

SDCR SABBATH SCHOOL
STUDY GUIDE

A SYNOPSIS OF
PRESENT
TRUTH

QUARTER 4

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THE
Present Truth

"Sanctify them

Vol. 4.

THE PRESENT TRUTH.
PUBLISHED FORTNIGHTLY.
—FOR THE—

International Tract and Missionary
Society.

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CHRIST, LET ME COME TO THEE.

CHRIST, let me nearer come;
My soul would gaze
On the unrivalled riches of thy grace;
Would see the brightness of Heaven's glory shine
In holy radiance from the brow divin'
And yet afar I stand, and through the
I scarce discern thy face.

Fain would my soul be blest;
Sadly I stand,
Salvation's unfilled cup within my hand.
I taste the ripples of redemption's streams,
But lead me where the unwasting fountain
gleams.

Oh! show me where thy flocks at noontide rest,
By heavenly zephyrs fanned.

Yes, I will come to thee,
Will haste again
Through the dense crowd to touch thy garment's
hem.

Oh! let me place in thine my trembling hand,
"And walk beside thee to the holy land;"
"Choose thou the way, if thou share with me
The gladness."
—Earnest

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Creation by the Word of the Lord

QUESTIONS

1. By what agency was the work of creation performed? Psa. 33:6

Note 1. An absolute Creator must be able to bring into being that which before was non-existent. Thus the apostle says, "The worlds have been framed by the word of God, so that what is seen bath not been made out of things which appear." Heb. 11:3, A.R.V.

2. How did the work proceed, and with what results? Psa. 33:9

Note 2. God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. The decree of the Lord, "Let there be," in each step in creation made it so.

3. Give examples in the narrative of Genesis. See Gen. 1:3, 6, etc.

4. What is said of the power and efficiency of the Lord's word? Heb. 4:12

Note 3. God's Spirit invariably accompanies His word, so that Jesus could say of that which He declared, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." John 6:63. In creation it is said, "the Spirit of God moved upon ["was brooding upon," margin, A.R.V.] the face of the wa-

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ters.” Thus “God said, Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures.” “And God created the great sea-monsters, and every living creature that moveth, wherein the waters swarmed, after their kind.” Gen 1:2, 20, 21, A.R.V.

5. What statement concerning creation is made in Psa. 148:5?

6. What is said of the power and wisdom exercised in the work of creation? Jer. 10:12

7. Did the new creation represent the perfect will of God? Psa. 135:6

8. What will the Lord’s word do when hidden in the heart? Psa. 119:11

Note 4. Those who meditate upon God’s word day and night, become imbued with the Spirit in the word and are thereby kept from transgression.

9. What is said of the character of the Lord’s word? Psa. 12:6

10. What does the apostle say concerning the nature of God’s word? 1Pe. 1:23. What does it accomplish for the believer? Acts 20:32

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11. What effect does this living word have upon the mind and life of those who believe? 1Th. 2:13

12. How highly has the Lord exalted His word? Psa. 138:2

13. How enduring is the word of the Lord? Mat. 24:35

14. What is said to be impossible with God? Heb. 6:17, 18

15. How many things are upheld by this word? Heb. 1:3

16. What is said concerning the certainty of the words spoken by the Lord? Isa. 55:10, 11

The Sabbath of the Creator

QUESTIONS

1. After creating our world and all that pertains to it in six days, what was done to complete the week? Gen. 2:1, 2

Note 1. Dr. Adam Clarke says in his comments on Gen. 2:2, "It is worthy of notice that the Septuagint, the Syriac, and the Samaritan, read the sixth day instead of the seventh; and this should be considered the genuine reading, which appears from these versions to have been originally that of the Hebrew text."

2. What was the second act of the Creator with reference to the seventh day? Gen. 2:3

Note 2. "The blessing and sanctification of the seventh day were because that God had rested upon it. His resting upon it, then, was to lay the foundation for blessing and sanctifying the day." — *Andrew's History of the Sabbath,* page 15

3. For whom did the Lord make the Sabbath? Mark 2:27

4. Since the Sabbath was made for man, what therefore is man's duty regarding it? Exo. 20:8

5. During how many days of each week may work be done?
Exo. 20:9

6. Why are we commanded to abstain from work on the seventh day? Exo. 20:10, 11

Note 3. The Sabbath commandment is very definite. It relates to a definite day, and gives the reasons why this particular day should be observed. The day to be kept holy is the seventh day, which God made holy by resting upon it, and placing His blessing upon that day.

7. What holy relation between God and His people is indicated by their obedience to the Sabbath commandment? Eze. 20:20

Note 4. The Sabbath was designed that man might have a perpetual, weekly reminder of the power of God to create the world, and therefore His power and ability to sanctify and save the believer. The Sabbath is a sign of sanctification, which the Lord has given to His people.

8. What in the heart of many of God's professed people caused them to profane the Sabbath day? Eze. 20:24

9. What gracious promise does the Lord make to those who sacredly observe the Sabbath? Isa. 58:13, 14

LESSON 02

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Note 5. The heritage of Jacob spoken of in this text is a part in the new earth—a share with the redeemed people of God in the eternal kingdom.

10. When does the Sabbath begin? When does it end? Lev. 23:32, last part

11. What marks the beginning and the ending of each day? Mark 1:32

Note. 6. At the time when Christ was on the earth the Pharisees thought it wrong to heal the afflicted on the Sabbath day. They therefore waited till the setting of the sun, or closing of the Sabbath, before bringing the sick to Jesus to be healed.

