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FOR SENIOR CLASSES

FOURTH QUARTER, 1906

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Sabbath-School Worker

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Sabbath-School Lessons

Agencies of the Plan of Salvation

FOR SENIOR CLASSES
FOURTH QUARTER, 1906

LESSON I.—*The Salvation Provided for All.*

OCTOBER 6, 1906.

Questions.

1. What is the necessity for the plan of salvation? Rom. 3:23.
2. What natural and inevitable result would sin bring upon the sinner, were it not for the means of salvation provided? Rom. 6:23; Rev. 20:14, 15.
3. What is the meaning of "salvation"? Matt. 1:21. Note.
4. By whom was this plan devised? John 3:16.
5. To how many is it proclaimed? Titus 2:11; Rev. 22:17.
6. What is God declared to be? 1 John 4:8.
7. What are those who hate God, and reject the plan of salvation, said to love? Prov. 8:35, 36.
8. What is the nature of the salvation which is assured to the Israel of God? Isa. 45:17.
9. What is this salvation able to do for those who accept it? Jude 24, 25.

"There shall be delay no longer"—our confidence.

10. What warning is given to those who "neglect" it? Heb. 2:3.

11. After so full provision for free salvation, what will be the final experience of those who "neglect" it? Jer. 8:20.

12. When only is the "accepted time" for receiving salvation? 2 Cor. 6:2; Heb. 3:15.

13. When is it to be received in all its fulness? Heb. 9:28; 1 Peter 1:7-9.

Note.

Salvation means to save from sin, and from all of its woeful results, of which the "second death" is the ultimate. It is, therefore, a message of life, instead of death, a message of fulness of joy, instead of unutterable woe. This is, in brief, the "Great Salvation." The whole scheme is beyond our comprehension, yet we can joyfully and thankfully avail ourselves of all of its benefits.

LESSON II.—*The Head of the Plan of Salvation.*

OCTOBER 13, 1906.

Questions.

1. Who is the head of the plan of salvation? Ps. 68:19, 20; John 3:16. Note 1.

2. What should this fact cause His children to do? Ps. 68:3, 4; 67:5.

3. What does the Lord desire to have proclaimed to the people? Isa. 40:9. (Compare Revised Version.)

4. Wherein is this salvation revealed? Rom. 1:16.

5. How only can the righteousness of the Gospel be appropriated? Verse 17.

"This Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

6. In what language does the Psalmist describe the helplessness of man? Ps. 146:3, 4 (margin).

7. From the standpoint of His great power and majesty, how does the Lord regard the inhabitants of earth? Isa. 40:15, 17, 22; Dan. 4:35.

8. How does He regard individuals among the nations who fear Him? Isa. 66:1, 2; 57:15; Acts 10:35.

9. What does God ask the children of men to do? Isa. 55:6, 7; Eze. 33:11.

10. To what is His pity likened? Ps. 103:13.

11. What assurance does He give to those who trust Him? Isa. 41:10, 13; 40:28-31.

12. When is our salvation to be fully revealed? 1 Peter 1:5. How are we kept that we may receive it?

13. Knowing that we are living in the last days, what is it high time to do? Why? Rom. 13:11, 12.

14. To whom will the redeemed of all nations ascribe their salvation? Rev. 7:9, 10.

15. With what will the Lord adorn the meek? Ps. 149:4.

16. What ought men, therefore, to do? Ps. 107:8.

Note.

“The plan for our redemption was not an after-thought, a plan formulated after the fall of Adam. It was a revelation of ‘the mystery which hath been kept in silence through times eternal.’ It was an unfolding of the principles that from eternal ages have been the foundation of God’s throne. From the beginning, God and Christ knew of the apostasy of Satan, and of the fall of man through the deceptive power of the apostate. God did not ordain that sin should exist, but He foresaw its existence, and made provision to meet the terrible emergency. So

The offerings for this quarter go to the most needy fields.

great was His love for the world, that He covenanted to give His only-begotten Son, 'that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'—*Desire of Ages, page 20.*

"Before the foundations of the earth were laid, the Father and the Son had united in a covenant to redeem man if he should be overcome by Satan. They had clasped their hands in a solemn pledge that Christ should become the surety for the human race. This pledge Christ has fulfilled. When upon the cross He cried out, 'It is finished,' He addressed the Father. The compact had been fully carried out. Now He declared, 'Father, it is finished. I have done Thy will, O My God. I have completed the work of redemption. If Thy justice is satisfied, I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am.'—*Id., page 834.*

LESSON III.—A Just God and a Saviour.

