

# SABBATH BIBLE LESSONS

## Senior Division



# Living in the *Day of Atonement*

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## Forward

We are currently living in the antitypical Day of Atonement. What does that mean? Is it simply a technicality—or is it really designed to impact the daily life, future plans, and even the thought patterns of each one of us?

Many do not realize that by nature, every human being is a sinner. We are bent to self-pleasing and inclined to violate the sacred moral law of Ten Commandments that was lovingly custom-designed for our happiness.

Nonetheless, “while we were yet sinners, the Son of God died for us. Laying aside His royal robe and kingly crown, and clothing His divinity with humanity, He stooped to our estate to rescue us from the thralldom of sin. For our sakes He became poor, that we through His poverty might be made rich. He came to this earth to take His position at the head of humanity. In our behalf He bore the stroke of divine justice.”—

Australasian Union Conference Record, April 1, 1901.

“Christ is in the heavenly sanctuary, and he is there to make an atonement for the people. He is there to present His wounded side and pierced hands to His Father. He is there to plead for His Church that is upon the earth. He is cleansing the sanctuary from the sins of the people. What is our work?—It is our work to be in harmony with the work of Christ. By faith we are to work with Him, to be in union with Him.

“All heaven is interested in the work that is going on in this world. A people is to be prepared for the great day of God, which is right upon us; and we cannot afford to let Satan cast his shadow across our pathway, and intercept our view of Jesus and His infinite love. We should draw from Christ the very help we need.”—The Review and Herald, January 28, 1890.

“Christ has pledged Himself to be our substitute and surety, and He neglects no one. He who could not see human beings exposed to eternal ruin without pouring out His soul unto death in their behalf, will look with pity and compassion upon every soul who realizes that he cannot save himself.

“He will look upon no trembling suppliant without raising him up. He who through His own atonement provided for man an infinite fund of moral power, will not fail to employ this power in our behalf. We may take our sins and sorrows to His feet; for He loves us. His every look and word invites our confidence. He will shape and mold our characters according to His own will.”—Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 157.

As we study these lessons for the next three months, will we cooperate with His Holy Spirit by allowing Him to do exactly that?

*The General Conference Sabbath School Department*

## October - First Sabbath Offering

### Chapel in Las Vegas, NV (USA)

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA, is an internationally renowned major resort city, known primarily for its gambling, shopping, fine dining, entertainment, and nightlife. Referred to as The Entertainment Capital of the World, it's famous for mega casino-hotels and associated activities, making it a top tourist destination. The city's population grew by 85.2% in the 1990's and continues to grow rapidly—according to a 2013 estimate, the population is 603,488 with a regional population of 2,027,828.

“In the world-renowned health resorts and centers of tourist traffic, crowded with many thousands of seekers after health and pleasure, there should be stationed ministers and canvassers capable of arresting the attention of the multitudes. Let these workers watch their chance for presenting the message for this time.”—Gospel Workers, p. 352.

In 2013, inspired by the above statement, the General Conference invested in what seemed to be an impossible mission—the opening of a church in Las Vegas. Young people walked tirelessly house-to-house in the heat of the day, canvassing for two weeks, medical professionals held health seminars, and evangelists boldly proclaimed the present truth through prophecy seminars. Since the city is mainly known for its nightlife, the locals work at night and sleep in the day. So, very few attended the evening evangelistic meetings. But those who came showed great interest and signed up for personal visits and Bible studies. After four years of visits and Bible studies by pastors traveling there from different areas, by God's grace, the number of the interested families grew tremendously and invested their hard-earned money to support the missionary work in their city. Their self-denial was rewarded when a missionary and his wife moved to Las Vegas and 19 of our Bible students were baptized in May 2013.

Today, the church in Las Vegas keeps growing and the brethren keep sacrificing, but they want to evangelize and expand even more. They are saving every penny to buy or build their own church, yet they need our worldwide brotherhood to contribute as well. Please show your generous support toward this first Sabbath offering. Thank you!

*Your brethren and sisters from Las Vegas*

## Lesson 1 - Sabbath, October 5, 2019

# Our Need for Atonement

**“We . . . joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement” (Romans 5:11).**

“Calvary stands as a memorial of the amazing sacrifice required to atone for the transgression of the divine law.”—Steps to Christ, p. 33.

**Suggested Reading:**     *Steps to Christ*, pp. 23-35

Sunday, September 29

## 1. A PERFECT START

**a. Describe the spiritual state that God originally bestowed upon Adam and Eve, the first members of the human race. Genesis 1:27, 31.**

**Genesis 1:27:** *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*

**Genesis 1:31:** *And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.*

“There were no sin and no signs of decay in glorious Eden. Angels of God conversed freely and lovingly with the holy pair. The happy songsters caroled forth their free, joyous songs of praise to their Creator. The peaceful beasts in happy innocence played about Adam and Eve, obedient to their word. Adam was in the perfection of manhood, the noblest of the Creator’s work.

“Not a shadow interposed between them and their Creator. They knew God as their beneficent Father, and in all things their will was conformed to the will of God. And God’s character was reflected in the character of Adam.” — The Adventist Home, pp. 26, 27.

***PRQ1. Name some of the best features of the Eden lifestyle.***

Sunday, September 29

## 1. A PERFECT START

**b. What made the Eden life delightfully rewarding? Genesis 1:28; 2:8, 19.**

**Genesis 1:28:** *And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that\* moveth upon the earth.*

**Genesis 2:8:** *And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.*

**Genesis 2:19:** *And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever\* Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.*

“To Adam and Eve in their Eden home nature was full of the knowledge of God, teeming with divine instruction. Wisdom spoke to the eye and was received into the heart; for they communed with God in His created works.” —Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 18.

**PRQ1.** *Name some of the best features of the Eden lifestyle.*

Monday, September 30

## 2. PERFECTION TAINTED

### a. What spoiled the happy joy in Eden? Genesis 2:16, 17; 3:6.

**Genesis 2:16-17:** *16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*

**Genesis 3:6:** *And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was \* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*

“Adam and Eve persuaded themselves that in so small a matter as eating of the forbidden fruit there could not result such terrible consequences as God had declared. But this small matter was the transgression of God’s immutable and holy law, and it separated man from God.” — Steps to Christ, p. 33.

**PRQ2.** *Why does God test our faithfulness and devotion in seemingly small ways?*

Monday, September 30

## 2. PERFECTION TAINTED

**b. How has this problem affected our whole planet? Romans 8:22.**

**Romans 8:22:** *For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.*

“[The matter of eating the forbidden fruit] opened the floodgates of death and untold woe upon our world. Age after age there has gone up from our earth a continual cry of mourning, and the whole creation groaneth and travaileth together in pain as a consequence of man’s disobedience. Heaven itself has felt the effects of his rebellion against God.” —Ibid.

*PRQ2. Why does God test our faithfulness and devotion in seemingly small ways?*

Monday, September 30

## 2. PERFECTION TAINTED

**c. What must we realize about the tendency of our race ever since that seed of rebellion entered to corrupt the natural human heart? Ecclesiastes 7:29.**

**Ecclesiastes 7:29:** *Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.*

“Let us not regard sin as a trivial thing.

“Every act of transgression, every neglect or rejection of the grace of Christ, is reacting upon yourself; it is hardening the heart, depraving the will, benumbing the understanding, and not only making you less inclined to yield, but less capable of yielding, to the tender pleading of God’s Holy Spirit.

“Many are quieting a troubled conscience with the thought that they can change a course of evil when they choose; that they can trifle with the invitations of mercy, and yet be again and again impressed. They think that after doing despite to the Spirit of grace, after casting their influence on the side of Satan, in a moment of terrible extremity they can change their course. But this is not so easily done. The experience, the education, of a lifetime, has so thoroughly molded the character that few then desire to receive the image of Jesus.” — Ibid., pp. 33, 34.

***PRQ2. Why does God test our faithfulness and devotion in seemingly small ways?***

Tuesday, October 1

### 3. THE SIN PROBLEM

**a. How does Scripture explain the existing crisis within humanity and throughout our entire planet? 1 John 3:4; 1:8.**

**1 John 3:4:** *Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*

**1 John 1:8:** *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

“There is no one, however earnestly he may be striving to do his best, who can say, ‘I have no sin.’” — The Upward Look, p. 53.

“Nothing is more plainly taught in Scripture than that God was in no wise responsible for the entrance of sin; that there was no arbitrary withdrawal of divine grace, no deficiency in the divine government, that gave occasion for the uprising of rebellion. Sin is an intruder, for whose presence no reason can be given. It is mysterious, unaccountable; to excuse it is to defend it. Could excuse for it be found, or cause be shown for its existence, it would cease to be sin. Our only definition of sin is that given in the word of God; it is ‘the transgression of the law;’ it is the outworking of a principle at war with the great law of love which is the foundation of the divine government.” — The Great Controversy, pp. 492, 493.

**PRQ3. Why is it wrong to blame God and others for the sins in our life?**

Tuesday, October 1

### 3. THE SIN PROBLEM

**b. What painful reality must every human being face? Romans 3:23; Isaiah 1:5, 6.**

**Romans 3:23:** *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*

**Isaiah 1:5-6:** *5 Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. 6 From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.*

“The work of apostasy begins in some secret rebellion of the heart against the requirements of God’s law. Unholy desires, unlawful ambitions, are cherished and indulged, and unbelief and darkness separate the soul from God. If we do not overcome these evils they will overcome us.” —God’s Amazing Grace, p. 333.

**PRQ3.** *Why is it wrong to blame God and others for the sins in our life?*

Tuesday, October 1

### 3. THE SIN PROBLEM

**c. How does God view the lack of justice caused by sin, and what is His solution? Isaiah 59:15, 16.**

**Isaiah 59:15-16:** *15 Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: and the LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment. 16 And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.*

“In Eden, man fell from his high estate and through transgression became subject to death. It was seen in heaven that human beings were perishing, and the compassion of God was stirred. At infinite cost He devised a means of relief. . . . There was no hope for the transgressor except through Christ.” — Testimonies, vol. 8, p. 25.

**PRQ3. Why is it wrong to blame God and others for the sins in our life?**

Wednesday, October 2

#### 4. ATONEMENT BY BLOOD

**a. What plan had God devised in advance to rescue fallen humanity, and why was it necessary? Job 33:24; Genesis 3:17–21.**

**Job 33:24:** *Then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom.*

**Genesis 3:17-21:** *17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; 19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return. 20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. 21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.*

“The Godhead was stirred with pity for the race, and the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit gave Themselves to the working out of the plan of redemption. In order fully to carry out this plan, it was decided that Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, should give Himself an offering for sin.”—Counsels on Health, p. 222.

“As Adam’s transgression had brought wretchedness and death, so the sacrifice of Christ would bring life and immortality.”—Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 66, 67.

**PRQ4. Describe the depth of Christ’s sacrifice in our behalf.**

Wednesday, October 2

#### 4. ATONEMENT BY BLOOD

**b. What system was given to symbolize the sacrifice of Christ? Genesis 4:4; Leviticus 17:11.**

**Genesis 4:4:** *And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:*

**Leviticus 17:11:** *For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.*

“The sacrificial offerings were ordained by God to be to man a perpetual reminder and a penitential acknowledgment of his sin and a confession of his faith in the promised Redeemer. They were intended to impress upon the fallen race the solemn truth that it was sin that caused death. To Adam, the offering of the first sacrifice was a most painful ceremony. His hand must be raised to take life, which only God could give. It was the first time he had ever witnessed death, and he knew that had he been obedient to God, there would have been no death of man or beast. As he slew the innocent victim, he trembled at the thought that his sin must shed the blood of the spotless Lamb of God.” —Ibid., p. 68.

“Without the shedding of blood there could be no remission of sin; and [the children of Adam] were to show their faith in the blood of Christ as the promised atonement by offering the firstlings of the flock in sacrifice.” —Ibid., p. 71.

“The blood of the Son of God was symbolized by the blood of the slain victim, and God would have clear and definite ideas preserved between the sacred and the common. Blood was sacred, inasmuch as through the shedding of the blood of the Son of God alone could there be atonement for sin.” —God’s Amazing Grace, p. 55.

**PRQ4. Describe the depth of Christ’s sacrifice in our behalf.**

Thursday, October 3

## 5. GRATITUDE FR GOD'S PROVISION

**a. What should we realize about the atonement made in our behalf, and how should we respond to it? Hebrews 9:22; Romans 5:8–11.**

**Hebrews 9:22:** *And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

**Romans 5:8-11:** *8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. 10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. 11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.*

“Jesus is our atoning sacrifice. We can make no atonement for ourselves, but by faith we can accept the atonement that has been made.” — Selected Messages, bk. 1, pp. 321, 322.

“As one is drawn to behold Jesus uplifted on the cross, he discerns the sinfulness of humanity. He sees that it is sin which scourged and crucified the Lord of glory. He sees that, while he has been loved with unspeakable tenderness, his life has been a continual scene of ingratitude and rebellion. He has forsaken his best Friend and abused heaven’s most precious gift. He has crucified to himself the Son of God afresh and pierced anew that bleeding and stricken heart. He is separated from God by a gulf of sin that is broad and black and deep, and he mourns in brokenness of heart. . . .

“God reveals to us our guilt that we may flee to Christ, and through Him be set free from the bondage of sin, and rejoice in the liberty of the sons of God. In true contrition we may come to the foot of the cross, and there leave our burdens.” — Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, pp. 9, 10.

“The salvation of human beings is a vast enterprise, that calls into action every attribute of the divine nature. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit have pledged themselves to make God’s children more than conquerors through Him that loved them. The Lord is gracious and long-suffering, not willing that any should perish. He has provided power to enable us to be overcomers.” — The Review and Herald, January 27, 1903.

**PRQ 5. How should I respond to the atonement made by Jesus on the cross?**

Friday, October 4

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. Name some of the best features of the Eden lifestyle.**
- 2. Why does God test our faithfulness and devotion in seemingly small ways?**
- 3. Why is it wrong to blame God and others for the sins in our life?**
- 4. Describe the depth of Christ's sacrifice in our behalf.**
- 5. How should I respond to the atonement made by Jesus on the cross?**

## Lesson 2 - Sabbath, October 12, 2019

# The Sacrifices and Solemn Feasts

**“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).**

“God had chosen Israel. He had called them to preserve among men the knowledge of His law, and of the symbols and prophecies that pointed to the Saviour. He desired them to be as wells of salvation to the world.” — *The Desire of Ages*, p. 27.

**Suggested Reading:**     *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 537-542

Sunday, October 6

## 1. THE LAMB OF GOD SYMBOLIZED

**a. In the plan God gave to the Hebrews, what had to be done every day in order to atone for sin? Exodus 29:38–41.**

**Exodus 29:38-41:** *38 Now this is that which thou shalt offer upon the altar; two lambs of the first year day by day continually. 39 The one lamb thou shalt offer in the morning; and the other lamb thou shalt offer at even: 40 And with the one lamb a tenth deal of flour mingled with the fourth part of an hin of beaten oil; and the fourth part of an hin of wine for a drink offering. 41 And the other lamb thou shalt offer at even, and shalt do thereto according to the meat offering of the morning, and according to the drink offering thereof, for a sweet savour, an offering made by fire unto the LORD.*

“The daily service consisted of the morning and evening burnt offering, the offering of sweet incense on the golden altar, and the special offerings for individual sins. . . .

“Every morning and evening a lamb of a year old was burned upon the altar, with its appropriate meat offering, thus symbolizing the daily consecration of the nation to Jehovah, and their constant dependence upon the atoning blood of Christ. God expressly directed that every offering presented for the service of the sanctuary should be ‘without blemish.’ Exodus 12:5. The priests were to examine all animals brought as a sacrifice, and were to reject every one in which a defect was discovered. Only an offering ‘without blemish’ could be a symbol of His perfect purity who was to offer Himself as ‘a lamb without blemish and without spot.’ 1 Peter 1:19.”—Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 352, 353.

“The great lesson embodied in the sacrifice of every bleeding victim, impressed in every ceremony . . . was that through the blood of Christ alone is forgiveness of sins.”—The SDA Bible Commentary [E. G. White Comments], vol. 7, p. 913.

**PRQ1. Why did a lamb need to be offered up every morning and evening?**

Monday, October 7

## 2. HOLY UNTO THE LORD

**a. How is God's seventh-day Sabbath distinct from the annual convocations that would symbolize His plan for deliverance from sin? Leviticus 23:1–3, 37, 38; Colossians 2:16, 17; Exodus 20:8–11.**

**Leviticus 23:1-3:** *1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts. 3 Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.*

**Leviticus 23:37-38:** *37 These are the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, a burnt offering, and a meat offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, every thing upon his day: 38 Beside the sabbaths of the LORD, and beside your gifts, and beside all your vows, and beside all your freewill offerings, which ye give unto the LORD.*

**Colossians 2:16-17:** *16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.*

**Exodus 20:8-11:** *8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: 11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.*

**PRQ2. What protected the children of Israel on the night of the Passover?**

Monday, October 7

## 2. HOLY UNTO THE LORD

**b. What miraculous experience distinguished the Hebrews from ancient Egypt, a rebellious nation that had defiantly rejected God? Exodus 12:3–13.**

**Exodus 12:3-13:** *3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house: 4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: 6 And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. 7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it. 8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. 9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof. 10 And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire. 11 And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD'S passover. 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. 13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.*

*Continued...*

“Here was a work required of the children of Israel, which they must perform on their part, to prove them, and to show their faith by their works in the great deliverance God had been bringing about for them. In order to escape the great judgment of God which he was to bring upon the Egyptians, the token of blood must be seen upon their houses. And they were required to separate themselves and their children from the Egyptians, and gather them into their own houses; for if any of the Israelites were found in the houses of the Egyptians, they would fall by the hand of the destroying angel. . . . When the destroying angel went forth in the night to slay the firstborn of man, and the firstborn of beast, he passed over their houses, and not one of the Hebrews that had the token of blood upon their doorposts was slain.” —The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 1, p. 200.

