross?
20. What instructions with respect to the law are given to believers under grace in Colossians 2:14 to 17?

LESSON NUMBER THIRTEEN

FROM EGYPT TO CANAAN

“AS IN THE PROVOCATION”

About 1550 years after the children of Israel reached the promised land, the Holy Spirit directed this message to some Hebrews:

Hebrews 3:8 to 4:2

8 “Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

9 When your fathers tempted me proved me, and saw my works forty years.

10 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do always err in their heart: and they have not known my ways.

11 So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.

12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

15 While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.

16 For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.

17 But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness?

18 And to whom aware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not?

19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

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.”

Much is said in God’s Book concerning Israel’s pilgrimage of 40 years.

Psalms 95:10

“Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways.”

Amos 2:10

“Also I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and led you forty years through the wilderness, to possess the land of the Amorite”

Acts 7:42

“Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the Book of the Prophets, O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness?”

Acts 13:18

“And about the time of forty years suffered He their manners in the wilderness.”

Now look at a map and see the distance from the Red Sea to Sinai; from Sinai to Kadesh Barnea; from Kadesh to the River Jordan and the City of Jericho where the Israelites entered the Holy Land, about 1455 B. C. You will learn that it is less than 350 miles from the point where the children of Israel left Egypt to the city of Jericho.

If God’s people had been obedient and faithful and if they had followed God’s leading, they could have reached the land in much less than 40 months. But they were forty years making the trip and they endured much suffering, because of their rebellious attitude toward God. God suffered too because of their disobedience and ungodliness. We read this statement in Romans 10:21:

“But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.”

In this lesson we see when this began. All of the Israelites suffered because of the sins of the others. This reminds us of the statement in I Corinthians 12:26: “And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it.”

All believers today are members of the Body of Christ.

Romans 12:4 and 5 and 10 and 16

“For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.”

Let us keep in mind Romans 15:4 and I Corinthians 10:5 and 10:10 to 12 and learn our lesson from the experience of Israel in the wilderness.

We quote these four verses:

Romans 15:4

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.”

I Corinthians 10:5 and 10 to 12

“But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.”

“Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”

We have studied some of the murmurings of Israel before they reached Sinai. Now read:

Exodus 32:1 to 6

“And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me. And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, To morrow is a feast to the Lord. And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.”

The children of Israel made a calf of their golden jewelry and worshipped it.

Then note what God said to Moses:

Exodus 32:7 and 10

“And the Lord said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves: Now therefore let me alone, that

my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation.”

Then Moses interceded for the sinning Israelites (Exodus 32:11 to 14) . Note Moses’ words in:

Exodus 32:30, 31 and 32

“And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses said unto the people, Ye have sinned a great sin: and now I will go up unto the Lord; peradventure I shall make an atonement for your sin. And Moses returned unto the Lord, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written.”

Then note the action of God:

Exodus 32:14 and 35

“And the Lord repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people.” “And the Lord plagued the people, because they made the calf, which Aaron made.”

God’s mercy was extended because of Moses’ intercession, and because of His covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Israel. Exodus 32:13.

GOD’S ORDERS—THE LAND FLOWING WITH MILK AND HONEY

Exodus 33:1 to 3 and 14

“And the Lord said unto Moses, Depart, and go up hence, thou and the people which thou has brought up out of the land of Egypt, unto the land which I swear unto Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, Unto thy seed will I give it: And I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite: Unto a land flowing with milk and honey: for I will not go up in the midst of thee; for thou art a stiffnecked people: lest I consume thee in the way.”

“And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.”

Exodus 34:24

“For I will cast out the nations before thee, and enlarge thy borders: neither shall any man desire thy land, when thou shalt go up to appear before the Lord thy God thrice in the year.”

THE BROKEN STONES

When Moses went down from the presence of God and found Israel worshipping the golden calf, Moses brought the two tables of stones on which were written the ten commandments

Exodus 32:19

“And it came to pass as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.”

But note:

Exodus 34:1

“And the Lord said unto Moses, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon these tables the words that were in the first tables, which thou brakest “

Here we have God’s lesson for the human race. As David declared in Psalms 119:126: “It is time for Thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void (broken) Thy law.”

Christ said:

John 7:19

“Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Why go ye about to kill me?”

Acts 15:10

“Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?”

Man could not perfectly keep God’s law. All were lawbreakers. Therefore, the broken stones. But God would not stand for a broken law, so two unbroken stones were put in the ark. Remember that above the ark was the mercy-seat of pure gold which was sprinkled with the blood of the sacrifice, so that God could be just and cover the sins of believing sinners. Here we have truth pointing forward to the blessed Divine truth of:

Romans 3:23 to 26

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”

So that God might be both just and merciful, He sent Christ to take the law-breaker’s place. Some say that was not just, for it is not just for the innocent to suffer for the guilty. But we must remember that Christ was in the Godhead and had the sovereign right to take man’s nature and flesh and man’s sentence of death for his sins.

When Christ was going to Calvary note what He did and said:

Matthew 26:26

“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.”

Note also:

I Corinthians 11:24

“And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat; this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.”

So the Bible tells us of:

1. The Broken Stones
2. The Broken Law
3. Christ’s Broken Body
4. The Broken Bread.

GOD SPAKE ALL THESE WORDS

Exodus 20:1

“And God spake all these words, saying.”