OCTOBER 20, 1906.

Questions.

1. In what does God's highest pleasure consist? Isa. 65:18, 19; Ps. 149:4; Isa. 62:4, 5. Why is He called a "jealous God"? Note 1.

2. What is said of the enduring nature of the love of God for His people? Jer. 31:3. What is the measure of His love? John 3:16. Note 2.

3. Whom should the "created" people praise? Ps. 102:18; Eph. 2:10.

4. Why is this praise due? Ps. 102:19, 20 (margin): Who refused to loose those that were appointed to death? Isa. 14:12, 16, 17 (margin of verse 17).

5. What appeal does the Psalmist make to men to know the Lord? Ps. 34:8.

6. How tenderly did the Lord keep His people anciently? Deut. 32:9, 10.

Nine-tenths of the women of India never heard of a Saviour.

7. To what extent does He have a watch-care over them still? Ps. 121:4-8. Note 3.

8. What is He declared to be? Deut. 33:27. How do we make Him our refuge?

9. In whom can the redeemed fully rejoice? Isa. 61:10. When can they rejoice, and why?

10. What attribute of God is shown in continuing to offer salvation to men? 2 Peter 3:9, 15.

11. Notwithstanding the Lord's long-suffering, what must surely come? 2 Peter 3:10; Rev. 22:11, 12. Note 4.

12. What, therefore, is the duty of mankind? Isa. 55:6, 7.

13. All the power of the eternal God being pledged to secure our salvation, what responsibility is laid upon us? Heb. 2:3.

Notes.

1. God delights in the association of pure, intelligent creatures. This is likewise the greatest delight that the human mind can experience. Our Father knows full well that we can be supremely happy only in His service, and when our minds are filled with His thoughts, and our eyes behold His glory; even as the Saviour, having the highest happiness of His followers at heart, said, "Father, I will that they also whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am; that they may behold My glory which Thou hast given Me; for Thou lovedst Me before the foundation of the world." From this view-point, God is a jealous God, jealous for the supreme happiness of His people—for the service of any other than the true God can only bring them misery. It is for this reason that He says, "My glory will I not give to another," for if His glory were bestowed upon another, it would make "another" an object of worship, which would result in confusion and sorrow to some of God's creatures. He only glorified His Son *with Himself*, and not *separately*. See John 17:5.

2. "Through every age, through every hour, the love of God had been exercised toward the fallen race. Notwithstanding the

The needs of the cause of God are world-wide.

perversity of men, the signals of mercy had been continually exhibited. And when the fulness of the time had come, the Diety was glorified by pouring upon the world a flood of healing grace that was never to be obstructed or withdrawn till the plan of salvation should be fulfilled."—*Desire of Ages*, page 37.

"The heart of the human father yearns over his son. He looks into the face of his little child; and trembles at the thought of life's peril. He longs to shield his dear one from Satan's power, to hold him back from temptation and conflict. To meet a bitterer conflict and a more fearful risk, God gave His only-begotten Son, that the path of life might be made sure for our little ones. 'Herein is love.' Wonder, O heavens! and be astonished, O earth!"—*Id.*, page 49.

3. "I have seen the tender love that God has for His people, and it is very great. I saw angels over the saints with their wings spread about them. Each saint had an attending angel. If the saints wept through discouragement, or were in danger, the angels that ever attended them would fly quickly upward to carry the tidings, and the angels in the city would cease to sing. Then Jesus would commission another angel to descend to encourage, watch over, and try to keep them from going out of the narrow path; but if they did not take heed to the watchful care of these angels, and would not be comforted by them, but continued to go astray, the angels would look sad and weep. They would bear the tidings upward, and all the angels in the city would weep, and then with a loud voice say, Amen. But if the saints fixed their eyes upon the prize before them, and glorified God by praising Him, then the angels would bear the glad tidings to the city, and the angels in the city would touch their golden harps and sing with a loud voice, Alleluia! and the heavenly arches would ring with their lovely songs."—*Early Writings*, pages 31, 32.

4. The greatest possible danger to the children of men is to presume upon, or abuse, God's mercy; for probation for each individual will close all too soon, and when despised mercy no longer lingers, many will be surprised. See Isa. 33:14.

LESSON IV.—*The Captain of Our Salvation.*

OCTOBER 27, 1906.

Questions.

