

come again, and restore our people to the true faith once delivered? Verses 11-14.

9. How many nations are today DECEIVED by the false teaching emanating from Rome? Rev. 17:2; 18:3. "Babylon" is the entire pagan Roman system, fostered by the Roman church. Does the Roman church have any DAUGHTER churches? Rev. 17:5. By what name are they here called? It must be remembered that "protestantism" has never protested about Rome's changing and doing away with God's Law (Dan. 7:25), but rather teaches that the Law is done away, rejects God's holy Sabbath for the original pagan day of SUN worship called SUN-day, and also retains many fundamental pagan teachings diametrically contrary to the Bible. Truly Israel is IN BABYLON today. In religion, in business, in society, we are in the ways and teachings of "Babylon." Is God now calling us OUT? Rev. 18:4; Isa. 48:20. Should we have been keeping God's Commandments? Isa 48:17-18. Were they done away? Psalm 111:7-8; Mat. 5:17-19. What is our Passport to the City and everlasting life? Rev. 22:14; Mat. 19:16-17.

10. After our people originally were scattered, and have served other gods and the work of men's hands all these years, what are we to do if we would find deliverance during the coming Tribulation in this latter day? Deut. 4:27-31. If we forsake OUR ways and turn back to God and His Commandments thru Jesus Christ, shall any plague come near us? Psalm 91:1-2,7-10.

11. We now know our people are ISRAEL. We now know we are to be invaded and conquered by the sword God shall send because of our sins. When we see this sword coming upon our land, what are we commanded to do? Ezk. 33:1-6. Every man and woman cannot preach or shout the warning. So far as we know NO ONE today is shouting this warning but The RADIO CHURCH OF GOD, and The PLAIN TRUTH Magazine. When you send regularly your tithe, and sacrifice to send the largest possible offerings, to add more and more radio stations, to publish additional thousands of copies of The PLAIN TRUTH, you are shouting this warning, and acquitting yourself before God. Are we showing as much zeal, making as much sacrifice to this end, as others are to fight on the battle-fields and to contribute money for the defense of a doomed material kingdom? Christ is soon coming, to call each of us to account. Soon our money will be of no use, once we are invaded and conquered. But NOW, we can obey God and proclaim His warning to the millions of our people, before it is too late. But we must HURRY! Time is short.

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INTRODUCTION

THE BIBLE stands today the world's Best Seller, and also the world's MOST MISUNDERSTOOD BOOK!

The prophecies, especially, are palpably misunderstood. WHY?

Perhaps unwillingness to accept correction and reproof from the Scriptures is the greatest reason of all. The tendency is to follow tradition, and to read doctrines already accepted and assumed INTO the BOOK, instead of drinking God's meaning out of it.

But there is a vital KEY, without which the door to right understanding of the Scriptures cannot be unlocked! The TRUTH ABOUT ISRAEL is this key. Not possessing it, the denominations have stumbled into a maze of traditional error, and today we have a babylon of contradiction.

Most people today assume that "The House of ISRAEL" means the JEW. Some teach that Israel now is merely a spiritual term, applying solely to the Church. Others have different ideas.

In the lessons that follow will be found an amazing TRUTH, long hidden under the rubbish of tradition and theological bias. It is a veritable "KEY" to Bible understanding. The lessons are thrilling, interesting. This truth will open the flood-gates of a joyous new experience that will bring rejoicing to the soul. Study with OPEN mind, carefully, and without prejudice.

"Ye shall know the TRUTH, and the TRUTH shall make you free!"

LESSON I

DISTINCTION Between ISRAEL and JUDAH

SCRIPTURE READING: Ezekiel 37:15-28.

MEMORY VERSE: Jeremiah 50:4.

1. It is commonly believed today that Jesus "came unto His own, and His own received Him not," and that He then said, "Lo, I turn to the GENTILES!" Did He make this latter statement? John 1:11,12.
2. Who was it, years later, who said "Lo, we turn to the Gentiles?" Acts 13:46. Was Paul given a special mission, as THE apostle of the Gentiles? Acts 9:15; Romans 11:13.
3. It is true that when the Jews rejected Jesus, He turned to another people. But strange as it may seem, and as will be proved later, this people was neither Jew nor Gentile! To whom, then, did He turn? Matthew 15:24.
4. Of course nearly everyone supposes that by "The House of Israel" Jesus referred to the Jews. Most people suppose the two terms "ISRAEL" and "JUDAH" are two names for the same people, both meaning "Jew." Are they both the SAME? Hosea 1:6-7; Hosea 4:15; Jeremiah 3:11.
5. Do Ezekiel's two sticks represent entirely different nations? Ezekiel 37:15-16.
6. Does the interpretation of this symbol show that Israel and Judah have been TWO nations? Ezekiel 37:18-20. (NOTE: Notice, the "stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of EPHRAIM, and the tribes of ISRAEL his fellows." Following lessons will show how EPHRAIM was the chief BIRTHRIGHT TRIBE.)
7. Have they been divided into TWO NATIONS up to, and until the time when God makes them once more ONE NATION? Ezekiel 37:22.
8. Let us see, now, AT WHAT TIME the two nations were again to be made ONE. Note, in verse 21, it is when God takes them from their captivity in the nations where they were scattered, and brings them into their own land, PALESTINE, once again. Will it also be when they no longer defile themselves with idolatry, Sabbath-profaning, and all their other sins? Verse 23. Will David (resurrected from the dead,) be king over them at that time? Verse 24. When thus united under David as king, will they ever again be driven out of Palestine? Verse 25. Will God make a NEW Covenant with them when they are thus united? Verse 26. Will the Gentile nations know when this happens. Verse 28. (NOTE: Those who deny the truth about Israel claim these two sticks were joined together in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, when the Jews returned from Babylon, saying the king of Persia

was the one king over both nations. The above passages show how absurd and untrue this is. Bear in mind that when David is king once again over all Israel and Judah, that Christ will be KING of kings, and Lord of lords. There will then be kings over each nation, with David king over Israel. Christ will be King over all earth's kings.)

9. In future lessons we shall see that the children of Israel were divided into two nations; one, with ten tribes, called ISRAEL, the other with two tribes, called Judah. Israel has been called "The LOST TEN TRIBES." Jesus came to His own, Judah, the Jews. They rejected Him. He turned to ISRAEL, the ten tribes. Is this not brought out by the parable of Luke 19:12-14? Notice, when His citizens, the Jews, rejected Him He turned to HIS TEN SERVANTS!

10. To whom did Jesus command the Twelve Apostles to go with the Gospel? Matthew 10:1,5-6. Did He say, "Go NOT to the Gentiles?" (NOTE: The Jewish Historian, Josephus, who lived during the life-time of Christ, and into the war of 70 A. D., writes that at that time the Ten Tribes of the House of ISRAEL were completely beyond the Euphrates, and beyond the bounds of the Roman Empire. (Antiq. Book XI, Ch 5, Sec. 2). He said only the two tribes, Judah and Benjamin, the House of Judah, were then under Roman dominion (Antiq. XI, 5, 2).

NOTE: The House of Israel are called "Lost Sheep." They were doubly lost—lost in identity, supposed to be Gentiles! Lost spiritually, in need of salvation! The original apostles obeyed Christ's commission. After about ten years' ministry around Palestine, preaching to Jews, and especially to those of the tribe of Benjamin, or the Galileans, Peter and the other original apostles journeyed TO CARRY THE GOSPEL TO THE LOST HOUSE OF ISRAEL—the TEN TRIBES—beyond the bounds of the Roman Empire. The identity and location of the Ten Tribes was not to be revealed until the "time of the end"—our generation. That is why, after Acts 11, they seem to drop from sight, and we read only of Paul and his co-laborers, sent specially to the Gentiles.

11. But have the ministers, evangelists, and church denominations SINCE Peter's day obeyed the Lord's commission to search out, and find the Lost Sheep of the House of Israel, and preach the Gospel to them? Ezekiel 34:1-4. Does the Lord say that He, Himself, will come again to earth, and search, seek, and FIND the lost HOUSE OF ISRAEL, and restore them to their own land? Verses 10-14.

This prophesied time, when the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of Israel (Isa. 11:11), at His second coming, is now very near. The Times of the Gentiles are about over. The time has come for the blindness of Israel to begin to be re-

moved. The time has come when we can search out, and IDENTIFY, lost ISRAEL! The following lessons unfold the fascinating story, stranger than fiction, from Genesis to Revelation. It is the thrilling story of GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE, and the KEY to understanding of HIS BOOK, the Bible!

LESSON II

GOD'S Unconditional COVENANT With DAVID

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 17:1-22

MEMORY VERSE: Genesis 17:4

1. Before God made any promises to Abraham, what did He tell Abraham to do? Gen. 12:1. In what sense do we, in order to become his seed thru Christ, (Gal. 3:29) have to do the same thing? II Cor. 6:14,17.

2. What purely national and MATERIAL promise, pertaining only to RACE, did God make Abraham? Gen. 12:2. What spiritual promise, pertaining to GRACE was made Abraham? Verse 3. Did this have anything to do with the Gospel? Gal. 3:8. (NOTE: We shall see more clearly, as we proceed with these lessons, that the promises made to Abraham were of a TWO-FOLD nature—one phase promising material, national, racial blessings—the other spiritual blessings of grace. It is vitally important to distinguish between the two.)

3. What inheritance did God promise Abraham? Gen. 12:7. Was this land located in heaven, or on earth? Verse 5, last phrase.

4. Did God repeat this promise of inheritance, and how long was Abraham to possess it? Gen. 13:14-15. Gen. 15:18. Is this same land the saints' eternal home and inheritance thru the Gospel? Gal. 3:29; Mat. 5:5.

5. When Abram was 99 years of age, did God propose making a Covenant with him? Gen. 17:1-2. Was this conditional?

6. Was Abraham to become the father of only ONE nation, the Jews? Gen. 17:4. (NOTE: marginal rendering, "multitude of nations," also rendered "company of nations.")

7. Were these "many nations" to be the individual Gentiles covered thru Christ, or Abraham's racial blood descendants? The answer may be determined by examining whether the rulership over these nations was to be the ONE King, Christ, or MANY kings of Abraham's blood descent. Verse 6.

8. Is the "seed" here referred to singular, meaning CHRIST, (as in Gal. 3:8, discussed above referring to the one seed,) or is it PLURAL, referring to MANY descend-

ants of fleshly RACE? Verses 7-8. (NOTE the antecedent of "THEIR generations" is the SEED. Also "THEIR God," not HIS God.)

9. In the promises to Sarah, do we see GRACE, and the ONE seed, Christ, or fleshly nations and kings? Gen. 17:15-16.

10. After Abraham had been put to the test, and had performed HIS part of the covenant, were God's promises any longer conditional? Gen. 22:16-18. How numerous was Abraham's fleshly race to become? Verse 17. Can this promise be spiritualized? (NOTE: "Spiritual Israel" is NOT a Bible term).

11. While verse 17 refers only to national, fleshly, RACIAL promises, do we not find spiritual promises of GRACE in Verse 18? (Comp. with Gal. 3:8). This is the ONE seed.