12. What was Christ's custom with reference to the Sabbath day? Luke 4:16

13. Upon what day of the week does the Sabbath come? Mark 16:1, 2

14. With what sacredness did the Christian women who had been with Jesus during His ministry regard the Sabbath of the Lord? Luke 23:55, 56

LESSON 02

Oct 09 - Oct 15

15. What day of the week follows the Sabbath “according to the commandment”? Luke 24:1

16. What was Paul’s custom regarding the Sabbath? Acts 17:1-3; 18:4

17. What was he doing at Corinth during the six working-days? Acts 18:1-3

The Sure Word of Prophecy

The Great Prophetic Image

QUESTIONS

1. What great outline of the world's history was given to Nebuchadnezzar in a dream? Dan. 2:31-35
2. After describing to the king the form and parts of this wonderful image, what does the prophet say he will do? Verse 36
3. What was represented by the head of gold? Verses 37, 38
4. What is said of the second kingdom? Verse 39
5. What is predicted of the third kingdom and its extensive dominion? Verse 39, last part
6. What is the interpretation given of the fourth and last of these kingdoms? Verse 40

LESSON 03

Oct 16 - Oct 22

7. Of what were the feet composed? What did this symbolize? Verses 41-43

8. What became of the image? Verses 34, 35

9. What glorious kingdom is to take the place occupied by these earthly kingdoms? How strong will it become? How long shall it endure? Verse 44

10. What promise did the Savior once make to some of His disciples? Mark 9:1

11. How did He illustrate His meaning, and show to them the nature and glory of His kingdom? Verse 2

12. In the transfiguration what is said of the glory? Verse 3

13. Who from heaven conversed with Jesus? Verse 4

14. What does the narrative say of a bright cloud and a voice speaking out of the cloud to the disciples? Mat. 17:5

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15. What does Peter, an eye-witness of this scene, say concerning the assurance thus given of the Lord's coming? 2Pe. 1:16-18

16. What does Peter say is surer than eyesight? Verse 19

Note. Our eyes may deceive us, and our ears may fail to correctly understand, but the prophetic word is infallible, and will surely be fulfilled. It is more certain than the seeing of the eyes or the hearing of the ears, for it can not fail. Prophecy shines into a dark place, throwing light upon the future.

The Four Great Kingdoms

QUESTIONS

1. What was given to Daniel in the first year of Belshazzar? What did he do with the dream? Dan. 7:1

2. What did the prophet behold in vision? Verses 2, 3

Note 1. In prophecy winds denote war and strife (Jer. 25:32, 33), and sea or waters denote "multitudes, and nations, and tongues." Rev. 17:15. It was through the terrible scenes of war that nations were overturned, and kingdoms built up. The Lord said of His people, "I will scatter them with a whirlwind among the nations whom they knew not." Zec. 7:14

3. In the interpretation of the vision what did the angel say was denoted by the symbols used? Verse 17

4. What was the first symbol seen? Verse 4

Note 2. The kingdom symbolized by the lion with eagle's wings is Babylon. In the second chapter this same universal kingdom was represented by the head of gold. Babylon was founded by Nimrod, of whom it is written, "Also Cush begat Nimrod, who was the first to be a despot in the earth. He was an overbearing tyrant in Jehovah's sight; wherefore the saying, Even as Nimrod the overbearing tyrant in Jehovah's sight." Gen. 10:8, 9 (Spurrel's translation). This kingdom

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Oct 23 - Oct 29

came into the field of prophecy about B.C. 606. Habakkuk, speaking of Babylon, says, "They shall fly as the eagle that hasteth to eat." Ch. 1:8. The plucking of the wings, and receiving a man's heart, doubtless denotes its loss of bravery and final downfall.

5. How is the second symbol of the vision described? Verse 5
Note 3. The second great beast, the bear with three ribs in its mouth, corresponds to the breast and arms of silver in the dream recorded in Daniel 2, and symbolizes the kingdom of Media and Persia. This kingdom is mentioned by name in Dan. 8:20. The bear raising itself up on one side represents the two lines of kings, with one, the Persian, becoming more prominent than the other.

6. Describe the third symbol. Verse 6

Note 4. The third beast is a symbol of the Grecian kingdom, that conquered the Medes and Persians. The two wings on the lion being an indication of its rapidity in conquest, the four wings on the leopard must picture great haste in its warfare of conquest. This kingdom is represented in Dan. 8:5 by a swiftly running goat, which destroyed everything in its course.

7. Describe the fourth symbol. Verse 7

Note 5. Rome is symbolized by this nondescript beast. It bruised and conquered the Grecian empire. Gibbon, writing concerning the decline and fall of this empire, uses the following striking language, "The arms of the republic, some-

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times vanquished in battle, always victorious in war, advanced with rapid steps to the Euphrates, the Danube, the Rhine, and the ocean; and the images of gold, or silver, or brass, that might serve to represent the nations or their kings, were successively broken by the iron monarchy of Rome."