*PRQ2. What protected the children of Israel on the night of the Passover?*

Monday, October 7

## 2. HOLY UNTO THE LORD

**c. How was this event to be memorialized? Exodus 12:14; Leviticus 23:5.**

**Exodus 12:14:** *And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.*

**Leviticus 23:5:** *In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD'S passover.*

“On the fourteenth day of the month, at even, the Passover was celebrated, its solemn, impressive ceremonies commemorating the deliverance from bondage in Egypt, and pointing forward to the sacrifice that should deliver from the bondage of sin.” — Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 539.

**PRQ2.** *What protected the children of Israel on the night of the Passover?*

Monday, October 7

## 2. HOLY UNTO THE LORD

### d. What followed the Passover? Exodus 12:15–20; Leviticus 23:6–8.

**Exodus 12:15-20:** *15 Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel. 16 And in the first day there shall be an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save that which every man must eat, that only may be done of you. 17 And ye shall observe the feast of unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever. 18 In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even. 19 Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land. 20 Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread.*

**Leviticus 23:6-8:** *6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread. 7 In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein. 8 But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD seven days: in the seventh day is an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.*

**PRQ2.** *What protected the children of Israel on the night of the Passover?*

Tuesday, October 8

### 3. PROVIDER OF HARVEST — AND HOPE

**a. What offering to the Lord acknowledged Him to be the divine Provider of every morsel of food? Exodus 23:19 (first part); Leviticus 23:9–14.**

**Exodus 23:19:** *The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk.*

**Leviticus 23:9-14:** *9 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: 11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. 12 And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf an he lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering unto the LORD. 13 And the meat offering thereof shall be two tenth deals of fine flour mingled with oil, an offering made by fire unto the LORD for a sweet savour: and the drink offering thereof shall be of wine, the fourth part of an hin. 14 And ye shall eat neither bread, nor parched corn, nor green ears, until the selfsame day that ye have brought an offering unto your God: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.*

“On the second day of the feast, the first fruits of the year's harvest were presented before God. Barley was the earliest grain in Palestine, and at the opening of the feast it was beginning to ripen. A sheaf of this grain was waved by the priest before the altar of God, as an acknowledgment that all was His. Not until this ceremony had been performed was the harvest to be gathered.”— Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 539.

**PRQ3. Which ceremony was designed to acknowledge the Lord of the harvest?**

Tuesday, October 8

### 3. PROVIDER OF HARVEST — AND HOPE

#### b. What commemoration occurred on the fiftieth day? Leviticus 23:15–22.

**Leviticus 23:15-22:** *15 And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete: 16 Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD. 17 Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; they are the firstfruits unto the LORD. 18 And ye shall offer with the bread seven lambs without blemish of the first year, and one young bullock, and two rams: they shall be for a burnt offering unto the LORD, with their meat offering, and their drink offerings, even an offering made by fire, of sweet savour unto the LORD. 19 Then ye shall sacrifice one kid of the goats for a sin offering, and two lambs of the first year for a sacrifice of peace offerings. 20 And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits for a wave offering before the LORD, with the two lambs: they shall be holy to the LORD for the priest. 21 And ye shall proclaim on the selfsame day, that it may be an holy convocation unto you: ye shall do no servile work therein: it shall be a statute for ever in all your dwellings throughout your generations. 22 And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not make clean riddance of the corners of thy field when thou reapest, neither shalt thou gather any gleanings of thy harvest: thou shalt leave them unto the poor, and to the stranger: I am the LORD your God.*

“Fifty days from the offering of first fruits, came the Pentecost, called also the feast of harvest and the feast of weeks. As an expression of gratitude for the grain prepared as food, two loaves baked with leaven were presented before God. The Pentecost occupied but one day, which was devoted to religious service.” —Ibid., p. 540.

**PRQ3. Which ceremony was designed to acknowledge the Lord of the harvest?**

Tuesday, October 8

### 3. PROVIDER OF HARVEST — AND HOPE

**c. Which feast, preceded by the solemn introductory feast of trumpets, brought hope to the people that their sins would be remembered no more? Leviticus 23:23–32.**

**Leviticus 23:23-32:** *23 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 24 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation. 25 Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD. 26 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 27 Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD. 28 And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God. 29 For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. 30 And whatsoever soul it be that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. 31 Ye shall do no manner of work: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. 32 It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day*

“Only once a year could the high priest enter into the most holy place, after the most careful and solemn preparation. No mortal eye but that of the high priest could look upon the sacred grandeur of that apartment, because it was the especial dwelling place of God’s visible glory. The high priest always entered it with trembling, while the people waited his return with solemn silence. Their earnest desires were to God for His blessing. If he remained an unusual time in the most holy, the people were often terrified, fearing that because of their sins or some sin of the priest, the glory of the Lord had slain him. But when the sound of the tinkling of the bells upon his garments was heard, they were greatly relieved. He then came forth and blessed the people.”—The Story of Redemption, pp. 155, 156.

**PRQ3. Which ceremony was designed to acknowledge the Lord of the harvest?**

Wednesday, October 9

#### 4. THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

**a. What happened during the final feast of the Jewish year, and why was this a joyous occasion? Leviticus 23:33–36, 39–43.**

**Leviticus 23:33-36:** *33 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 34 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD. 35 On the first day shall be an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein. 36 Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto*

**Leviticus 23:39-43:** *39 Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: on the first day shall be a sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath. 40 And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days. 41 And ye shall keep it a feast unto the LORD seven days in the year. It shall be a statute for ever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month. 42 Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths: 43 That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.*

“The Feast of Tabernacles was celebrated to commemorate the time when the Hebrews dwelt in tents during their sojourn in the wilderness. While this great festival lasted, the people were required to leave their houses and live in booths made of green branches of pine or myrtle. These leafy structures were sometimes erected on the tops of the houses, and in the streets, but oftener outside the walls of the city, in the valleys and along the hillsides. Scattered about in every direction, these green camps presented a very picturesque appearance.

*Continued...*

“The feast lasted one week, and during all that time the temple was a festal scene of great rejoicing. There was the pomp of the sacrificial ceremonies; and the sound of music, mingled with hosannas, made the place jubilant. At the first dawn of day, the priests sounded a long, shrill blast upon their silver trumpets; and the answering trumpets, and the glad shouts of the people from their booths, echoing over hill and valley, welcomed the festal day. Then the priest dipped from the flowing waters of the Kedron a flagon of water, and, lifting it on high, while the trumpets were sounding, he ascended the broad steps of the temple, keeping time with the music with slow and measured tread, chanting meanwhile: ‘Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem!’

“He bore the flagon to the altar which occupied a central position in the temple court. Here were two silver basins, with a priest standing at each one. The flagon of water was poured into one basin, and a flagon of wine into the other; and the contents of both flowed into a pipe which communicated with the Kedron, and was conducted to the Dead Sea. This display of the consecrated water represented the fountain that flowed from the rock to refresh the Hebrews in the wilderness. Then the jubilant strains rang forth:—

“ ‘The Lord Jehovah is my strength and song;’ ‘therefore with joy shall we draw water out of the wells of salvation!’ All the vast assembly joined in triumphant chorus with musical instruments and deep-toned trumpets, while competent choristers conducted the grand harmonious concert of praise.

“The festivities were carried on with an unparalleled splendor. At night the temple and its court blazed so with artificial light that the whole city was illuminated. The music, the waving of palm-branches, the glad hosannas, the great concourse of people, over which the light streamed from the hanging lamps, the dazzling array of the priests, and the majesty of the ceremonies, all combined to make a scene that deeply impressed all beholders.” — The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 2, pp. 343–345.

***PRQ4. Why was the day of atonement so important?***

Thursday, October 10

## 5. SYMBOLIC OF SALVATION

**a. In considering the feasts of ancient Israel, what should we realize? Romans 15:4; John 1:29.**

**Romans 15:4:** *For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.*

**John 1:29:** *The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.*

“It is impossible to enumerate the advantages the Lord prepared for the world in making the Jewish nation the repository of His rich treasures of knowledge. They were the subjects of His special favor. As a people who knew and worshiped the true God, they were to communicate the principles of His kingdom. They were instructed by the Lord. He withheld from them nothing favorable to the formation of characters which would make them fit representatives of His kingdom. Their feasts, the Passover, the Pentecost, and the Feast of Tabernacles, and the ceremonies attending these gatherings, were to proclaim the truths that God had entrusted to His people. At these gatherings the people were to show gladness and joy, expressing their thanksgiving for their privileges and the gracious treatment of their Lord. Thus they were to show to a world that knew not God that the Lord does not forsake those who trust in Him. With joyful voices they were to sing, ‘Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God’ (Psalm 43:5). . . .

“The history of the children of Israel is written for our admonition and instruction upon whom the ends of the world are come. Those who would stand firm in the faith in these last days, and finally gain an entrance into the heavenly Canaan, must listen to the words of warning spoken by Jesus Christ to the Israelites. These lessons were given to the church in the wilderness to be studied and heeded by God’s people throughout their generations forever.” — The Upward Look, p. 232.

**PRQ5. What was the general purpose of the feast days?**

Friday, October 11

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. Why did a lamb need to be offered up every morning and evening?**
- 2. What protected the children of Israel on the night of the Passover?**
- 3. Which ceremony was designed to acknowledge the Lord of the harvest?**
- 4. Why was the day of atonement so important?**
- 5. What was the general purpose of the feast days?**

## Lesson 3 - Sabbath, October 19, 2019

# Understanding the Symbols

**“Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom” (Matthew 27:50, 51, first part).**

“The rending of the veil of the temple showed that the Jewish sacrifices and ordinances would no longer be received. The great Sacrifice had been offered and had been accepted.”—Early Writings, pp. 259, 260.

**Suggested Reading:**     *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 273-279, 352-353

Sunday, October 13

## 1. DAILY CONSECRATION

**a. Why was it necessary for Jesus' sacrifice on the cross to replace the sacrificial offerings? Hebrews 10:9–12; Acts 3:1. How is the morning and evening sacrifice of ancient times relevant to us today?**

**Hebrews 10:9-12:** *9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. 10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. 11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: 12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;*

**Acts 3:1:** *Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.*

“Christ was the foundation of the whole Jewish economy. The types and shadows under which the Jews worshiped, all pointed forward to the world’s Redeemer.” — The Signs of the Times, February 25, 1897.

“The hours appointed for the morning and the evening sacrifice were regarded as sacred, and they came to be observed as the set time for worship throughout the Jewish nation. . . . In this custom Christians have an example for morning and evening prayer. While God condemns a mere round of ceremonies, without the spirit of worship, He looks with great pleasure upon those who love Him, bowing morning and evening to seek pardon for sins committed and to present their requests for needed blessings.” — Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 353, 354.

“If ever there was a time when every house should be a house of prayer, it is now. Like the patriarchs of old, those who profess to love God should erect an altar to His worship wherever they pitch their tent. The father, as priest of the household, should offer the morning and evening sacrifice, while the wife and children unite in prayer and praise. In a home where God is thus honoured, Jesus will love to tarry.” — The Bible Echo, December 15, 1893.

**PRQ1. What reveals our daily need of atonement now as much as ever?**

Monday, October 14

## 2. PURIFYING THE HEART

**a. What is the significance of the Passover to us as Christians? 1 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 7:26, 27.**

**1 Corinthians 5:7:** *Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:*

**Hebrews 7:26-27:** *26 For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; 27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.*

“The Passover was to be both commemorative and typical, not only pointing back to the deliverance from Egypt, but forward to the greater deliverance which Christ was to accomplish in freeing His people from the bondage of sin. The sacrificial lamb represents ‘the Lamb of God,’ in whom is our only hope of salvation. Says the apostle, ‘Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.’ 1 Corinthians 5:7. It was not enough that the paschal lamb be slain; its blood must be sprinkled upon the doorposts; so the merits of Christ’s blood must be applied to the soul. We must believe, not only that He died for the world, but that He died for us individually. We must appropriate to ourselves the virtue of the atoning sacrifice. . . .

“The lamb was to be prepared whole, not a bone of it being broken: so not a bone was to be broken of the Lamb of God, who was to die for us. John 19:36. Thus was also represented the completeness of Christ’s sacrifice.” —Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 277.

***PRQ2. How does the hyssop in the Passover service have its parallel today?***

Monday, October 14

## 2. PURIFYING THE HEART

**b. What did the hyssop symbolize in the Passover? Psalms 51:2, 7; 119:9; 1 Peter 1:22.**

**Psalms 51:2:** *Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.*

**Psalms 51:7:** *Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*

**Psalms 119:9:** *Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.*

**1 Peter 1:22:** *Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:*

“The hyssop used in sprinkling the blood was the symbol of purification, being thus employed in the cleansing of the leper and of those defiled by contact with the dead.” — Ibid.

“We want something besides Sabbath religion. We need the living principle, and to daily feel individual responsibility. This is shunned by many, and the fruit is carelessness, indifference, a lack of watchfulness and spirituality. Where is the spirituality of the church? Where are men and women full of faith and the Holy Spirit? My prayer is: Purify Thy church, O God.” — Testimonies, vol. 1, p. 99.

“The religion that comes from God is the only religion that will lead to God. In order to serve Him aright, we must be born of the divine Spirit. This will purify the heart and renew the mind, giving us a new capacity for knowing and loving God. It will give us a willing obedience to all His requirements. This is true worship.” — The Desire of Ages, p. 189.

“The people of God must purify their souls through obedience to the truth, and be prepared to stand without fault before Him at His coming.” — Evangelism, p. 695.

**PRQ2. How does the hyssop in the Passover service have its parallel today?**

Tuesday, October 15

### 3. A HOLY LIFE, A HOLY ORDINANCE

**a. Explain how the completeness of Christ's sacrifice was symbolized. Exodus 12:46; John 19:36.**

**Exodus 12:46:** *In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof.*

**John 19:36:** *For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken.*

**PRQ 3.** *Why is the ordinance of humility so important for us in these last days?*

Tuesday, October 15

### 3. A HOLY LIFE, A HOLY ORDINANCE

**b. How does the fact that the Passover lamb was not only to be slain, but also eaten relate to Christ our Passover? Exodus 12:8; John 6:53, 54, 63.**

**Exodus 12:8:** *And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it.*

**John 6:53-54:** *53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. 54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.*

**John 6:63:** *It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*

“It is not enough even that we believe on Christ for the forgiveness of sin; we must by faith be constantly receiving spiritual strength and nourishment from Him through His word. . . . The followers of Christ must be partakers of His experience. They must receive and assimilate the word of God so that it shall become the motive power of life and action. By the power of Christ they must be changed into His likeness, and reflect the divine attributes. They must eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of God, or there is no life in them. The spirit and work of Christ must become the spirit and work of His disciples.

“The lamb was to be eaten with bitter herbs, as pointing back to the bitterness of the bondage in Egypt. So when we feed upon Christ, it should be with contrition of heart, because of our sins.”—Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 277, 278.

**PRQ 3. Why is the ordinance of humility so important for us in these last days?**

Tuesday, October 15

### 3. A HOLY LIFE, A HOLY ORDINANCE

**c. What specific ceremony did the Passover foreshadow, and what additional ordinance was added to it? Mark 14:16, 22–25; John 13:1–5, 13–15.**

**Mark 14:16:** *And his disciples went forth, and came into the city, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover.*

**Mark 14:22-25:** *22 And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body. 23 And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it. 24 And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many. 25 Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.*

**John 13:1-5:** *1 Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. 2 And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him; 3 Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; 4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. 5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.*

**John 13:13-15:** *13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.*

“The act of Christ in washing the feet of His disciples was a sacred one; His motive in so doing was to bring about, through their remembrance of what Christ had done for them, a state of feeling where no exaltation of one above another should find place. This ordinance was to bring brother to an understanding of the feelings of his brother. . . .

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“This ordinance does not speak so largely to man’s intellectual capacity as to his heart. His moral and spiritual nature needs it. If His disciples had not needed this, it would not have been left for them as Christ’s last established ordinance in connection with, and including, the last supper.” —The Review and Herald, June 14, 1898.

*PRQ 3. Why is the ordinance of humility so important for us in these last days?*

Wednesday, October 16

#### 4. SET APART

**a. When the Passover was originally established, what restriction had God placed on who was allowed to partake of it? Why? Exodus 12:43–48.**

**Exodus 12:43-48:** *43 And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof: 44 But every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof. 45 A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof. 46 In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof. 47 All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. 48 And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.*

“[The Lord] required of Abraham and his seed, circumcision, which was a circle cut in the flesh, as a token that God had cut them out and separated them from all nations as His peculiar treasure. By this sign they solemnly pledged themselves that they would not intermarry with other nations; for by so doing they would lose their reverence for God and His holy law, and would become like the idolatrous nations around them.

“By the act of circumcision they solemnly agreed to fulfill on their part the conditions of the covenant made with Abraham, to be separate from all nations, and to be perfect. If the descendants of Abraham had kept separate from other nations, they would not have been seduced into idolatry. By keeping separate from other nations, a great temptation to engage in their sinful practices, and rebel against God, would be removed from them. They lost in a great measure their peculiar, holy character, by mingling with the nations around them.” — The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 1, pp. 262, 263.

**PRQ4. How is the ancient mingling with the uncircumcised repeated today?**

Wednesday, October 16

#### 4. SET APART

**b. As circumcision had been in the Old Testament, what New Testament ordinance is an emblem of separation from the world and consecration to God? Colossians 2:6, 10–12; Galatians 5:6.**

**Colossians 2:6:** *As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:*

**Colossians 2:10-12:** *10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: 11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: 12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.*

**Galatians 5:6:** *For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.*

“Christ has made baptism the sign of entrance to His spiritual kingdom. He has made this a positive condition with which all must comply who wish to be acknowledged as under the authority of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. . .