12. Was the RACIAL promise of possessing the GATES of enemies repeated? Gen. 24:60. (A "gate" is an entrance. The Panama Canal, Strait of Gibraltar, Suez, are gates.)

13. If these promises of plural seed were of grace, God could not deny any human access to them. Did He not deny all access to them to Ishmael? Gen. 17:18-21. Does not Esau's rejection also prove these promises are of RACE?

14. Since the children of the PROMISE had to come thru Isaac and thru Jacob, or Israel, can we not see that only national, material promises are referred to in Rom. 9:7-14?

15. Were the promises confirmed to Isaac? Gen. 26:1-5. To Jacob? Gen. 28:13-14. (Note additional national characteristic—to spread around the world).

SUMMARY: The promises were of TWO phases—one pertaining only to RACE, plural seed, national supremacy, called the BIRTHRIGHT, as we shall see in later lessons,—the other pertaining to GRACE, promising Christ as the culmination of a line of kings, called the SCEPTRE, and giving SALVATION.

LESSON III

The BIRTHRIGHT and SCEPTRE Divided

SCRIPTURE READING: Gen. 48

MEMORY VERSE: I Chron. 5:2

DEFINITIONS: "Birthright"—Native right or privilege; possessions inherited at birth by eldest son. "Sceptre"—Kingly office; royal power; badge of command or sovereignty.

1. To whom was the Sceptre handed down? Gen. 49:10.

2. Was the Birthright also given to Judah? I Chron. 5:2.

3. Who was the first-born of Jacob, or Israel, and why did he not receive the birthright? I Chron. 5:1.

4. Of which tribe was Christ descended? Heb. 7:14. Then could the BIRTHRIGHT promises have passed to Christ, and can they be interited THROUGH Him? Does this not prove these promises were of RACE, not of GRACE?

5. Where was Jacob, of Israel, at the time of his death? Gen. 47:27-29.

6. When it was reported to Joseph his father was dying, whom did he take before Jacob? Gen. 48:1.

7. As Jacob passes the BIRTHRIGHT on to Joseph's sons, does he mention the Sceptre, or kings, or all the earth being blessed thru the ONE seed? Gen. 48:2-4. Was possession of the LAND given to Joseph? Verse 4.

8. Was it necessary for Jacob to adopt, as his own legal sons, Joseph's two sons born of an Egyptian mother? Verse 5. Why? Verse 6, (last two words.)

9. How did Joseph place his two sons before Jacob, and why? Verse 13.

10. Did the blind Jacob place his hands as Joseph intended? Verse 14. Did Joseph try to correct his father? Verse 17-18. What did Jacob say? Verse 19.

11. Who was to grow into the promised multitude? Verses 15, 16. Then can these promises (the many nations) pertain to "spiritual Israel?"

12. So far, the lads TOGETHER are to grow into the promised multitude. But were they not, later, to become separate? Verse 19.

13. Why does God call Ephraim "My first-born?" (as in Jer. 31:9?) Verse 20.

14. At what time was Jacob's dying prophecy to be fulfilled? Gen 49:1.

15. What was to happen to the tribe of JUDAH? Gen. 49:8-12. When were the KINGS from the tribe of Judah to cease ruling over the children of Israel? Verse 10. (Fenton's translation says: "till PEACE (Christ) arrive, and the nations obey HIM.")

16. What is the condition of JOSEPH'S descendants in these last days? Verses 22-26. ("Branches," verse 22, means, as margin explains, "daughters." In other words, to become a COLONIZING people, spreading out from central headquarters. Notice the material wealth, the national resources, the power, to be possessed by this nation and company of nations in the last days—TODAY!)

(NOTE: The SPIRITUAL promises of GRACE went to JUDAH, of which tribe Christ came. These promises are called the SCEPTRE. But the material, national

promises of RACE, called the "Birthright," were given to JOSEPH, the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh, named after Joseph's sons. The descendants of Manasseh were to become a GREAT nation—the GREATEST single nation. But the descendants of Ephraim were to become a "multitude" or a "COMPANY" of nations. Notice particularly that the "MANY NATIONS" originally promised Abraham are to spring from Ephraim and Manasseh, not Judah. Christ came from Judah. Therefore the "many nations" could never be fulfilled thru Christ. We must look for natural flesh-born RACIAL descendants of these lads for the fulfillment of the multiple-seed promise made to Abraham.)

LESSON IV

The Davidic Covenant

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 89:1-37

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 89:4

1. After the death of Jacob, what happened to the little family that survived him? Exodus 1:7-14.
2. How long were the children of Israel in Egypt, before being led out by Moses? Exodus 12:40-41.
3. When they left Egypt, did any of the Egyptians go with them, accepting Israel's God as a result of the plagues? Exodus 12:37-38.

NOTE: After formation of the Israelites into a NATION, they were ruled by judges for many generations. Their government was a THEOCRACY, receiving laws direct from God. Each tribe kept separate, occupying separate land; yet like our 48 states, the 12 tribes formed one nation. The Levites were scattered among the other tribes as priests, but Ephraim and Manasseh were each counted as a tribe, so twelve tribes occupied separate territory. All these years, the BIRTHRIGHT continued in Ephraim and Manasseh, and the SCEPTRE in Judah, divided as to tribes, but kept within the one nation.

4. Were the Israelites content to be governed God's way, or did they, like people today, want to be like worldly people around them? I Sam. 8:4,5.
5. Did Israel have a king before Saul? I Sam. 8:7; 12:12.
6. Was Saul's DYNASTY continued in power? I Sam. 15:17,23. WHY?
7. David was the next king. Was he Saul's son continuing Saul's dynasty? I Sam. 16:1; and verses 11-13.
8. What covenant did God make with David? II Sam. 7:12-16.

9. Was this a CONDITIONAL covenant? Did its continuance depend upon whether Israel, or David's kingly descendants sinned? Would the throne cease if they did? II Sam. 7:14-15; Psalm 89:30-36; II Sam. 23:5.

10. Saul's dynasty ceased. (A "dynasty" is a continuous reign passing from father to son.) How about David's dynasty? II Sam. 7:15; How long was the throne to last? Verse 16. Psalm 89:29.

11. Would the sins of the people cause God to break His covenant with David? Psalm 89:34. Jer. 33:19-21.

12. Was this covenant, and the throne, established in the days of David and Solomon, or, as some claim, is it to be established, yet future, in Christ at His second coming? II Chron. 13:5. Does this say "Gave to David," or "WILL GIVE to Christ?" Does it say to David and His ONE Son, Christ, or his SONS? In which son, Solomon or Christ, was the kingdom established forever? II Sam. 7:12.

13. To how many generations was the throne established from the time of David and Solomon? Ps. 89:3,4; Jer. 33:17.

14. But are not the people saying the Ten Tribes ceased to exist, and that the throne ceased and ended, with Zedekiah? Jer. 33:23-24.

15. What is the answer of the LORD to this? Verses 25-26. Does this speak of ONE ruler, Christ, or many? Verse 26.

16. WHY did God make this covenant with David? I Kings 15:5.

NOTE: The word translated "seed" in Psalm 89:29,36, etc., is translated "DYNASTY" in the Moffatt translation. This is its real intended meaning, as David's seed, or sons, continuing his throne, were a dynasty.

17. Was the Sceptre to ever depart from Judah before the Second Coming of Christ, (Shilo)? Gen. 49:10.

QUESTION: We know Christ is to sit upon DAVID'S THRONE, (Luke 1:32) at His Second Coming. How could He sit on a throne that ceased to exist and function 2500 years ago? Unless the throne still continues TODAY, how can He do it? Since the sun and moon are still in the sky, does not David's throne still exist, SOMEWHERE?

LESSON V

ISRAEL Separates from JUDAH

SCRIPTURE READING: I Kings 12

MEMORY VERSE: I Kings 12:19

1. After David's death, who succeeded to his throne? I Kings 2:10-12.

2. Solomon taxed the people excessively, reigned in gorgeous splendor, married Gentile wives, sacrificed to their idols, and committed other sins. In consequence, what did God say to him? I Kings 11:11. Did God say He would take away a few tribes from Solomon's throne, or was it the kingdom, or nation itself, that was to be rended away?

3. Was it to be taken away during Solomon's lifetime? Verse 12. Why?

4. How much was to remain for Solomon's son, Rehoboam, to reign over—the NATION, or a tribe? Verse 13. Why? Will this keep David's dynasty alive, as God had promised in the Davidic Covenant?

5. Who succeeded Solomon to the throne of David? I Kings 11:43.

6. What proposition did the House of Israel make to King Rehoboam, thru their spokesman Jeroboam (tribe of Ephraim)? I Kings 12:1-4.

7. After consulting both the old men and the young men, how did Rehoboam reply? Verses 13-14.

8. Then what did the nation ISRAEL do? Verse 19.

9. Who was now made king over ISRAEL? Verse 20.

10. Notice, Jeroboam is now king over "ALL ISRAEL." How many tribes were left under reign of David's throne now occupied by Rehoboam? Verses 20 (last part) and 21. By what name were these two tribes called? Verse 21. It is vital to notice, and remember, the name ISRAEL continues with the ten tribes, and David's throne now rules over, merely, the HOUSE OF JUDAH. Thus the twelve tribes of Israel are now divided into TWO NATIONS, called by different names, ruled by different kings. Now, for the first time, the BIRTHRIGHT is in one nation, ISRAEL, headed by the tribe of Ephraim, and the SCEPTRE is in a different nation, JUDAH. Truly, Israel's name is now named on the descendants of Ephraim and Manasseh, as prophesied in Gen. 48:16. From here on, those of the tribe of Judah are NOT called "ISRAEL," but "Judah."

11. Jerusalem, of course, remained the capital city of JUDAH, where David's dynasty continued. What city became the capital of ISRAEL? I Kings 16:29. NOTE: It is important to remember that the name "Samaria," in prophecy, always refers to the TEN tribes, Israel, never to the Jews.)

12. The term "JEW" is merely a nick-name for JUDAH. It was never applied to ISRAEL, but only to JUDAH. Thus the JEWS are not the House of Israel, and prophecies pertaining to ISRAEL never apply to the Jews. The first place in the Bible where the word "JEW" is used is I Kings 16:6. Begin reading from verse 1. Note, Rezin, the ally in war with ISRAEL, fighting against Judah, "drove the JEWS out of the town of Elath." Here

ISRAEL is at war against THE JEWS! The term "JEW" does not appear again in the Bible until Israel had been driven out and lost, and in EVERY place it is used in the Bible, "JEW" applies to those of JUDAH only!

LESSON VI

The House of ISRAEL DRIVEN OUT—and Lost

SCRIPTURE READING: II Kings 17:1-24
MEMORY VERSE: Hosea 1:10

1. After Israel and Judah became separated into two nations, what was the first act of Jeroboam, king of Israel? I Kings 12:28,29.