Let us be impressed with the many statements, beginning with the day that God appeared to Moses as the I AM and told him to take off his shoes because he was on holy ground, from which we learn that the Almighty God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, spake with Moses. Note Hebrews 1:1 and 2. God at sundry times and in divers manners spake.

Note:

Exodus 34:34 and 35

“But when Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he took the vail off until he came out. And he came out, and spake unto the children of Israel that which he was commanded. And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses’ face shone: and Moses put the vail upon his face again, until he went in to speak with Him.”

In Exodus 35 to 40 is recorded the setting up of the tabernacle for worship.

Note:

Exodus 40:33 to 38

33 “And he reared up the court round about the tabernacle and the altar, and rot up the hanging of the court gate. So Moses finished the work.

34 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation. and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation. because the cloud abode thereon. and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

36 And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle. the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys:

37 But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up.

38 For the cloud of the Lord was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.”

THE OFFERINGS OF LEVITICUS

Genesis, “The Book of Beginnings.”

Exodus, “The Going Out.

Leviticus, “The Laws of Offerings—Vows and Their Redemption “

“Leviticus” comes from Levi, from which tribe came God’s holy priests.

In the Book of Leviticus the word “holiness” is found 87 times. Leviticus is God’s message of union and communion.

Leviticus and Hebrews should be studied together. The word “better” is found several times in Hebrews. Christ is better than all of the priests, sacrifices and offerings under the Levitical law. “In those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year, for it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.” Hebrews 10:3 and 4.

Now as to union and communion, salvation, separation and service. No one is called to service for God until that one has first received salvation from God. After salvation the call is to separation and then to service. Separation is holiness.

In the study of the Scriptures we must know the difference between union and communion, between salvation by faith without works and salvation unto good works. The Bible teaches a great difference between salvation by grace through faith in the good works of the Lord Jesus Christ and the believer's reward for the good works done in the name of the Lord 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.” Titus 2:14.

This is so clearly taught in:

Ephesians 2:8 to 10

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

Also note:

I Corinthians 3:14 and 15

“If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”

Let us ever keep in mind that during this period of time in which we live God's program differs in many respects from the program He gave Israel under the law. With their message of salvation was a mixture of law and religion. But note these words dictated to Paul by the Lord

Ephesians 3:1 and 2

“For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward,”

II Timothy 1:9

“Who hath saved us, and called us with a 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.”

Romans 6:14

“For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”

Galatians 3:27

“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

Ephesians 5:31 and 32

“For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”

The believer under this present reign of grace is united to Christ in an eternal union. The believing sinner is thus united to Christ when he goes to Calvary and receives the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour.

Communion is not possible until the union has taken place. The believing sinner enters the Household or spiritual Family of God when he receives Christ.

Ephesians 2:19

“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God.”

Galatians 3:26

“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.”

The relationship is established at Calvary where Christ once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God. I Peter 3:18. We are not serving a dead Christ but a living glorified Man at God’s right hand in the heavenlies. Note this blessed truth

Ephesians 2:6

“And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”

Now study and compare these Scriptures

Hebrews 10:26

“For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.”

I John 2:1 and 2

“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”

I John 1:9

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Hebrews 10:19 and 20

“Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh.”

Hebrews 7:25

“Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.”

Here we learn that when the believing sinner accepts Christ in His once-for-all sacrifice for sin, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sin.

Hebrews 10:10

“By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”

But we learn that Jesus Christ in heaven is the believer’s Advocate and Intercessor. Confession of sin in the name of Christ brings forgiveness to the believer. Let us remember that “I John” is written to saints or believers. I John 5:13. The believer has the guarantee of uttermost salvation, because Christ is the believer’s never-ceasing Intercessor. The believer can, and should, run the good race because Christ is the Author and Finisher of his faith.

Hebrews 12:1 and 2

“Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

We read in I John 1:7, “if we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship one with another.” Therefore, we see that fellowship depends upon the believer’s walk; while relationship is established by the sinner’s faith in the perfect redemptive work of Christ, and not by the sinner’s walk, conversation, religious activities or behaviour. But let us, in this connection, remember the words of:

James 2:20

“But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?”

THE LEVITICUS OFFERINGS

The offerings, sacrifices and other religious services of Leviticus, pointed forward to the perfect work of the perfect Christ, in His sinless and perfect life in His once-for-all sacrifice and His never-ceasing intercession in God’s presence in heaven. Note again

Hebrews 8:1 and 2

“Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such a high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.”

Hebrews 9:24

“For Christ is not entered into the holy place made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.”

1. In Leviticus 1 we learn of “the burnt offering,” pointing forward to the Lord without spot, and His sacrifice. Hebrews 9:14.
2. In Leviticus 2, “the meat offering.”
3. In Leviticus 3, “the peace offering.” Christ made peace on the cross and He is the believer’s peace. Ephesians 2:13 to 18.
4. In Leviticus 4, “the sin offering.”

5. In Leviticus 5, “the trespass offering.”

CONCERNING THE HIGH PRIEST

Now let us note:

Numbers 3:5 to 12

“And Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water. And Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that was therein and sanctified them. And he sprinkled thereof upon the altar seven times, and anointed the altar and all his vessels. both the laver and his foot, to sanctify them. And he poured of the anointing oil upon Aaron’s head, and anointed him, to sanctify him. Leviticus 8:6 and 8:10 to 12. And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister unto him. And they shall keep his charge, and the charge of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of the congregation, to do the service of the tabernacle. And they shall keep all the instruments of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the charge of the children of Israel, to do the service of the tabernacle. And thou shalt give the Levites unto Aaron and to his sons: they are wholly given unto him out of the children of Israel. And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest’s office: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death. And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, And I, behold, I have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of all the firstborn that openeth the matrix among the children of Israel: therefore the Levites shall be mine.”