1. By what title is Jesus designated in His relation to the plan of salvation? Heb. 2:10.

Prayerfully consider the unentered fields.

2. What is He to all who obey Him? Heb. 5:9.

3. Name one person who was said to be waiting for the advent of this Captain and Author of salvation. Luke 2:25.

4. What had been revealed to Him by the Holy Spirit? Luke 2:26.

5. Being directed to the temple at the exact moment of our Saviour's presentation, what did he say? Verses 30-32.

6. What was the Saviour called more than 500 years before He was born into the human family? Dan. 7:13. Note 1.

7. Why did He become the Son of Man? Heb. 2:17.

8. Unto whom was He born? Isa. 9:6. What titles are here ascribed to Him?

9. What record have we of His pre-existence? Gen. 1:26; Micah 5:2; John 17:5.

10. What testimony is given of His agency in creation? John 1:1-3; Col. 1:15, 16; Heb. 1:1, 2.

11. What exhibition of creative power is seen in connection with the plan of salvation? Eph. 2:10; 4:22-24.

12. What evidence did He give of creative power revealed through Him while in the world? Note 2.

13. To what extent is He able to bring complete salvation to man? Heb. 7:25.

14. Of what did He speak, by His Spirit, to the prophets before He become man? 1 Peter 1:9-11.

15. What was the Saviour's purpose in coming into the world? 1 Tim. 1:15; Matt. 1:21.

The needs of the cause of God are world-wide.

16. For what does He come the second time? Heb. 9:28.

17. What will be said in that day by those who are waiting for Him? Isa. 25:9.

18. What will the wicked do and say? Rev. 6:14-17; Isa. 2:18-21.

Notes.

1. The Spirit called Christ the "Son of Man" through the prophet 500 years before He was born into the human family, and nearly 2,500 years prior to the actual fulfilment of the prophecy in anticipation of His being born "unto us."

2. Christ gave abundant evidence of His creative power while in the world, by healing the lame and those who had the leprosy; restoring sight to the blind, and hearing to the deaf; by supplying bread to the multitude, turning water into wine, and raising the dead.

LESSON V.—*The Holy Spirit—Receiving the Seal.*

NOVEMBER 3, 1906.

Questions.

1. After receiving the gospel for our salvation, with what are we sealed? Eph. 1:13, 14.

2. Against what are we warned? Eph. 4:30; Heb. 10:28, 29. Note 1. What should be our prayer? Ps. 51:11.

3. Who abides with us through the presence of the indwelling Spirit? John 14:23.

4. What promise is made to those who open the door of the heart? Rev. 3:20.

We expend sixty per cent of our efforts upon four per cent of our field.

5. What danger accompanies delay in this matter? Prov. 1:24-28. Note 2.

6. In what manner do many entertain the Saviour? Jer. 14:8.

7. If His presence is retained, what power is brought into our lives? Matt. 28:18; Eph. 3:16, 17.

8. For what should we therefore pray? Phil. 1:19; Ps. 51:12.

9. What will the Holy Spirit bring to our hearts? Rom. 5:5.

10. What invitation is extended to all through the Spirit? Rev. 22:17.

11. What did God's Spirit cease to do in the days of Noah? Gen. 6:3. How long did it strive?

12. What are some of the gifts of the Spirit? 1 Cor. 12:8-11, 28.

13. In what is the last church to be complete? 1 Cor. 1:6-8.

14. What must first appear in the lives of God's people before they can safely be trusted with these gifts? Gal. 5:22, 23.

Notes.

1. "In every age there is given to men their day of light and privilege, a probationary time in which they may become reconciled to God. But there is a limit to this grace. Mercy may plead for years and be slighted and rejected; but there comes a time when mercy makes her last plea. The heart becomes so hardened that it ceases to respond to the Spirit of God. Then the sweet, winning voice entreats the sinner no longer, and reproofs and warnings cease."—*Desire of Ages*, page 587.

2. "Light comes to the soul through God's Word, through His servants, or by the direct agency of His Spirit; but when one ray

"Pray ye therefore, the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest."

of light is disregarded, there is a partial benumbing of the spiritual perceptions, and the second revealing of light is less clearly discerned. So the darkness increases, until it is night in the soul. Thus it had been with these Jewish leaders. They were convinced that a divine power attended Christ, but in order to resist the truth, they attributed the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan. In doing this they deliberately chose deception; they yielded themselves to Satan, and henceforth they were controlled by his power."—*Desire of Ages*, page 322.