2. During the succeeding reigns of the 19 kings of Israel, divided into 7 dynasties, did the House of Israel depart from this sin of Jeroboam? II Kings 17:22,23; Ezek. 20:10-14.

3. What had God told Israel their punishment would be if they disobeyed? Lev. 26:14-18. (NOTE: "Seven times" is a period of 2520 years).

4. When this penalty was imposed, and Israel was taken a captive people, were they taken to Babylon, as were the Jews 131 years later? II Kings 18:11. WHY? Verse 12.

5. After Israel was taken to Assyria, how many of the tribes were left? II Kings 17:18.

6. Israel now begins to dwell "many days without a king." Did God still have mercy upon Israel? Hos. 1:2-6.

7. How about David's throne? Did God break His promise to David? Verse 7.

8. Why have they become known as the "LOST Ten Tribes," while some say they have ceased to exist? Deut. 32:26. Could this text apply to the JEWS?

9. Did God hide even HIS face from Israel, so they were lost from Him? Isa. 8:17.

10. Was even their language to change? Isa. 28:11.

11. Does the above verse apply to modern "tongue speaking," or to reading the Bible, translated into a language different than the Hebrew? Verses 9-11, and 13.

12. Was Israel finally to become a righteous nation? Were they to lose their name Israel, and be called by a new name? Isa. 62:2.

13. In what name were they to be called? Rom. 9:7. ((NOTE: The name "Saxons" is merely "Isaacs Sons" with the "I" dropped, and a slightly changed spelling. Vowels were never used in Hebrew writing.)

14. Was Israel's way even hid from the Lord? Isa. 40:27.

15. When Israel left Assyria, was she to find her path, or way back, or to become LOST? Hos. 2:6.
16. They knew the land of Assyria. Were they to go from there to an unknown land? Jer. 16:13.
17. Though Israel was sent into 2520 years of punishment, were they yet to become numerous? Hos. 1:8-10, first part.
18. In the far-away strange land where they would be called Gentiles, were they finally to become identified as God's covenant people, Israel? Verse 10, last part.
19. In these very last days, when they once more become known and identified, what will they do? Verse 11.

LESSON VII

Jeremiah's Commission

SCRIPTURE READING: Jer. 1:1-10
MEMORY VERSE: Isa. 37:31

We come today to a most important and fascinating phase of this study—a veritable connecting link between history and prophecy—as little known as any truth in the Bible. Today we skip 131 years, from the time of Israel's captivity to Assyria.

1. Jeremiah was sanctified. When? Jer. 1:5. (This is a rare distinction shared only by Christ and John the Baptist.)
2. Jeremiah, when a lad 17 years old, was commissioned to do TWO things. One was to act as intermediary, or God's agent, in tearing down the throne of David. What was the other? Jer. 1:10.
3. What he tore down was the throne of David. What was he commissioned to build and to plant? Was it not the same throne?
4. In his early years, Jeremiah, as God's prophet warned Judah of her impending destruction unless she repented. It was when he had become a white-haired patriarch, in the reign of King Zedekiah, that the first half of his commission was performed. When the Jews were taken captive, how many of the king's sons were left to continue David's dynasty? How many nobles of Judah? Jer. 39:1-7.
5. Was King Zedekiah killed also? Jer. 52:10-11.
6. Was King Zedekiah related to Jeremiah? Verse 1. (Jer. 52).
7. After the Captivity, was Jeremiah given any special privileges, and liberty to make possible the performing of the second half of his commission? Jer. 39:11-12.
8. What did the captain of the guard say to Jeremiah? Jer. 40:2-4-5.
9. Where did Jeremiah go? Verse 6. WHY?

10. Ishmael treacherously killed Gedaliah and took the Jewish colony captive. But Johanan recovered the captives, and planned to flee to Egypt. He asked Jeremiah to ask God about it. What was Jeremiah's answer? Jer. 42:7-16.
11. How did Johanan reply? Jer. 43:2,4.
12. Besides Jeremiah and his scribe, Baruch, was any royal seed taken to Egypt, which was material for the planting and building of David's throne? Verses 5-7.
13. Was Baruch's life under divine protection? Jer. 45:2-5.
14. The king's daughters were Jeremiah's great-granddaughters. Were they also under divine protection? Jer. 15:11,14.
15. Did they escape from Egypt? Jer. 44:12-14.
16. Where did they go? Verse 28.
17. And then where? Isa. 37:32,31.

LESSON VIII

Lost Tribes Located Part One

SCRIPTURE READING: Ezekiel 17.
MEMORY VERSE: Ezekiel 21:26.

Before proceeding with the story-thread, let us consider a "breach" that occurred in the days of Judah, son of Jacob, and father of the kingly line of the Sceptre promise. Read, alternately in unison, Gen. 38:24-30. Note marginal renderings.

There would be no object in this incident being recorded in the Scripture, unless the breach did occur later, and a descendant of Zarah finally got the throne. But David, Zedekiah, and Christ, were all of the Pharez line, according to Luke's genealogy of Christ. So the sceptre was never transferred before Zedekiah. It had to occur after Zedekiah's death. And since David's dynasty can never cease, because of God's promise, the only way it could occur would be thru a marriage of a SON of Zarah with a daughter of Pharez and David and Zedekiah. If ever it occurred it must have been at the time of the overturn of the throne under Jeremiah.

1. Who was the wicked prince, of the kingly tribe of the children of Israel? Ezek. 21:25. (King Zedekiah.)
2. If the one called "high" (Zedekiah) is to be abased by losing the crown, and another who had been "low" was now to be exalted by having it, would the throne cease to exist? Verse 26.
3. How many times was the throne to be overturned? Verse 27. Could this be possible if it ceased to exist at the 1st overturning? What is to be no more, the throne, or the overturning, then?

Jeremiah performed the first overturn. Two more were to follow later, after which it would no more be overturned until Christ comes to take over the throne eternally.

4. Who was the great eagle? What was Lebanon? What was the highest branch of the Cedar? Ezek. 17:3. Interpretation from Verse 12. (Jehoiachin, not Zedekiah.)

5. Who took OF the highest branch of the Cedar? Verse 22, 1st part.

6. Since this highest branch is the king of Judah, what would a twig OF this branch be? Same verse.

7. Would a TENDER one of his young twigs be a boy, a girl? Where was it to be PLANTED? Same verse, last part.

8. Does this prophecy tell us WHERE Jeremiah went with the king's daughter to PLANT the throne he had torn down? Verse 23, first part.

9. Is this tender branch to grow and become a Cedar? How great shall it become? Verse 23, last part.

10. Judah has been the "high tree." Who, then, is the "low tree" that is now exalted at this first "overturn" of the throne of David? Verse 24.

11. Then does not this parable tell us that Jeremiah took the king's daughter to the Lost House of Israel, and there planted the throne of David, by a marriage between a daughter of Zedekiah (Pharez), and a son of Zarah?

LESSON IX

Lost Tribes Located—and United with Sceptre

Part Two

SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 31:1-37.

MEMORY VERSE: Jeremiah 31:7.

NOTE: We have seen how Jeremiah, accomplishing the overthrow of David's throne, took a daughter of King Zedekiah of Judah to the lost House of Israel, and there planted the throne of David anew. We are now ready to search out the actual location and identity of the lost House of Israel.

1. At what time did Amos write his prophecy? Amos 1:1. Whom does his prophecy concern, Israel, or the Jews?

2. What kingdom, or government, does he say was to be destroyed, and was the House of Israel to move on among other nations, after going to Assyria, intermarrying among other nations? Amos 9:8,9. (Notice, Israel, not Judah).

3. While Israel sifted among many nations and lost their facial characteristics and identity, how about Judah? Isa. 3:8,9. (Notice, this "show of countenance" applies to Jews only. Those of ISRAEL do not look like Jews.)

4. While David was king IN JERUSALEM, what did God say He would do with the House of Israel? II Sam. 7:10.

5. So Israel was to be PLANTED in another land and to move no more during this age, but were they not to become a COLONIZING people, spreading out FROM this place, to the east, north, south and west—all over the earth? Gen. 49:22. Gen. 28: 14.

NOTE: Since Israel was never to move FROM this place where planted, and yet was to colonize and spread all over the earth, their headquarters, where the THRONE was planted, could not move. So, its location TODAY must be the same as its general location when Jeremiah planted the throne there. Therefore the prophecies telling where the House of Israel finally migrate FROM, at the coming exodus at the end of the age, tell where Jeremiah went. The two succeeding "overturns" of the throne must not involve a change of location in general.

6. After being carried to Assyria, which way did Ephraim go? Hos. 12:1.

7. Where is a message sent to Israel? Jer. 3:11-12.

8. Where will they come FROM, at the great forthcoming exodus? Jer. 3:18. Also Hos. 11:8-10. Also Jer. 31:8.

9. Where does Isaiah say they will come from? Isa. 49:3,6,12.

NOTE: In the Hebrew there is no term for "north-west," but it is expressed "north and west." Thus some texts say from the west, some from the north, and so it was from the NORTHWEST of Jerusalem, Vulgate translates "Sinim" as "Australia."

10. Where did God say He would "set" or plant David's throne? Ps. 89:25.

11. Where does Isaiah locate Israel? Isa. 49:1.

12. How and where does Jeremiah identify and locate Israel? Jer. 31:6,7,10. Also Isa. 51:4,5. Also Isa. 42:3-4,10, 12.

NOTE: The location, therefore, is northwest of Jerusalem, in the Isles, in the Sea, now the chief of nations—Great Britain! She fulfills every prophecy! The British Isles are due northwest of Jerusalem.

LESSON X

The Serpent's Trail

SCRIPTURE READING: Isa. 49.

MEMORY VERSE: Hosea 1:10.

1. What god did Israel go after, following Gideon's death? Judges 8:33, and 9:4. (NOTE: "Berith" is a Hebrew word, here untranslated. It means "Covenant." "Baalberith" means "idol of the Covenant." The Hebrew

for "man" is "iysh," or "ish." In the Hebrew, vowels are omitted in spelling. The "h's are not pronounced. Hence, the English spelling of the Hebrew for Covenant man" is "Brit-ish.")

2. Was Israel to lose her name? Isa. 62:2.
3. What was the name which the mouth of the Lord named, by which they should be called? Rom. 9:7.
4. Were they ever called by the name of Isaac? Amos 7:16.

NOTE: All the House of Israel are truly sons of Isaac, or Isaac's sons. Dropping the vowel "I," which was not written in the Hebrew, we have "Saac's sons," or with its modern English spelling, "SAXONS." Dr. W. Holt Yates, Yale University, says "the word Saxons is derived from "Sons of Isaac."

5. Did God cause the House of Israel to set up "way-marks" or signs, along the trail from Assyria to the British isles, so they could finally be traced and identified? Jer. 31:20-21.

6. The tribe of Dan went with them. What was prophesied regarding this tribe? Gen. 49:17. (NOTE: This is often translated "serpent's trail" meaning an identifying trail would be left.)