“Baptism is a most solemn renunciation of the world. Those who are baptized in the threefold name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, at the very entrance of their Christian life declare publicly that they have forsaken the service of Satan and have become members of the royal family, children of the heavenly King. They have obeyed the command: ‘Come out from among them, and be ye separate, . . . and touch not the unclean thing.’ And to them is fulfilled the promise: ‘I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.’ 2 Corinthians 6:17, 18.”—  
Testimonies, vol. 6, p. 91.

**PRQ4. How is the ancient mingling with the uncircumcised repeated today?**

Thursday, October 17

## 5. A SOLEMN SEPARATION FROM SIN

**a. What provisions did Jesus make for the Passover? Who partook of this feast with Him? Mark 14:12–15.**

**Mark 14:12-15:** *12 And the first day of unleavened bread, when they\* killed the passover, his disciples said unto him, Where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the passover? 13 And he sendeth forth two of his disciples, and saith unto them, Go ye into the city, and there shall meet you a man bearing a pitcher of water: follow him. 14 And wheresoever he shall go in, say ye to the goodman of the house, The Master saith, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples? 15 And he will shew you a large upper room furnished and prepared: there make ready for us.*

“The Lord’s Supper was not to be observed only occasionally or yearly, but more frequently than the annual Passover. This solemn ordinance commemorates a far greater event than the deliverance of the children of Israel from Egypt. That deliverance was typical of the great atonement which Christ made by the sacrifice of His own life for the final deliverance of His people.

“This ordinance is not to be exclusive, as many would make it. Each must participate in it publicly, and thus bear witness: I accept Christ as my personal Saviour. He gave His life for me, that I might be rescued from death.” — The Faith I Live By, p. 302.

“I was pointed back to the time that Jesus took His disciples away alone, into an upper room, and first washed their feet, and then gave them to eat of the broken bread, to represent His broken body, and juice of the vine to represent His spilled blood. I saw that all should move understandingly, and follow the example of Jesus in these things, and when attending to these ordinances, should be as separate from unbelievers as possible.” — The Review and Herald, November 1, 1850.

**PRQ 5. From what and whom is the Lord’s Supper to be separate?**

Thursday, October 17

## 5. A SOLEMN SEPARATION FROM SIN

### b. What did the unleavened bread symbolize? 1 Corinthians 5:6–8.

**1 Corinthians 5:6-8:** *6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? 7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.*

“At the time of the Passover the people were directed to remove all the leaven from their houses as they were to put away sin from their hearts.” —Christ’s Object Lessons, pp. 95, 96.

**PRQ 5.** *From what and whom is the Lord’s Supper to be separate?*

Thursday, October 17

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. What reveals our daily need of atonement now as much as ever?**
- 2. How does the hyssop in the Passover service have its parallel today?**
- 3. Why is the ordinance of humility so important for us in these last days?**
- 4. How is the ancient mingling with the uncircumcised repeated today?**
- 5. From what and whom is the Lord's Supper to be separate?**

## Lesson 4 - Sabbath, October 26, 2019

# From Ascension to the Final Atonement

**“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven” (Ecclesiastes 3:1).**

“The miracles of Jesus are a proof of His divinity; but the strongest proofs that He is the world’s Redeemer are found in the prophecies of the Old Testament compared with the history of the New.” — The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 3, p. 211.

**Suggested Reading:**     *The Great Controversy*, pp. 323-332, 352

Sunday, October 20

## 1. FIRST FRUITS

**a. What was symbolized by the sheaf of grain waved before the Lord at the beginning of the harvest (Leviticus 23:9–11)? Matthew 27:50–53; 1 Corinthians 15:17–20.**

**Leviticus 23:9-11:** *9 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: 11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.*

**Matthew 27:50-53:** *50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. 51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; 52 And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, 53 And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.*

**1 Corinthians 15:17-20:** *17 And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. 18 Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. 19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. 20 ¶ But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.*

“Christ arose from the dead as the first fruits of those that slept. He was the antitype of the wave sheaf, and His resurrection took place on the very day when the wave sheaf was to be presented before the Lord. For more than a thousand years this symbolic ceremony had been performed. From the harvest fields the first heads of ripened grain were gathered, and when the people went up to Jerusalem to the Passover, the sheaf of first fruits was waved as a thank offering before the Lord. Not until this was presented could the sickle be put to the grain, and it be gathered into sheaves.

*Continued...*

The sheaf dedicated to God represented the harvest. So Christ the first fruits represented the great spiritual harvest to be gathered for the kingdom of God. His resurrection is the type and pledge of the resurrection of all the righteous dead.” — The Desire of Ages, pp. 785, 786.

“[Christ] presents to God the wave sheaf, those raised with Him as representatives of that great multitude who shall come forth from the grave at His second coming.” — Ibid., p. 834.

*PRQ1. How had the resurrection of Christ and those with Him been symbolized?*

Monday, October 21

## 2. PENTECOST

**a. As in Hebrew times there was a celebration of the harvest 50 days after the offering of the wave sheaf, what harvest of souls was gathered at Pentecost (“fiftieth” in Greek)? Acts 2:1, 4, 7, 8, 41.**

*Acts 2:1: And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.*

*Acts 2:4: And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

*Acts 2:7-8: 7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? 8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?*

*Acts 2:41: Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.*

“The Jewish leaders had supposed that the work of Christ would end with His death; but, instead of this, they witnessed the marvelous scenes of the Day of Pentecost. They heard the disciples, endowed with a power and energy hitherto unknown, preaching Christ, their words confirmed by signs and wonders. In Jerusalem, the stronghold of Judaism, thousands openly declared their faith in Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah.

“The disciples were astonished and overjoyed at the greatness of the harvest of souls.” — The Acts of the Apostles, p. 44.

“What was the result of the outpouring of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost? The glad tidings of a risen Saviour were carried to the uttermost parts of the inhabited world. As the disciples proclaimed the message of redeeming grace, hearts yielded to the power of this message. The church beheld converts flocking to her from all directions. Backsliders were reconverted. Sinners united with believers in seeking the pearl of great price. Some who had been the bitterest opponents of the gospel became its champions. . . .

*Continued...*

“They could not be restrained or intimidated by threatenings. The Lord spoke through them, and as they went from place to place, the poor had the gospel preached to them, and miracles of divine grace were wrought.

“So mightily can God work when men give themselves up to the control of His Spirit.” —Ibid., pp. 48, 49.

*PRQ 2. What evangelistic event revealed the most valuable harvest we can reap?*

Monday, October 21

## 2. PENTECOST

**b. How can this also be an inspiration to us in our day? Acts 5:30–32.**

**Acts 5:30-32:** *30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. 31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.*

“The promise of the Holy Spirit is not limited to any age or to any race. Christ declared that the divine influence of His Spirit was to be with His followers unto the end. From the Day of Pentecost to the present time, the Comforter has been sent to all who have yielded themselves fully to the Lord and to His service. To all who have accepted Christ as a personal Saviour, the Holy Spirit has come as a counselor, sanctifier, guide, and witness. The more closely believers have walked with God, the more clearly and powerfully have they testified of their Redeemer’s love and of His saving grace.” —Ibid., p. 49.

***PRQ 2. What evangelistic event revealed the most valuable harvest we can reap?***

Tuesday, October 22

### 3. THE BLOWING OF TRUMPETS

**a. In the Hebrew system, trumpets introduced the solemn day of final atonement. How was this paralleled in the preaching of William Miller? Leviticus 23:23–25; Matthew 24:32, 33.**

**Leviticus 23:23-25:** *23 ¶ And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 24 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation. 25 Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD.*

**Matthew 24:32-33:** *32 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: 33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.*

“[God] sent chosen messengers to make known the nearness of the final judgment.” — The Great Controversy, p. 339.

“In nearly every town there were scores, in some, hundreds, converted as a result of [William Miller’s] preaching. In many places Protestant churches of nearly all denominations were thrown open to him, and the invitations to labor usually came from the ministers of the several congregations. It was his invariable rule not to labor in any place to which he had not been invited, yet he soon found himself unable to comply with half the requests that poured in upon him. Many who did not accept his views as to the exact time of the second advent were convinced of the certainty and nearness of Christ’s coming and their need of preparation. In some of the large cities his work produced a marked impression. Liquor dealers abandoned the traffic and turned their shops into meeting rooms; gambling dens were broken up; infidels, deists, Universalists, and even the most abandoned profligates were reformed, some of whom had not entered a house of worship for years...

*Continued...*

...Prayer meetings were established by the various denominations, in different quarters, at almost every hour, businessmen assembling at midday for prayer and praise. There was no extravagant excitement, but an almost universal solemnity on the minds of the people. His work, like that of the early Reformers, tended rather to convince the understanding and arouse the conscience than merely to excite the emotions.

“In 1833 Miller received a license to preach, from the Baptist Church, of which he was a member. A large number of the ministers of his denomination also approved his work, and it was with their formal sanction that he continued his labors.” — Ibid., pp. 331, 332.

“Those who accepted the advent doctrine were roused to the necessity of repentance and humiliation before God. Many had long been halting between Christ and the world; now they felt that it was time to take a stand. ‘The things of eternity assumed to them an unwonted reality. Heaven was brought near, and they felt themselves guilty before God.’ . . . Christians were quickened to new spiritual life. They were made to feel that time was short, that what they had to do for their fellow men must be done quickly. Earth receded, eternity seemed to open before them, and the soul, with all that pertained to its immortal weal or woe, was felt to eclipse every temporal object.” — Ibid., p. 340.

***PRQ3. What characterized the meetings of William Miller?***

Wednesday, October 23

#### 4. A TIME AND A MESSAGE

**a. How do we know that God definitely operates on a distinct timetable?**  
**Ecclesiastes 3:1; Mark 1:14, 15.**

**Ecclesiastes 3:1:** *To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:*

**Mark 1:14-15:** *14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.*

“The gospel message, as given by the Saviour Himself, was based on the prophecies. The ‘time’ which He declared to be fulfilled was the period made known by the angel Gabriel to Daniel.” — The Desire of Ages, p. 232.

**PRQ4. Why is it vital for us to understand the Bible prophecies based on time?**

Wednesday, October 23

#### 4. A TIME AND A MESSAGE

**b. What history verifies William Miller's prophetic research? Daniel 9:24–27.**

**Daniel 9:24-27:** *24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. 25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. 26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. 27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.*

“The time of the first advent and of some of the chief events clustering about the Saviour's lifework was made known by the angel Gabriel to Daniel. [Daniel 9:24 quoted.] A day in prophecy stands for a year. See Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6. The seventy weeks, or four hundred and ninety days, represent four hundred and ninety years. A starting point for this period is given: [Daniel 9:25 quoted] sixty-nine weeks, or four hundred and eighty-three years. The commandment to restore and build Jerusalem, as completed by the decree of Artaxerxes Longimanus, went into effect in the autumn of 457 B.C. See Ezra 6:14; 7:1, 9. From this time four hundred and eighty-three years extend to the autumn of A.D. 27. According to the prophecy, this period was to reach to the Messiah, the Anointed One. In A.D. 27, Jesus at His baptism received the anointing of the Holy Spirit and soon afterward began His ministry. Then the message was proclaimed, ‘The time is fulfilled.’ Mark 1:15.

*Continued...*

“Then, said the angel, ‘He shall confirm the covenant with many for one week [seven years].’ For seven years after the Saviour entered on His ministry, the gospel was to be preached especially to the Jews; for three and a half years by Christ Himself, and afterward by the apostles. ‘In the midst of the week He shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease.’ Daniel 9:27. In the spring of A.D. 31, Christ, the true Sacrifice, was offered on Calvary. . . .

“The one week—seven years—ended in A.D. 34. Then by the stoning of Stephen the Jews finally sealed their rejection of the gospel.”—Prophets and Kings, pp. 698, 699.

*PRQ4. Why is it vital for us to understand the Bible prophecies based on time?*

Thursday, October 24

## 5. A SURE PROPHETIC BASIS

**a. Although William Miller did not fully comprehend all the phases of Christ’s ministration, on what theme did he base his call to repentance? Daniel 8:14. What is the call for us today? 1 Peter 1:15, 16.**

**Daniel 8:14:** *And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.*

**1 Peter 1:15-16:** *15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.*

“The seventy weeks—490 days—having been cut off from the 2300, there were 1810 days remaining. After the end of 490 days, the 1810 days were still to be fulfilled. From A.D. 34, 1810 years extend to 1844. Consequently the 2300 days of Daniel 8:14 terminate in 1844. At the expiration of this great prophetic period, upon the testimony of the angel of God, ‘the sanctuary shall be cleansed.’ ”—The Great Controversy, p. 328.

“[William Miller] adopted the generally received view that the earth is the sanctuary, and he believed that the cleansing of the sanctuary represented the purification of the earth by fire at the coming of the Lord. When, therefore, he found that the close of the 2300 days was definitely foretold, he concluded that this revealed the time of the second advent. His error resulted from accepting the popular view as to what constitutes the sanctuary.”—Ibid., p. 352.

“The great day was at hand, and in [God’s] providence the people were brought to the test of a definite time, in order to reveal to them what was in their hearts. The message was designed for the testing and purification of the church. They were to be led to see whether their affections were set upon this world or upon Christ and heaven. They professed to love the Saviour; now they were to prove their love.”—Ibid., p. 353.

***PRQ5. What discovery was made as a result of William Miller’s research, and how was this a test of the church’s attitude?***

Friday, October 25

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. How had the resurrection of Christ and those with Him been symbolized?**
- 2. What evangelistic event revealed the most valuable harvest we can reap?**
- 3. What characterized the meetings of William Miller?**
- 4. Why is it vital for us to understand the Bible prophecies based on time?**
- 5. What discovery was made as a result of William Miller's research, and how was this a test of the church's attitude?**

## November - First Sabbath Offering

### Headquarters of Southern Mindanao Conference

Mindanao is the second largest and southernmost major island in the Philippines. This is also the name of one of the three island groups in the country (the other two being Luzon and the Visayas). It consists of the island of Mindanao (with a population of over 18 million) along with smaller outlying islands.

Over 70% of the people in the Philippines profess the Roman Catholic religion; 17% are Protestants; 5–10% Muslims, and the remainder are Buddhists and persons of other religions.

The language most commonly spoken in Mindanao is Cebuano (Bisaya), although the official languages are Filipino and English.

Since its inception in 1958, the work of the SDA Reform Movement in the Philippines started in Mindanao, particularly in Davao city. Later on, a property was acquired in Digos, Davao del Sur to be the first Mission headquarters in the country. By the grace of God, the work grew—and from this first Mission, it spread around the country and today we now have an established Union Conference with five Field Conferences and a very active membership.

At this point, the structure of this headquarters has become very old, and instead of repairing it, the brethren decided to build a new one to meet the demands of the activities of the Field Conference. This new building will include dormitories, restroom facilities and a session hall to hold reorganizational meetings.

“We may well feel that it is a privilege to be laborers together with God by giving of our means to set in operation that which will carry out His purposes in the world. All who possess the Spirit of Christ will have a tender, sympathetic heart, and an open, generous hand. Nothing can be really selfish that has Christ for its absorbing object.”—The Review and Herald, April 18, 1912.

Our brethren are raising funds for this project and still have a long way to bring it to completion. It is our sincere desire and prayer that the Lord will bless your generosity in furthering His work in this region.

*Your brethren in the Southern Mindanao Field Conference*

## Lesson 5 - Sabbath, November 2, 2019

# The Day of Atonement

**“For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the Lord” (Leviticus 16:30).**

“We are living in the great Day of Atonement, and it is now time that everyone should repent before God, confess his sins, and by living faith rest upon the merit of a crucified and living Saviour.” — Testimonies to Ministers, pp. 224, 225.

**Suggested Reading:**     *The Great Controversy*, pp. 352-354, 409-422

Sunday, October 27

## 1. A FINAL MINISTRATION

**a. What essential truth about the sanctuary did the Millerites realize they had overlooked? Leviticus 16:29–31; Hebrews 8:1, 2; 9:24.**

**Leviticus 16:29-31:** *29 And this shall be a statute for ever unto you: that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, ye shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger that sojourneth among you: 30 For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the LORD. 31 It shall be a sabbath of rest unto you, and ye shall afflict your souls, by a statute for ever.*

**Hebrews 8:1-2:** *1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; 2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.*

**Hebrews 9:24:** *For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:*

“The Scriptures were carefully searched with prayer and earnest thought, and after a period of suspense, light poured in upon our darkness; doubt and uncertainty were swept away.

“Instead of the prophecy of Daniel 8:14 referring to the purifying of the earth, it was now plain that it pointed to the closing work of our High Priest in heaven, the finishing of the atonement, and the preparing of the people to abide the day of His coming.” — Testimonies, vol. 1, p. 58.

“In the typical system, which was a shadow of the sacrifice and priesthood of Christ, the cleansing of the sanctuary was the last service performed by the high priest in the yearly round of ministration. It was the closing work of the atonement—a removal or putting away of sin from Israel. It prefigured the closing work in the ministration of our High Priest in heaven, in the removal or blotting out of the sins of His people, which are registered in the heavenly records. This service involves a work of investigation, a work of judgment; and it immediately precedes the coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory; for when He comes, every case has been decided.” — The Great Controversy, p. 352.

**PRQ1. Why was it important for the Millerites to persevere in their Bible study?**

Monday, October 28

## 2. A SOLEMN TIME

**a. Ever since the 2300 days ended in 1844, where has our High Priest, Jesus Christ, been ministering, and why is this important? Hebrews 9:1–3; Revelation 3:7; 11:19.**

**Hebrews 9:1-3:** *1 Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. 2 For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary. 3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all;*

**Revelation 3:7:** *And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;*

**Revelation 11:19:** *And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.*

“The time for the commandments of God to shine out with all their importance, and for God’s people to be tried on the Sabbath truth, was when the door was opened in the most holy place in the heavenly sanctuary, where the ark is, in which are contained the ten commandments. This door was not opened until the mediation of Jesus was finished in the holy place of the sanctuary in 1844. Then Jesus rose up and shut the door of the holy place, and opened the door into the most holy, and passed within the second veil, where He now stands by the ark, and where the faith of Israel now reaches.