While the Jesus Christ is a Priest or ever after the order of Melchisedec (Hebrews 7:11), note what we are told in:

Hebrews 8:4

“For if He were on earth, He should not be a Priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law.”

Hebrews 7:14

“For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.”

Aaron and his successors, with their offerings, spake in many ways of Jesus Christ as both the Offerer and the Offering.

According to I Timothy 2:5, Christ is now the one Mediator between God and man. God has no special order of priests during this reign of grace except as all believers are priests in accordance with

I Peter 2:5

“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”

Remember:

Numbers 3:10

“And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest’s office; and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.”

Now note concerning:

THE BELLS AND THE POMEGRANATE:

EXODUS 28:33 to 35

33 “And beneath upon the hem of it thou shalt make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about the hem thereof; and bells of gold between them round about:

34 A golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the hem of the robe round about.

35 And it shall be upon Aaron to minister: and his sound shall be heard when he goeth in unto the holy place before the Lord, and when he cometh out, that he die not.”

EXODUS 39:22 to 30

22 “And he made the robe of the ephod of woven work, all of blue.

23 And there was an hole in the midst of the robe, as the hole of an habergeon, with a band round about the hole, that it should not rend.

24 And they made upon the hems of the robe pomegranates of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and twined linen.

25 And they made bells of pure gold, and put the bells between the pomegranates upon the hem of the robe, round about between the pomegranates;

26 A bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate, round about the hem of the robe to minister in; as the Lord commanded Moses.

27 And they made coats of fine linen of woven work for Aaron, and for his sons,

28 And a mitre of fine linen, and goodly bonnets of fine linen, and linen breeches of fine twined linen,

29 And a girdle of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, of needlework; as the Lord commanded Moses.

30 And they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, like to the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.”

The pomegranate spoke of the believer’s fruit in Christian living. The bell spoke of the believer’s testimony. We should live Christ and preach Christ. Note the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22 to 26.

YOM KIPPUR

“Yom” is the Hebrew for “day.” “Kippur” “covering” or “atonement.” This was a very important day with Israel. Read about it in Chapter 16 of Leviticus. We also find the story told in Hebrews 9, how the high-priest in his priestly robes first offered the blood of the sacrifice for his own sins. Then in the afternoon, perhaps about the time Christ died on the cross, he took the blood of the slain goat behind the veil, in the most holy place, and sprinkled it upon the mercy-seat. Then he and his associates went to the goat that was tied outside, placed their hands upon it, and sent that scapegoat through the wilderness. All of this pointed forward to Christ on the cross:

Hebrews 9:26

“For then must He often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.”

TWO BIRDS

Then note the story of the two birds:

Leviticus 14:4 to 7

“Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed two birds alive and clean, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop: And the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water. As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water: And he shall sprinkle upon him that is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the living bird loose into the open field.”

The bird dipped in the blood of the sacrificed bird flying away into the heavens spoke of the Lord Jesus Christ in His work described in:

Hebrews 9:12

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

In Leviticus 17, God’s instructions are plain and positive that the sacrifices must be killed on the brazen altar outside the tabernacle. And remember this important verse

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.”

No higher laws were ever legislated than those recorded in Leviticus 19. After reading in that chapter God’s requirements of man in his dealings with God and his fellow-man, we can appreciate God’s statements in Romans 7.

Take the time to compare Leviticus 19 with Romans 7. Note how Leviticus 19 closes:

Leviticus 19:35 to 37

“Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure. Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have: I am the Lord your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt. Therefore shall ye observe all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: I am the Lord.”

Now note these verses from:

Romans 7:12 to 14

“Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful. For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.”

THE CAMP ACCORDING TO NUMBERS

The place and arrangements of the children of Israel around their tabernacle in the camp is very interesting. This is described in Numbers 1 to 10.

Note the law of the Nazarite:

THE NAZARITE

Numbers 6:1 to 4 and 8

1 “And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying,

2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When either man or woman shall separate themselves to vow a vow of a Nazarite, to separate themselves unto the Lord;

3 He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes, or dried

4 All the days of his separation shall he eat nothing that is made of the vine tree, from the kernels even to the husk.”

8 “All the days of his separation he is holy unto the Lord.”

We shall later study of such Nazarites as Samson and John the Baptist.

Just how to observe the Passover is told in Numbers, chapter 9.

Now in closing this lesson let us study

1. The Tithe of the Levites.
2. Smiting the Rock.
3. The Brazen Serpent.
4. The Story of Balaam’s Ass.

THE TITHE OF THE LEVITES

This is plainly told in:

Numbers 18:20 to 24

20 “And the Lord spake unto Aaron, Thou shalt have no inheritance in their land, neither shalt thou have any part among them: I am thy part and thine inheritance among the children of Israel.

21 And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service which they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

22 Neither must the children of Israel henceforth come nigh the tabernacle of the congregation, lest they bear sin, and die.

23 But the Levites shall do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they shall bear their iniquity: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they have no inheritance.

24 But the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer as an heave offering, unto the Lord, I have given to the Levites to inherit: therefore I have said unto them, Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.”