Another writer has said: "How accurately it answers to the beast before us! In the dread and terror which it inspired, and in its exceeding strength, the world has never seen its equal. It devoured as with iron teeth, and brake in pieces; and it ground the nations into the very dust beneath its brazen feet." — *U. Smith*

The ten horns upon the head of this beast represent the ten divisions into which this kingdom was divided. These may be enumerated as follows: (1) Alemanni, (2) Ostrogoths, (3) Visigoths, (4) Franks, (5) Vandals, (6) Suevi, (7) Burgundi, (8) Heruli, (9) Anglo-Saxons, (10) Lombards. The period of what may appropriately be called the dissolution, or dismemberment of the empire covered almost one hundred fifty years, from A.D. 351-485.

8. What anxious inquiry did the prophet make concerning this beast? Verse 19

9. What direct answer was received to this question? Verse 23

10. What is said of its strength and disposition to destroy? Verse 7

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11. How much of the earth seemed to be devastated by this kingdom? Verse 23

12. How many horns were seen upon the head of the fourth beast? Verse 7, last part

13. What are these horns said to represent? Verse 24, first part

14. Following the career of the little horn, what next did the prophet behold? Verse 26

Note 6. It is said, "As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away; yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time." Dan. 7:12. But with the dreadful and terrible beast it was not so. It, in its last and worst phase, was cast bodily into the burning flame, and consumed. See verse 11

15. What is then established and where? Verse 27

16. Who will have a place in this kingdom? 2Pe. 1:4-11

The Papacy or Little Horn

QUESTIONS

1. While the prophet was considering in vision the ten horns of the fourth beast, what did he behold coming up among them? How is this horn described? What is said of its work? Dan. 7:8

2. Against whom did the little horn make war? Verse 21

3. How long did it continue its wicked course? Verse 22

Note 1. The prophetic period referred to in verse 25 relates to and covers the time of papal supremacy, which began in A.D. 538, when the last of the three opposing powers (the Vandals, Heruli, and Ostrogoths) was plucked up. The Revelator says that this power was to continue for a "time, times, and half a time" (Rev. 12:14) or forty-two months. Prophetic time is calculated on the basis of one day for a year (Num. 14:34; Eze. 4:3-6). As the period of papal supremacy began in 538 A.D., and was to continue for a time, times, and the dividing of time, or forty-two months, or three and a half years of prophetic time, it would therefore reach to 1798 A.D. Precisely at the termination of this period in A.D. 1798, General Berthier took the pope of Rome prisoner, and carried him to Valance, in France, where he died in exile.

4. What is said of its treatment of the saints? Verse 25

LESSON 05

Oct 30 - Nov 05

5. What is said of its words? How did it look? Verse 20

6. What is its attitude toward the law of God? Verse 25

Note 2. The Papacy was to think to change, or think itself able to change, God's law. No human power could change the law of God.

7. How long did its supremacy continue? Verse 25

8. How does the apostle Paul speak of this power? By what titles does he refer to it? 2Th. 2:1-4

9. How early was this apostasy working? Verses 6, 7

10. What will be the final end of this power, and when? Verse 8

11. What is said in this connection of Satan's filial deceptions? Verses 9, 10

12. If we reject the truth, what will come upon us? Verses 11, 12

13. What should be our daily prayer? Psa. 119:133, 134

The Change of the Sabbath

QUESTIONS

1. What inspired statements are made concerning the enduring character of God's law? Psa. 111:7, 8; Mat. 5:17-19
2. What did Jesus say regarding His obedience to His Father's commandments? John 15:10
3. What does the Lord say of the unchangeable nature of His law and word? Psa. 89:34. Compare Deu. 4:12, 13
4. Which day is the Sabbath "according to the commandment"? Exo. 20:8-11
5. How long will the Sabbath remain unchanged? Exo. 31:16, 17; Isa. 66:22, 23
6. What did the prophet see coming up among the ten horns of the fourth beast? Describe this symbol. Dan. 7:8
Note 1. This horn which plucked up three other horns, in order to establish itself, represents Rome in its papal form. Surely no better symbol could have been chosen than this.

Eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth which speaks blasphemous things, foreshadow with remarkable accuracy the shrewd, cunning, deceitful work of the man of sin.

7. Concerning what did the prophet especially ask for an explanation? Dan. 7:19, 20

8. What is said in reference to the work of this little horn power? Dan. 7:25

Note 2. The exceedingly wicked character of this power is set forth in the most forcible manner. He shall “speak great words against the Most High,” and shall wear out His saints. Witness the blasphemous titles, such as “vicegerent of the Son of God,” “another God upon earth,” and the assumption of papal infallibility, etc. Concerning the persecuting character of this power, note the following:

“No computation can reach the numbers who have been put to death, in different ways, on account of their maintaining the profession of the gospel, and opposing the corruptions of the Church of Rome. A million of poor Waldenses perished in France; nine hundred thousand orthodox Christians were slain in less than thirty years after the institution of the order of the Jesuits. The Duke of Alva boasted of having put to death in the Netherlands thirty-six thousand by the hand of the common executioner during the space of a few years. The Inquisition destroyed, by various tortures, one hundred and fifty thousand within thirty years. These are a few specimens, and but a few, of those which history has recorded. But the total amount will never be known till the earth shall disclose her blood, and no more cover her slain.” *Scott’s Church History*

9. In what way has this power thought to change the law of God?

Note 3. In fulfillment of this part of the prophecy the Roman apostasy has practically removed the second commandment from the Decalogue, has changed the Sabbath of the fourth commandment from the seventh to the first day of the week, and has divided the tenth to make up the number of ten commandments.