"In rejecting Christ, the Jewish people committed the unpardonable sin; and, by refusing the invitation of mercy, we may commit the same error. We offer insult to the Prince of life, and put Him to shame before the synagogue of Satan, and before the heavenly universe, when we refuse to listen to His delegated messengers, and instead listen to the agents of Satan, who would draw the soul away from Christ. So long as one does this, he can find no hope or pardon, and he will finally lose all desire to be reconciled to God."—*Id.*, page 324.

LESSON VI.—*Work of the Angels in the Plan of Salvation.*

NOVEMBER 10, 1906.

Questions.

1. Who minister to those who are heirs of salvation? Heb. 1:13, 14.
2. What two classes of these beings are mentioned? Ps. 103:20; Jude 6; Rev. 12:7.
3. What is the probable proportion of those who "kept not their first estate"? Rev. 12:3, 4, 9. Note 1.
4. What number at least are still loyal to God? Rev. 5:11; Dan. 7:9, 10.
5. In what work are all the heavenly angels engaged? Heb. 1:14. Note 2.
6. What comparison is drawn between the angels and the Son? Heb. 1:4-9.

The Son of God beggared Himself to enrich us.

7. What is their attitude toward the Son? Heb. 1:6.

8. Should men worship these heavenly messengers? Rev. 19:10. Will they permit worship? How have they shown their loyalty to God? Rev. 22:8, 9.

9. What promise of protection does the Lord give us? Ps. 34:7.

10. When Hezekiah was king of Judah, what did Sennacherib, king of Assyria, attempt to do? 2 Chron. 32:1.

11. What became of Sennacherib's army? Isa. 37:36. How many angels are mentioned as engaged in this destruction? Note 3.

12. What promise was thus verified? Ps. 34:7. What was the secret of this miraculous protection? 2 Kings 18:3, 5, 6.

13. When Daniel, the "greatly beloved of the Lord," was in urgent need of protection and deliverance, who was sent to his relief? Dan. 6:16, 17.

14. Who was sent to warn Lot concerning the destruction decreed upon Sodom? Gen. 19:1. Note 4.

15. As Lot lingered, what did the angels do for his safety? Gen. 19:16.

16. In what do the angels of the Lord have a special interest? 1 Peter 1:10, 12 (mark the last clause of verse 12).

17. Preparatory to the final deliverance of God's people from this present world, what work is done by the angels? Rev. 7:1-3.

18. What is the last joyful work of the angels in

The needs of the cause of God are world-wide.

making the great plan of salvation complete? Matt. 24: 31.

Notes.

1. "God informed Satan that to His Son alone He would reveal His secret purposes, and He required all the family in heaven, even Satan, to yield Him implicit, unquestioned obedience; but that he (Satan) had proved himself unworthy a place in heaven. Then Satan exultingly pointed to his sympathizers, comprising nearly one-half of all the angels, and exclaimed, These are with me! Will you expel these also, and make such a void in heaven? He then declared that he was prepared to resist the authority of Christ, and to defend his place in heaven by force of might, strength against strength."—*Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 1, page 22.*

2. "It is through Christ, by the ministration of His heavenly messengers, that every blessing comes from God to us."—*Desire of Ages, page 143.*

3. The prophet likens the people of God to a maiden, laughing, and shaking her head at this fierce foe. Think of this strong army outside of Jerusalem, and "the virgin daughter of Zion" laughing and shaking her head at the heathen king's legions. Certainly she must have had confidence in divine protection.

4. When an earthly government sends an ambassador to another country, in such a representative is vested all the power of the nation in whose service he is. So when God commissions a heavenly ambassador to represent the government of the Universe, all of the power of the kingdom of heaven is vested in the messenger sent for the accomplishment of God's purpose.

LESSON VII.—*The Word of the Plan of Salvation.*

NOVEMBER 17, 1906.

Questions.