THE SMITING OF THE ROCK

In Numbers, chapter 20, we filed the record of Israel’s murmurings against God at the time that Miriam, the sister of Moses and Aaron, died at Kadesh. They said, “Would God that we

had died when our brethren died before the Lord.” Numbers 20:3. God commanded and Moses smote the rock to get water for the murmuring Israelites. But Moses made a mistake by smiting the rock twice:

Numbers 20:11

“And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also.”

If the rock spoke of Christ, remember, God smote His Son but once

Romans 6:10

“For in that He died, He died unto sin once: but in that He liveth He liveth unto God.”

THE BRAZEN SERPENT

Concerning the Lord Jesus Christ, note this statement in John 3:14 and 15

John 3:14 and 15

“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

Numbers 21:4 to 9

“And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way. And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread. And the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord, and against thee; pray unto the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole; and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass he lived.”

Thus we see that Christ on the cross was typified by that brass snake on a pole. Brass in the Bible speaks of judgment. All sinners have been bitten by the serpent and his poison is sin. Christ on the cross is the one and only cure.

BALAAM’S ASS

NUMBERS 22:9 to 14

9 “And God came unto Balaam, and said, What men are these with thee?

10 And Balaam said unto God, Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, hath sent unto me, saying

11 Behold, there is a people come out of Egypt, which covereth the face of the earth: come now, curse me them: peradventure I shall be able to overcome them, and drive them out.

12 And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they are blessed.

13 And Balaam rose up in the morning, and said unto the princes of Balak, Get you into your land: for the Lord refuseth to give me leave to go with you.

14 And the princes of Moab rose up, and they went unto Balak, and said, Balaam refuseth to come with us.”

NUMBERS 22:20 and 21

20 “And God came unto Balaam at night, and said unto him, If the men come to call thee, rise up, and go with them; but yet the word which I shall say unto thee, that shalt thou do.

21 And Balsam rose up in the morning, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab.”

NUMBERS 22:22 to 34

22 “And God’s anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the Lord stood in the way for an adversary against him. Now he was riding upon his ass, and his two servants were with him.

23 And the ass saw the angel of the Lord standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way, and went into the field: and Balsam smote the ass, to turn her into the way.

28 And the Lord opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times?

29 And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou bast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee.

30 And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou bast ridden over since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? And he said, Nay.

31 Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face.

32 And the angel of the Lord said unto him, Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? Behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse before me:

33 And the ass saw me, and turned.

34 And Balaam said unto the angel of the Lord, I have sinned.”

Balak still insisted that Balaam curse Israel. Note Balaam’s reply:

Numbers 23:8

“How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed? or how shall I defy, whom the Lord hath not defied?”

Numbers 23:20 to 22

“Behold, I have received commandment to bless: and he hath blessed; and I cannot reverse it. He hath not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel: the Lord his God is with him, and the shout of a king is among them. God brought them out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of a unicorn.”

Numbers 24:13

“If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the commandment of the Lord, to do either good or bad of mine own mind; but what the Lord saith, that will I speak?”

Numbers 24:25

“And Balaam rose up, and went and returned to his place: and Balak also went his way.”

QUESTIONS-LESSON THIRTEEN

1. How many of the Israelites who left Egypt reached Canaan?
2. Why did the Israelites journey so long to make the trip?
3. How, when and where did the Israelites worship God in the wilderness? How did God lead and protect them?
4. Mention several sins that sorely displeased Moses and brought judgment from God?
5. Why did not God destroy Israel in the wilderness? Were many of them killed by God's decree? Give Scriptures.
6. What lesson are we to learn from Israel's experience in sin and Divine judgment?
7. What is said about God's attitude toward Israel in Romans 10:21?
8. Explain the difference between union and communion, between salvation and rewards.
9. Mention the four broken things in our lesson. Why was Moses not permitted to put the two broken stones in the ark of the covenant?
10. What stood immediately above the ark and on what particular day of the year did the high priest sprinkle blood thereupon? What was the blessing there from?
11. What sin was committed by Israel to cause Moses to break the stones? What was the outstanding statement of Moses in his prayer of intercession for Israel after that great sin?
12. What is it that God can do and does do for believing sinners because Christ took the sinner's place in judgment. Romans 3:24 to 26.
13. In the Lord's Supper what does the broken bread symbolize?
14. What is the great truth declared in Leviticus 17:11? Tell about the smiting of the rock by Moses at Kadesh.
15. With respect to the law, what is the great difference between the Israelites in Leviticus and the members of Christ's Body in Ephesians?
16. How does a sinner become the child of God in this day of grace?
17. To whom was the dispensation of the grace of God, for Gentiles, given, according to II Timothy 1:9 and Ephesians 3:1 to 3?
18. Explain the vow and duty of a Nazarite and the inheritance of the Levites.
19. Tell the story of the brazen serpent and its prophetic and symbolic significance.
20. Tell the story of Balak, Balaam, and the ass.

LESSON NUMBER FOURTEEN

A PECULIAR PEOPLE ABOVE ALL PEOPLE ON EARTH

Let us again note the words of Romans 3:1 Romans 9:4 and 5.

Romans 3:1 and 2

“What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.”

Romans 9:4 and 5

“Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.”

There are some students of the Scriptures who believe that Luke was a Gentile; but they have no positive proof. Luke wrote “The Gospel of Luke” and “The Acts”. The other 64 Books of the Bible were written by Israelites. Remember the words of Christ, “salvation is of the Jews.” John 4:22. Note the testimony of the apostle to the Gentiles (Paul) : “Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee.” Philippians 3:5. Note the words of the Psalmist

Psalm 135:4

“For the Lord hath chosen Jacob unto Himself, and Israel for His peculiar treasure.”