10. When was the first law enacted for the observance of Sunday?

Note 4. The first Sunday law was enacted in 321 A.D. By order of the Roman emperor Constantine, in honor of the venerable day of the Sun. The Encyclopedia Britannica tells us:

“The Roman emperor Constantine I (died 337), a convert to Christianity, introduced the first civil legislation concerning Sunday in 321, when he decreed that all work should cease on that day, except that farmers could work if necessary. That law, aimed at providing time for worship, was followed later in the same century and in subsequent centuries by further restrictions on Sunday activities.”

11. How many will follow this beast power? Rev. 13:8

12. How may we know that we are servants of the Lord? Rom. 6:16; 1Jn. 2:3

13. How may we know when others are not? Isa. 8:20

LESSON 06

Nov 06 - Nov 12

14. What decision should all make without delay? 1Ki. 18:21;
Jos. 24:15

The Sanctuary

QUESTIONS

1. Where in the Scriptures is the sanctuary first mentioned?
Exo. 25:8

2. According to what was Moses instructed to build the sanctuary? Verse 9

3. Who were called to have charge of its construction? With what were they especially endowed for the work? Exo. 31:1-11

Note 1. The Lord does not leave without help those who are called to do an important work. Designing and preparing material for the sanctuary demanded wisdom from God, and it was given. Moses was also careful to tell the people of the choice the Lord had made of workmen, and also to inform them about how they had been qualified to do the work. This information gave the people confidence and secured their cooperation. See Exo. 35:30-35.

4. Describe the sanctuary built by Moses. See note 2

Note 2. In Exodus, chapters 25 to 30, is found a detailed description of the sanctuary and its furniture. All should study those chapters. In brief, the tabernacle was an oblong building, thirty cubits in length, ten cubits wide, and ten cubits high. When pitched, it faced the east, so that the worshipers,

on approaching it, always faced west, and had their backs toward the rising sun. This building, which was placed inside of what was called the court, had boards for its sides and for the west end. It was divided into two apartments by a veil placed ten cubits from the west end, and was closed in front with a veil or curtain. The first apartment was ten cubits wide and twenty cubits long. In this apartment was a golden altar, called the altar of incense. On the south side stood the seven-branched candlestick with its seven lamps; on the north, the table of showbread. In the second apartment or holy of holies was placed the ark, which contained the law of God, covered by the mercy-seat, and overshadowed by the cherubim of glory.

5. What instruction did the Lord give to Moses about following the pattern shown him in the mount? Exo. 25:40

6. What was the purpose in building the earthly sanctuary? Exo. 25:8

7. When did the Lord take possession of the sanctuary? In what manner was His presence shown? Exo. 40:33, 34

8. What manifestation of glory was seen? Verses 35-38

Note 3. The glory connected with the sanctuary was especially associated with the inner apartment or the holy of holies. It was there that the sacred ark, containing the law of God, was deposited. At a later date, when the Philistines de-

LESSON 07

Nov 13 - Nov 19

feated Israel and took the ark of the Lord, it was said, "The glory is departed from Israel, for the ark of God is taken."
1Sa. 4:22

9. Of what was this sanctuary and its ministration a type?
Heb. 8:4, 5; 9:9, 24

10. Within what sanctuary does Christ, our High Priest, carry on His present ministry? Heb. 8:1, 2

11. How many apartments were in the tabernacle erected by Moses? What were they called? Heb. 9:2, 3, A.R.V.

12. What view of Christ's work in heaven was given to John? In which apartment was He? Rev. 1:12, 13

Note 4. John had a view of the work of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary some sixty years after He had ascended to heaven. He was there seen ministering in the apartment which contained the seven lamps. This was the first apartment. See Exo. 40:24; Heb. 9:1, 2

13. What else represented in the typical sanctuary was seen by John in the sanctuary in heaven? Rev. 8:3

LESSON 07

Nov 13 - Nov 19

14. When the second apartment of the temple in heaven was opened, what was seen? Rev. 11:19

Note 5. This view of the opening of the temple in heaven was at the time when the work of judgment commenced. A view is therefore given of that part of the sanctuary where the ark is, which contains the law of God. This law is the great rule of the judgment; by it the lives of all men are to be compared.

15. What has been given us that we might fully understand concerning the ministration of our High Priest? Heb. 8:4, 5

16. What comforting assurance is given us concerning the nature of our High Priest? Heb. 2:14-17; 4:15

17. What are we bidden to do? Heb. 4:16

The Cleansing of the Sanctuary

QUESTIONS

1. What was done for the earthly sanctuary at the close of the year? Heb. 9:7, 25

2. From what was the sanctuary cleansed? Lev. 16:16

3. What other word is used as an equivalent for cleansing? Lev. 16:33, 34

Note 1. To cleanse from sin symbolized an atonement for sin. The word atonement signifies at-one-ment. The person whose sins are atoned for is thereby made “at-one” with the Lord.

4. When was the work of cleansing the sanctuary performed? Verses 29, 30

Note 2. The people brought their offerings to the sanctuary during the entire year, till the day of atonement, or the tenth day of the seventh month. Those making offerings day after day confessed their sins upon the head of the sacrifices. The offering thus consecrated was then slain, and the priest did with it according to the prescribed rites in each case. In some instances the blood was taken into the sanctuary, and the body was “burned without the camp.” In other cases some of the blood was sprinkled on the horns of the altar of burnt-offerings, and the remainder poured out at the bottom of the

LESSON 08

Nov 20 - Nov 26

same altar. The sins thus confessed are represented as defiling the sanctuary. They were lodged there until the day of atonement, when the sanctuary was cleansed.