“I saw that Jesus had shut the door of the holy place, and no man can open it; and that He had opened the door into the most holy, and no man can shut it (Revelation 3:7, 8); and that since Jesus has opened the door into the most holy place, which contains the ark, the commandments have been shining out to God’s people, and they are being tested on the Sabbath question.” —Early Writings, p. 42.

**PRQ2. What was the significance of the “open and shut door” in Revelation 3?**

Monday, October 28

## 2. A SOLEMN TIME

**b. What must we realize at this point in history? 1 Timothy 5:24.**

**1 Timothy 5:24:** *Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after.*

“We are in the great day of atonement, when our sins are, by confession and repentance, to go beforehand to judgment. God does not now accept a tame, spiritless testimony from His ministers. Such a testimony would not be present truth. The message for this time must be meat in due season to feed the church of God. But Satan has been seeking gradually to rob this message of its power, that the people may not be prepared to stand in the day of the Lord.

“In 1844 our great High Priest entered the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary, to begin the work of the investigative judgment. The cases of the righteous dead have been passing in review before God. When that work shall be completed, judgment is to be pronounced upon the living. How precious, how important are these solemn moments!” —Selected Messages, bk. 1, pp. 124, 125.

**PRQ 2.** *What was the significance of the “open and shut door” in Revelation 3?*

Tuesday, October 29

### 3. INVESTIGATION, CASE BY CASE

**a. What shows that the Judgment concerns each of us personally?**

**Ecclesiastes 11:9; Matthew 12:36; Daniel 7:9, 10.**

**Ecclesiastes 11:9:** *Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.*

**Matthew 12:36:** *But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.*

**Daniel 7:9-10:** *9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. 10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.*

“Each of us has a case pending in the court of heaven. We are individually to be judged according to the deeds done in the body. In the typical service, when the work of atonement was performed by the high priest in the most holy place of the earthly sanctuary, the people were required to afflict their souls before God, and confess their sins, that they might be atoned for and blotted out. Will any less be required of us in this antitypical day of atonement, when Christ in the sanctuary above is pleading in behalf of His people, and the final, irrevocable decision is to be pronounced upon every case?” — Selected Messages, bk. 1, p. 125.

**PRQ3. Why is the investigative judgment such an important truth?**

Tuesday, October 29

### 3. INVESTIGATION, CASE BY CASE

#### b. What should this make us pause to consider? Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14.

**Ecclesiastes 12:13-14:** *13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.*

“What is our condition in this fearful and solemn time? Alas, what pride is prevailing in the church, what hypocrisy, what deception, what love of dress, frivolity, and amusement, what desire for the supremacy! All these sins have clouded the mind, so that eternal things have not been discerned. Shall we not search the Scriptures, that we may know where we are in this world’s history? Shall we not become intelligent in regard to the work that is being accomplished for us at this time, and the position that we as sinners should occupy while this work of atonement is going forward? If we have any regard for our souls’ salvation, we must make a decided change. We must seek the Lord with true penitence; we must with deep contrition of soul confess our sins, that they may be blotted out.

“We must no longer remain upon the enchanted ground. We are fast approaching the close of our probation. Let every soul inquire, How do I stand before God? We know not how soon our names may be taken into the lips of Christ, and our cases be finally decided. What, oh, what will these decisions be! Shall we be counted with the righteous, or shall we be numbered with the wicked?” —Ibid., pp. 125, 126.

“Solemn are the scenes connected with the closing work of the atonement. Momentous are the interests therein involved.” —The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 4, pp. 314, 315.

**PRQ3. Why is the investigative judgment such an important truth?**

Wednesday, October 30

#### 4. LOGICAL TIMING

**a. Why is the investigative judgment necessary before Christ's return?**

**Matthew 16:27; Revelation 22:12.**

**Matthew 16:27:** *For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.*

**Revelation 22:12:** *And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.*

“As anciently the sins of the people were by faith placed upon the sin offering and through its blood transferred, in figure, to the earthly sanctuary, so in the new covenant the sins of the repentant are by faith placed upon Christ and transferred, in fact, to the heavenly sanctuary. And as the typical cleansing of the earthly was accomplished by the removal of the sins by which it had been polluted, so the actual cleansing of the heavenly is to be accomplished by the removal, or blotting out, of the sins which are there recorded. But before this can be accomplished, there must be an examination of the books of record to determine who, through repentance of sin and faith in Christ, are entitled to the benefits of His atonement. The cleansing of the sanctuary therefore involves a work of investigation—a work of judgment. This work must be performed prior to the coming of Christ to redeem His people; for when He comes, His reward is with Him to give to every man according to his works.” —The Great Controversy, pp. 421, 422.

**PRQ4. Why are the righteous and wicked judged at different times?**

Wednesday, October 30

## 4. LOGICAL TIMING

### b. With whom does the judgment begin? 1 Peter 4:17.

**1 Peter 4:17:** *For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?*

“In the typical service only those who had come before God with confession and repentance, and whose sins, through the blood of the sin offering, were transferred to the sanctuary, had a part in the service of the Day of Atonement. So in the great day of final atonement and investigative judgment the only cases considered are those of the professed people of God. The judgment of the wicked is a distinct and separate work, and takes place at a later period.” — Ibid., p. 480.

**PRQ4.** *Why are the righteous and wicked judged at different times?*

Wednesday, October 30

## 4. LOGICAL TIMING

### c. When and by whom will the wicked be judged? 1 Corinthians 6:2, 3.

**1 Corinthians 6:2-3:** *2 Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? 3 Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?*

“During the thousand years between the first and the second resurrection the judgment of the wicked takes place. . . . It is at this time that, as foretold by Paul, ‘the saints shall judge the world.’ 1 Corinthians 6:2. In union with Christ they judge the wicked.” —Ibid., pp. 660, 661.

**PRQ4.** *Why are the righteous and wicked judged at different times?*

Thursday, October 31

## 5. CONFRONTING TO THE STANDARD

**a. What is God doing by His grace to ensure we pass the final judgment?**

**Romans 8:28, 29; Ephesians 4:11–13.**

**Romans 8:28-29:** *28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

**Ephesians 4:11-13:** *11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:*

“God’s object in bringing us to himself is to conform us to the image of Christ.”—  
The Review and Herald, January 21, 1896.

“The true, humble, earnest Christian will be receiving the mold of a perfect character, and his heart will ever be conforming to the image of Christ. His life will flow out in channels of beneficence and love. Such will be established in God. The work which grace began, if combined with earnest effort to press close to Jesus, glory shall finish in the kingdom of God.”—Ibid., June 3, 1880.

**PRQ5. As the law reveals our defects of character, what should we do?**

Thursday, October 31

## 5. CONFRONTING TO THE STANDARD

**b. Why is God’s law essential in order to conform our character to the image of Jesus? Romans 7:7; 1 Timothy 1:8–10; 1 John 1:9.**

**Romans 7:7:** *What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.*

**1 Timothy 1:8-10:** *8 But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully; 9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, 10 For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;*

**1 John 1:9:** *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

“A great work must be done for us all before we will have perfection of Christian character. The law of God is the standard of righteousness. This is the mirror into which we are to look to discern the defects of our character. When we look in a common mirror, it points out to us the defects upon our person, but it does not remove one stain; we must go and wash if we would become clean. So it is with the law of God. It is God’s great mirror, or moral detector of sin; but there is no saving quality in law; it has no power to pardon the transgressor. . . . Then what is the work before the sinner? It is to exercise repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. In his precious blood the stains of sin may all be washed away.”—The Present Truth, November 3, 1885.

**PRQ5.** *As the law reveals our defects of character, what should we do?*

Friday, November 1

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. Why was it important for the Millerites to persevere in their Bible study?**
- 2. What was the significance of the “open and shut door” in Revelation 3?**
- 3. Why is the investigative judgment such an important truth?**
- 4. Why are the righteous and wicked judged at different times?**
- 5. As the law reveals our defects of character, what should we do?**

## Lesson 6 - Sabbath, November 9, 2019

# Sobriety

**“But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer” (1 Peter 4:7).**

“We cannot be off guard for a moment. . . . We are in the great day of atonement, and the sacred work of Christ for the people of God that is going on at the present time in the heavenly sanctuary should be our constant study.” — Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 520.

**Suggested Reading:**     *The Great Controversy*, pp. 479-491

Sunday, November 3

## 1. A SOLEMN MOMENT

**a. In the Hebrew nation, what characterized the time when the high priest would officiate in the most holy place? Leviticus 16:29, 30.**

**Leviticus 16:29-30:** *29 And this shall be a statute for ever unto you: that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, ye shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger that sojourneth among you: 30 For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the LORD.*

“To lift that veil [at the entrance to the most holy place], and intrude unbidden into the sacred mystery of the most holy place, was death. For above the mercy seat dwelt the glory of the Holiest—glory upon which no man might look and live. On the one day of the year appointed for ministry in the most holy place, the high priest with trembling entered God’s presence, while clouds of incense veiled the glory from his sight. Throughout the courts of the temple every sound was hushed. No priests ministered at the altars. The host of worshipers, bowed in silent awe, offered their petitions for God’s mercy.”—The Ministry of Healing, pp. 437, 438.

“The high priest always entered it with trembling, while the people waited his return with solemn silence. Their earnest desires were to God for His blessing. Before the mercy seat, God conversed with the high priest. If he remained an unusual time in the most holy, the people were often terrified, fearing that because of their sins, or some sin of the priest, the glory of the Lord had slain him.”—The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 1, pp. 274, 275.

“Let the church commence the work of purification before God by repentance, humiliation, deep heart searching, for we are in the antitypical day of atonement—solemn hour fraught with eternal results.”—Selected Messages, bk. 2, p. 378.

**PRQ1. Why did the nation worry if the high priest delayed in the most holy place?**

Monday, November 4

## 2. AN ILLUSTRATION FOR US

**a. How does the solemnity of the yearly atonement service reflect the present work of our High Priest in the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary? 1 Corinthians 10:11; Zephaniah 2:1–3.**

**1 Corinthians 10:11:** *Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.*

**Zephaniah 2:1-3:** *1 Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; 2 Before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD'S anger come upon you. 3 Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD'S anger.*

“We are now living in the great day of atonement. In the typical service, while the high priest was making the atonement for Israel, all were required to afflict their souls by repentance of sin and humiliation before the Lord, lest they be cut off from among the people. In like manner, all who would have their names retained in the book of life should now, in the few remaining days of their probation, afflict their souls before God by sorrow for sin and true repentance. There must be deep, faithful searching of heart. The light, frivolous spirit indulged by so many professed Christians must be put away. There is earnest warfare before all who would subdue the evil tendencies that strive for the mastery. The work of preparation is an individual work. We are not saved in groups. The purity and devotion of one will not offset the want of these qualities in another. Though all nations are to pass in judgment before God, yet He will examine the case of each individual with as close and searching scrutiny as if there were not another being upon the earth. Everyone must be tested and found without spot or wrinkle or any such thing.” — The Great Controversy, pp. 489, 490.

**PRQ2. Why does the present day of atonement call for solemnity on our part?**

Monday, November 4

## 2. AN ILLUSTRATION FOR US

**b. What admonitions of the Saviour especially apply today? Mark 13:33; Revelation 3:3.**

**Mark 13:33:** *Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.*

**Revelation 3:3:** *Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.*

“Solemn are the scenes connected with the closing work of the atonement. Momentous are the interests involved therein. The judgment is now passing in the sanctuary above. For many years this work has been in progress. Soon—none know how soon—it will pass to the cases of the living. In the awful presence of God our lives are to come up in review. . . .

“When the work of the investigative judgment closes, the destiny of all will have been decided for life or death. Probation is ended a short time before the appearing of the Lord in the clouds of heaven. . . .

“The righteous and the wicked will still be living upon the earth in their mortal state—men will be planting and building, eating and drinking, all unconscious that the final, irrevocable decision has been pronounced in the sanctuary above.”—Ibid., pp. 490, 491.

**PRQ2.** *Why does the present day of atonement call for solemnity on our part?*

Tuesday, November 5

### 3. TAKING HEED

**a. What truth must be deeply impressed in the mind of every Christian at this time in history? 1 Corinthians 10:12; 1 Peter 4:7.**

**1 Corinthians 10:12:** *Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.*

**1 Peter 4:7:** *But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.*

“Those who accept Christ, and in their first confidence say, I am saved, are in danger of trusting to themselves. They lose sight of their own weakness and their constant need of divine strength. . . . Our only safety is in constant distrust of self, and dependence on Christ.”—Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 155.

“Well would it be for us each to hold up the mirror, God’s royal law, and see in it the reflection of His own character. Let us be careful not to neglect the danger signals and the warnings given in His word. Unless heed is given to these warnings, and defects of character are overcome, these defects will overcome those who possess them, and they will fall into error, apostasy, and open sin. The mind that is not elevated to the highest standard will in time lose its power to retain that which it had once gained.”—Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 537.

“By conforming entirely to the will of God, we shall be placed upon vantage ground, and shall see the necessity of decided separation from the customs and practices of the world. We are not to elevate our standard just a little above the world’s standard; but we are to make the line of demarcation decidedly apparent.”—Fundamentals of Christian Education, p. 289.

**PRQ3. Despite this reality, what is the attitude of most professed Christians?**

Tuesday, November 5

### 3. TAKING HEED

**b. What warning should we take from the prayer of Jesus to His Father that reveals His plan for each one of us? John 17:17.**

**John 17:17:** *Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*

“If you sit down with the ease-loving ones, with the words on your lips, ‘I am saved,’ and disregard the commandments of God, you will be eternally lost. There is truth in Jesus that is terrible to the ease-loving, do-nothing ones. There is truth in Jesus that is full of soothing joy to the obedient. It is the joy of the Holy Ghost. Be persuaded, then, to open the mind and heart, that you may see every ray of light shining from the throne of God.

“This is no time to be indifferent and careless and pleasure-loving. Christ is coming with power and great glory. Are you ready? Are you putting away your sins? Are you becoming sanctified through the truth in answer to the prayer of Christ?” — Selected Messages, bk. 1, p. 318.

***PRQ 3. Despite this reality, what is the attitude of most professed Christians?***

Wednesday, November 6

#### 4. ESCAPING THE SYNDROME

**a. What attitude does Jesus identify as sadly typical in this last era of church history, as He ministers in the most holy place? Revelation 3:14–16.**

**Revelation 3:14-16:** *14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; 15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.*

“Messengers have been sent with warnings, reproofs, and entreaties. God’s servants have wept and prayed over the lukewarm state of the church. Some may arouse, but only to fall back into unconsciousness of their sin and peril. Passion, worldliness, malice, envy pride, strife for supremacy, make our churches weak and powerless. Some of Christ’s ambassadors are carrying a heavy burden on their souls, because their message is treated by so many as an idle tale. The eye of Jesus, looking down the ages, was fixed upon our time when he said, ‘If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong to thy peace!’ It is still thy day, O church of God, whom He has made the depository of His law. But this day of trust and probation is fast drawing to a close. The sun is fast westering. Can it be that it will set, and thou not know the things that belong unto thy peace? Must the irrevocable sentence be passed, ‘But now they are hid from thine eyes’? I tell you there is need to be alarmed.” —The Review and Herald, November 2, 1886.

**PRQ4. How are we to be delivered from the problem of Laodicea?**

Wednesday, November 6

#### 4. ESCAPING THE SYNDROME

**b. What earnest plea does the Lord make to each of us? Revelation 3:17–21.**

**Revelation 3:17-21:** *17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: 18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. 21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.*

“It is time to seek God earnestly, saying with Jacob, ‘I will not let thee go except thou bless me.’ It will be of no avail to make a spasmodic effort, only to fall back into spiritual lethargy and lukewarmness. The past, with the slighted mercies, the admonitions unheeded, the earthly passions uncorrected, the privileges unimproved, the soul temple filled with desecrated shrines,—all is recorded in the books of heaven. But most solemn moments are still before you. Because of past neglect, the efforts you make must be the more earnest.

“The Saviour speaks to His people, ‘Be zealous and repent.’ It is not ministers whom you have slighted; it is not the warnings of men that you have rejected; it is not my delegated prophets that you have refused to hear, but your Redeemer, your only hope. If ye are destroyed, it is yourselves alone that are responsible.” —Ibid.

**PRQ5. In what ways has Jesus been knocking at the door of my heart?**

Thursday, November 7

## 5. BOWING BEFORE THE LORD

**a. How are Christ's true followers contrasted with those in the world in the last days? 2 Timothy 3:2 (first part); James 4:10.**

**2 Timothy 3:2:** *For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,*

**James 4:10:** *Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.*

“Will our churches humble themselves before the Lord in this day of atonement? Will they put away the sins which defile their garments of character, and separate them from God? The present is our day of visitation. Look not to a future, more convenient season, when the cross to be lifted will be less heavy, when the inclinations of the carnal heart will be subdued with less effort. ‘Today,’ saith the Spirit of God, ‘if ye will hear his voice, harden not your heart.’ Today go about the work, else you may be one day too late. The impression that you have now may not be as strong tomorrow. Satan’s snare may close about you. The candlestick may be moved out of its place, and you left in darkness. ‘See that you refuse not him that speaketh.’ Says the true Witness, ‘Behold, I stand at the door and knock.’ Every warning, reproof, and entreaty in the word of God, or through His delegated messengers, is a knock at the door of the heart; it is the voice of Jesus, asking for entrance. With every knock unheeded, your determination to open becomes weaker and weaker. If the voice of Jesus is not heeded at once, it becomes confused in the mind with a multitude of other voices, the world’s care and business engross the attention, and conviction dies away. The heart becomes less impressible, and lapses into a perilous unconsciousness of the shortness of time, and of the great eternity beyond. The heavenly Guest is standing at your door, while you are piling up obstructions to bar His entrance. Jesus is knocking through the prosperity He gives you. He loads you with blessings to test your fidelity, that they may flow out from you to others. Will you permit your selfishness to triumph?” — The Review and Herald, November 2, 1886.