ISRAEL IN DEUTERONOMY

And now to Deuteronomy, the last of the Books of Moses, the Pentateuch:

Deuteronomy 14:2

“For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God, and the Lord hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.”

In the Book of Deuteronomy God, through Moses, instructs His people how and why they are to enter Canaan and what they are to do and how they are to behave after they have reached that promised land.

Note:

Deuteronomy 7:1 to 3 and 6 to 8

1 “When the Lord thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou;

2 And when the Lord thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them:

3 Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son.”

6 “for thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.

7 The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:

8 But because the Lord loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.”

Let us keep in mind that the children of Israel were not to possess Canaan; because they were worthy or obedient; but rather because God promised the land to the seed of His friend Abraham. Genesis 17:8. It was for this same reason that these rebellious, murmuring Israelites were taken out of Egypt. “God remembered His covenant with Abraham.” Exodus 2:24.

Read again Deuteronomy 7:8.

God will fight Israel’s battle for them.

Deuteronomy 7:22 and 23

“And the Lord thy God will put out those nations before thee by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee. But the Lord thy God shall deliver them unto thee, and shall destroy them with a mighty destruction, until they be destroyed.”

Deuteronomy 8:7 to 9

“For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valley and hills; A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass.”

But after they get into the land, God’s continued blessing is to be conditional.

Deuteronomy 11:22 to 28

“For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him; Then will the Lord drive out all these nations from before you, and ye shall possess greater nations and mightier than yourselves. Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be. There shall no man be able to stand before you: for the Lord your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you. Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known”

Deuteronomy 28:1 to 3 and 13

“And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God. Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field. And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:”

But note what is to happen if Israel fails to be faithful and obedient:

Deuteronomy 28:15, 25, 26, 32, 47, 48 and 62

“But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:”

“The Lord shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them; and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.

And thy carcass shall be meat unto all fowls of the air, and unto the beasts of the earth, and no man shall fray them away.”

“Thy sons and thy daughters shall be given unto another people, and thine eyes shall look, and fail with longing for them all the day long: and there shall be no might in thine hand.”

“Because thou servedst not the Lord thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things:

Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the Lord shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee.”

“And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were as the stars in heaven for multitude; because thou wouldest not obey the voice of the Lord thy God.”

Now note these very solemn words of the Lord to Israel:

Deuteronomy 30:19 and 20

“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

THE REPORT OF THE SPIES

Numbers 13:16 to 20

“These are the names of the men which Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Oshea the son of Nun, Jehoshua. And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain: And see the land, what it is; and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many; And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong holds; And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the first ripe grapes.”

These spies were in the land forty days. They returned after forty days.

Note their report to Moses and the Israelites:

Numbers 13:27 to 33

“And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of

Anak there. The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan. And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people: for they are stronger than we. And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.”

After this report the Israelites were filled with fright. They wept and they cried, “would God that we had died in the land of Egypt, or would God we had died in this wilderness.” Numbers 14:2.

The two courageous men who stood against the murmurers were Joshua and Caleb. Numbers 14:6. They were sure that the Lord would lead them into the land flowing with milk and honey (Numbers 14:8).

God became very angry and spoke of disinheriting the rebels (Numbers 14:12). Then Moses again interceded for them. Read why Moses told the Lord that He should forgive and preserve Israel. He closed his intercession with these words:

Numbers 14:19

“Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven is people, from Egypt even until now.”

Note the result:

Numbers 14:20

“And the Lord said, I have pardoned according to thy word”

But an awful judgment fell upon the sinful Israelites.

Numbers 14:29, 30 and 39

“Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness, and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me. Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I swear to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.”

“And Moses told these sayings unto all the children of Israel: and the people mourned greatly.”

GOD’S LAW

CONCERNING SPIRITIST MEDIUMS, CLAIRVOYANTS AND FALSE PROPHETS

Deuteronomy 13:1 and 5

“If there arise among you a prophet, of a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,”

“And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the Lord your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the Lord thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.”

Deuteronomy 18:9 to 12

“When thou art come into the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord: and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee. “

Deuteronomy 18:21 and 22

“And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.”

GOD DEMANDS THE FIRST AND BEST

Deuteronomy 16:16 and 17

Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the Lord empty: Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessings of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee.

Deuteronomy 17:1

Thou shalt not sacrifice unto the Lord thy God any bullock, or sheep, wherein is blemish, or any evilfavouredness: for that is an abomination unto the Lord thy God.

Deuteronomy 26:2 to 4 and 10

That thou shalt take the first of all the fruit of the earth, which thou shalt bring of thy land that the Lord thy God giveth thee, and shalt put it in a basket, and shalt go unto the place which the Lord thy God shall choose to place his name there. And thou shalt go unto the priest that shall be in those days, and say unto him, I profess this day unto the Lord thy God, that I am come unto the country which the Lord sware unto our fathers for to give us. And the priest shall take the basket out of thine hand, and set it down before the altar of the Lord thy God.

And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which thou, O Lord, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the Lord thy God, and worship before the Lord thy God.

GOD FORBIDS MIXTURES

Deuteronomy 22:9 to 11

“Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with divers seeds: lest the fruit of thy seed which thou hast sown, and the fruit of thy vineyard, be defiled. Thou shalt not plough with an ox and an ass together. Thou shalt not wear a garment of divers sorts, as of woollen and linen together.”