7. When the tribe of Dan captured Laish, how did they leave their "serpent's trail"? Judges 18:26-29.

8. When the Danites captured Kirjathjearim did they place the name Dan in it? Judges 18:11-12.

NOTE: Thus we see that the Tribe of Dan left their "serpent's trail" wherever they went, by placing the name of Dan their father into every place where they went. Since the vowels were never used in Hebrew spelling, Dan was written "Dn." Therefore, supplying the vowel in pronouncing, it might be pronounced "Dan," or "Den," or "Din" or "Don," or "Dun." Half the tribe of Dan lived on the sea-coast east of Jerusalem, and abode in ships. When Assyria captured Israel, they struck out in their ships, and went to Ireland. David declared of Dan: "He breaketh (driveth) the ships of Tarshish with an East wind." Along the shore of the Mediterranean they left their trail in "Dens," "Dons" and "Din," and in the Peninsula of Spain, where their "waymark" name "Me-din-a Si-don-ia" remains to this day. Irish annals and history shows that the first settlers of Ireland, at just this time, were the "Tuatha de Danaans" and this means, translated, "Tribe of Dan." In Ireland we find they left these "waymarks": "Dans-Laugh," "Dan-Sower," "Dun-dalke," "Dun-drum," "Don-egal Bay," "Don-egal City," "Dun-glow," "Lon-donderry," "Din-gle," "Duns-more," (meaning "more Dans), etc., etc. The word "Dunn" in the Irish language means the same as "Dan" in the Hebrew, Judge.

The other half of the tribe of Dan lived originally in the northern part of Palestine, and were taken with the

rest of the Ten tribes to Assyria, thence migrated north and west. As they went overland they left their trail, naming the "Dan-ube" river, also the "Don, the "Dnieper" and the "Dnister." After leaving Assyria they inhabited the land west of the Black Sea, as we know from the names "Mace-don-ia," and the "Dar-dan-elles." In ancient and later geography we find also their trail by the names "Dan-au," "the Dan-inn," the "Dan-aster," the "Dan-dari," the "Dan-ez," the "Dan," the "Don," the "U-Don," the "Eri-don," down to the "Danes" in "Dan-cmerke," or "Dan's last resting place." The people of "Den-mark" are called "Danes" and "Scan-din-avians," "Denmark" means "Dan's Mark." When they came to the British Isles, we find the "Dans" "Dons" and "Duns" as prolific as in Ireland. There is "Dun-doe," "Dun-kirk," "Dun-bar," "Dun-raven," etc. in Scotland, "E-din-burgh" is the capital. Even the capital of the British commonwealth is named "Lon-don." Thus the serpents trail" of Dan, setting up "way-marks," leads directly to the British Isles!

The ancient history and annals of Ireland reveal these facts: About, or prior to 700 B. C., a strong colony called the "Tuatha de Danaan" (Tribe of Dan) arrived in ships, drove out other tribes and settled there. Later, about 585 B. C. (the date of Jeremiah's commission), an elderly patriarch, sometimes referred to as a "saint," came to the most northern province of Ireland, Ulster. With him was an Eastern princess and a companion called "Simon Brack," spelled in different histories as "Breck," "Bareck," "Brach," "Berach," etc. The princess had a Hebrew name, "Tephi"—a pet name, her full name being "Tea-Tephi." This royal party brought with them some remarkable things, including the harp, an ark, and a wonderful stone called "Lia-fail" (stone of destiny.) Every king in the history of Ireland, Scotland, and England has been coronated over this stone. It rests, today, in Westminster Abbey, London, and the Coronation Chair is built over it. A sign beside it labels it "Jacob's Pillar-stone," (Gen. 28:18). The Hebrew princess was married to a young prince named Herremon, after which he became King Herremon. The son of this king and Hebrew princess continued on the throne of Ireland, and the same dynasty continued on thru all the kings of Ireland, was overturned and moved to Scotland, continuing thru the reigns of the kings of ancient Scotland, was overturned again and moved to London, England, where the same dynasty continues today in the reign of King George of Great Britain! The present King George was crowned, in the coronation ceremony, broadcast to the entire world, as "KING OF ISRAEL." The crown worn by King Herremon and the sovereigns of ancient Ireland had TWELVE POINTS.

In view of the linking together of prophecy and history, can anyone deny that this Hebrew princess Tea-Tephi was the daughter of Zedekiah of Judah, heir to the throne of David? That the aged patriarch was Jeremiah,

and his companion was Jeremiah's scribe Baruch? And that King Herremon was a descendant of Zara, here married to a daughter of Pharaz, healing the ancient breach? That when the throne of David was first overturned by Jeremiah, it was PLANTED in Ireland, later overturned and planted in Scotland, again overturned and planted in London, from where it cannot be moved UNTIL THE COMING OF CHRIST? The present King George of the British Commonwealth possesses a chart showing his ancestry, every generation, back to Herremon and Tophi, to Zedekiah, on back to David, and thru the Biblical account clear to Adam! DAVID'S THRONE STILL LIVES. When Christ comes to sit on that throne, He will take over a LIVING, not a non-existent throne. God's Word stands! God has kept all His promises!

9. To whom was possession of the land given? Gen. 48:4.

Then it is EPHRAIM who in 1917, as Gentile Times began to end, TOOK JERUSALEM. Since Britain then took and now holds Palestine, Britain must be Ephraim today.

LESSON XI

BIRTHRIGHT PROMISES Fulfilled TODAY

SCRIPTURE READING: Lev. 26:1-28.

MEMORY VERSE: Gen. 39:2 first part.

1. What two commandments did God especially stress for Israel? Lev. 26:1-2.

2. If they followed His civil statutes, and kept His commandments, did God promise to make them so wealthy and powerful they would dominate over all nations? Lev. 26:3-13.

3. But if they disobeyed, were they to become the slaves of others, and go into national punishment? Verses 14-17. For HOW LONG was this national punishment, withholding the Birthright promises of national wealth and greatness, to last? Verses 18,21,24,28. (NOTE: "Seven Times" actually designates a prophetic duration of 2520 years, not seven successive punishments.)

4. After Israel had been taken captive to Assyria, and Judah to Babylon, is it not also four times declared that "seven times" (2520 years) shall pass over this Gentile world-dominion, started by Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom? Dan. 4:16,23,25,32. Is it not obvious, then, that the Birthright promises to be fulfilled in the tribes Ephraim and Manasseh, could not be actually realized until their 2520 years' national punishment for sins? Thus God punishes the people for their sins, yet keeps His promises to Abraham. The promises, then, must be fulfilled only AFTER this duration of punishment. The House of Israel (headed by Ephraim-Manasseh) went into national pun-

ishment 721 B. C. Therefore, they could not come into the great national Birthright blessings until the period beginning 2520 years later, or 1800 A. D.

5. Whose descendants were to grow into the promised "multitude," or "many nations?" Gen. 48:13,16. Was Manasseh to become the GREAT NATION, and Ephraim the still greater "COMPANY OF NATIONS?" Verses 17-19. Since 1800 A. D., has the United States become the greatest single nation on earth, and the British Commonwealth of Nations a still greater COMPANY of nations, and the only such company of nations in world history?

6. Read again the prophetic promise of Gen. 22:17, and Gen. 21:60. Since the Birthright pertains to NATIONS, would not "gates of enemies" be such passes as the Panama Canal, Strait of Gibraltar, Suez Canal, etc.? It is a fact that since 1800 Great Britain and the U. S. have come to possess every such "gate" in the world.

7. When was the dying Jacob's prophecy regarding the tribes of Israel to take place? Gen. 49:1. What, today, was to be the national condition of JOSEPH—the two tribes Ephraim and Manasseh? Verses 22-26. Note, verse 22, Joseph—both tribes together—was to become fruitful in population, and a COLONIZING people, spreading out from the British Isles. Have the white English-speaking people fulfilled this? Note verse 23. Other nations were to attack and war on us, but, verse 24, because our arms were made strong by Jacob's God, we were to conquer and withstand them. Has this happened? Notice the blessings of vast wealth and resources, verses 25-26. Do we possess them? Together, Britain and America own more than two-thirds of all the material wealth and resources of the world! That is WHY the Dictator powers attack us today! We are the HAVES, they the "HAVE-NOTS."

8. Jacob's blessing upon Ephraim and Manasseh indicated their descendants would grow TOGETHER, later separating, after which Manasseh would become a GREAT nation, and Ephraim a commonwealth of nations. Now notice Isaiah 49. It is addressed (Verse 1,) to "Oh Isles," and (Verse 3) "O Israel." Read Verses 19 and 20. Assyria "swallowed them up." This, then, is after they are far away from Assyria. They are too crowded with inhabitants. They were to LOSE their first colony, (NEW England, becoming the U. S.—the separation of MANASSEH from EPHRAIM), AFTER which many other colonies were to be established. Has this not happened?

NOTE: Some cannot understand how the U. S. can be Manasseh, when a large part of our people have come from many nations besides England. A large part of Manasseh remained with Ephraim, as explained above, until they separated and became "New England." Were

our forefathers to be sifted thru many other nations? Amos 9:9. Notice this refers to ISRAEL, not the Jews. The answer is that many of Manasseh filtered into many nations, finally emigrating to the U. S., after the "New England" colony had separated from brother Ephraim and become the U. S. A. Thus we are called the "melting pot" of the world. Undoubtedly a large portion of the foreign immigrants in this country are of the blood descent of Manasseh, regardless of their supposed nationality. God has seen to it and brought it about.

9. What was Moses' dying prophetic blessing for Joseph's descendants? Deut. 33:1,13-17. What nations fulfill this prophecy today? The unicorn is the British national seal. Our people possess the world's agricultural, mineral, timber, oil wealth. We have the gold, silver, iron, steel, copper, tin, coal. We have the oil, the fruit, the corn, the wheat. And they fell into our possession after 1800 A. D.! Abraham Lincoln summed up this great fulfilled prophecy: "We find ourselves in the peaceful possession of the fairest portion of the earth, as regards fertility of soil, extent of territory, and salubrity of climate . . . We . . . find ourselves the legal inheritors of these fundamental blessings. We toiled not in the acquirement or the establishment of them." God simply GAVE them to us. He has KEPT HIS PROMISE TO ABRAHAM, and we, his multitudinous children, enjoy these material blessings today! If WE are not "lost" ISRAEL—Birth-right ISRAEL—who else can be? Can there be any stronger PROOF of the divine inspiration of the Bible, than these mighty fulfilled promises, enjoyed by us today?

LESSON XII

Why ISRAEL Lost Her IDENTITY

SCRIPTURE READING: Ezekiel 20:10-44
MEMORY VERSE: Ezekiel 20:12

1. When God promised our forefathers vast prosperity and national dominance for obedience, and the "seven times" punishment for disobedience (which lasted until 1800 A. D. for our people), what two commandments were especially stressed? Lev. 26:1-2.