**PRQ5.** *In what ways has Jesus been knocking at the door of my heart?*

Thursday, November 7

## **5. BOWING BEFORE THE LORD**

- 1. Why did the nation worry if the high priest delayed in the most holy place?**
- 2. Why does the present day of atonement call for solemnity on our part?**
- 3. Despite this reality, what is the attitude of most professed Christians?**
- 4. How are we to be delivered from the problem of Laodicea?**
- 5. In what ways has Jesus been knocking at the door of my heart?**

## Lesson 7 - Sabbath, November 16, 2019

# The Books

**“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works” (Revelation 20:12).**

“Ten thousand times ten thousand were assembled before a large throne, upon which was seated a person of majestic appearance. Several books were before Him, and upon the covers of each was written in letters of gold, which seemed like a burning flame of fire: ‘Ledger of Heaven.’ ”—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 384.

**Suggested Reading:**     *Testimonies*, vol. 4, pp. 384-387

Sunday, November 10

## 1. JUDGED BY WRITTEN RECORDS

**a. How does the first angel of Revelation announce the judgment, and what occurs in heaven at this time? Revelation 14:6, 7; Daniel 7:9, 10.**

**Revelation 14:6-7:** *6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, 7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.*

**Daniel 7:9-10:** *9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. 10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.*

“Day by day the record of your words, your actions, and your influence is being made in the books of heaven.” — That I May Know Him, p. 234.

“God knows every thought, every purpose, every plan, every motive. The books of heaven record the sins that would have been committed had there been opportunity. God will bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing. . . . God has a perfect photograph of every man’s character, and this photograph He compares with His law. He reveals to man the defects that mar his life, and calls upon him to repent and turn from sin.” — The Signs of the Times, July 31, 1901.

“Let us individually consider what is the record made in the books of heaven concerning our life and character, and our attitude toward God. . . . Let us examine our past life and see if we have given evidence of our love for Jesus by seeking to be like Him, and by working, as He worked, to save those for whom He died.” — Lift Him Up, p. 325.

**PRQ1. How do we know that the evidence in the Judgment is just and true?**

Monday, November 11

## 2. THOSE UNITED TO CHRIST ARE INCLUDED

a. What happens in heaven once a person professes to serve Christ? **Luke 10:20** (last part); **Philippians 4:3** (last part).

**Luke 10:20:** *Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.*

**Philippians 4:3:** *And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life.*

“When we become children of God, our names are written in the Lamb’s book of life, and they remain there until the time of the investigative judgment. Then the name of every individual will be called, and his record examined.”—In Heavenly Places, p. 360.

“The black man’s name is written in the book of life beside the white man’s. All are one in Christ.”—Selected Messages, bk. 2, p. 342.

“Your name may be kept so pure that it cannot justly be connected with anything dishonest or unrighteous, but will be respected by all the good and pure, and it may be written in the Lamb’s book of life, to be immortalized among the holy angels.”—God’s Amazing Grace, p. 111.

**PRQ 2.** *How does our accountability to God go way beyond church membership?*

Monday, November 11

## 2. THOSE UNITED TO CHRIST ARE INCLUDED

### b. Why is it vital to be truly led by the Holy Spirit? Romans 8:14.

**Romans 8:14:** *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

“The Spirit of God, with its vivifying power, must be in every human agent, that every spiritual muscle and sinew may be in exercise. Without the Holy Spirit, without the breath of God, there is torpidity of conscience, loss of spiritual life. Many who are without spiritual life have their names on the church records, but they are not written in the Lamb’s book of life. They may be joined to the church, but they are not united to the Lord. They may be diligent in the performance of a certain set of duties, and may be regarded as living men; but many are among those who have ‘a name that thou livest, and art dead.’ ” —SDA Bible Commentary [E. G. White Comments], vol. 4, p. 1166.

“We are not saved as a sect; no denominational name has any virtue to bring us into favor with God. We are saved individually as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. And ‘by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.’ We may have our names recorded on the books of the most spiritual of the churches, and yet we may not belong to Christ, and our names may not be written on the Lamb’s book of life.” —The Review and Herald, February 10, 1891.

“Let church members bear in mind that the fact that their names are registered on the church books will not save them. They must show themselves approved of God, workmen that need not be ashamed. Day by day they are to build their characters in accordance with Christ’s directions. They are to abide in Him, constantly exercising faith in Him.” —Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 48.

**PRQ 2.** *How does our accountability to God go way beyond church membership?*

Tuesday, November 12

### 3. PRECISE RECORDS

**a. While our names may have been registered in the Lamb's book of life, what else is being meticulously recorded? Proverbs 15:3.**

**Proverbs 15:3:** *The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.*

“All your acts, however secret you may think they have been, are open to your heavenly Father. Nothing is hidden, nothing covered. All your acts and the motives which prompt them are open to His sight. He has full knowledge of all your words and thoughts.”—Testimonies, vol. 3, p. 82.

“Remember, your character is being daguerretyped [photographed] by the great Master Artist in the record books of heaven, as minutely as the face is reproduced upon the polished plate of the artist. What do the books of heaven say in your case? Are you conforming your character to the Pattern, Jesus Christ? Are you washing your robes of character and making them white in the blood of the Lamb?”—Testimonies on Sexual Behavior, Adultery, and Divorce, p. 62.

“If we would be overcomers, we must search our hearts to be sure that we are not cherishing anything that is offensive to God. If we are, we cannot wear the white raiment that is here promised. If we would stand before God in the white linen, which is the righteousness of the saints, we must now do the work of overcoming.”—Historical Sketches, p. 138.

**PRQ3. Why and how are we being measured right now?**

Tuesday, November 12

### 3. PRECISE RECORDS

#### b. What is God's plan in this work? Revelation 11:1.

**Revelation 11:1:** *And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein.*

“The grand judgment is taking place, and has been going on for some time. Now the Lord says, Measure the temple and the worshipers thereof. Remember when you are walking the streets about your business, God is measuring you; when you are attending your household duties, when you engage in conversation, God is measuring you. . . .

“When we are doing our work remember there is One that is watching the spirit in which we are doing it. Shall we not bring the Saviour into our everyday lives, into our secular work and domestic duties? Then in the name of God we want to leave behind everything that is not necessary, all gossiping or unprofitable visiting, and present ourselves as servants of the living God.” — The SDA Bible Commentary [E. G. White Comments], vol. 7, p. 972.

**PRQ3.** *Why and how are we being measured right now?*

Wednesday, November 13

#### 4. BLOTTING OUT

**a. Although our names may have been entered into the Book of Life, what is still possible? Psalm 69:28. What is God’s desire for us? Philippians 2:14, 15.**

**Psalm 69:28:** *Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.*

**Philippians 2:14-15:** *14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings: 15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;*

“Time is fast hastening on, and every work will soon be brought into judgment, and either our sins or our names will be blotted out of the Book of Life.”—Sons and Daughters of God, p. 49.

“You cannot consent to profess the truth and not live it; you have ever admired a life consistent with profession. I was shown a book in which was written your name with many others. Against your name was a black blot. You were looking upon this and saying: ‘It can never be effaced.’ Jesus held His wounded hand above it and said: ‘My blood alone can efface it. If thou wilt from henceforth choose the path of humble obedience, and rely solely upon the merits of My blood to cover thy past transgressions, I will blot out thy transgressions, and cover thy sins. But if you choose the path of transgressors you must reap the transgressor’s reward. The wages of sin is death.’

“I saw evil angels surrounding you seeking to divert your mind from Christ, causing you to look upon God as a God of justice and to lose sight of the love, compassion, and mercy of a crucified Saviour who will save to the uttermost all that come unto Him. Said the angel: ‘If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.’” —Testimonies, vol. 1, pp. 543, 544.

“If we would be true lights in the world, we must manifest the loving, compassionate spirit of Christ. To love as Christ loved means that we must practice self-control. It means that we must show unselfishness at all times and in all places.”—My Life Today, p. 80.

**PRQ4. Compare what is blotted out in those who will be lost vs. those saved.**

Wednesday, November 13

#### 4. BLOTTING OUT

**b. What privilege do we have as Christians, and what responsibility goes along with this privilege? 1 John 3:1–3.**

**1 John 3:1-3:** *1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. 2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. 3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.*

“Well may you ask, ‘Is my name written there?’ It is registered in that book of life if you have a character that is pure and holy like the character of Christ. Faith in the truth alone will not save us. We must be like Christ if we shall one day see Him as He is.” — Testimonies on Sexual Behavior, Adultery, and Divorce, p. 134.

**PRQ4. Compare what is blotted out in those who will be lost vs. those saved.**

Thursday, November 14

## 5. PROMISES TO THE OVERCOMER

a. What is in the book of remembrance? **Malachi 3:16; Nehemiah 13:14.**

**Malachi 3:16:** *Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.*

**Nehemiah 13:14:** *Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof.*

“In the book of God’s remembrance every deed of righteousness is immortalized. There every temptation resisted, every evil overcome, every word of tender pity expressed, is faithfully chronicled. And every act of sacrifice, every suffering and sorrow endured for Christ’s sake, is recorded.” — The Great Controversy, p. 481.

**PRQ5.** *What should be our main concern on a daily basis?*

Thursday, November 14

## 5. PROMISES TO THE OVERCOMER

**b. In summary, what should we ever keep in mind? Revelation 3:5; Matthew 10:32.**

**Revelation 3:5:** *He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.*

**Matthew 10:32:** *Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.*

“In order to confess Christ, we must have Him to confess. No one can truly confess Christ unless the mind and spirit of Christ are in him. . . . It is possible with our lips to confess Christ yet in our works deny Him. The fruits of the Spirit manifested in the life are a confession of Him. If we have forsaken all for Christ, our lives will be humble, our conversation heavenly, our conduct blameless. The powerful, purifying influence of truth in the soul, and the character of Christ exemplified in the life, are a confession of Him.”—Testimonies, vol. 1, pp. 303, 304.

“Whose names will not be blotted out of the book of life? Only the names of those who have loved God with all the powers of their being, and their neighbors as themselves.”—Historical Sketches, p. 138.

**PRQ5.** *What should be our main concern on a daily basis?*

Friday, November 15

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. How do we know that the evidence in the Judgment is just and true?**
- 2. How does our accountability to God go way beyond church membership?**
- 3. Why and how are we being measured right now?**
- 4. Compare what is blotted out in those who will be lost vs. those saved.**
- 5. What should be our main concern on a daily basis?**

## Lesson 8 - Sabbath, November 23, 2019

# The Battle

**“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Ephesians 6:12).**

“Every day is a battle and a march. On every side we are beset by invisible foes, and we either conquer through the grace given us by God or we are conquered.”—  
Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 453.

**Suggested Reading:**     *Selected Messages, bk. 1*, pp. 121-128

Sunday, November 17

## 1. INVISIBLE FORCES

**a. Explain the war being waged against God’s children. 1 Peter 5:8, 9.**

**1 Peter 5:8-9:** *8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.*

“The prince of evil contests every inch of ground over which God’s people advance in their journey toward the heavenly city. In all the history of the church no reformation has been carried forward without encountering serious obstacles. Thus it was in Paul’s day. Wherever the apostle raised up a church, there were some who professed to receive the faith, but who brought in heresies, that, if received, would eventually crowd out the love of the truth. Luther also suffered great perplexity and distress from the course of fanatical persons who claimed that God had spoken directly through them, and who therefore set their own ideas and opinions above the testimony of the Scriptures. Many who were lacking in faith and experience, but who had considerable self-sufficiency, and who loved to hear and tell some new thing, were beguiled by the pretensions of the new teachers, and they joined the agents of Satan in their work of tearing down what God had moved Luther to build up. And the Wesleys, and others who blessed the world by their influence and their faith, encountered at every step the wiles of Satan in pushing overzealous, unbalanced, and unsanctified ones into fanaticism of every grade.” — The Great Controversy, p. 396.

**PRQ 1. Name some of the obstacles to overcome in sharing present truth today.**

Monday, November 18

## 2. THE PLOT TO DISTRACT US

**a. How does Scripture verify our individual need of the righteousness of Christ, and why is this so important now? Ezekiel 14:20.**

**Ezekiel 14:20:** *Though Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness.*

“Satan invents unnumbered schemes to occupy our minds, that they may not dwell upon the very work with which we ought to be best acquainted. The archdeceiver hates the great truths that bring to view an atoning sacrifice and an all-powerful mediator. He knows that with him everything depends on his diverting minds from Jesus and His truth.

“Those who would share the benefits of the Saviour’s mediation should permit nothing to interfere with their duty to perfect holiness in the fear of God. The precious hours, instead of being given to pleasure, to display, or to gain seeking, should be devoted to an earnest, prayerful study of the word of truth. The subject of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment should be clearly understood by the people of God. All need a knowledge for themselves of the position and work of their great High Priest. Otherwise it will be impossible for them to exercise the faith which is essential at this time or to occupy the position which God designs them to fill. . . . How important, then, that every mind contemplate often the solemn scene when the judgment shall sit and the books shall be opened.”—The Great Controversy, p. 488.

**PRQ2. How can we avoid being distracted by our archenemy?**

Monday, November 18

## 2. THE PLOT TO DISTRACT US

**b. Where should our focus be today? 2 Corinthians 10:3–5; Philippians 2:5. How does the enemy seek to distract us?**

**2 Corinthians 10:3-5:** *3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: 4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;*

**Philippians 2:5:** *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:*

“You should control your thoughts. This will not be an easy task; you cannot accomplish it without close and even severe effort. Yet God requires this of you. . . . You will have to become a faithful sentinel over your eyes, ears, and all your senses if you would control your mind and prevent vain and corrupt thoughts from staining your soul. The power of grace alone can accomplish this most desirable work.” — Testimonies, vol. 2, p. 561.

“If Satan can draw the mind away to some unimportant issue, and cause the people to divide on some minor point, so that their hearts are barricaded against light and truth, he exults in malicious triumph.” — Evangelism, p. 154.

**PRQ2. How can we avoid being distracted by our archenemy?**

Tuesday, November 19

### 3. A DIFFERENT TYPE OF DRUNKENNESS

**a. Name some of the enemy's favorite ploys against us. Mark 4:19.**

**Mark 4:19:** *And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.*

“I saw that Satan bade his angels lay their snares especially for those who were looking for Christ’s second appearing and keeping all the commandments of God. Satan told his angels that the churches were asleep. He would increase his power and lying wonders, and he could hold them. ‘But,’ he said, ‘the sect of Sabbathkeepers we hate; they are continually working against us, and taking from us our subjects, to keep the hated law of God. Go, make the possessors of lands and money drunk with cares. If you can make them place their affections upon these things, we shall have them yet. They may profess what they please, only make them care more for money than for the success of Christ’s kingdom or the spread of the truths we hate. Present the world before them in the most attractive light, that they may love and idolize it. We must keep in our ranks all the means of which we can gain control. The more means the followers of Christ devote to His service, the more will they injure our kingdom by getting our subjects. As they appoint meetings in different places, we are in danger. Be very vigilant then. Cause disturbance and confusion if possible. Destroy love for one another. Discourage and dishearten their ministers; for we hate them. Present every plausible excuse to those who have means, lest they hand it out. Control the money matters if you can, and drive their ministers to want and distress. This will weaken their courage and zeal. Battle every inch of ground. Make covetousness and love of earthly treasures the ruling traits of their character. As long as these traits rule, salvation and grace stand back. Crowd every attraction around them, and they will be surely ours. And not only are we sure of them, but their hateful influence will not be exercised to lead others to heaven. When any shall attempt to give, put within them a grudging disposition, that it may be sparingly.’

“I saw that Satan carries out his plans well. . . .

*Continued...*

He leads some in one way and some in another, always taking advantage of evil traits in the brethren and sisters, exciting and stirring up their natural besetments. If they are disposed to be selfish and covetous, Satan takes his stand by their side, and with all his power seeks to lead them to indulge their besetting sins. The grace of God and the light of truth may melt away their covetous, selfish feelings for a little, but if they do not obtain entire victory, Satan comes in when they are not under a saving influence and withers every noble, generous principle.”—Early Writings, pp. 266, 267.

*PRQ3. What is one reason why many may be facing financial struggles?*

Wednesday, November 20

## 4. KEYS TO VICTORY

**a. How only can we be successful against the enemy's tactics? Zechariah 4:6.**

**Zechariah 4:6:** *Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.*

“There is nothing that Satan fears so much as that the people of God shall clear the way by removing every hindrance, so that the Lord can pour out His Spirit upon a languishing church and an impenitent congregation. If Satan had his way, there would never be another awakening, great or small, to the end of time. But we are not ignorant of his devices. It is possible to resist his power. When the way is prepared for the Spirit of God, the blessing will come. Satan can no more hinder a shower of blessing from descending upon God's people than he can close the windows of heaven that rain cannot come upon the earth. Wicked men and devils cannot hinder the work of God, or shut out His presence from the assemblies of His people, if they will, with subdued, contrite hearts, confess and put away their sins, and in faith claim His promises. Every temptation, every opposing influence, whether open or secret, may be successfully resisted.” — Selected Messages, bk. 1, p. 124.

**PRQ 4.** *Explain some secrets to success in the spiritual battle of today.*

Wednesday, November 20

## 4. KEYS TO VICTORY

### b. How long does this spiritual battle last? Matthew 24:12, 13.

**Matthew 24:12-13:** *12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.*

“We are never to rest in a satisfied condition, and cease to make advancement, saying, ‘I am saved.’ When this idea is entertained, the motives for watchfulness, for prayers, for earnest endeavor to press onward to higher attainments, cease to exist. No sanctified tongue will be found uttering these words till Christ shall come, and we enter in through the gates into the city of God. Then, with the utmost propriety, we may give glory to God and to the Lamb for eternal deliverance.”—Ibid., p. 314.