1. What is the divine agency in the new birth?
1 Peter 1: 22, 23.

2. By what means are we sanctified? John 17: 17.
Whose word is truth?

3. To what should we hold fast? Titus 1: 9.

"Lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

4. How may we know that we are in Christ? 1 John 2: 4, 5.

5. By what does man live? Deut. 8: 3; Matt. 4: 4; 2 Tim. 2: 15.

6. What example did the Saviour give us concerning the use of the Word? Luke 4: 4, 8, 12. Note 1.

7. What should we therefore do? Ps. 119: 11. For what purpose?

8. What is said concerning the Word of God? Isa. 55: 10, 11. Note 2.

9. How long will the Word stand? 1 Peter 1: 23.

10. What does the Psalmist say concerning the swiftness of the Word? Ps. 147: 15.

11. How is all scripture given? 2 Tim. 3: 16; 2 Peter 1: 21. For what purpose is it given?

12. What are the Scriptures able to do? 2 Tim. 3: 15-17.

13. What promise is made to those who keep the Word? Rev. 3: 10.

14. What is Christ called? John 1: 1. Whose words did He speak? John 14: 24; 17: 8. Note 3.

15. What instruction did Jesus give the Jews concerning the Word? John 5: 39.

16. How highly has God exalted His Word? Ps. 138: 2.

17. To what did Paul commend the elders of the church of Ephesus? Acts 20: 32. What testimony did he bear regarding its efficacy?

“One dollar now is of more value to the work than ten dollars will be at some future period.”

Notes.

1. "Whenever one is encompassed with clouds, perplexed by circumstances, or afflicted by poverty or distress, Satan is at hand to tempt and annoy. He attacks our weak points of character. He seeks to shake our confidence in God, who suffers such a condition of things to exist. We are tempted to distrust God, to question His love. Often the tempter comes to us as he came to Christ, arraying before us our weakness and infirmities. He hopes to discourage the soul, and to break our hold on God. Then he is sure of his prey. If we would meet him as Jesus did, we should escape many a defeat: By parleying with the enemy, we give him an advantage."—*Desire of Ages*, pages 120, 121.

2. The Word of God is not simply so many leaves, chapters and verses. It is a thing of life. If all copies of the Scriptures in existence were burned, the Word of God would still stand fast. Heb. 4:12, R. V.; 1 Peter 1:23.

3. "By coming to dwell with us, Jesus was to reveal God both to men and to angels. He was the word of God,—God's thought made audible."—*Desire of Ages*, page 17.

*LESSON VIII.—The Testimony of Nature Concerning
God's Power in Salvation.*

NOVEMBER 24, 1906.

Questions.

1. What do the heavens declare? Ps. 19:1. What does the firmament show?

2. What does each succeeding day and night reveal? Verse 2. If when night settled down over the earth, it depended on man to bring the day, how long would the night last? Whose power then is displayed in the recurrence of night and day?

3. How far reaching are these evidences of the creative and upholding power of God? Verses 3, 4.

4. What inquiry is naturally raised by beholding the

"There shall be delay no longer"—our confidence.

works of God in nature? Isa. 40:26. Ans.—“Who hath created these things?”

5. By what is the true God distinguished? Jer. 10:10-12; Ps. 96:5.

6. When Paul proclaimed the “living God” to the heathen, how did he designate Him? Acts 17:23-26.

7. When Barnabas and Paul were regarded as “gods” by the people of Lystra, what did they say? Acts 14:14, 15. What daily evidence does God give of His existence? Verse 17.

8. What is the gospel of Christ declared to be? Rom. 1:16.

9. Where and how is this power clearly revealed? Verse 20. Is there then any excuse for unbelief?

10. What is the cause of darkness in the heart? Verses 21, 22.

11. When men forsake the true God, what are they inclined to worship? Rom. 1:23-25. Note 1.

12. What message, calling the minds of men back to the worship of the true God, will be given in the last days? Rev. 14:6-9.

13. What forces in nature have testified and are testifying to the fulfilment of prophecy? Luke 21:25-28.

14. What exhibitions of His power did the Lord give to Elijah? 1 Kings 19:9-13. Note 2.

15. How is the Lord calling the attention of His people and of the world to the second coming of Christ? Matt. 24:29-33.

We expend sixty per cent of our efforts upon four per cent of our field.

Notes.

1. The first object worshiped by those who forsake the true God is self; the next is usually the sun, which is the brightest object visible to men. Then any object, either animate or inanimate, may be selected as an object of worship by the darkened mind.

2. After the wind, the earthquake, and the fire, God spoke to Elijah by a "still, small voice." While the Lord is using wind-storms, earthquakes, and great fires to herald His coming, He desires to speak to each of us by "the still, small voice" of His Spirit.

LESSON IX.—The World to Come.

DECEMBER 1, 1906.

Questions.