CURSED IS THE MAN THAT HANGETH ON A TREE

Deuteronomy 21:22 and 23

‘And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree: His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.’”

Galatians 3:10 to 13

“For as many as are of the works 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. But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them. 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.”

THE DEATH OF MOSES

THE DEDICATION OF JOSHUA

Deuteronomy 31:1 and 2

“And Moses went and spake these words unto all Israel. And he said unto them, I am an hundred and twenty years old this day: I can no more go out and come in: also the Lord hath said unto me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan.”

Deuteronomy 31:14

“And the Lord said unto Moses, Behold, thy days approach that thou must die: call Joshua, and present yourselves in the tabernacle of the congregation that I may give him a charge. And Moses and Joshua went, and presented themselves in the tabernacle of the congregation.”

Deuteronomy 31:23 to 26

“And he gave Joshua the son of Nun a charge, and said, Be strong and of a good courage: for thou shalt bring the children of Israel into the land which I sware unto them: and I will be with thee. And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished. That Moses commanded the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord, saying, Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee.”

Deuteronomy 32:48 and 49

“And the Lord spake unto Moses that selfsame day, saying, Get thee up into this mountain Abarim, unto mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, that is over against Jericho; and behold the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel for a possession.”

Deuteronomy 34:5 to 12

“So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord. And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Bethpeor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day. And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated. And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days: so the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended. And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the Lord commanded Moses. And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. In all the signs and the wonders which the Lord sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land, And in all that mighty hand, and in all the great terror which Moses showed in the sight of all Israel.”

Numbers 12:3

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

In these lessons we have studied from the creation to the death of Moses; from Eden to Canaan; from Adam to Moses. We shall begin the next series of lessons with the conquest of Jericho, entering the promised land. Under the heading of “From Israel’s Commonwealth to Israel’s Messiah,” we shall have about ten lessons.

CHARACTER STUDY

Let us note the meaning of the names of some of the men we have mentioned in our lessons: Adam meaning “ruddy.” Abel—“vanity.” Abraham—“father of many nations.” Joseph—“added.” Jacob—“supplanter.” Israel—“prevailing with God.” Isaac—“laughter.” Noah—“rest or quiet.” Enoch—“dedicate.” Peleg—“division.” Eber—“across.” Melchisedec—“king of righteousness.” Judah—“celebrated.” Levi—“attached.” Moses—“drawn out.”

Also in the study of these characters, note a few dispensational lessons. Adam lived in Eden before the fall and then outside after the fall. Noah lived 600 years before the flood and 350 years after the flood. After the flood Noah entered into a new age under a new covenant. In this sense he lived during two different dispensations. Moses lived 80 years under the Abrahamic Covenant, before the law was added because of transgression, and then he lived 40 years after the law was added; that is, he lived 40 years under the covenant that was made old at Calvary when the Lord Jesus died. So Moses also lived in two different dispensations. Israel, under the law, was protected and preserved because of God’s promise to Abraham and His oath.

We learn from the study of Genesis 5, Genesis 11, and other chapters of Genesis and Exodus these interesting facts; that Adam’s son, Seth, was 168 years of age when Noah’s father, Lamech, died.

We learned that before the flood six to nine generations were living at the same time. We also learned that Noah, who saw eight generations before the flood, lived until Abraham's father, Terah, was 128 years of age.

We learned that Abraham was 150 years of age when Shem died. Shem was born nearly 100 years before the flood. Shem and Abraham could have had some very interesting and instructive conversations concerning the antediluvian days. Adam's grand-son, Enos, and Noah were contemporaries for 84 years.

THE PATIENCE OF JOB

James 5:11

“Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.”

Every child of God should prayerfully and carefully study the Book of Job. Truly Job was a man of God. In Ezekiel 14:20 he is mentioned with Noah and Daniel. Job lived some time between the days of Noah and the days of Moses. There are some wonderful statements concerning God's glory in the Book of Job not to be found elsewhere in the Bible.

In the Book of Job we have the record of conversations between Job and four men. Three of these men conspired together against Job trying to convince him with their wise arguments that his afflictions were from God because he was a hypocrite. These three men were Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar. The fourth man was Elihu. Elihu knew very much concerning the character of God and His dealings with man. He gave Job some very good advice. But note what God thought of the other three who claimed to be Job's friends

Job 42:7

“And it was so, that after the Lord had spoken these words unto Job the Lord said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of Me the thing that is right, as My servant Job hath”

We quote from the pen of another concerning these four men and their attitude toward Job, his God and his sufferings.

“Despite minor differences, Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar have one view of the problem of Job's afflictions. He is a hypocrite. Outwardly good, he is, they hold really a bad man. Otherwise, according to their conception of God, Job's sufferings would be unjust. Job, though himself the sufferer, will not accuse the justice of God, and his self-defense is complete. Before God he is guilty, helpless, and undone, and there is no daysman (Job 9). Later, his faith is rewarded by a revelation of a coming Redeemer, and of the resurrection (Job 19). But Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar are sinners also as before God, and yet they are not afflicted. Job refutes the theory of the three that he is a secret sinner as against the common moralities, but the real problem, Why are the righteous afflicted? remains. It is solved in the last chapter”

“Elihu has a far juster and more spiritual conception of the problem than Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar because he has an infinitely higher conception of God. The God of Eliphaz and the others, great though they perceive Him to be in His works, becomes in their thought petty and exacting in His relations with mankind. It is the fatal misconception of all religious externalists and moralizers. Their god is always a small god. Elihu's account of God is noble and true, and it is noteworthy that at the last Jehovah does not class him with Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar (of Job

42:7) : but he is still a dogmatist, and his eloquent discourse is marred by self-assertiveness (e. g. Job 32:8 and 9; Job 33:3). Jehovah's judgment of Elihu is that he darkened counsel by words (Job 38:2); the very charge that Elihu had brought against Job (Job 34:35: Job 35:16). Furthermore the discourse of Jehovah is wholly free from the accusations of Job with which even Elihu's lofty discourse abounds."