“When the religion of Christ is most held in contempt, when His law is most despised, then should our zeal be the warmest and our courage and firmness the most unflinching. To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few—this will be our test. At this time we must gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their cowardice, and loyalty from their treason. . . .

“The Captain of our salvation will strengthen His people for the conflict in which they must engage.”—Sons and Daughters of God, p. 201.

**PRQ 4.** *Explain some secrets to success in the spiritual battle of today.*

Thursday, November 21

## 5. EQUIPPING OURSELVES

a. What kind of repentance do we need today? Luke 6:40–42, 46–49.

**Luke 6:40-42:** *40 The disciple is not above his master: but every one\* that is perfect shall be as his master. 41 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye? 42 Either how canst thou say to thy brother, Brother, let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye, when thou thyself beholdest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye.*

**Luke 6:46-49:** *46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? 47 Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: 48 He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. 49 But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.*

“We are living in the great antitypical day of atonement. We must individually seek God. This is a personal work. . . . Let everyone confess, not his brother's sin, but his own sin.” — Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 218.

“Every step heavenward must be a step of humility.” — Historical Sketches, p. 139.

**PRQ5.** *How does our spiritual armor help us to be overcomers through Christ?*

Thursday, November 21

## 5. EQUIPPING OURSELVES

**b. For what can we be extremely thankful? Ephesians 6:10–17.**

**Ephesians 6:10-17:** *10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:*

“In these days of peril we should be exceedingly careful not to reject the rays of light which Heaven in mercy sends us, for it is by these that we are to discern the devices of the enemy. We need light from Heaven every hour, that we may distinguish between the sacred and the common, the eternal and the temporal. If left to ourselves, we shall blunder at every step; we shall incline to the world, we shall shun self-denial, and see no necessity for constant watchfulness and prayer, and we shall be taken captive by Satan at his will. . . .

“All whose names shall at last be found written in the Lamb’s book of life will fight manfully the battles of the Lord. They will labor most earnestly to discern and put away temptations and every evil thing. They will feel that the eye of God is upon them and that the strictest fidelity is required. As faithful sentinels they will keep the passage barred, that Satan may not pass them disguised as an angel of light to work his work of death in their midst.” —My Life Today, p. 321.

**PRQ5. How does our spiritual armor help us to be overcomers through Christ?**

Friday, November 22

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. Name some of the obstacles to overcome in sharing present truth today.**
- 2. How can we avoid being distracted by our archenemy?**
- 3. What is one reason why many may be facing financial struggles?**
- 4. Explain some secrets to success in the spiritual battle of today.**
- 5. How does our spiritual armor help us to be overcomers through Christ?**

## Lesson 9 - Sabbath, November 30, 2019

# Physical Vigor

**“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayst prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth” (3 John 2).**

“What might not men and women have been had they realized that the treatment of the body has everything to do with the vigor and purity of mind and heart.” — Maranatha, p. 230.

**Suggested Reading:**     *Sons and Daughters of God*, pp. 168-174

Sunday, November 24

## 1. ONE OF CHRIST'S SPECIALTIES

**a. When Jesus, the Son of man, lived on earth, what was He most often doing? Acts 10:38.**

**Acts 10:38:** *How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*

“During His ministry Jesus devoted more time to healing the sick than to preaching. His miracles testified to the truth of His words, that He came not to destroy but to save. His righteousness went before Him, and the glory of the Lord was His rearward. Wherever He went, the tidings of His mercy preceded Him. Where He had passed, the objects of His compassion were rejoicing in health, and making trial of their new-found powers.” —The Desire of Ages, p. 350.

***PRQ1. How do we know that the Lifegiver cares about our health?***

Sunday, November 24

## 1. ONE OF CHRIST'S SPECIALTIES

**b. What is God's plan for the physical health of His children? 3 John 2.**

**3 John 1:2:** *Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.*

“[Jesus], the Chief of physicians, is ready to dispense the balm of Gilead. He will hear the prayers offered by the physician and the missionary, if His name will be glorified thereby; and the life of the suffering patient will be prolonged.”—  
Counsels on Health, p. 536.

“I urge that those who are taking a neutral position in regard to health reform be converted. This light is precious, and the Lord gives me the message to urge that all who bear responsibilities in any line in the work of God take heed that truth is in the ascendancy in the heart and life. Only thus can any meet the temptations they are sure to encounter in the world.”—Cousels on Diet and Foods, p. 453.

***PRQ1. How do we know that the Lifegiver cares about our health?***

Monday, November 25

## 2. THE POT OF MANNA AS A SYMBOL

**a. In what was a special pot of manna stored, and in what part of the sanctuary was this? Exodus 16:33, 34; Hebrews 9:3, 4. For what reason?**

**Exodus 16:33-34:** *33 And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations. 34 As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept.*

**Hebrews 9:3-4:** *3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; 4 Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;*

“As God gave manna from heaven to sustain the children of Israel, so He will now give His people in different places skill and wisdom to use the productions of these countries in preparing foods to take the place of meat.” — Testimonies, vol. 7, p. 124.

“The world at large are given to gluttony and the indulgence of base passions. The light of health reform is opened before the people of God at this day, that they may see the necessity of holding their appetites and passions under control of the higher powers of the mind. This is also necessary, that they may have mental strength and clearness, to discern the sacred chain of truth, and turn from the bewitching errors and pleasing fables, that are flooding the world. Their work is to present before the people the pure doctrine of the Bible. Hence health reform finds its place in the preparatory work for the second appearing of Christ.” — The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 2, p. 44.

**PRQ2. Why is health reform so important in the present day of atonement?**

Monday, November 25

## 2. THE POT OF MANNA AS A SYMBOL

**b. How does God view the eating of flesh foods? What should we do, considering we are living in the antitypical day of atonement? Psalm 78:17, 18; Isaiah 22:12–14, 20–22 (cf. Revelation 3:7).**

**Psalms 78:17-18:** *17 And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness. 18 And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust.*

**Isaiah 22:12-14:** *12 And in that day did the Lord GOD of hosts call to weeping, and to mourning, and to baldness, and to girding with sackcloth: 13 And behold joy and gladness, slaying oxen, and killing sheep, eating flesh, and drinking wine: let us eat and drink; for to morrow we shall die. 14 And it was revealed in mine ears by the LORD of hosts, Surely this iniquity shall not be purged from you till ye die, saith the Lord GOD of hosts.*

**Isaiah 22:20-22:** *20 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah: 21 And I will clothe him with thy robe, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and I will commit thy government into his hand: and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. 22 And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.*

**Revelation 3:7:** *And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;*

“As God gave manna from heaven to sustain the children of Israel, so He will now give His people in different places skill and wisdom to use the productions of these countries in preparing foods to take the place of meat.” — Testimonies, vol. 7, p. 124.

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“The world at large are given to gluttony and the indulgence of base passions. The light of health reform is opened before the people of God at this day, that they may see the necessity of holding their appetites and passions under control of the higher powers of the mind. This is also necessary, that they may have mental strength and clearness, to discern the sacred chain of truth, and turn from the bewitching errors and pleasing fables, that are flooding the world. Their work is to present before the people the pure doctrine of the Bible. Hence health reform finds its place in the preparatory work for the second appearing of Christ.” — The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 2, p. 44.

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**Revelation 3:7:** *And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;*

“Among those who are waiting for the coming of the Lord, meat eating will eventually be done away; flesh will cease to form a part of their diet. . . .

“Again and again I have been shown that God is bringing His people back to His original design, that is, not to subsist on the flesh of dead animals. He would have us teach people a better way. . . .

*Continued...*

If meat is discarded, if the taste is not educated in that direction, if a liking for fruits and grains is encouraged, it will soon be as God in the beginning designed it should be. No meat will be used by His people.”—Child Guidance, p. 383.

“Will our people see and feel the sin of indulging perverted appetite? Will they discard tea, coffee, flesh meats, and all stimulating food, and devote the means expended for these hurtful indulgences to spreading the truth?”—Testimonies, vol. 3, p. 569.

*PRQ2. Why is health reform so important in the present day of atonement?*

Tuesday, November 26

### 3. A STRENGTH-PRODUCING PLAN

**a. What is our Creator’s original plan of nutrition for humanity? How did this change after sin corrupted the planet? Genesis 1:29; 3:18.**

**Genesis 1:29:** *And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.*

**Genesis 3:18:** *Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;*

“In order to know what are the best foods, we must study God’s original plan for man’s diet. He who created man and who understands his needs appointed Adam his food. [Genesis 1:29 quoted.] Upon leaving Eden to gain his livelihood by tilling the earth under the curse of sin, man received permission to eat also ‘the herb of the field.’

“Grains, fruits, nuts, and vegetables constitute the diet chosen for us by our Creator. These foods, prepared in as simple and natural a manner as possible, are the most healthful and nourishing.”—Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 81.

***PRQ3. Where in Scripture is God’s plan for what we should eat in these last days?***

Tuesday, November 26

### 3. A STRENGTH-PRODUCING PLAN

**b. Besides adopting the health reform for ourselves, what other sacred responsibility do we have regarding it? Psalm 67:1, 2.**

**Psalms 67:1-2:** *1 God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah. 2 That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.*

“God would be recognized as the Author of our being. That life He has given us is not to be trifled with. Recklessness in the bodily habits reveals a recklessness of moral character. The health of the body is to be regarded as essential for the advancement of growth in grace, an even temper.”—Mind, Character, and Personality, vol. 2, p. 405.

“Seventh-day Adventists are to be represented to the world by the advance principles of health reform which God has given us.

“Still greater truths are unfolding for this people as we draw near the close of time, and God designs that we shall everywhere establish institutions where those who are in darkness in regard to the needs of the human organism may be educated, that they in their turn may lead others into the light of health reform.”—Medical Ministry, p. 187.

“The sick and suffering are to be helped. Many for whom this work of mercy is done will hear and accept the words of life. Many will be healed by the prayer of faith, and will go forth to advocate the precious principles of health reform.”—Pacific Union Recorder, November 6, 1902.

“The Lord does not now work to bring many souls into the truth, because of the church members who have never been converted and those who were once converted but who have backslidden. What influence would these unconsecrated members have on new converts? Would they not make of no effect the God-given message which His people are to bear?”—Testimonies, vol. 6, p. 371.

***PRQ3. Where in Scripture is God's plan for what we should eat in these last days?***

Wednesday, November 27

#### 4. COMPREHENSIVE MESSAGE

**a. How does spiritual truth promote physical health? Proverbs 3:7, 8; 4:20–22. How can children and youth be healthy? How can we restore health?**

**Proverbs 3:7-8:** *7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. 8 It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.*

**Proverbs 4:20-22:** *20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. 21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. 22 For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.*

“In order for children and youth to have health, cheerfulness, vivacity, and well-developed muscles and brains, they should be much in the open air and have well-regulated employment and amusement.

“Children should have occupation for their time. Proper mental labor and physical outdoor exercise will not break the constitution of your boys. Useful labor and an acquaintance with the mysteries of housework will be beneficial to your girls, and some outdoor employment is positively necessary to their constitution and health.

“Those who do not use their limbs every day will realize a weakness when they do attempt to exercise. The veins and muscles are not in a condition to perform their work and keep all the living machinery in healthful action, each organ in the system doing its part. The limbs will strengthen with use. Moderate exercise every day will impart strength to the muscles, which without exercise become flabby and enfeebled. By active exercise in the open air every day, the liver, kidneys, and lungs also will be strengthened to perform their work.”—Child Guidance, p. 339.

“When I violate the laws God has established in my being, I am to repent and reform, and place myself in the most favorable condition under the doctors God has provided—pure air, pure water, and the healing, precious sunlight.

“Water can be used in many ways to relieve suffering.”—Selected Messages, bk. 2, p. 297.

*Continued...*

“Will you not sign a pledge that you will no longer weaken or deface the Lord’s temple by working when you ought to rest? In order to have proper thoughts and in order to speak proper words, you must give your brain rest. You do not take sufficient time to rest. The weary brain and tired nerves would be invigorated if you would make a change in this respect.”—Mind, Character, and Personality, vol. 2, p. 735.

*PRQ4. What does true health reform involve besides just our food?*

Wednesday, November 27

#### 4. COMPREHENSIVE MESSAGE

**b. When we consider the health benefits of trust in God, nutritious food, exercise, water, sunshine, fresh air, and rest, what else should we keep in mind (especially in an age of extremes)? Philippians 4:5.**

**Philippians 4:5:** *Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.*

***PRQ4. What does true health reform involve besides just our food?***

Thursday, November 28

## 5. STANDING FOR PRINCIPLE, BY GRACE

**a. How far-reaching is our duty to uphold God’s health laws? To whom do we owe this duty? Why? 1 Corinthians 9:24–27.**

**1 Corinthians 9:24-27:** *24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: 27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.*

“Eating, drinking, and dressing are carried to such excess that they become crimes. They are among the marked sins of the last days, and constitute a sign of Christ’s soon coming. Time, money, and strength, which belong to the Lord, but which He has intrusted to us, are wasted in superfluities of dress and luxuries for the perverted appetite, which lessen vitality, and bring suffering and decay. It is impossible to present our bodies a living sacrifice to God when we continually fill them with corruption and disease by our own sinful indulgence.

“Knowledge must be gained in regard to how to eat and drink and dress so as to preserve health. Sickness is the result of violating nature’s law. Our first duty, one which we owe to God, to ourselves, and to our fellowmen, is to obey the laws of God. These include the laws of health. If we are sick, we impose a weary tax upon our friends, and unfit ourselves for doing our duty either in the family or to our neighbors. And when premature death is the result, we bring sorrow and suffering to others; we deprive our neighbors of the help we might have rendered them; we rob our families of the comfort and help which they should have received from us, and rob God of the service He claims of us to advance His glory. Then are we not, in a high sense, transgressors of God’s law?” —Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene, p. 12.

“It is as truly a sin to violate the laws of our being as it is to break the ten commandments. To do either is to break God’s laws.” —Ibid., p. 53.

**PRQ5. How does my acceptance of the health message show my love for others?**

Friday, November 29

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. How do we know that the Lifegiver cares about our health?**
- 2. Why is health reform so important in the present day of atonement?**
- 3. Where in Scripture is God's plan for what we should eat in these last days?**
- 4. What does true health reform involve besides just our food?**
- 5. How does my acceptance of the health message show my love for others?**

## December - First Sabbath Offering

### Literature for Mission Fields

There is no question that literature is a vital tool in spreading the present truth to all nations, kindreds, tongues, and peoples. A message in writing tends to carry greater impact and be more precise and easily understood than mere speech. Yet many precious souls for whom Christ died are unable to receive the benefit of such literature—especially if they are in a restricted nation or are cumbered with extreme poverty. A truth-filled piece of literature is beyond their reach unless diligent efforts are made to provide for this need to the many who are hungering and thirsting for it.

First Sabbath Offerings for literature for poor countries and/or Mission Fields have been gathered before—and we truly thank the donors who have given to this worthy cause in the past. Your gifts have enabled thousands to get a chance to read the truth for themselves.

Today's world is a vast place with an ever-growing population, so the need is greater than ever before. The proceeds for today's offering for literature will involve a greater emphasis on translating and printing literature in new languages for people who have never received it before.

“To give all nations the message of warning—this is to be the object of our efforts. . . . Upon all who have received the word of God there rests the burden of doing this work. From city to city, and from country to country, they are to carry the publications containing the promise of the Saviour's soon coming. These publications are to be translated into every language; for to all the world the gospel is to be preached.”—The Review and Herald, February 9, 1905.

With this in mind, it is our prayer that God may touch the hearts of all of us to give generously for this important need!

*The General Conference Publishing Department*

## Lesson 10 - Sabbath, December 7, 2019

# Order and Organization

**“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment” (1 Corinthians 1:10).**

“God designs that His people shall be a unit, that they shall see eye to eye and be of the same mind and of the same judgment. This cannot be accomplished without a clear, pointed, living testimony in the church.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 3, p. 361.

**Suggested Reading:**     *Testimonies*, vol. 3, pp. 343-362

Sunday, December 1

## 1. DEVELOPING AN ORGANIZED MIND

**a. What question, asked to God by Manoah, should guide our inborn quest for mental growth? Judges 13:8, 12.**

**Judges 13:8:** *Then Manoah intreated the LORD, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.*

**Judges 13:12:** *And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?*

“The mind, the soul, is built up by that upon which it feeds.”—Education, p. 126.

“It is right for the youth to feel that they must reach the highest development of their mental powers. We would not restrict the education to which God has set no limit. But our attainments will avail nothing if not put to use for the honor of God and the good of humanity. Unless our knowledge is a steppingstone to the accomplishment of the highest purposes, it is worthless. . . .

“Heart education is of more importance than the education gained from books. It is well, even essential, to obtain a knowledge of the world in which we live; but if we leave eternity out of our reckoning, we shall make a failure from which we can never recover.”—Child Guidance, p. 497.

“A ‘Thus saith the Lord’ should guide you in all your plans of education.”—Ibid., p. 69.

“The mind is to be disciplined, trained, educated; for the child of God is to do service for God in ways that are not natural, or in harmony with inborn inclination. Those who become the followers of Christ find that new motives of action are supplied, new thoughts arise, and new actions must result.”—Christian Education, p. 122.

**PRQ1. Name some points to remember about how our minds must be developed.**

Monday, December 2

## 2. SELF-DISCIPLINE FOR ETERNITY

**a. In our pursuit of knowledge, of what should we beware in order to develop a sound mind? Ecclesiastes 12:12.**

**Ecclesiastes 12:12:** *And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.*

“If the physical powers are not taxed equally with the mental, too much strain is brought upon the latter. Unless every part of the human machinery performs its allotted tasks, the mental powers cannot be used to their highest capacity for any length of time.”—Christian Education, p. 211.