1. What is the present condition of the whole creation? Rom. 8:22.

2. Does this include the children of God? Verse 23; 2 Cor. 5:4. Note 1.

3. Although in this condition, upon what can we safely reckon? Rom. 8:18. Why? Verses 16, 17.

4. How are we saved? Verse 24. What is this hope called? Where does it enter? Heb. 6:19, 20. Note 2.

5. Upon what does this hope rest? Verses 17, 18.

6. What promise was made to Abraham? Gen. 13:14-16; Rom. 4:13. What is he called? Rom. 4:11. For what did he look? Heb. 11:10.

7. Who are partakers with Abraham in the promise? Matt. 5:5; Gal. 3:29.

8. What has God prepared for them? Heb. 11:16.

9. What forms an essential part of the Christian's hope? Acts 26:6-8.

"This Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

10. In connection with what great event will this be realized? 1 Thess. 4: 16, 17; Phil. 3: 20, R. V.

11. In whom then is our hope centered? Micah 4:8.

12. What has been promised to man? Heb. 2: 5-8; Dan. 7: 26, 27.

13. What is this promised inheritance called? Rev. 21: 1. What is its capital city? Verse 2; Eze. 48: 35.

14. What will be the condition of the inhabitants of the "New Earth"? Isa. 33:24; Isa. 35:10; Rev. 21:4. Note 3.

15. Who have a right to all the blessings of the new earth? Rev. 22: 14.

Notes.

1. It is not death, or the condition of being "unclothed" that the redeemed long for, but possessing mortal flesh and being subject to death, there is a natural longing to be "clothed upon," or to possess immortality.

2. There is probably not a single member of the human family who would endure the struggle against the world, the flesh, and the devil were it not for that hope which is "an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast," which constitutes the helmet of salvation. The glorious prospects of "the world to come" thus constitute an important resource in the plan of salvation.

3. Joy is usually of a very transient nature here, but in the "world to come" the ransomed of the Lord will possess "everlasting joy."

LESSON X.—*Testimony of the Ages.*

DECEMBER 8, 1906.

Questions.

1. What has the Lord declared from the beginning? Isa. 46: 9, 10. What do we call the power to foretell future events? Note 1.

Prayerfully consider the unentered fields.

2. To what extent does the Lord control events?

3. What is one strong evidence of the existing of an omniscient and omnipotent God? Ans.—Fulfilled prophecy.

4. What was one of the earliest prophecies given to the human family? Gen. 3:15.

5. To what extent has this prophecy been fulfilled? Gal. 4:4; Rev. 12:1-4.

6. What portion of it is as yet unfulfilled? Heb. 2:14, 15.

7. What promise was made in Isa. 7:14? When, and in whom, was it fulfilled? Matt. 1:18, 22, 23.

8. What prediction was given concerning the place of His birth? Micah 5:2. Compare Matt. 2:3-6.

9. How definitely was the time of Christ's anointing and crucifixion foretold? Dan. 9:24-27. Note 2.

10. What prophecy was fulfilled in His death and burial? Isa. 53:8, 9. What in His triumphal entry into Jerusalem? Zech. 9:9. Compare John 12:14-16.

11. How many things written of His first advent were literally fulfilled? Acts 13:29.

12. What was foretold of Babylon? Isa. 13:19-22; Jer. 51:11, 28-31, 37. When, and how, was this prophecy fulfilled? Dan. 5:30, 31.

13. What prophecy was made concerning ancient Tyre? Eze. 26:3-6. How accurately has this been fulfilled? Note 3.

14. What prophecy was made of Cyrus, king of Per-

“The Advent message to the world in this generation”—our watchword.

sia? Isa. 44:28; 45:13. When and how was this fulfilled? Ezra 1:1, 2.

15. What statement did Peter make concerning the certainty of divine prophecy? 2 Peter 1:16-19. What exhortation is given relative to these prophetic utterances?

Notes.

1. The power of the Creator to foretell future events implies foreknowledge, and the power also to fashion all things according to the council of His own will. As we may stand where our view is unobstructed, and be eye-witnesses of scenes which transpire before us; so God can look down through the stream of time, and with unclouded vision see the end, and all the intervening events, from the beginning.

2. In the prophecy of the 2,300 days of Dan. 8:14, the exact date of the crucifixion of our Lord was foretold. This period began with the "going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem." This decree went forth 457 B. C. See Ezra 7. At the end of sixty-nine weeks, or 483 years, the "anointed One, the Prince" was to appear. Christ was anointed at His baptism with the Holy Spirit, A. D. 27, and began His work as the Messiah. After His baptism He came into Galilee "preaching the gospel of God and saying, *The time is fulfilled.*" No doubt He referred to prophetic time. In the midst, or middle, of the week, or three and one-half years later—A. D. 31—He was to be cut off, or be crucified, thus causing the "sacrifice and the oblation to cease." It would be well in this connection to make a careful study of the 2,300 days. See "Thoughts," or "The Sanctuary and Its Cleansing."