5. What offerings were made by the priests for themselves on the day of atonement? Verses 6, 14

6. What disposition was made of the two goats which were chosen? Verses 7-10

7. What was done with the Lord's goat? Where was its blood offered? For what purpose? Verses 15, 16

8. What was done after the sprinkling of the blood within the veil upon the mercy-seat? Verses 20, 21

9. What did the scapegoat bear away from the sanctuary? Where did he go? Verse 22

Note 3. The goat chosen by lot as the Lord's goat represents Christ. The scapegoat represents Satan. See Lev. 16:8, margin, "Azazel". This is an ancient name for Satan among Eastern peoples. As the Lord's goat was slain, and its blood offered in the typical sanctuary for the sins of the people, so was Christ slain, and His blood offered in the true sanctuary for the sins of the people. All the sins which had been confessed in connection with the sanctuary service during the

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entire year, were, at the close of the typical day of atonement, laid upon the head of the scapegoat, which was sent by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness to perish. This also meets its fulfillment in the antitype. Christ is our High Priest. Through the merits of His blood those who confess their sins are redeemed and washed from all sin. As the closing act in His work of cleansing the sanctuary He will lay these sins for which He has atoned upon the head of their originator—Satan. He will carry them, not as a Savior, but as a scapegoat from the sanctuary into the wilderness—the earth in its chaotic condition—to be destroyed when the Lord cleanses the earth by fire from all sin.

10. What had now been done for the sanctuary? Where were the sins, which had been confessed during the entire yearly round of service?

11. Unto what did this serve? Heb. 8:1, 2

12. Is it necessary that the heavenly sanctuary be cleansed? Heb. 9:23

13. When is the heavenly sanctuary to be cleansed? Dan. 8:14

14. Could the sacrifices offered by the Levitical priests actually take away sins? Heb. 9:8-10

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Nov 20 - Nov 26

15. What offering does suffice? Heb. 9:11-14

16. How is it that Christ has become the Mediator of the new covenant? For whom does He mediate? Is He your Mediator? Heb. 9:15

Note 4. Christ in His sacrifice died for all. He is as a lamb slain from the foundation of the world; therefore, every offering made by faith from the beginning of the world until the death of Christ was made as an expression of faith in the one great offering for sins. That offering is the offering of Christ, made without the gate (Heb. 13:11, 12). He is now making the true atonement in the real sanctuary in heaven by virtue of His own blood. He makes the atonement for the transgressions of all believers under both the old and the new covenant.

The 2,300 Days

QUESTIONS

1. When did the heavenly visitants, to whom the prophet listened in vision, say the sanctuary would be cleansed? Dan. 8:14

Note 1. As the earthly sanctuary was cleansed each year, this must refer to the heavenly sanctuary, which was to be cleansed at the end of twenty-three hundred days or years.

2. Who was appointed to make Daniel understand the vision? Verse 16

Note 2. It was Michael, the Son of God, who commissioned Gabriel to make Daniel understand the vision. Compare Dan. 8:16; 10:13, 21

3. Was the vision fully explained to the prophet at this time? Verse 27

4. How did Daniel search for light? Dan. 9:1-3

Note 3. By carefully reading chapter 8, which contains this vision and the interpretation so far as given by the angel, it will be seen that all was fully explained except the part referring to the time when the sanctuary would be cleansed. Daniel sought diligently by prayer and confession of sin for further light.

5. In response to his earnest petitions, who was sent to him with light? Verses 20-23. What was he told to consider?

Note 4. When the angel came to Daniel, he bade him “understand the vision.” He then began at once to explain that part of the vision of the previous chapter which was left unexplained; *viz.*, the 2,300 days.

6. How did Gabriel begin his explanation of the vision? Verses 24-27

7. From what event are the 2300 days to date? Verse 25

8. When did the decree to fully restore and build Jerusalem go forth?

Note 5. The Lord has chosen in prophecy to use a day to represent a year. See Num. 14:34; Eze. 4:4, 5; also with Dan. 7:25 compare Rev. 12:6, 14; 13:5. The twenty-three hundred days therefore cover a period of twenty-three hundred years. This period began B.C. 457, when the full decree regarding the building and restoration of Jerusalem went forth. It therefore ends A.D. 1844.

9. When was the Messiah to appear? Verses 25, 26

Note 6. Sixty-nine weeks or 483 full years from B.C. 457, when the full decree to restore and build Jerusalem went forth (Ezra 7), bring us to A.D. 27. At this very time Jesus was baptized and anointed by the Holy Spirit for His work.

LESSON 09

Nov 27 - Dec 03

Mat. 3:13-17; Acts 10:38. After His baptism, He went forth throughout Galilee preaching and saying, "The time is fulfilled" Mark 1:15. He no doubt referred to the prophetic time, and to the very prophecy we are now studying.