2. Study Exodus 31:12-17. Here is a special covenant between God and Israel—our people. Is it called a "covenant," and how long was it to endure? Verse 16. A "SIGN" is a mark of identity. Merchants hang out signs in front of their stores, to tell WHOSE store it is, and what kind. Was the Sabbath made the SIGN by which our people were to KNOW, or identify God? Verse 13. HOW could the Sabbath identify God? Verse 17. (NOTE: Creation is the PROOF of God. Thus the seventh day is

the only one that could point back as a memorial of Creation and God chose the very day for assembly and worship which would thus continually keep His people in the memory and true worship of the true God. No other day could serve this purpose. The Sabbath also was the SIGN of Israel's "Sanctification." Verse 13. To "sanctify" is to "set apart." Thus this day was to set our people apart from other people as GOD'S people. Gentile nations never kept the Sabbath. Thus it was the SIGN by which they were to KNOW GOD, and also the SIGN that would IDENTIFY Israel as GOD'S people. Was it holy to God? Verse 15. How long was it to remain a SIGN? Verse 17. Has FOREVER ended?

3. We have seen in past lessons that Israel's initial and continuous sin, started by King Jeroboam's golden calves, was idolatry. We have seen that idolatry and Sabbath-breaking were the two sins our forefathers were especially warned against, lest they go into 2520 years' national punishment. Did they commit these two great sins? Ezek. 20:10-13.

4. Did the Eternal patiently warn succeeding generations against following the ways of their fathers, instead of keeping HIS Sabbath? Ezek. 20:18-20. Did these generations follow God's ways, or their fathers' traditions? Verse 21.

5. WHY did God finally, after many generations, drive our people out into their 2520 years' punishment which ended only in 1800 A. D.? Ezek. 20:23-24.

6. Since they had refused to keep the covenant SIGN of their national identity, did God not give them over to their FALSE ways of men? Verses 25-26. Does God not give those who continually disobey Him and reject His truth over to believe a lie, instead of the truth? II Thes. 2:11-12.

7. We have seen that our people, Israel, lost their national identity as "The House of ISRAEL," and have come to be considered as Gentiles. Our people had a tell-tale SIGN, by which they should be KNOWN. Had they kept it, they never should have become the "LOST Ten Tribes." Judah, also went into national captivity because of Sabbath-breaking, (Jer. 17:19-27, and 52:12-13). But, learning their lesson, those Jews who returned to Jerusalem 70 years later under Ezra and Nehemiah became such strict Sabbath-keepers they added some 65 rabbinical ordinances making the Sabbath a bond of servitude. It was these man-made ordinances Jesus broke and swept aside, saying "the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath; therefore the Son of man is LORD also of the Sabbath." It is the day Jesus is LORD of, therefore it is the true LORD'S DAY. The Jew has strictly kept the Sabbath since—and has never lost his identity! Because of it, the Jew is mistaken for ISRAEL today. But our people Israel today as well as back in the 8th century B. C., follow the tradition of their fathers instead of keeping

God's true Sabbath. What did Jesus teach about following tradition instead of God's Commandments? Mark 7:7,9.

8. When our people finally are restored to Palestine, at the Second Coming of Christ, will they THEN remember these evil ways, including Sabbath-breaking, which caused them to be taken captive many centuries before? Ezek. 20:13. Will they then keep the SIGN by which they shall KNOW the Eternal their God? Verses 42,44. Will it take the Second Coming of Christ, when He comes to RULE over us, to bring our people to the truth? Verses 33-35. When Christ comes, what will happen to the rebels who refuse to keep His Sabbath? Verse 38. By a study of Verses 33-44 you will see that our people, in our present generation, will have to turn back again to the true Sabbath of God in order to be saved. Our people, Israel, today are in "Babylon," that paganized power that has deceived all nations (Rev. 17:2 and 18:3), but today God calls us who see the truth OUT of Babylon (Rev. 18:4), and unless we come out, and quickly, we shall suffer the SEVEN LAST PLAGUES! This lesson, we realize, has presented this subject from an entirely NEW ANGLE, which will raise up many questions. The author will be glad to answer all such honest questions, if you will address them to Herbert W. Armstrong, Box 111, Eugene, Ore.

LESSON XIII

INVASION of Britain RESTORATION of Israel

SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 30.
MEMORY VERSE: Jeremiah 50:4.

1. After Israel's 2520 years' national punishment ended in 1800 A. D., our people have truly risen to all the national wealth and power promised to Abraham, and foretold for these latter days in the dying blessings of both Jacob and Moses. How strong were we to be in war? Jer. 51:19-20; Micah 5:8-9. Never has JUDAH fulfilled this prophecy, but ISRAEL has.

2. In this same day, WHEN we have been so strong, what does God say HE will do to us? Micah 5:10-11.

3. Study Jeremiah 30. Is the TIME of this prophecy the present LATTER DAYS, just before and during the time of restoration of Israel and Judah together, by the coming of Christ? Verses 1-3, 24. Is it referring to a time of peace, or of war? Verses 5-7. Are we to be saved out of this time of trouble? Verse 7. HOW? Verses 8-9. Notice, we are saved out of it only when God breaks a foreign YOKE from off our neck, bursts the bonds that shall be binding us. We shall be serving foreigners.

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4. When Israel and Judah are again gathered back to Palestine, will ISRAEL (Britain and America) come from a condition of prosperity and world power, or from the land of our CAPTIVITY? Verses 10-11. Is there any cure for the military bruise inflicted in this time of our trouble? Verse 12. Will Britain and America have any allies in this last war? Verses 13-14. ("All thy lovers" is translated as "All your allies" in other translations.) How has God wounded us, cut off our cities (bombing), thrown down all our strongholds or fortifications? Verse 14. Could Hitler be that "CRUEL ONE"? Why is God sending this invasion and captivity upon Britain and America? Last part, Verse 14, 15. What shall be the final end of those who devour and take our people captive? Verse 16. Does this verse not show our people first must go into captivity?

5. Where is this warning prophecy to be shouted in these last days? Jer. 31:7-10. Has not Britain been the chief of the nations, in the Isles? When we are rescued and delivered from captivity by Christ's coming, shall it not be from a stronger enemy? Verse 11.

6. Was Britain and America to be PREPARED, or was it the GENTILES, Germany, Italy, Russia, Japan, etc., who were to be PREPARED for war at this time? Joel 3:1, 9-11. Has it happened this way?

7. In the previous lesson we saw that the two outstanding sins for which our forefathers went into punishment lasting till 1800 A. D. was idolatry and Sabbath-breaking. We know our people do NOT observe God's Sabbath today, but rather have been taught thru the generations to sneer at it as the "Jewish Sabbath." Aside from the idols in the Catholic churches, are there any idols in our land today? Isa. 25-8. God has blessed us with greater wealth than any people ever had. But our people set their hearts upon this wealth, and the material things made by men's hands—fine clothes, beautiful homes, automobiles, etc. etc., instead of following God. Thus we have turned God's richest material blessing into a CURSE and a national SIN. God punished our people 2600 years ago for it—now we shall be invaded and conquered for it once again!

8. At the time when Israel and Judah together, weeping in true repentance, shall be restored by the coming of Christ, what does God say had caused our people to go astray? Jer. 50: 4-6. In this latter day, have our people been willing to hear God's LAW? Isa. 30:8-10. (NOTE: The margin for "the time to come" is the LATTER DAY, —today!) In order to get a salary and feed themselves, have our preachers been willing to preach the soft and smooth things the people have demanded? Ezek. 34:1-4. The preachers say "the LAW is done away." What shall happen to them? Verse 10. Will Christ our Lord have to

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INTRODUCTION

No matter how great, or how small, may have been your study and understanding of the Bible, you will find these lessons intensely interesting, and you will come to a better understanding of the coming KINGDOM OF GOD—the coming NEW WORLD ORDER which shall rule the world for the next thousand odd years instead of the Order Hitler is vainly trying to build—you will come to a better understanding of GOD'S PLAN—of salvation—of the very purpose of our existence upon earth today—of present world conditions, PROVIDED:

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Address: Herbert W. Armstrong
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Lesson I

THE TRUE GOSPEL

SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 1:1-15.

GOLDEN TEXT: Luke 16:16.

1. What was Jesus' final commission to His followers? Mark 16:15.
2. Is it important that we find out what is the TRUE Gospel? Mark 16:16. Does this verse not say plainly that in order to be saved we must believe what is preached—THE GOSPEL?
3. Some say there are at least three Gospels—the Gospel of Jesus Christ; the Gospel of salvation; and the Gospel of the Kingdom. How many Gospels, beside the one which Paul preached, are right? Galatians 1:8-9. Notice a DOUBLE CURSE is pronounced—one in each verse.
4. Did God promise to send a messenger, bearing a message from Him to man? Malachi 3:1.
5. Who was the Messenger of the Covenant, mentioned in the above verse? Mark 1:2. Did this Messenger do away with God's Commandments, and institute a new religion of His own? John 12:49; 14:24. Was Jesus SENT with a Message?
6. In the first sermon to Gentiles, Peter tells how to find WHAT MESSAGE He brought. Read Acts 10:36-37, answering these questions: (1) Who sent this word, or message? (2) To whom was it sent—to Gentiles? (3) By whom was it preached? (4) Where was it published or preached? (5) Where did He begin preaching it? (6) WHEN did this Message first begin?
7. Read Mark 1:14-15. (1) WHEN did this Message begin? (2) Who preached it? (3) From where did He begin preaching it? (4) WHAT WAS THE MESSAGE, sent from God, that he preached?
8. Compare Mark 1:1, with verse 14, last part. Is not the Gospel OF Jesus Christ the Gospel He preached? Is this not the Message God sent? And since Jesus is called the Messenger of the COVENANT, is this not the NEW COVENANT message? The Gospel OF Jesus Christ is the Gospel of the Kingdom!
9. We have seen the New Covenant Gospel was to start at a definite time—after John's ministry ended. Remember the term "Law and the Prophets" was customarily used to designate the writings we now call the Old Testament Scriptures. Read Luke 16:16. (1) What Gospel

followed the Old Covenant? (2) Is the Gospel of the Kingdom still a FUTURE Gospel today, as some teach?

(NOTE: Jesus, who brought the New Testament Message, is called the Mediator of the New Covenant. The Old Covenant ended with John. The New is founded on BETTER PROMISES (Heb. 8:6-8)—eternal inheritance. But since the PROMISES we inherit under the New are the promises made to Abraham, the Gospel Jesus brought is not a new religion, though it is a new message. It is the outgrowth of, and an addition to, the Old Covenant, making necessary the addition of the New Testament Scriptures as part of the complete Bible. Jesus did not establish a new religion, but ushered in a NEW DISPENSATION in God's Plan. Under the Old Covenant eternal life was never promised—only national and material blessings for this life. None but the prophets and special leaders had the Holy Spirit before Christ. We cannot be changed or resurrected to immortality without the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:9,11). Flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God (1st Cor. 15:50) but only those born of the Spirit, and made immortal (John 3:3-8). The Holy Spirit never came to dwell within ALL of God's people until the day of Pentecost after Jesus ascended to heaven (Joel 2:28; John 7:39; 16:7, etc.) Thus, since the Holy Spirit IN US is our means of entrance into the Kingdom, Jesus proclaimed the time was fulfilled, and the Kingdom was then at hand; and He preached repentance and faith, the two conditions to receiving the Holy Spirit. When we receive the Spirit, we are HEIRS. We INHERIT at the Second Coming.)