JOB'S WEALTH AND PROSPERITY

The Book of Job opens with this record of Job's wealth

Job 1:1 to 4

"There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright; and one that feared God, and eschewed evil. And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters. His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east. And his sons went and feasted in their houses, every one his day; and sent and called for their three sisters to eat and drink with them."

The Book of Job closes with this record of Job's wealth:

Job 42:10 to 17

"And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. Then came there unto him all his brethren, and all his sisters, and all they that had been of his acquaintance before, and did eat bread with him in his house: and they bemoaned him, and comforted him over all the evil that the Lord had brought upon him: every man also gave him a piece of money, and every one an earring of gold. So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousands camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses. He had also seven sons and three daughters. And he called the name of the first, Jemima; and the name of the second, Kezia; and the name of the third, Kerenhappuch. And in all the land were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job: and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren. After this lived Job an hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, even four generations. So Job died, being old and full of days."

Between the time that Job lost all his possessions and was again brought to prosperity he suffered much in body, soul and spirit.

SATAN DEALS WITH JOB

In chapters one and two are recorded Satan's arguments that Job fears God because he is enjoying good health and material prosperity. Satan challenged God to deprive Job of his earthly possessions and take away his health and he would turn against God.

Job 1:9 to 12

"Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not thou made a hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast

blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face. And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord.”

Job 2:4 to 6

“And Satan answered the Lord, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face. And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life.”

Job lost all his possessions. The members of his family died. Satan smote Job with disease. God permitted Satan to deal with Job.

Job 2:9 and 10

“Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die. But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.”

JOB’S COUNSELORS

Then Job’s three friends, Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar, went to Job

Job 2:11

“Now when Job’s three friends heard of all this evil that was come upon him, they came every one from his own place; Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite: for they had made all appointment together to come to mourn with him, and to comfort him.”

Job, too, grieved much because of his sufferings. Note his words in:

Job 3:11

“Why died I not from the womb? why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly?”

Note how Eliphaz accounted for Job’s sad predicament.

Job 4:7

“Remember, I pray thee, who ever perished, being innocent? or where were the righteous cut off?”

He reasoned that Job was not right with God. Job replied:

Job 6:8 and 9

“Oh that I might have my request; and that God would grant me the thing that I long for! Even that it would please God to destroy me; that he would let loose his hand, and cut me off!”

Bildad added no comfort. He also accused Job of sin and hypocrisy.

Job 8:6 to 8

“If thou wert pure and upright; surely now he would awake for thee, and make the habitation of thy righteousness prosperous. Though thy beginning was small, yet thy latter end should greatly increase. For enquire, I pray thee, of the former age, and prepare thyself to the search of their fathers.”

Job 8:13

“So are the paths of all that forget God; and the hypocrite’s hope shall perish.”

Job 8:20

“Behold, God will not cast away a perfect man, neither will he help the evil doers.”

GOD’S WONDERFUL WORKS

In chapter 9 Job has much to say concerning the power and glory of God. We quote a few verses:

Job 9:7 to 10

“Which commandeth the sun, and it riseth hot; and sealeth up the stars; Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea; Which maketh Arcturus, Orion, and Pleiades, and the chambers of the south. Which doeth great things past finding out; yea, and wonders without number.”

Then note what Job’s counselor said concerning God.

“Hearken unto this, O Job: stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God. Dost thou know when God disposed them, and caused the light of his cloud to shine? Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him which is perfect in knowledge?” Job 37:14 to 16.

“Touching the Almighty, we cannot find him out: he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict.” Job 37: 23.

“Behold God is great, and we know him not, neither can the number of his years be searched out.” Job 36:26.

“God thundereth marvellously with his voice; great things doeth he, which we cannot comprehend. For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the small rain, and to the great rain of his strength.” Job 37:5 and 6.

“Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail?” Job 38:22.

“Hath the rain a father? or who hath begotten the drops of dew? out of whose womb came the ice? and the hoary frost of heaven, who hath gendered it? The waters are hid as with a stone, and the face of the deep is frozen. Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?” Job 38:28 to 31.

“Who provideth for the raven his food? when his young ones cry unto God, they wander for lack of meat” Job 38:41.

“Hast thou given the horse strength? bast thou clothed his neck with thunder? Canst thou make him afraid as a grasshopper? the glory of his nostrils is terrible. He paweth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength: he goeth on to meet the armed men.” Job 39:19 to 21.

“both the eagle mount up at thy command, and make her nest on high? She dwelleth and abideth on the rock, upon the crag of the rock, and the strong place.” Job 39:27.

“Then Job answered and said, I know it is so of a truth: but how should man be just with God?” Job 9:1 and 2.

“If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me: if I say, I am perfect, it shall also prove me perverse.” Job 9:20.