10. What did the angel say would be accomplished during the remaining week of the seventy? Verse 27

11. What occurred in the temple when, the true Lamb was offered? Mat. 27:50, 51

Note 7. "When the loud cry, 'It is finished,' came from the lips of Christ, the priests were officiating in the temple. It was the hour of the evening sacrifice. The lamb representing Christ had been brought to be slain. Clothed in his significant and beautiful dress, the priest stood with lifted knife, as did Abraham when he was about to slay his son. With intense interest the people were looking on. But the earth trembles and quakes; for the Lord Himself draws near. With a rending noise the inner veil of the temple is torn from top to bottom by an unseen hand, throwing open to the gaze of the multitude a place once filled with the presence of God. In this place the shekinah had dwelt. Here God had manifested His glory above the mercy-seat. No one but the high priest ever lifted the veil separating this apartment from the rest of the temple. He entered in once a year to make an atonement for the sins of the people. But lo, this veil is rent in twain. The most holy place of the earthly sanctuary is no longer sacred.

"All is terror and confusion. The priest is about to slay the victim; but the knife drops from his nervous hand, and the lamb escapes. Type has met antitype in the death of God's

Son. The great sacrifice has been made. The way into the holiest is laid open. A new and living way is prepared for all. No longer need sinful, sorrowing humanity await the coming of the high priest. Henceforth the Savior was to officiate as priest and advocate in the heaven of heavens. It was as if a living voice had spoken to the worshipers, There is now an end to all sacrifices and offerings for sin." – "Desire of Ages," pp. 908, 909, *Trade Edition*.

12. How were the remaining three and one-half years fulfilled? Heb. 2:3

13. When did the days end?

Note 8. As the seventy weeks, or four hundred ninety days or literal years, were allotted to the Jews, and the covenant was to be confirmed with the Jews for one week, the work of Jesus was largely devoted to them. He was baptized at the age of thirty. His ministry began in A.D. 27, and continued till A.D. 31, when He was crucified in the midst of the covenant week. The remaining three and one-half years of the seventy weeks were used by the disciples of Christ in preaching the Gospel to the Jews. When this time was fulfilled, the Jews having rejected the Gospel, the disciples went everywhere preaching the word. Thus the first 490 of the 2300 years reached to A.D. 34, when the Gospel began to be given to the Gentiles.

By subtracting the 490 years from the 2300 years, there remain 1810 years of the 2300 years this side of A.D. 34. Adding the 1810 to A.D. 34, brings us to A.D. 1844. The tenth day of the seventh month (Lev. 23:26-32; which fell in 1844 on October 22, marked the beginning of the work of cleans-

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ing the sanctuary, or work of the judgment. Since this date Jesus, our great High Priest, has been ministering in the second apartment, finishing His work for man. When His work shall close there, probation for man will be finished.

14. What message announcing the beginning of the judgment or ending of the 2300 days was to be proclaimed? Rev. 14:6, 7

15. When the work in the heavenly sanctuary is finished, what solemn decree will go forth? Rev. 22:11

16. Who will be able to stand in that day? Psalm 15

God's Law & The Sanctuary

QUESTIONS

1. What did the Lord make known with audible voice to all the people? Exo. 20:1-17
2. Upon what was the law written? Exo. 24:12
3. How was it written? Exo. 31:18
4. Where was it placed? Deu. 10:3-5
5. What intervened between the law and the people? Exo. 25:17-21

Note 1. "It has been Satan's purpose to divorce mercy from truth and justice. He sought to prove that the righteousness of God's law is an enemy to peace. But Christ shows that in God's plan they are indissolubly joined together; the one can not exist without the other. 'Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.'" — *"Desire of Ages," page 916, Trade Edition.*

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6. What only was in the ark beneath the mercy-seat? 1Ki. 8:6, 9

7. Where in the sanctuary did the Lord meet with His servants to commune with them? Exo. 25:21, 22

8. Why should the law of God rest beneath the mercy-seat? Psa. 103:8-11

9. What is the character of the law? Psa. 1:7

Note 2. Since the law of the Lord is perfect, any departure from its precepts is sin. To change it would destroy its perfection; therefore, any attempted change is a transgression of it.

“In the holiest I saw an ark; on the top and sides of it was purest gold. On each end of the ark was a lovely cherub, with its wings spread out over it. Their faces were turned toward each other, and they looked downward. Between the angels was a golden censer. Above the ark, where the angels stood, was an exceeding bright glory that appeared like a throne where God dwelt. Jesus stood by the ark, and as the saints’ prayers came up to Him, the incense in the censer would smoke, and He would offer up their prayers with the smoke of the incense to His Father.” — *“Early Writings,”* page 26.

10. What has the law to do with sin? 1Jo. 3:4

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11. How many have sinned? Rom. 3:23

12. What contrast does the apostle mention as existing between man and the law of God? Rom. 7:14; 8:7

13. Who may have pardon from sin, and how? Heb. 7:24, 25

14. In what does a good man delight? Psa. 1:2

15. What will be the character of those who delight in the law of God? Rom. 7:12

The First Advent of Christ

QUESTIONS

1. What promise of a Savior did the Lord make to His people? Isa. 9:6. What was to rest upon Him? By what names was He to be called?

2. When was He born? Gal. 4:4

Note 1. The definite time for Christ's manifestation as the Messiah had been foretold by Daniel the prophet. Dan. 9:24-27. The nations were sitting in darkness, and but few persons understood the prophecies. Yet some in different nations were looking for the Messiah to make His appearance.