(NOTE 2: The word "Gospel" means "Good News," or "Glad Tidings." Four things are necessary to constitute a KINGDOM: (1) Territory of a (2) King or Ruler, over (3) subjects or citizens, with (4) laws and government. Therefore we might define the true Gospel as "The GOOD NEWS of the territory of a KING ruling over subjects with laws and government." The true Gospel, therefore, includes the message ABOUT Christ, who is King—but is more than that. It includes the message of salvation, which is the means of becoming a CITIZEN in the Kingdom. But it also includes the LAW, without which there could be no Kingdom, and the PLACE, or TERRITORY of the Kingdom—whether on earth or in heaven. The one true Gospel includes these four things, and a double curse is pronounced on man or angel who dares preach any other Gospel. Do you know of any except The Radio Church of God who preaches this full Gospel?)

10. Did Jesus Command His ministers to preach this same Gospel? Luke 9:1-2; 10:1,9.

11. What Gospel did the early evangelists preach? Acts 8:12; 20:25,21; 28:30-31.

12. What Gospel is to be preached and published today? Matt 24:14; Mark 13:10.

Lesson II

THE PROMISES MADE TO ABRAHAM

SCRIPTURE READING: Galatians 3rd chapter.

GOLDEN TEXT: Gal. 3:16,29.

1. Read Romans 15:8, answering: (1) Does this text confirm that Jesus was sent as Minister to ISRAEL, rather than Gentiles? (2) Even tho He brought a new Message, what did it confirm? (3) Since Christ's Gospel is based on the promises made to Abraham, does that not prove it was not a new religion?

2. Who were the fathers? Exodus 3:15; Acts 3:13.

3. Did the Lord command Abraham to do anything, before the promises became sure? Genesis 12:1-2; 17:1-2.

4. Were individuals of any other than the Hebrew race ever to be blessed by these promises? Gen. 12:3; 22-18. In this last verse, to Whom does the word "seed" apply? Galatians 3:16. Thru whom, must the promises be received?

5. Where is the TERRITORY of the promise? Is it heaven? Gen 12:6-7; 13:14-15. If one inherits land, the deed must describe the exact boundaries of the property. Is such a description given? Gen 15:18. (Note: Other Scriptures show the Kingdom will spread until it includes the whole earth.)

6. In making His Covenant with Abraham, God agreed to these promises only on condition Abraham obeyed. After Abraham had obeyed and stood faithful, was the promise any longer conditioned on his obedience? Gen. 22:15-18. The promise is now UNCONDITIONAL. Abraham had performed HIS PART of the agreement. The promises are now SURE—absolutely certain. WHY? Gen. 26:5.

7. Isaac and Jacob also were among "the fathers." Were the promises made also to them? Gen 26:1-3; 35:9-12.

8. Since the promises pertain only to Israel, yet all nations are to be blessed by them, how many individual Gentiles receive them? Gal. 3:28-29.

9. What hope has any Gentile, without becoming an adopted Israelite? Ephesians 2:11-12. How is a Gentile adopted? Verses 13, 19.

10. Who is the human father of the faithful, by adoption? Gal. 3:17. (Note: Adam is the human father of the unconverted man, and the Devil is his spiritual parent. But, thru Christ, Abraham becomes our human father, and God our spiritual parent, so that we can even call God our Father in heaven.)

11. Abraham Kept God's Commandments, proving his Faith by his obedience. If we are his children, are we not commanded to do likewise? Gen 18:17-19.

WHEN AND HOW WE INHERIT THE PROMISES

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 15: 12-58.

GOLDEN TEXT: John 3:3.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Jesus came bearing a NEW message from God to man, which Message is the Good News of the Kingdom of God. In proclaiming this Gospel, He also came to confirm the promises made to Abraham, which promise was eternal inheritance of the land of Palestine, and eventually the whole earth, for Abraham and his children, thru Christ.

1. Did Abraham ever, as yet, come into this eternal inheritance? Acts 7:2-5; Hebrews 11:8, 13.

2. Are Christians now, in this age, actual inheritors? Gal. 3:29. (An heir is one who has not yet come into his inheritance, but has promise if it.)

(NOTE: Since "eternal inheritance" of the EARTH is the promise Jesus came to confirm; and since Jesus preached but one message, or Gospel, in confirming this promise; and since that Message is THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD, it follows that the LAND OF THIS EARTH is the "TERRITORY" to be occupied by the KINGDOM.)

3. Why did Abraham not, as yet, inherit the promise, and why are we only HEIRS at this time? 1 Cor. 15:50; John 3:3.

4. What is our ONLY HOPE of inheriting eternal life? 1 Cor. 15:12-18. Are those who have died IN CHRIST already perished, unless there is to be a resurrection?

5. When will the resurrection occur? 1 Thess. 4:16-17.

6. Will Abraham then come into his inheritance? Luke 13:28.

7. When will the Kingdom be inherited? Matt. 25:31, 34.

(Note: His inheritance IS the KINGDOM.)

8. Will we, thru the Gospel, inherit heaven, or the earth? Matt. 5:5; Psalm 37:9, 11, 22. Proverbs 10:30; 11:31.

9. Can sin, (transgression of the Law), enter the Kingdom? Rev. 21:27; 22:14. Is it not significant that the PROMISE of eternal inheritance was given to Abraham and his children because Abraham kept God's Commandments?

THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES

SCRIPTURE READING: Leviticus 26:1-28.

GOLDEN TEXT: Daniel 7:18.

1. Did Jesus speak of the "Times of the Gentiles"? Luke 21:24. Does not the word "UNTIL" show that the "Times of the Gentiles" is a definite period, to end at a certain time, when Jerusalem would be delivered from Gentiles?

2. Prior to the beginning of the "Times of the Gentiles," did God propose an AGREEMENT to the children of Israel? Exodus 19:5-6. What were the CONDITIONS of this proposal? (Notice the PROMISES were purely material and national).

3. Did the Israelites AGREE to the proposal? Verses 7-8. Was this agreement entered into, and ratified by blood? Exodus 24:6-8. Did this agreement entered into between God and Israel constitute a covenant? V. 8.

4. The PROMISES of this agreement, which is called "the Old Covenant," are repeated in fuller detail in Leviticus 26:3-8. Do the promises include material wealth and prosperity? Would not a nation, a hundred of whose soldiers could put ten thousand enemies to flight, soon dominate the world and become a world Empire? Can you find any promise of the HOLY Spirit, or of Eternal inheritance, included in this Old Covenant?

5. If Israel refused to obey the Commandments, were other nations (Gentiles) to reign over them? Verses 14 and 17. How many "TIMES" would this national punishment last? Verses 18, 21, 24, 28. (NOTE: To the Hebrews a "time" was one year of 360 days, or twelve 30-day months).

6. During Israel's punishment, how long was each day to represent in actual fulfillment? Ezekiel 4:4-6; Numbers 14:34. Notice this refers only to Israel's punishment.

7. Did the Israelites keep their part of the Covenant? Ezek. 20:23-24. Did Sabbath-breaking have anything to do with their NATIONAL punishment for 2520 years, continuing thru this dispensation of grace, even to our day?

8. In the second year of his reign, the Gentile King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream which God interpreted thru Daniel. What was the purpose of the dream? Daniel 2:28.

9. Who gave the Gentile Nebuchadnezzar power to rule the world? Verses 36-38. Were the four kingdoms prophesied by this metallic image to be world-ruling empires? Verse 39.

NOTE: We see, then, that the "Times of the Gentiles" are the 2520 years which God turned over to this succession of four Gentile kingdoms, to rule the world during the "Times" of punishment of Judah. Both the House of Israel and the House of Judah broke their covenant with God, — failed to qualify under God's conditions to rule the world. Consequently this world rule, as God had said in Leviticus 26, was denied them, and turned over to their Gentile captors, for this 2520-year duration. Israel was driven out first to Assyria in 721 B. C. But Judah had not yet broken the Covenant with God. The "Times of the Gentiles" did not commence until Judah had sinned worse than Israel, and was taken captive to Babylon 604-580 B. C. Then it was that God turned world rule over to this Gentile succession for 2520 years. After this "seven TIMES" of the Gentiles has run its course, the Kingdom is to be restored to Israel (Acts 1:6-7)—but not to mortal, fleshly, rebellious, sinning Israelites. It will be RESTORED by the Second Coming of Christ, who the heavens have received UNTIL the TIMES of RESTORATION (Acts 3:21). In the meantime, the GOOD NEWS (Gospel) of that coming KINGDOM has been preached—the Holy Spirit has come that "whosoever will" may be "born again" and enter into that coming world-KINGDOM. As we have seen, even Gentiles who are converted, thru Christ become spiritually adopted as Israelites. It is this BORN AGAIN Israel—Israel of the SPIRIT—to whom the kingdom shall be restored by Christ at His second coming. We stand today at the very END of the "Times of the Gentiles."

10. After the "Times of the Gentiles," what is to happen? Dan. 2:44. Will Gentile governments such as Fascism, Communism, continue to rule then? (Will the kingdom of God fill heaven, or the earth? Verse 35.)

11. Who will rule with Christ? Daniel 7:18, 21-22, 27; Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21; 5:10.

Lesson V

THE TWO COVENANTS

SCRIPTURE READING: Hebrews 8th Chapter.

GOLDEN TEXT: Hebrews 10:16.

There is a popular teaching today which claims the Ten Commandments, alone, constitute the Old Covenant. Therefore, because the Old Covenant is done away, they claim the Ten Commandments are abolished. They also

say "The Old Covenant was made with ISRAEL, but we are not Israel," assuming the New Covenant is made with GENTILES. This popular teaching leads to the assumption that the Old was a harsh, cruel law (The Ten Commandments,) while the New is only with Gentiles and contains no law, but only PROMISES. The Old had law. The New has grace. The object of today's lesson is to search the Scriptures, whether this modern and popular teaching is correct.

1. Did God say He would make a NEW Covenant? Heb. 8:8. With whom did the Lord say He would make it—with Gentiles?

2. To whom do the COVENANTS, the glory, and the PROMISES pertain? Rom. 9:4. Has a Gentile, in such, any hope, or is he a STRANGER to the covenants of promise? Eph. 2:11-12. In what manner can a Gentile come into the New Covenant relationship? Eph. 2:13; Gal. 3:29; Rom. 11:17.

3. Who is the Mediator of the New Covenant? Heb. 8:6. What is BETTER about the New Covenant—is it founded on better LAWS or no laws? (last part of verse.)

4. Was there a FAULT with the OLD Covenant? Verse 7. If something had not been AT FAULT with the Old, would there have been a second? Then has not God proposed the second Covenant FOR THE VERY PURPOSE of correcting the FAULT with the Old?