3. "It [Tyre] is a Babel of broken walls, pillars, vaults, etc., there being not so much as one entire house left! Its present inhabitants are only a few poor wretches, harboring themselves in the vaults, and subsisting chiefly on fishing; who seem to be preserved in this place by divine Providence as a visible argument how God has fulfilled His word concerning Tyre, that it should be the top of a rock, a place for fishers to dry their nets on."—*Mandrell.*

"This Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

LESSON XI.—The Ministry.

DECEMBER 15, 1906.

Questions.

1. To whom has God given the ministry of reconciliation? 2 Cor. 5:18, 19. Note 1.
2. What do true ministers thus become? Verse 20. In whose place do they plead?
3. With whom are such co-workers? 2 Cor. 5:21; 6:1.
4. How should they stand before their flocks? 2 Cor. 6:3.
5. In what should they show themselves approved? Verses 4-7.
6. What peculiar contrasts should appear in their lives? Verses 8-10.
7. What knowledge should inspire them to earnestness in persuading men? 2 Cor. 5:10, 11. What power should constrain them? Verse 14.
8. How should they not handle the Word of God? 2 Cor. 4:2. How can they commend themselves to every man's conscience?
9. Whom should they preach? 2 Cor. 4:5. Whom should they not preach?
10. From what source do they get light and knowledge? Verse 6. In what is this treasure held? Verse 7.
11. What should they bear in their bodies? Verses 10, 11. Whose life should be made manifest in them?
12. In what should the minister have full confidence

The needs of the cause of God are world-wide.

before he speaks? Verse 13. Can he speak with power otherwise? Note 2.

13. What knowledge encourages him in his ministry? Verse 14.

14. For whose sake is the work of the minister? Verse 15. To whose glory will it all redound?

15. What should this encouragement prevent? Verse 16 (first clause). What renewal is of daily recurrence? Verse 16 (last clause); Eph. 3:17.

16. How does the true minister regard affliction? 2 Cor. 4:17. What does it work for him?

17. In contrast with heavenly things; how will the afflictions of this life appear? Verses 17, 18.

Notes.

1. While this scripture applies especially to ministers of the Gospel, it does not exclude others also. The Lord has given to all a part in the work of reconciliation.

2. He who preaches should not only *believe* what he teaches, but should conscientiously *practice* the same. The most effectual way of preaching is by practicing. Rom. 2:21-23.

“The teaching of Christ was the expression of an inwrought conviction and experience, and those who learn of Him become teachers after the same divine order. The Word of God, spoken by one who is himself sanctified through it, has a life-giving power that makes it attractive to the hearers, and convicts them that it is a living reality.”—*Desire of Ages*, page 142.

LESSON XII.—*The High Calling.*

DECEMBER 22, 1906.

Questions.

1. What is one thing essential to our salvation? Rom. 10:13, 14.

The offerings for this quarter go to the most needy fields.

2. What thing is of paramount importance with the preacher? Verse 15.—That he be sent of God.

3. If he is truly sent of God, what is laid upon him? 1 Cor. 9:16.

4. What should he preach? 2 Tim. 4:1, 2. To what is the Word of the Lord likened? Jer. 23:28, 29.

5. Whose approval should he seek? 2 Tim. 2:15. Of what should he make full proof? 2 Tim. 4:5.

6. What is the declared purpose of the ministry? 2 Tim. 2:10.

7. What solemn responsibility does the Lord lay upon the ministry? Eze. 33:7, 8.

8. What responsibility will those have to meet to whom the minister delivers God's message? Verse 9.

9. By delivering God's message, what does the minister become to the two classes who hear him? 2 Cor. 2:15, 16. What makes the difference?

10. What divine unction should attend his preaching? 1 Cor. 2:4; Acts 10:44.

11. To this end whom must he preach? 1 Cor. 2:2; 3:11.

12. How diligent should the ministry be in the exercise of their gift? 2 Tim. 1:6; Acts 6:4.

13. How should the minister regard himself? 1 Cor. 3:5-9.

14. How should he be regarded by the church? 1 Tim. 5:17; 1 Thess. 5:12, 13.

15. How has the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should be supported? 1 Cor. 9:14.

Prayerfully consider the unentered fields.