3. What prophecy was given concerning the place of His birth? Mic. 5:2. Compare Luke 2:1-7

Note 2. "As in old time, Cyrus was called to the throne of the world's empire that he might set free the captives of the Lord, so Caesar Augustus is made the agent for the fulfillment of God's purpose in bringing the mother of Jesus to Bethlehem. She is of the lineage of David, and the Son of David must be born in David's city." — *"Desire of Ages,"* page 46, Trade Edition.

4. What was foretold concerning the one who should bear Him? Isa. 7:14. Compare Luke 1:34, 35

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5. What was said regarding His betrayal? Zec. 11:12, 13. Compare Mat. 26:15; 27:3-7

6. What words spoken on the cross were a fulfillment of prophecy? Psa. 22:1. Compare Mat. 27:46

7. What was foretold concerning the manner of His death? Psa. 22:16

8. What was foretold regarding His raiment? Psa. 22:18. Compare Mat. 27:35

9. What did the prophet say they would give Him to drink? Psa. 69:21. Compare John 19:28, 29

10. What recognition and worship did Christ receive by the heavenly angels when born? Luke 2:8-14; Heb. 1:6

11. What was the lowly place of His birth? Luke 2:15, 16

12. What is said concerning His preexistence? Mic. 5:2; John 17:5

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13. By whom were all things created? John 1:2, 3

14. What moved the Father to give His only Son to die? John 3:16

15. What led Jesus to give His life for sinners? 1Ti. 1:15; John 10:10

Christ Offered for Sin

QUESTIONS

1. What was the mission of Jesus to this world? Luke 19:10

2. What shameful treatment did He meet? What was laid upon Him? Isa. 53:5

Note 1. Jesus came “to make reconciliation for iniquity.” Dan. 9:24. His mission was to save sinners. He became a servant and gave His life to ransom many. Mat. 20:28. By sin man had forfeited life. He took our place, and made Himself an offering for sin. The stroke that belonged on us, He voluntarily took upon Himself.

3. What was He to bear? Verse 4

4. What is our condition by nature? What, for us, was laid upon Him? Verse 6

5. When afflicted, what did He do? Isa. 53:7; 1Pe. 2:21-23

6. What did He bear on the tree? By what are we healed? 1Pe. 2:24

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7. How much did Jesus give up to save man? Why? 2Co. 8:9

 8. How complete was the sacrifice made? Phi. 2:5-8

 9. Having made Himself of no reputation, how highly has He been exalted? Verses 9-11

 10. Describe His struggle in Gethsemane. Mat. 26:36-44

 11. How great was His agony beneath the load of sin? Luke 22:41-44
- Note 2.** "Three times has He uttered that prayer. Three times has humanity shrunk from the last, crowning sacrifice. But now the history of the human race comes up before the world's Redeemer. He sees that the transgressors of the law, if left to themselves, must perish. He sees the helplessness of man. He sees the power of sin. The woes and lamentations of a doomed world rise before Him. He beholds its impending fate, and His decision is made. He will save man at any cost to Himself. He accepts His baptism of blood, that through Him perishing millions may gain everlasting life. He has left the courts of heaven, where all is purity, happiness, and glory, to save the one lost sheep, the one world that has fallen by transgression. And He will not turn from His mission. He will become the propitiation of a race that has willed to sin. His prayer now breathes only submission: 'If this cup may not pass away from Me, except I drink it, Thy will be done.'" — *"Desire of Ages,"* pages 826, 827

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12. As Jesus was nailed to the cross, what prayer did He utter? Luke 23:34

Note 3. "All heaven was filled with wonder when the prayer of Christ was offered in the midst of His terrible suffering — 'Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.' Yet there stood men formed in the image of God, joining to crush out the life of His only-begotten Son. What a sight for the heavenly universe!" — *"Desire of Ages," page 913*

13. How did nature show sympathy with her suffering Lord? Verses 44, 45

Note 4. "With amazement angels witnessed the Savior's despairing agony. The hosts of heaven veiled their faces from the fearful sight. Inanimate nature expressed sympathy with its insulted and dying Author. The sun refused to look upon the awful scene. Its full, bright rays were illuminating the earth at midday, when suddenly it seemed to be blotted out. Complete darkness, like a funeral pall, enveloped the cross. 'There was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour.' There was no eclipse or other natural cause for this darkness, which was as deep as midnight, without moon or stars. It was a miraculous testimony given by God that the faith of after-generations might be confirmed." — *"Desire of Ages," pages 904, 905*

14. With what pathetic words of sorrow did Jesus cry to the Father? Mat. 27:46

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15. How did this dark scene of anguish finally close? Luke 23:46

Note 5. To save the lost, Christ must die without the presence of the Father to comfort Him. In this respect, He died as the lost sinner will die. "He trod the winepress alone." But the Father was not far away. "In that thick darkness God's presence was hidden. He makes darkness His pavilion, and conceals His glory from human eyes. God and His holy angels were beside the cross. The Father was with His Son. Yet His presence was not revealed." — *"Desire of Ages,"* page 905

Resurrection, Ascension, and Heavenly Ministration, of Christ

QUESTIONS

1. After Jesus had expired on the cross, what was done with His body? Mark 15:42-46

2. What prediction had been made regarding His resurrection? Mat. 16:21

3. What could not death do? Acts 2:24

Note 1. Christ could not be holden by death, because He was the Prince of Life. Acts 3:15. Death could not retain dominion, because the eternal Spirit had power over Him. Rom. 8:11. Death could not hold Him, because His righteousness is life. Rom. 8:10. And as surely as Christ arose from the dead, so certainly will all the dead who belong to Him come forth from their graves.