5. If THE LAW constituted the Old Covenant, and there was nothing but the law connected with it, then the fault must be with the Law. This is exactly what the popular modern teaching assumes, and therefore they tell us that, in order to correct this fault, Christ did away with His Father's Law. The Law came from GOD. Then would not this impute the FAULT to God Himself? Was the LAW faulty? Psalm 19:7; Rom. 7:12, 14. Was it to be done away? Psalm 111:7-8.

6. What, then, was the FAULT with the Old Covenant? Heb. 8:8, first phrase; verse 9, last phrase; Act. 31:22 last phrase.

7. Under the Old Covenant God wrote His Law on two tables of stone; but the people were rebellious and never permitted the loving principles of that law to enter into their minds and hearts. How will God correct that fault in the New Covenant? Jer. 31:33. This was written in 606 B. C. What was God's law at that time? See also Heb. 8:10; and 10:16. Do these texts say a DIFFERENT law, or a BETTER law will be written in our minds and hearts?

8. Under the Old Covenant, we saw in the preceding lesson that the promises were purely MATERIAL and national—temporary inheritance of the land FOR THIS LIFE ALONE. What are the better promises of the New Covenant? Heb. 9:15.

9. When is a Testament in force? Heb. 9:16-17. Did the Testator die? V. 28.

10. How may we become His (HEIRS)? Gal. 3:29; Mark 1:15; Acts 2:38; Rom. 8:9, 16-13.

NOTE: The Greek word for "Covenant" is "Diatheke," which means Testament, or witnessed WILL by which one bequeaths his possessions after his death. A Covenant is defined as an AGREEMENT; or the conditional PROMISES of God. In the N. T. the Greek word is translated interchangeably, "covenant" and "testament." Our Inheritance from Christ is by a conditional Testament, involving an Agreement and therefore it becomes also a Covenant.

Lesson VI

BLINDED ISRAEL

SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 11th Chapter.

GOLDEN TEXT: "God hath not cast away His people, which He foreknew."

1. Has God completely rejected and cast away the tribes of Israel, so that they shall never receive salvation, as many teach today? Rom. 11:1-2, (first part of latter verse).

2. Paul continues to compare the condition to that in the days of Elijah, when he thought all of the millions in Israel had rejected God and bowed to Baal; but God showed him He had reserved 7,000 men who had not thus turned away. Was there a similar small portion of Israel in Paul's day who had accepted Christ and received grace? Verse 5.

3. What happened to the rest of Israel, in this dispensation of grace? V. 7.

4. Who blinded them? Verse 8. If BLINDED, by a blindness imposed by God, would they be able to SEE the Truth, so they could receive salvation?

5. Back in the days before God blinded Israel, what did He do? Ezek. 20:10-11.

6. Besides giving Israel His Law, statutes and judgments, and entering into the Old Covenant relationship with them, what else did the Lord do with a certain one of the Commandments? Verse 12.

7. After pleading in vain with rebellious Israel thru succeeding generations to keep His laws, and hallow His Sabbaths, what did God finally do? Verse 23. WHY? Verse 24. Then what did He do? Verse 25.

8. What happened, as a result of this blindness to Israel? Rom. 11:11. Why did salvation come to the Gentiles?—last phrase of same verse.

9. Was this blindness to last forever, or only UNTIL a certain time? Romans 11:25.

10. When that time comes, what shall happen to Israel? Verse 26. Answer (1) Who is the Deliverer to come? (2) Will not His coming be at the time when the fulness of the Gentiles has come in?

11. When Christ comes, and the blindness is removed from Israel's eyes, what does Isaiah say He will do? Isa. 11:11. What does Ezekiel say He will then do? Ezek. 20:33-38. What does Jeremiah say? Jer. 50:4-5.

12. Thru whose help and mercy will this salvation finally come to Israel? Romans 11:31.

13. It is a known fact that at least two thirds of the Gentiles on earth today have NEVER HEARD the only name by which we may be saved. Will those heathen who never heard have a chance in the millennium along with blinded Israel? Isa. 66:15-16, 19; Isa. 11:10; Micah 4:2.

14. Does the fact that those God blinded, and those who never heard, will be given their first chance in the millenium mean that we who have received the knowledge of the Truth, now, will have a SECOND CHANCE then? Heb. 10:26-27. WHEN is the day of salvation for those who have received this knowledge? 2 Cor. 6:2.

Lesson VII

THE PURPOSE OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 19:11-27.

GOLDEN TEXT: Micah 4:3.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We hear much about the fact that Christ is soon to return to earth. We hear little about the PURPOSE of His coming. WHY is He coming? Is it (a) to DESTROY all unsaved people by the brightness of His coming, or (b) to meet US—the saints—as we start to heaven? Let us search the Scriptures.

1. Do the Scriptures teach that the same Jesus who trod the earth in human flesh shall ever return to earth? Acts 1:11; John 14:3.

2. Why did Jesus leave the earth and go to heaven? John 16:7; John 14: 2; Luke 19:12. Here are three reasons stated. What is the connection between them?

3. Jesus has gone to heaven UNTIL what time? Acts 3:20-21. NOTE: Dictionary definition of "restitution" is

"the act of RESTORING something that has been taken away or lost. Restoration to a former condition or position.")

4. When God finished Creation, was everything perfect and beautiful? Gen. 1:31. Did a CURSE come upon even the ground as a result of sin? Genesis 3:17-18.

(NOTE: Jesus' first coming was to REDEEM Israel from sin, which is the cause of all curse. Since He has gone to heaven UNTIL the times of RESTORING of all things—restoring the Kingdom to Israel—restoring man to righteousness—restoring the earth to Edenic beauty, we know the purpose of the Second Coming must be to RESTORE what He REDEEMED at His first coming.)

5. Is it given of God for ALL people to UNDERSTAND the Gospel and be converted NOW, in this dispensation? Mark 4:11-12. *Please explain.*

6. If those now called surrender and are converted, continue GROWING in grace and knowledge, overcoming sin, enduring trials and tests unto the end, will they be given a work to do in the restoration of truth, peace, righteousness, and happiness thru the Kingdom age? Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21; 1 Cor. 6:2.

7. Will some be "kings"—ruling politically, one over ten cities, another over five, etc.—while others are "priests," ministering the TRUTH and salvation? Rev. 5:10. Where does this say we shall thus reign?

8. When Jesus comes TO RESTORE, what will happen to false preachers? Ezekiel 34:10-12.

9. When Jesus comes, what will happen to the kingdoms and governments of this world? Rev. 11:15; 19:15-16; Dan. 2:44.

10. Is the KINGDOM the PLACE Jesus went to prepare? Matt. 25:34; Rev. 21:2. Does the New Jerusalem come down FROM heaven, to us, PREPARED?

Lesson VII *A.*

WHERE WILL THE MILLENNIUM BE SPENT?

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 11.

GOLDEN TEXT: Revelation 5:10.

1. How long shall the saints made kings and priests in the first resurrection reign with Christ? Rev. 20:4, 6.

2. Jesus said that if He went to heaven, He would COME AGAIN. At the coming, does the Scripture say He is coming TO MEET THE SAINTS, as they start to heaven, or does it say they are resurrected from their graves and are caught up to MEET HIM, as He is returning?

1 Thess. 4:16-17. After meeting Him in the air, how long shall we BE with Him? Verse 17, last phrase.

(Note: This makes plain we shall BE with Him forever, yet we shall REIGN with Him only thru the thousand years. So if we can find where we REIGN, that is where the thousand-year millenium will be spent.)

3. Where shall we reign with Him? Rev. 5:10.

4. In reigning with Him for this thousand years, WHOSE THRONE will we be sitting on? Rev. 3:21. Where does this say Jesus is sitting NOW?

5. Where is the throne of God the FATHER? Matt. 5:34. If Jesus had a throne of His own IN HEAVEN, making TWO thrones in heaven, would not that make heaven a kingdom divided against itself, which could not stand? *Why are there two thrones?*

6. What throne shall be given to Christ to be His own throne? Luke 1:32. Is the throne of David, which shall become Christ's throne, in heaven or on earth? Then where will the throne be, on which we shall sit with Him a thousand years? *Earth.*

7. When we reign with Christ for a thousand years who shall we reign over? Rev. 2:26-27. Do you think this indicates DEAD nations that had previously been destroyed at Christ's coming?

8. We have seen in past lessons that God gave over the reign of the earth to the Gentile nations for 2520 years, which reign is pictured and prophesied to us by Nebuchadnezzar's IMAGE, and Daniel's four BEASTS. When, at the end of the Times of the Gentiles, Christ, the Stone, smites this image on the feet, what place does His Kingdom fill? Dan. 2:35. Is this the Kingdom of God, and does it fill the earth a thousand years AFTER the days of these Gentile kings? Verse 44.

9. How long does the "little horn," or ROME, make war against, and prevail against the saints? Dan. 7:21-22. Is the Kingdom they possess in heaven, or under it? Verse 27.

10. When Jesus comes, during the battle of Armageddon, when Jerusalem shall be taken, does He return to heaven, or where does He go THAT SAME DAY? Zech. 14:1-4 (first part of verse 4). What shall go out from Jerusalem from THAT DAY? Verse 8. Will the Lord be king over heaven, or over the earth in that day? Verse 9. Will the land be desolate and uninhabited? Verse 10-11. What happens from year to year thereafter, and will Gentiles and sinners be there? Verses 16-19.

11. Read Isa. 11:6-8. Will wild animals be tamed BEFORE the millenium? Will there be nursing babes, and weaned babes in the New Earth AFTER the thousand years? Then where shall we place this condition of tame wolves, leopards, lions, and snakes playing with new-born babes? Verse 9.

12. What else will happen in THAT DAY? Verses 10-11. Can these events be BEFORE the millenium? Can they be AFTER the millenium? And if they MUST BE DURING THE MILLENIUM, could we have these animals in heaven, with Gentiles seeking salvation, and babes being born? This condition must be DURING the millenium, and must be ON THE EARTH.

13. Shall the righteous ever be removed from the earth? Prov. 10:30.

Lesson IX

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE UNSAVED AT CHRIST'S COMING

SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 4th Chapter.
GOLDEN TEXT: "And it shall be in that day, that

living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; . . . and men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited." Zech. 14: 8, 11.

FOR HOME READING, PRIOR TO CLASS: Read through the first four chapters of the Book of Jeremiah. Notice that, (1) Jeremiah's commission, as God's intermediary between Judah and Babylon in the Jew's captivity, was to root out, pull down, destroy, and throw down the throne of David and the Kingdom of Judah (Jer. 1:10); and, (2nd), beginning verse 11, chapter 1, the Lord reveals and sets him a prophet to warn the Jews of how the Gentile kingdom of Babylon, to the North, will capture Judah, destroy her cities, leaving the land of Palestine desolate and uninhabited. This captivity and destruction occurred between 604 and 585 B. C.

1. There is a teaching that all the wicked, or unsaved people, shall be destroyed by the brightness of Christ's coming. This teaching is based on 2 Thess. 2:8. (1). What is the word before "Wicked"? (2). How many people does this include? (3). What is to happen to that Wicked man, as indicated by the two words after the word "Wicked"?