16. From whom does the commission come, and what promise goes with it? Matt. 28:19, 20.

17. What promise is for soul-winners? Dan. 12:3.
Note.

Note.

It is said of Jesus, that "for the joy that was set before Him," He "endured the cross, despising the shame." That joy is in seeing the blood-bought throng before the throne, "filled with joy unspeakable and full of glory," and of knowing that all this bliss could not have been experienced had it not been for His sacrifice. Isa. 53:11. The faithful minister will share in the joy of his Lord, when he himself stands before the throne and sees around him the vouchers of his ministry, the flock his care has nourished, fed, and saved.

LESSON XIII.—Ye Are My Witnesses.

DECEMBER 29, 1906.

Questions.

1. What should be the work of Christ's followers in the world? Acts 1:8.

2. What does Christ say of them? Matt. 5:14.

3. What prayer for unity did Christ utter? John 17:20, 21. Of what would this be an infallible evidence to the world? Verse 23.

4. What kind of a church does the Lord desire? Eph. 1:4; 5:27.

5. In what attitude does the Lord desire us to stand before the world? Phil. 2:15. What are we to hold forth? Verse 16.

6. Of what are we members? 1 Cor. 12:12, 13, 27.

"Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest."

7. What should not exist in the body of Christ?
Verses 25-27.

8. What should occupy the minds of the members of His body? Phil. 4:8.

9. What should rule in their hearts? Col. 3:15.
In whose name should they work? Verse 17. Note 1.

10. How should we walk? 1 Thess. 2:12.

11. For what purpose did Christ give Himself for the church? Titus 2:14. What exhortation is given in 1 Peter 1:15, 16?

12. What is done by some who profess to know God? Titus 1:16.

13. What is the logical result of such a course? Rom. 2:24. Note 2.

14. What are Christians declared to be? 2 Cor. 3:2. Note 3.

15. For what purpose has the Lord chosen us? 1 Peter 2:9.

16. How should we therefore walk? Eph. 5:1, 2, 8; Col. 1:10.

Notes.

1. If it is our duty and privilege "in whatsoever we do in word or deed to do *all* in the name of the Lord Jesus," then we should be careful to see that our every word and action adorn that worthy name whereby we are called.

2. The greatest "stumbling-block" in the way of unbelievers is the inconsistent course of professed believers. By ungodly lives, they often give occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, and to scoff at the reality of the religion of Jesus Christ. By such that blessed name is trampled in the mire.

3. The world at large will not come to the Word of God to receive light, and to learn the way of salvation. While it is true

"The Advent message to the world in this generation"—our watchword.

that the works of God in nature are a constant witness to all, yet the Lord's true disciples will give infallible proof in their lives of the reality of the religion of Jesus Christ. "Now that Jesus has ascended to heaven, His disciples are His representatives among men, and one of the most effective ways of winning souls to Him is in exemplifying His character in our daily lives. Our influence upon others depends not so much upon what we say as upon what we are. Men may combat and defy our logic; they may resist our appeals; but a life of disinterested love is an argument they can not gainsay. A consistent life, characterized by the meekness of Christ, is a power in the world."—*Desire of Ages*, pages 141, 142.

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Psa. 104:8. They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which Thou hast founded for them.

Ex. 5:2. And Pharaoh said, Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go.

Isa. 42:3. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench. He shall bring forth judgment unto truth.

Matt. 6:27. Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

Matt. 26:73. Thy speech bewrayeth thee.

1 Cor. 2:6. Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect.

1 Cor. 7:6. But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment.

1 Cor. 15:33. Evil communications corrupt good manners.

American Version

The heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly corrupt; who can know it?

The mountains rose, the valleys sank down unto the place which Thou hadst founded for them.

And Pharaoh said, Who is Jehovah, that I should harken unto His voice to let Israel go? I know not Jehovah, and moreover I will not let Israel go.

A bruised reed will he not break, and a dimly burning wick will he not quench; he will bring forth justice in truth.

And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit unto the measure of his life?

Thy speech maketh thee known.

We speak wisdom, however, among them that are full grown.

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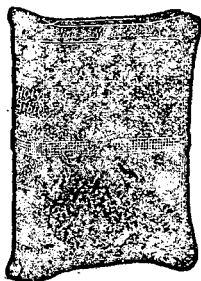
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5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou

6 Remember, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy loving-kindnesses; for they have been ever of old.

7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O Lord.

8 Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.

9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his