“Much is lost by a neglect to unite physical with mental taxation. The leisure hours of the student are often occupied with frivolous pleasures, which weaken physical, mental, and moral powers. Under the debasing power of sensual indulgence, or the untimely excitement of courtship and marriage, many students fail to reach that height of mental development which they might otherwise have attained.”—Ibid., pp. 36, 37.

“How prevalent is the habit of turning day into night, and night into day. Many youth sleep soundly in the morning, when they should be up with the early singing birds, and be stirring when all nature is awake. Let youth practise regularity in the hours for going to bed, and for rising and they will improve in health, in mind, in spirit, in disposition.”—The Youth’s Instructor, September 7, 1893.

**PRQ2. Why is temperance needed, even in intellectual pursuits?**

Monday, December 2

## 2. SELF-DISCIPLINE FOR ETERNITY

**b. What practical science should we also study? 1 Thessalonians 4:11.**

**1 Thessalonians 4:11:** *And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;*

“As far as possible, it is well to consider what is to be accomplished through the day. Make a memorandum of the different duties that await your attention, and set apart a certain time for the doing of each duty. Let everything be done with thoroughness, neatness, and dispatch.” —Ibid.

*PRQ2. Why is temperance needed, even in intellectual pursuits?*

Monday, December 2

## 2. SELF-DISCIPLINE FOR ETERNITY

c. Of what value is an undisciplined mind? Proverbs 25:28.

**Proverbs 25:28:** *He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.*

“An ordinary mind, well disciplined, will accomplish more and higher work than will the most highly educated mind and the greatest talents without self-control.” —Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 335.

**PRQ2.** *Why is temperance needed, even in intellectual pursuits?*

Tuesday, December 3

### 3. INCREASING OUR WISDOM

a. Name some keys to overcoming inefficiency. Colossians 3:23, 24.

**Colossians 3:23-24:** *23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.*

“Of one girl whom I employed, I was told that she would sit down in the midst of her unfinished work, when the dishes were not washed, or the beds made, and forget her duties while she read a book or a newspaper. In this way she would spend hours of time that should have been employed in doing the work for which she was paid. The house would be left in confusion for hours after it should have been in perfect order, because of this untidy habit.” — The Youth’s Instructor, September 7, 1893.

**PRQ3.** *Name some faulty work habits that should be overcome.*

Tuesday, December 3

### 3. INCREASING OUR WISDOM

**b. What contrast exists between the wise and the foolish? Proverbs 9:8; 15:31.**

**Proverbs 9:8:** *Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.*

**Proverbs 15:31:** *The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise.*

“Of another whom I thought of employing. I learned that she was disrespectful to those who employed her, unless she took a fancy to them. Those whom she fancied, she would serve to her utmost, and the friends whom she chose, who flattered and approved her course, received her affection and favors. But I reasoned, ‘If she is a Christian, she will certainly take counsel and advice.’ A sorrowful expression came over the face of the person to whom I was speaking, as she said, ‘I am afraid you will be disappointed. If you seek to show her where she is erring, she will insist that she is doing the best she knows how, and instead of correcting her faults, will take on the air of one who is much injured. She does not respect authority, and will keep up rebellion in her mind, which, if not expressed in words, will be plainly revealed in her countenance. She will not keep her opinions to herself, but will freely tell others what she thinks about those who seek to correct her errors.’ ” —Ibid.

**PRQ3.** *Name some faulty work habits that should be overcome.*

Tuesday, December 3

### 3. INCREASING OUR WISDOM

**c. Although reproof is not easy to bear, what must everyone learn who wants to grow and succeed in life? Proverbs 17:10; 6:23.**

**Proverbs 17:10:** *A reproof entereth more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool.*

**Proverbs 6:23:** *For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:*

“The Lord sends us warning, counsel, and reproof, that we may have opportunity to correct our errors before they become second nature.”—Our High Calling, p. 160.

**PRQ3.** *Name some faulty work habits that should be overcome.*

Wednesday, December 4

#### 4. ORDER THAT HONORS GOD

**a. In which ways should the body of Christ be orderly? For what purpose? 1 Corinthians 1:10; 14:40; 12:27, 28.**

**1 Corinthians 1:10:** *Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*

**1 Corinthians 14:40:** *Let all things be done decently and in order.*

**1 Corinthians 12:27-28:** *27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. 28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.*

“The church is God’s appointed agency for the salvation of men. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world.” — The Acts of the Apostles, p. 9.

**PRQ4.** *In what ways does the rebellion of Korah repeat itself today?*

Wednesday, December 4

#### 4. ORDER THAT HONORS GOD

**b. Looking back in history, explain how Korah challenged the leaders appointed by God and the powerful way God stopped his rebellion. Numbers 16:1–3, 28–35. How did Korah use flattery to deceive the people?**

**Numbers 16:1-3:** *1 Now Korah, the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On, the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men: 2 And they rose up before Moses, with certain of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty princes of the assembly, famous in the congregation, men of renown: 3 And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD?*

**Numbers 16:28-35:** *28 And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works; for I have not done them of mine own mind. 29 If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; then the LORD hath not sent me. 30 But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD. 31 And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them: 32 And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. 33 They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation. 34 And all Israel that were round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, Lest the earth swallow us up also. 35 And there came out a fire from the LORD, and consumed the two hundred and fifty men that offered incense.*

*Continued...*

“Korah and his company, who aspired to the priesthood in their self-confidence, even ventured to take the censers and to stand in the door of the tabernacle with Moses. Korah had cherished his envy and rebellion until he was self-deceived, and he really thought the congregation were righteous, and that Moses was a tyrannical ruler. The people, flattered by their rebellious leaders, had been led to believe that all their troubles originated with Moses, who was continually reminding them of their sins. They thought that if Korah could lead them, and encourage them, and dwell upon their righteous acts instead of reminding them of their failures, they would have a very peaceful, prosperous journey, and he would without doubt lead them, not back and forward in the wilderness, but into the promised land.” — The Signs of the Times, September 9, 1880.

*PRQ4. In what ways does the rebellion of Korah repeat itself today?*

Wednesday, December 4

## 4. ORDER THAT HONORS GOD

### c. How did God endorse Moses' ministry of reproof? Numbers 17:1–10.

**Numbers 17:1-10:** *1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and take of every one of them a rod according to the house of their fathers, of all their princes according to the house of their fathers twelve rods: write thou every man's name upon his rod. 3 And thou shalt write Aaron's name upon the rod of Levi: for one rod shall be for the head of the house of their fathers. 4 And thou shalt lay them up in the tabernacle of the congregation before the testimony, where I will meet with you. 5 And it shall come to pass, that the man's rod, whom I shall choose, shall blossom: and I will make to cease from me the murmurings of the children of Israel, whereby they murmur against you. 6 And Moses spake unto the children of Israel, and every one of their princes gave him a rod apiece, for each prince one, according to their fathers' houses, even twelve rods: and the rod of Aaron was among their rods. 7 And Moses laid up the rods before the LORD in the tabernacle of witness. 8 And it came to pass, that on the morrow Moses went into the tabernacle of witness; and, behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds. 9 And Moses brought out all the rods from before the LORD unto all the children of Israel: and they looked, and took every man his rod. 10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Bring Aaron's rod again before the testimony, to be kept for a token against the rebels; and thou shalt quite take away their murmurings from me, that they die not.*

“This wonderful rod was preserved to be frequently shown to the people to remind them of the past, to prevent them from murmuring, and again calling in question to whom the priesthood rightfully belonged. After the children of Israel were fully convinced of their wrong, in unjustly accusing Moses and Aaron, as they had done, they saw their past rebellion in its true light, and they were terrified.” — Spiritual Gifts, vol. 4a, pp. 35, 36.

**PRQ4.** *In what ways does the rebellion of Korah repeat itself today?*

Thursday, December 5

## 5. REPROVING POPULAR SINS

**a. Which item in the heavenly ark symbolizes God’s organized ministry of reproof? Hebrews 9:3, 4; 8:1, 2. How does this apply to us today?**

**Hebrews 9:3-4:** *3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; 4 Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron’s rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;*

**Hebrews 8:1-2:** *1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; 2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.*

“The Hebrews were not willing to submit to the directions and restrictions of the Lord. They were restless under restraint, and unwilling to receive reproof. This was the secret of their murmuring against Moses. Had they been left free to do as they pleased, there would have been fewer complaints against their leader. All through the history of the church God’s servants have had the same spirit to meet.” — Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 404.

***PRQ5. What solemn duty rests upon ministers and leaders at this hour?***

Thursday, December 5

## 5. REPROVING POPULAR SINS

**b. What character of ministry is needed in order to prepare God's people to meet the Lord in peace? 2 Timothy 4:1–5; Titus 2:11–15.**

**2 Timothy 4:1-5:** *1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. 5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.*

**Titus 2:11-15:** *11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, 12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; 13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; 14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. 15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.*

“We do not consider that our dangers are any less than those of the Hebrews, but greater. There will be temptations to jealousies and murmurings, and there will be outspoken rebellion, as are recorded of ancient Israel. There will ever be a spirit to rise up against the reproof of sins and wrongs. But shall the voice of reproof be hushed because of this? If so, we shall be in no better situation than are the various denominations in our land who are afraid to touch the errors and prevailing sins of the people.

“Those whom God has set apart as ministers of righteousness have solemn responsibilities laid upon them to reprove the sins of the people.” —

Testimonies, vol. 3, pp. 358, 359.

**PRQ5. What solemn duty rests upon ministers and leaders at this hour?**

Friday, December 6

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. Name some points to remember about how our minds must be developed.**
- 2. Why is temperance needed, even in intellectual pursuits?**
- 3. Name some faulty work habits that should be overcome.**
- 4. In what ways does the rebellion of Korah repeat itself today?**
- 5. What solemn duty rests upon ministers and leaders at this hour?**

## Lesson 11 - Sabbath, December 14, 2019

# Spiritual Vitality

**“Like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4, last part).**

“We cannot change ourselves; but the power of choice is ours, and it rests with us to determine what we will become.” —Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 56.

**Suggested Reading:**     *Steps to Christ*, pp. 73-95

Sunday, December 8

## 1. A SYMBOL OF GOD'S CHARACTER

**a. What did God direct Moses to place in the ark of the covenant, even before the pot of manna and Aaron's rod? Deuteronomy 10:1–5.**

**Deuteronomy 10:1-5:** *1 At that time the LORD said unto me, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first, and come up unto me into the mount, and make thee an ark of wood. 2 And I will write on the tables the words that were in the first tables which thou brakest, and thou shalt put them in the ark. 3 And I made an ark of shittim wood, and hewed two tables of stone like unto the first, and went up into the mount, having the two tables in mine hand. 4 And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me. 5 And I turned myself and came down from the mount, and put the tables in the ark which I had made; and there they be, as the LORD commanded me.*

**PRQ1. Why were the Ten Commandments to be preserved in the ark?**

Sunday, December 8

## 1. A SYMBOL OF GOD'S CHARACTER

**b. Where did the law come from, and what was its purpose? Isaiah 51:4.**

**Isaiah 51:4:** *Hearken unto me, my people; and give ear unto me, O my nation: for a law shall proceed from me, and I will make my judgment to rest for a light of the people.*

“The words written by the finger of God on tables of stone so perfectly reveal His will concerning His people that none need make any mistake.”—Selected Messages, bk. 1, p. 225.

“The living God has given in His holy law a transcript of His character. The greatest Teacher the world has ever known is Jesus Christ. And what is the standard He has given for all who believe in Him to reach? ‘Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect’ (Matthew 5:48). As God is perfect in His high sphere of action, so man may be perfect in his human sphere. The ideal of Christian character is Christlikeness. There is opened before us a path of continual advancement. We have an object to reach, a standard to gain which includes everything good and pure and noble and elevated. There should be continual striving and constant progress onward and upward toward perfection of character.”—In Heavenly Places, p. 141.

**PRQ1.** *Why were the Ten Commandments to be preserved in the ark?*

Monday, December 9

## 2. REFLECTING HIS CHARACTER

**a. Besides on tables of stone and in heaven (Hebrews 9:3, 4; 8:1, 2), where are the Ten Commandments to be written? By whom? Hebrews 8:10; 2 Corinthians 3:3.**

**Hebrews 9:3-4:** *3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; 4 Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;*

**Hebrews 8:1-2:** *1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; 2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.*

**Hebrews 8:10:** *For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:*

**2 Corinthians 3:3:** *Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.*

**PRQ2. Describe the type of obedience the Lord longs to see in us.**

Monday, December 9

## 2. REFLECTING HIS CHARACTER

**b. What will be the experience of those who have the law of God within their heart? Psalms 37:31; 40:8. How will their speech change?**

**Psalms 37:31:** *The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.*

**Psalms 40:8:** *I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.*

“In mercy God seeks to lead the unrighteous to repentance. The obedient will delight in the law of the Lord. He puts His laws in their minds, and writes them in their hearts. Their speech will be such as is prompted by an indwelling Saviour. They have that faith that works by love and purifies the soul from all the defilement of Satan’s suggestions. Their heart yearns after God. In their conversion they love to dwell upon His mercy and goodness, for to them He is altogether lovely. They learn the language of heaven, the country of their adoption.” — The Upward Look, p. 297.

**PRQ2.** *Describe the type of obedience the Lord longs to see in us.*

Monday, December 9

## 2. REFLECTING HIS CHARACTER

### c. What does it mean to live under God's grace? Romans 6:4, 10–18; 8:1.

**Romans 6:4:** *Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

**Romans 6:10-18:** *10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. 15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. 16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? 17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. 18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.*

**Romans 8:1:** *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

“Those who will accept [Christ] as their personal Saviour will grow in grace, and in His strength will be enabled to obey the law of God.” —The Signs of the Times, February 11, 1897.

“All true obedience comes from the heart. It was heart work with Christ. And if we consent, He will so identify Himself with our thoughts and aims, so blend our hearts and minds into conformity to His will, that when obeying Him we shall be but carrying out our own impulses.

*Continued...*

The will, refined and sanctified, will find its highest delight in doing His service. When we know God as it is our privilege to know Him, our life will be a life of continual obedience. Through an appreciation of the character of Christ, through communion with God, sin will become hateful to us.” — The Desire of Ages, p. 668.

“It is God who gives us power to overcome. Those who hear His voice and obey His commandments are enabled to form righteous characters.” — The SDA Bible Commentary [E. G. White Comments], vol. 7, p. 943.

*PRQ2. Describe the type of obedience the Lord longs to see in us.*

Tuesday, December 10

### 3. FRUITS OF OUR CONNECTION

#### a. How do we receive divine strength from Christ? John 15:1–4.

**John 15:1-4:** *1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. 3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.*

“All who take their position on the Lord’s side will, as branches of the True Vine, receive nourishment, and will be stimulated by the vine to bear like fruit. They will be in cooperation with God, according to their ability exercising themselves unto godliness by walking in newness of life, which is daily repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.” — The Review and Herald, February 23, 1897.

**PRQ3.** *What are some of the ways that discipleship of Christ is revealed?*

Tuesday, December 10

### 3. FRUITS OF OUR CONNECTION

**b. As we look to Jesus in the sanctuary above, what will our experience become? How does this also involve church relationships? Ephesians 2:4–6, 10; Hebrews 10:23–25.**

**Ephesians 2:4-6:** *4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) 6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:*

**Ephesians 2:10:** *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

**Hebrews 10:23-25:** *23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) 24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

“In a life of service to Christ, connection with the church is one of the first steps. Loyalty to Christ demands the faithful performance of church duties.”—  
Education, pp. 268, 269.

“Notwithstanding our varying types of character, we are brought into church capacity through the profession of our faith. Christ is the head of the church; and if those whose names are on the church record do not belong to Jesus, the invisible Head, they are like the fruitless branch of the vine, and are taken away. If one is really a fruitful branch, he will make it manifest by bearing fruit, giving evidence of his absolute allegiance to Christ. He will have a spiritual connection with God. Faith and love constitute the gold of character, and will be ever working on the Lord’s side to unite and harmonize the members of Christ’s body. “Name, position, or wealth will not weigh one jot in the scale with God. Men and women are admitted to the church who do it no honor...

*Continued...*

But however poor, whatever the rank, tribe, or nationality, all are to be heartily received on their confession of faith, if you have evidence that the grace of God, which brings salvation, has wrought upon the heart. . . .

“This faith in Christ is demonstrated by works; it produces a transformation of character through the effectual working of God’s Holy Spirit. . . . Contrition of soul will mark the experience of every one who has received the grace of Christ.” — The Review and Herald, February 23, 1897.

*PRQ3. What are some of the ways that discipleship of Christ is revealed?*

Wednesday, December 11

#### 4. COMING INTO LINE

**a. Explain Christ's goal for His church. Ephesians 5:1, 2, 27; Titus 2:13, 14.**

**Ephesians 5:1-2:** *1 Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; 2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.*

**Ephesians 5:27:** *That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*

**Titus 2:13-14:** *13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; 14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*

“Not one of us will ever receive the seal of God while our characters have one spot or stain upon them. It is left with us to remedy the defects in our characters, to cleanse the soul temple of every defilement.”—Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 214.

**PRQ4. Why is purity important for us, both individually and collectively?**

Wednesday, December 11

#### 4. COMING INTO LINE

**b. What unites the members of the church? 1 Peter 4:8–11; 1 John 1:7.**

**1 Peter 4:8-11:** *8 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. 9 Use hospitality one to another without grudging. 10 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*

**1 John 1:7:** *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*

“Christ calls for unity. But He does not call for us to unify on wrong practices. The God of heaven draws a sharp contrast between pure, elevating, ennobling truth and false, misleading doctrines. He calls sin and impenitence by the right name.” —Selected Messages, bk. 1, p. 175.