“If I wash myself with snow water, and make my hands never so clean; Yet shalt thou plunge me in the ditch, and mine own clothes shall abhor me. For he is not a man, as I am, that I should answer him, and we should come together in judgment. Neither is there any daysman betwixt us, that might lay his hand upon us both.” Job 9:30 to 33.

Here Job argued that only a Divine-human Arbiter could adjust the difference between the holy God and the unholy man. Then read how Christ came to be that Daysman

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.”

and:

I Timothy 2:5

“For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”

Then Zophar added his remarks in chapter eleven. He said to Job, “know therefore that God exacteth of thee less than thine iniquity deserveth.” Job 11:6.

“And Job answered and said, No doubt but ye are the people, and wisdom shall die with you.” Job 12:1 and 2.

“What ye know, the same do I know also: I am not inferior unto you. Surely I would speak to the Almighty, and I desire to reason with God. But ye are forgers of lies, ye are all physicians of no value. Oh that ye would altogether hold your peace! and it should be your wisdom.” Job 13:2 to 5.

“Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.” Job 13:15.

“Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not.” Job 14:1 and 2.

Then note these two questions of Job:

“But man dieth, and wasteth away: yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?” Job 14:10.

“If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.” Job 14:14.

Note these two very interesting and important questions “Where are the dead?” “If a man die shall he live again?” Note several Scriptural answers to these questions

Ecclesiastes 12:6 and 7

“Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave It.”

Now for the believer's experience note:

II Corinthians 5:8

"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present (at home) with the Lord."

John 11:25 and 26

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. Believest thou this?"

After Eliphaz had again accused both Job and God, note what Job said:

"Then Job answered and said, I have heard many such things: miserable comforters are ye all." Job 16:1 and 2.

"God hath delivered me to the ungodly, and turned me over into the hands of the wicked." Job 16:11.

"Are there not mockers with me? and doth not mine eye continue in their provocation?" Job 17:2.

Then Bildad brought this accusation the second time and Job's answer:

"How long will ye vex my soul, and break me in pieces with words?" Job 19:2.

"My bone cleaveth to my skin and to my flesh, and I am escaped with the skin of my teeth." Job 19:20.

"Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me." Job 19:21.

Then note these words:

"For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me." Job 19:25 to 27.

Then Zophar repeated his charge against Job:

"That the triumphing of the wicked is short, and the joy of the hypocrite but for a moment?" Job 20:5.

"This is the portion of a wicked man from God, and the heritage appointed unto him by God." Job 20:29.

Note Job's reply:

"Suffer me that I may speak; and after that I have spoken, mock on." Job 21:3.

“How then comfort ye me in vain, seeing in your answers there remaineth falsehood?”
Job 21:34.

After some further charges by Eliphaz and his companions, we read:

Job 32:1 to 3

“So these three men ceased to answer Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes. Then was kindled the wrath of Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the kindred of Ram: against Job was his wrath kindled, because he justified himself rather than God. Also against his three friends was his wrath kindled, because they had found no answer, and yet had condemned Job.”

Elihu proceeded to give Job some splendid advice, showing much knowledge of God’s wisdom and ways:

“He shall pray unto God, and he will be favourable unto him: and he shall see his fate with joy: for he will render unto man his righteousness.” Job 33:26.

“For the work of a man shall he render unto him, and cause every man to find according to his ways. Yea, surely God will not do wickedly, neither will the Almighty pervert judgment.” Job 34:11 and 12.

“But none saith, Where is God my maker, who giveth songs in the night; Who teacheth us more than the beasts of the earth, and maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven? There they cry, but none giveth answer, because of the pride of evil men. Surely God will not hear vanity, neither will the Almighty regard it.” Job 35:10 to 13.

In chapters 38 to 41 we have a record of God’s very plain talk with Job:

Job 38:1 and 2

“Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?”

Read those wonderful sayings of God and note their effect upon Job:

Job 40:3 to 5

“Then Job answered the Lord, and said, Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer thee? I will lay mine hand upon my mouth. Once have I spoken; but I will not answer: yea, twice; but I will proceed no further.”

Job 42:2 and 6

“I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.”

And then note what happened:

Job 42:10

“And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.”

And we have already mentioned how God then blessed Job with greater prosperity than he had ever enjoyed.

QUESTIONS—LESSON FOURTEEN

1. In what verse are recorded the words of Christ “salvation is of the Jews”?
2. In what verse is Israel called God’s peculiar treasure?
3. From how many nations in Canaan did God promise to deliver Israel?
4. What would Israel find in, the promised land according to Deuteronomy 8:8?
5. Mention several things that God would do for Israel in the land of Canaan if they would obey His commandments.
6. Tell of the report of the spies.
7. What did the people of God do when they heard the unfavorable report of the spies?
8. What did God do to the Israelites because of their murmuring? What did Moses do?
9. Who were the two Israelites of great courage?
10. Mention God’s commandments against necromancers and mediums.
11. What did God demand concerning the sacrifices and gifts which Israel offered to Him?
12. What mixtures did God forbid?
13. Why was Christ made a curse on the tree?
14. Whom did Moses command to put the Book he wrote in the ark?
15. At what age did Moses die and what is written concerning his eye and natural force? Mention the mountain that Moses ascended.
16. Upon whom did Moses place his hands to be dedicated to take up the leadership of Israel?
17. Under what two dispensations or covenants did Moses live?
18. How meek was Moses?
19. How did Job’s possessions in the end compare with his possessions in the beginning?
20. Relate some of the outstanding statements of Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar and Job’s reply to them.