2. What is this person to be "REVEALED" called in verse 3? What will this wicked man of sin do? Verse 4. Is the fact that this wicked man of sin shall be REVEALED again repeated? Verse 6. Is not the man to be REVEALED called the man of sin, and also called "that Wicked"? Are they not the same man?

3. Do the first two words of verse 9 also tell us how many people are meant by the term "that Wicked"? Verse

9. Then how many people does verse 8 say shall be destroyed by the brightness of Christ's coming?

4. This same teaching represents Jeremiah 4:23-27 to declare that the whole earth will be desolate and uninhabited during the thousand years. To whom is the message of this chapter addressed? Jer. 4:3, 5.

5. Whose land is to be laid desolate, which cities laid waste and without an inhabitant? Verse 7. (NOTE: The "destroyer of the Gentiles" refers to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, who took the Jews captive 604-585 B.C.)

6. Again which cities are to be made desolate and uninhabited? Verse 16. Why is Jerusalem and Judah to be thus destroyed? Verse 17. How much of the land of Judah is to be SPOILED or laid waste in war? Verse 20.

7. Now read verses 23-27. Is it not plain that this is referring to the same cities noted in the above verses—Judah and Jerusalem, in the captivity of 604-585 B. C.? (NOTE: "the fruitful place" refers to Palestine in the Scriptures). Compare "the cities thereof," in verse 26 with those of verse 16, last part. Are they not the same?

8. Was this destruction a SPOILING, in WAR, or a supernatural destruction such as some describe at Christ's coming? Verse 30, first part. X

9. Was not the destruction described by Jeremiah that of the land of Judah at the captivity, 600 years before Christ, rather than the whole earth during the coming millenium? Jer. 25:3-4, 7-9.

10. IN THE DAY OF THE LORD, will SPOIL of war be divided in the midst of Jerusalem? Zech. 14:1. Is this the battle of Armageddon, when ALL NATIONS shall fight against Jerusalem? Verse 2. Will His feet touch the earth at that time? Verse 4, first part.

11. What shall go out from Jerusalem, in summer and winter, FROM THAT DAY? Verse 8. What do "living waters" mean? John 4:10, 14 and John 7:38-39.

12. Who will be king over the earth IN THAT DAY? Verse 9.

13. In the years and months following Christ's coming, will the Holy Land be inhabited? Verses 10-11.

14. Of the nations who fight at Armageddon, what will happen to those left and not killed in the war? Will they be destroyed by Christ's coming? Verse 16. Will HEA-THEN continue on earth after that time? Verse 17-18.

15. Who shall reign over these heathen, ministering the living waters of salvation during the millenium? Rev. 2:26-27; 5:10.

IS THE CHURCH THE KINGDOM

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 25:31-46.

GOLDEN TEXT: 1 Corinthians 15:50.

1. Did Jesus preach the Good News of the KINGDOM OF GOD? Mark 1:14.
 2. When He began preaching this News, after John was put in prison, was a set time fulfilled? Mark 1:5, first part.
 3. Was a certain definite TIME determined to "anoint the most Holy," at which time Christ's ministry began? Daniel 9:24-25. Did God send His Son with this KINGDOM message when a certain TIME was fulfilled? Gal. 4:4.
 4. At this set time for Christ's preaching of the Kingdom message to begin, was the Kingdom then AT HAND? Mark 1:15. When Jesus was asked when the Kingdom should come, what did He say? Luke 17:21.
 5. Is it possible for flesh-and-blood people, such as are in churches today, to have inherited the KINGDOM already? 1 Cor. 15:50.
 6. What is it, now WITHIN US, that guarantees our resurrection to immortality and inheritance of the Kingdom? Rom. 8:11.
- (NOTE: The Holy Spirit was not given for the church until Christ's ministry and ascension to heaven. Hence, the time having arrived for the coming of the Spirit, which is the means, within us, of inheriting the Kingdom, Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom was AT HAND.)
7. Some had the idea that the Kingdom should appear in Jesus' day. Did He correct that error? Luke 19:11-12.
 8. Did Jesus set up the Kingdom? Acts 1:6-7. X
 9. Did Jesus elsewhere say we could not know the exact time of setting up of the Kingdom? Matt. 24:36. Yet, what are we to KNOW from present-day events? Luke 21:31.
 10. What three men are certain to be in the Kingdom? Luke 13:28. Are these men yet resurrected? Are they today in the Church?
 11. When God's Kingdom is set up, what will it do to present Gentile kingdoms? Daniel 2:44. Has the Church done this?
 12. While the CHURCH is not the Kingdom, yet what shall the SAINTS who compose the Church eventually do? Dan. 7:18, 21-22, 27.
 13. WHEN shall those who are saved inherit the Kingdom? Matt. 25:31, 34.

THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

May 9. 42

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 20:17-38.

GOLDEN TEXT: Matthew 24:14.

1. What do the Scriptures tell us the Church is? Eph. 1:22-23; 1 Cor. 12:27.
 2. Who is the HEAD of this Body? Col. 1:18. In what manner is Christ head of the true Church of God? Eph. 5:23.
 3. How did the Church of God come to be CHRIST'S body, thus belonging to Him—did He PURCHASE it,—and how? Acts 20:28. Do you think He purchased some one religious organization with His blood? Since it is individual sinners, not organizations, who have forgiveness thru His blood, do not the Scriptures plainly teach that THE CHURCH OF GOD is that body of individuals whose names are written in heaven, instead of some organization?
 4. What are those in the true Church members of? Eph. 5:30. Can we become members of His Body by merely accepting so many points of doctrine approved by a board of men, and then joining an organization? Acts 2:47. How are we PUT INTO, or baptized into the true Church of God? 1 Cor. 12:13. Can we be Christ's, and members of His Body without the Holy Spirit, even tho we join an organization and accept its doctrine? Rom. 8:9. How many churches does God recognize? 1 Cor. 12:12, 20.
- (NOTE: If, then, the true Church is that collective group of individuals who have the Holy Spirit, making it a SPIRITUAL ORGANISM instead of an organization, is not any organization which lays claim to being the one and only true Church simply a DIFFERENT one from the true Church, and therefore making a false claim?)

PART II. THE GREAT APOSTACY

5. What was the prophesied course of religious organizations claiming to be the true Christian Church? 2 Thess. 2:3; 2 Tim. 4:3-4; Acts 20:29-30.
 6. Whom did the Devil persecute? Rev. 12:17. What happened to the saints who make up the true Church? Rev. 12:6. Was the apostate church small or great? Rev. 17:1.
 7. Have these church organizations saved the world? Ezek. 34:2, 4-6.
- (NOTE: About two-thirds of the heathen now living have never HEARD, and Israel is still under God-imposed

blindness. This, then, cannot be the dispensation in which God's plan purposes to save all who shall be saved.)

8. Will those who have not heard, or have been blinded thru this dispensation, be sought out and given a chance of salvation when Christ comes? Ezek. 34:11-12; Isa. 11:10-11; Rom. 11:26.

PART III. THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

9. Which did Christ ordain, that all should be saved, or only that the Kingdom Message should be preached in all nations merely For a WITNESS before the end of this dispensation? Matt. 24:14. During this dispensation, is it given to all to come to a knowledge of the truth? Mark 4:11-12; Matt. 13:11-13.

10. Though all are not now being called, and many hearing will not understand, yet in preaching are we not to work for the salvation of such souls as God now calls? Mark 16:15-16; Matt. 23:19-20. (NOTE: The first duty of the Church is to SPREAD THE MESSAGE.)

11. After we are converted, and added by the Lord to His Body the true Church of God, what, among other things, are we commanded to do? Heb. 10:25. What is the real purpose of assembling together? 1 Cor. 14:12, 19; Eph. 4:12-13. (NOTE: The Sabbath is a Holy CONVOCATION. Lev. 23:3. A "CONVOCATION" is an assembly where our presence is COMMANDED; in this case, by the Lord.)

12. In assembling for worship and mutual edification, as well as in our labors of spreading the Gospel, what is the Bible basis for unity, and the test of fellowship? John 13:35; Eph. 4:16. If we have the LOVE OF GOD shed in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, do we not also have the Spirit which leads into TRUTH? Then is not LOVE more essential than DOCTRINE as voted by a few men who rule?

Lesson XII

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

SCRIPTURE READING: Hebrews 12th Chapter.
Golden Text: 2 Peter 3:18.

1. We have seen in past lessons that only a comparative FEW are called to salvation in this dispensation. Most of Israel is blinded spiritually, and the majority of the heathen have never heard. When Christ, the Deliverer comes again, and sets His hand again the second time to recover His people, removing their blindness, will we who are called to salvation in this time have any part in their

salvation? Rom. 11:31. Will the saints now saved minister then as priests only, or will some rule politically, as kings. Rev. 6:10.

2. In order to rule with Christ thru the millenium, is there any overcoming, and enduring required thru this life? Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21.

3. For those saved in this dispensation, is not just acceptance of Christ ALONE enough, as so many teach? Or is some DOING also necessary? Matthew 7:21.

4. Is it possible to profess Christ as Saviour, and worship Him, honoring Him with words of testimony in meeting, and still be unsaved and worshipping in vain? Mark 7:6-8. Must the Christian GROW in grace, and in knowledge, thus showing gain and progress in his Christian life, in order to be saved and become a king or a priest in the Kingdom? 2 Peter 3:18. Must he endure? Matt. 24:13.

5. What must the Christian do, in order to be cleansed of sin, sanctified, and made holy so as to qualify for the responsibility of a position as priest or king in the Kingdom? 1 John 1:9. What else? Rom. 12:1. Our bodies are to be the temple of the Holy Spirit. If we present them to Christ, will He come in to this temple? Rev. 3:20, and Eph. 3:17.

6. Before we surrendered, repented and received Him, thru His Spirit within, were we clean and pure? Rom. 3:23. When He comes inside, will He clean house? Eph. 5:26. Must our own self-will be crucified, and submissive, in order to permit Him to cleanse us? Rom. 6:6, and Gal. 2:20. (NOTE: A crucified man is not necessarily a dead man, but is nailed up to a tree where he cannot spring down as he would like. Thus we present our bodies not a DEAD, but a LIVING sacrifice—crucified, yet alive—submissive to HIS will.)

7. When we thus submit to God, and Jesus our High Priest takes possession inside, thru the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, what is our relationship to God? Isa. 64:8. As God then cleans out the spiritual dirt in our hearts and lives, cleanses, purifies, and molds our lives into an altogether different vessel as a potter would the clay, must we undergo some chastening at His hands? Heb. 12:5. Is this a sign of God's LOVE? Verse 6.

8. What should we remember when we suffer also persecution at the hands of other people? John 15:20, and 2 Tim. 3:12. Must we also suffer tribulation? Acts 14:22. What is God's purpose in permitting all this trial and test, persecution, tribulation, and chastening? Heb. 12:11.

9. When Jesus returns to set up the Kingdom, will we who are now being saved, and entrusted with the spiritual "pounds" be called to accounting? Luke 19:12, 15. Will