4. How and when did Jesus come forth from the tomb? Mat. 28:1-6; Mark 16:1-6

5. What are some of the evidences offered to prove the certainty of His resurrection? 1Co. 15:5-8

6. Who among the dead were resurrected when Christ arose? What did they do? Mat. 27:51-53

Note 2. "As Christ arose, He brought from the grave a multitude of captives. The earthquake at His death had rent open their graves, and when He arose, they came forth with him. They were those who had been colaborers with God, and who at the cost of their lives had borne testimony to the truth. Now they were to be witnesses for Him who had raised them from the dead. . . . These went into the city and appeared unto many, declaring, Christ has risen from the dead, and we be risen with Him." — *"Desire of Ages,"* pages 943, 944

7. How long did Jesus remain on earth after His resurrection? What are some of the things which He did during this time? Acts 1:1-3

8. What work did He assign to His disciples? How were they to be enabled to accomplish it? Luke 24:46-49; Acts 1:8

Note 3. The work of teaching the Gospel to the people of this world is still in progress, and the injunction to pray for the Holy Spirit is yet an imperative need. "The outpouring of the Spirit in apostolic days was the 'former rain,' and glorious was the result, but the 'latter rain' will be more abundant. All who consecrate soul, body, and spirit, will be constantly receiving a new endowment of physical and mental power. The inexhaustible supplies of heaven are at their command. Christ gives them the breath of His own Spirit, the life of His own life. The Holy Spirit puts forth its highest energies to work in heart and mind. The grace of God enlarges and multiplies their faculties, and every perfection of

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the divine nature comes to their assistance in the work of saving souls." – *"Desire of Ages," page 993*

9. To what place did He lead His disciples preparatory to His ascension? Luke 24:50

10. While He was speaking what came to pass? Verses 51, 52

11. Who from our world ascended with Him? Eph. 4:8, margin; Psa. 68:17, 18

Note 4. It was appropriate that the Redeemer should take some of the trophies of His victory to heaven with Him when He ascended. Those who came out of their graves when He arose were representatives of His kingdom, who had lived in different ages of the world. Rev. 5:9, 10

12. Where is Christ now? What office does He fill? Heb. 8:1, 2

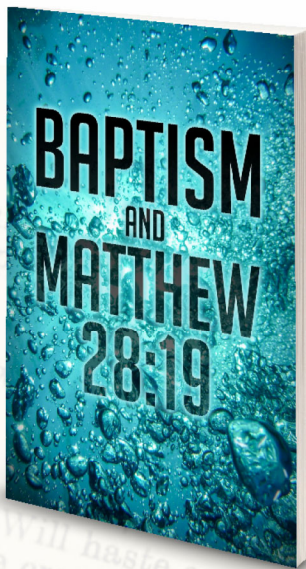
13. What is He now doing for humanity? Heb. 9:24

14. To what extent can He save? Heb. 7:24, 25

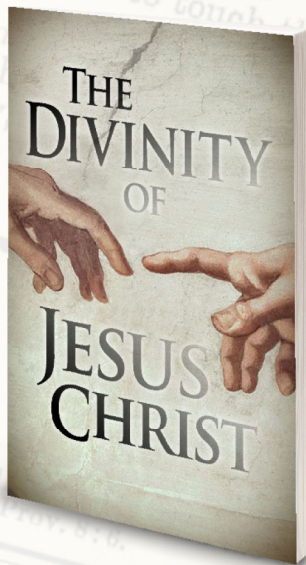
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15. What kind of a priest have we now? What are we exhorted to do? Heb. 4:14-16

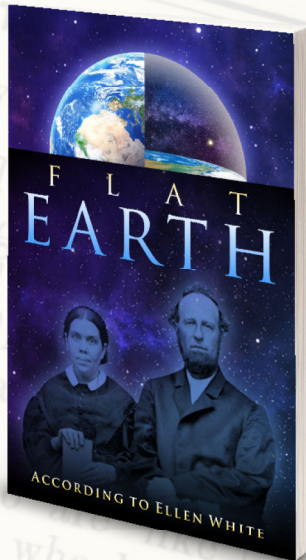


Christ gave his followers a positive promise that after his ascension he would send them his Spirit. "Go ye therefore," he said, "and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father [a personal God], and of the Son [a personal Prince and Saviour], and of the Holy Ghost [sent from heaven to represent Christ]: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." RH Oct. 26, 1897



Have you ever had a Trinitarian question your belief in the divinity of Christ? If so, it was likely for the following reason: You've dared to accept Jesus Christ as the literal Son of God, begotten in eternity past. Why would this disqualify you as believing in the divinity of Christ? Because of the faulty definition of divinity held by most all Trinitarians. That is, to insist that divinity requires an eternal past existence.

We will be examining a similar issue in this booklet. Some insist that Jesus was not significantly restricted in regard to His omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence during the incarnation. They would also say that, if Christ did not have active use of these abilities while here on earth, then He would have ceased to be divine. The definition of divinity will become important as to how we view our fully divine, fully human Saviour.



What is salvation? Does salvation depend on our knowledge of the shape of the earth? Is it important for us to understand the shape of the earth? Is proclaiming the shape of the earth our commission for these last days? These are a few questions we will try to address. We will take a look at counsel given within the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy on this subject.



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