**PRQ4.** *Why is purity important for us, both individually and collectively?*

Wednesday, December 11

## 4. COMING INTO LINE

**c. Describe some ways God purifies us. Proverbs 27:17; Isaiah 58:6–10.**

**Proverbs 27:17:** *Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.*

**Isaiah 58:6-10:** *6 Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? 7 Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? 8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward. 9 Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; 10 And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday:*

“While the world needs sympathy, while it needs the prayers and assistance of God’s people, while it needs to see Christ in the lives of His followers, the people of God are equally in need of opportunities that draw out their sympathies, give efficiency to their prayers, and develop in them a character like that of the divine pattern.

“It is to provide these opportunities that God has placed among us the poor, the unfortunate, the sick, and the suffering. They are Christ’s legacy to His church, and they are to be cared for as He would care for them. In this way God takes away the dross and purifies the gold. . . .

“In placing among us the poor and the suffering, the Lord is testing us to reveal to us what is in our hearts.” — Testimonies, vol. 6, p. 261.

“Good works cost us a sacrifice, but it is in this very sacrifice that they provide discipline. These obligations bring us into conflict with natural feelings and propensities, and in fulfilling them we gain victory after victory over the objectionable traits of our characters.” — Ibid., pp. 262, 263.

**PRQ4. Why is purity important for us, both individually and collectively?**

Thursday, December 12

## 5. THE TEST OF OUR DEVOTION

**a. What reveals whether we truly love God? 1 John 3:14, 15, 18; 4:20, 21.**

**1 John 3:14-15:** *14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. 15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.*

**1 John 3:18:** *My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.*

**1 John 4:20-21:** *20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? 21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.*

“The sanctification of the soul by the working of the Holy Spirit is the implanting of Christ’s nature in humanity. Gospel religion is Christ in the life—a living, active principle. It is the grace of Christ revealed in character and wrought out in good works. . . .

“Love is the basis of godliness. Whatever the profession, no man has pure love to God unless he has unselfish love for his brother. But we can never come into possession of this spirit by trying to love others. What is needed is the love of Christ in the heart. When self is merged in Christ, love springs forth spontaneously. The completeness of Christian character is attained when the impulse to help and bless others springs constantly from within—when the sunshine of heaven fills the heart and is revealed in the countenance.

It is not possible for the heart in which Christ abides to be destitute of love. If we love God because He first loved us, we shall love all for whom Christ died.”—Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 384. [Author’s italics in the original.]

“A healthy Christian is one who has Christ formed within, the hope of glory. He loves truth, purity, and holiness, and will manifest spiritual vitality, having love for the word of God, and seeking communion with those who are acquainted with

the word, in order that he may catch every ray of light that God has communicated to them, which reveals Christ and makes Him more precious to the soul. He who has sound faith finds that Christ is the life of the soul, that He is in him as a well of water springing up unto everlasting life, and he delights to conform every power of the soul to the obedience of his Lord.” —The Review and Herald, December 11, 1894.

*PRQ5. How can I develop a deeper love both for Christ and others?*

Friday, December 13

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. Why were the Ten Commandments to be preserved in the ark?**
- 2. Describe the type of obedience the Lord longs to see in us.**
- 3. What are some of the ways that discipleship of Christ is revealed?**
- 4. Why is purity important for us, both individually and collectively?**
- 5. How can I develop a deeper love both for Christ and others?**

## Lesson 12 - Sabbath, December 21, 2019

# “As a Lamp That Burneth”

**“For Zion’s sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth” (Isaiah 62:1).**

“Let us not allow the light which is in us to go out because we refuse to give that light to others.”—Pacific Union Recorder, February 20, 1908.

**Suggested Reading:**     *Testimonies, vol. 5*, pp. 157-162, 307, 308, 385-389

Sunday, December 15

## 1. AWAKENING OUR PRIORITIES

**a. What must become the chief aim of every believer today? Isaiah 62:1, 2.**

**Isaiah 62:1-2:** *1 For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. 2 And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name.*

“There is no greater evidence that those who have received great light do not appreciate that light, than is given by their refusal to let their light shine upon those who are in darkness.”—The Review and Herald, July 16, 1895.

“If you . . . were in a saved state, you would all feel the perilous condition of the unsaved. The day will come, unless a great change is wrought in you, when you will hear from many lips. ‘I associated with these Christians, yet they never told me of my danger. They never warned me. I thought that if I was in danger of being lost, they would not rest day or night without arousing me to see my lost condition. Now I am lost. If I had been in their place and had seen one in a similar condition, I would not have rested until I had made them sensible of their state and pointed them to the only One who can save them.’ ”—Testimonies, vol. 2, pp. 181, 182.

“What can be said to the idlers that will lead them to understand, and arouse them from their do-nothing position? O, that Zion would arouse and put on her beautiful garments. Brethren and sisters, as members of the church, let us act our part faithfully. . . .

“God has given to every man his work; not one is excused from service.”—Pacific Union Recorder, February 20, 1908.

**PRQ1. Of what will many lost souls rightfully complain after it's too late?**

Monday, December 16

## 2. IN AN AGE OF MORAL DARKNESS

**a. What cry strongly echoes down to us all? Isaiah 21:11 (last part), 12.**

**Isaiah 21:11-12:** *11 The burden of Dumah. He calleth to me out of Seir, Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? 12 The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will enquire, enquire ye: return, come.*

“Everything seems to be stirred with an intense activity from beneath. Excitement is continually kept up. Feasting, buying, and selling, are brought into the churches. The watchman cries, ‘The morning cometh, and also the night.’ The night symbolizes prevalence of error, misinterpretation and misapplication of Scripture. Every species of delusion is now being brought in. The plainest truths of God’s word are covered with a mass of man-made theories. Deadly errors are presented as the truth to which all must bow. The simplicity of true godliness is buried beneath tradition.” — The Bible Echo, February 1, 1897.

“A great work is to be done in the world, and what efforts are we making for its accomplishment? The people have had too much sermonizing; but have they been taught how to labor for those for whom Christ died? Has a line of labor been devised and placed before them in such a way that each has seen the necessity of taking part in the work?

“It is evident that all the sermons that have been preached have not developed a large class of self-denying workers. This subject is to be considered as involving the most serious results. Our future for eternity is at stake.” — Testimonies, vol. 6, p. 431.

“We are certainly living in the closing days of this earth’s history. We need to devote much time to our spiritual interests, if we would experience the spiritual growth that is essential in this age. We are to make decided reforms. The Voice said: The watchmen need to awake, and give the trumpet a certain sound. The morning cometh; and also the night. Wake up, My watchmen. Voices that should now be heard presenting the truth are silent. Souls are perishing in their sins, and ministers and physicians and teachers are asleep. Wake up the watchmen!” — Pacific Union Recorder, February 20, 1908.

**PRQ2. Beyond mere sermonizing, what is the heart of the church’s duty?**

Monday, December 16

## 2. IN AN AGE OF MORAL DARKNESS

**b. How is the Lord eager to transform our churches through His grace?**

**Isaiah 60:1, 2.**

**Isaiah 60:1-2:** *1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. 2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.*

“The churches are withering up because they have failed to use their talents in diffusing the light of truth to others. Careful instruction should be given that will be as lessons from the Master that all may put their light to practical use in benefiting others.”—The Review and Herald, February 28, 1893.

**PRQ2. Beyond mere sermonizing, what is the heart of the church's duty?**

Tuesday, December 17

### 3. RESULTS PROMISED

**a. What assurance does God offer to all yearning to be imbued with His Holy Spirit in order to share truth with others? Proverbs 1:23; Psalm 81:10.**

**Proverbs 1:23:** *Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.*

**Psalm 81:10:** *I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.*

“All who have received the light of truth are placed under solemn obligations to let that light shine forth to others. Each can, in his humble sphere, do something for the Master. He may not be able to make magnificent offerings to advance the cause of God, but he can give the willing, cheerful, service of an obedient heart. All cannot be preachers; all cannot be generals in the army of the Lord; but all can be faithful privates, following in humble obedience the commands of the Captain of their salvation. They can cheer their companions with words of hope and courage, and by so doing will show forth the praises of Him who hath called them out of darkness into His marvelous light. God demands of all the very best service that they can give. If they can only do the lowly errands for Him, these should not be neglected.”—The Review and Herald, August 24, 1886.

“Church-members need to be taught that the measure of their success in ministering to souls will be the measure of their self-denial and their faithfulness in following Christ’s example.”—Pacific Union Recorder, February 20, 1908.

**PRQ3. Explain God’s plan to enlighten the world with the present truth.**

Tuesday, December 17

### 3. RESULTS PROMISED

#### b. What results from faithful efforts to share light? Zechariah 8:20–23.

**Zechariah 8:20-23:** *20 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities: 21 And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts: I will go also. 22 Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD. 23 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.*

“God will move upon men of humble position in society, men who have not become insensible to the bright rays of light through so long contemplating the light of truth, and refusing to make any improvement or advancement therein. Many such will be seen hurrying hither and thither, constrained by the Spirit of God to bring the light to others. The truth, the word of God, is as a fire in their bones, filling them with a burning desire to enlighten those who sit in darkness. Many, even among the uneducated, now proclaim the words of the Lord. Children are impelled by the Spirit to go forth and declare the message from Heaven. The Spirit is poured out upon all who will yield to its promptings, and, casting off all man’s machinery, his binding rules and cautious methods, they will declare the truth with the might of the Spirit’s power. Multitudes will receive the faith and join the armies of the Lord.”—The Review and Herald, July 23, 1895.

**PRQ3. Explain God’s plan to enlighten the world with the present truth.**

Wednesday, December 18

## 4. COURAGE AMID OPPOSITION

**a. Describe the experience of Jeremiah when mocked and derided in witnessing for God and how he overcame his fears. Jeremiah 20:7–11.**

**Jeremiah 20:7-11:** *7 O LORD, thou hast deceived me, and I was deceived: thou art stronger than I, and hast prevailed: I am in derision daily, every one mocketh me. 8 For since I spake, I cried out, I cried violence and spoil; because the word of the LORD was made a reproach unto me, and a derision, daily. 9 Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay. 10 For I heard the defaming of many, fear on every side. Report, say they, and we will report it. All my familiars watched for my halting, saying, Peradventure he will be enticed, and we shall prevail against him, and we shall take our revenge on him. 11 But the LORD is with me as a mighty terrible one: therefore my persecutors shall stumble, and they shall not prevail: they shall be greatly ashamed; for they shall not prosper: their everlasting confusion shall never be forgotten.*

“Because of the bitterness, hatred, and opposition manifested against the word of God spoken in reproof, many other messengers of God have decided to do as Jeremiah decided. But what did this prophet of the Lord do after his decision? Try as much as he would, he could not hold his peace. As soon as he came into the assemblies of the people, he found that the Spirit of the Lord was stronger than he was. . . .

“In this generation, when God’s servants speak the word of the Lord to reprove wrongdoers, to rebuke those who bring in wrong principles, have they not had an experience similar to that which Jeremiah had? When a course of action to pervert justice and judgment is introduced, the word of the Lord must be spoken in reproof.” —The SDA Bible Commentary [E. G. White Comments], vol. 4, p. 1156.

**PRQ4. How is the example taught by Jeremiah to be rewarded?**

Wednesday, December 18

#### 4. COURAGE AMID OPPOSITION

**b. What should we learn from how prophets and apostles shared God’s messages with such tremendous power? Micah 3:8; 1 Corinthians 2:4, 5.**

**Micah 3:8:** *But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the LORD, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.*

**1 Corinthians 2:4-5:** *4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*

“The word of God was preached by His ministers in early days ‘in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.’ The hearts of men were stirred by the proclamation of the gospel. Why is it that the preaching of the truth has now so little power to move the people? Is God less willing to bestow His blessing upon the laborers in His cause in this age than in the apostles’ day?

“The warning which we bear to the world must prove to them a savor of life unto life or of death unto death. And will the Lord send forth His servants to proclaim this fearfully solemn message and withhold from them His Holy Spirit? Shall frail, erring men, without special grace and power from God, dare to stand between the living and the dead to speak the words of everlasting life? Our Lord is rich in grace, mighty in power; He will abundantly bestow these gifts upon all who come to Him in faith. He is more willing to give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him than are parents to give good gifts to their children. The reason why the precious, important truth for this time is not powerful to save is that we do not work in faith.” — Testimonies, vol. 5, pp. 157, 158.

**PRQ4. How is the example taught by Jeremiah to be rewarded?**

Thursday, December 19

## 5. REAPING THE BOUNTY

**a. What was the purpose of Jesus in sending the miraculous draught of fishes? What can we learn from this experience in our labor for souls? Luke 5:4–10.**

**Luke 5:4-10:** *4 Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. 5 And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. 6 And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. 7 And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. 8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. 9 For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: 10 And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.*

“Be not so self-caring. There are thousands whose lives are just as precious as yours. Then why do you wrap your coat about you, and hug the shore? Awake to duty and to usefulness! If you will launch out into the deep and let down your nets, the Master will gather in the fishes, and you will see of the mighty working of God. . . .

“Teach the people to have light in themselves, and not to depend upon the ministers. They should have Christ as their helper, and should educate themselves to help one another, so that the minister can be free to enter new fields.”—*Historical Sketches*, p. 139.

“Our people have had great light, and yet much of our ministerial force is exhausted on the churches, in teaching those who should be teachers; enlightening those who should be ‘the light of the world.’”—*Evangelism*, p. 382.

***PRQ5. In what ways can I wean myself from burdening the ministers?***

Thursday, December 19

## 5. REAPING THE BOUNTY

**b. How is our Creator able to perform His work using the individuality He has graciously bestowed upon each one of us? Job 34:11; 37:7.**

**Job 34:11:** *For the work of a man shall he render unto him, and cause every man to find according to his ways.*

**Job 37:7:** *He sealeth up the hand of every man; that all men may know his work.*

“Men with one talent may reach a class that those with two or five talents cannot approach. Great and small alike are chosen vessels to bear the water of life to thirsting souls. . . . Let God work through whom He will. The message must go.”—Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 462.

“My brethren and sisters, study your plans; grasp every opportunity of speaking to your neighbors and associates or of reading something to them from books that contain present truth. Show that you regard as of first importance the salvation of the souls for whom Christ has made so great a sacrifice.”—Ibid., vol. 9, p. 129.

**PRQ5.** *In what ways can I wean myself from burdening the ministers?*

Friday, December 20

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. Of what will many lost souls rightfully complain after it's too late?**
- 2. Beyond mere sermonizing, what is the heart of the church's duty?**
- 3. Explain God's plan to enlighten the world with the present truth.**
- 4. How is the example taught by Jeremiah to be rewarded?**
- 5. In what ways can I wean myself from burdening the ministers?**



Sunday, December 22

## 1. AN EXPERIENCE ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION

a. What has Christ promised for all who gain the victory over sin? Revelation 3:5.

**Revelation 3:5:** *He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.*

*PRQ1. With Christ's help, why must we overcome our character defects?*

Sunday, December 22

## 1. AN EXPERIENCE ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION

**b. Upon what must we set our affections in order to experience this victory?  
Colossians 3:1–3.**

**Colossians 3:1-3:** *1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.*

“Christ says of the overcomer, ‘I will not blot out his name out of the book of life.’ The names of all those who have once given themselves to God are written in the book of life, and their characters are now passing in review before Him. Angels of God are weighing moral worth. They are watching the development of character in those now living, to see if their names can be retained in the book of life. A probation is granted us in which to wash our robes of character and make them white in the blood of the Lamb. Who is doing this work? Who is separating from himself sin and selfishness? ‘Ye are dead,’ says the apostle Paul of the true followers of Christ, ‘and your life is hid with Christ in God.’ When we are alive to God, we are dead to self. May God help us to die to self. Whose names will not be blotted out of the book of life? Only the names of those who have loved God with all the powers of their being, and their neighbors as themselves.” —Historical Sketches, p. 138.

**PRQ1.** *With Christ’s help, why must we overcome our character defects?*

Monday, December 23

## 2. A WORK FOR THIS ERA

**a. Name a crucial work being carried out by four mighty angels throughout the day of atonement. Revelation 7:1–4.**

**Revelation 7:1-4:** *1 And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. 2 And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, 3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. 4 And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.*

“Four mighty angels hold back the powers of this earth till the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. The nations of the world are eager for conflict; but they are held in check by the angels. When this restraining power is removed, there will come a time of trouble and anguish.” —Maranatha, p. 257.

“A terrible conflict is before us. We are nearing the battle of the great day of God Almighty. That which has been held in control is to be let loose. The angel of mercy is folding her wings, preparing to step down from the throne and leave the world to the control of Satan. The principalities and powers of earth are in bitter revolt against the God of heaven. They are filled with hatred against those who serve Him, and soon, very soon, will be fought the last great battle between good and evil. The earth is to be the battlefield—the scene of the final contest and the final victory.

“While their hands were loosening, and the four winds were about to blow, the merciful eye of Jesus gazed on the remnant that were not sealed, and He raised His hands to the Father and pleaded with Him that He had spilled His blood for them. Then another angel was commissioned to fly swiftly to the four angels and bid them hold until the servants of God were sealed with the seal of the living God in their foreheads.” —My Life Today, p. 308.

**PRQ2. Why has Jesus bidden four mighty angels to hold back the winds?**

Monday, December 23

## 2. A WORK FOR THIS ERA

**b. What determines the outcome of the coming conflict for each of us?**

**Romans 8:6. What are the evidences of a carnal heart or mind? 1**

**Corinthians 3:3, 4.**

**Romans 8:6:** *For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

**1 Corinthians 3:3-4:** *3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? 4 For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?*

“As yet the four winds are held until the servants of God shall be sealed in their foreheads. Then the powers of earth will marshal their forces for the last great battle. How carefully we should improve the little remaining period of our probation!

“Minds that have been given up to loose thought need to change. . . . The thoughts must be centered upon God. Now is the time to put forth earnest effort to overcome the natural tendencies of the carnal heart.” — Maranatha, p. 243.

**PRQ2. Why has Jesus bidden four mighty angels to hold back the winds?**

Tuesday, December 24

### 3. A SOLEMN TASK

**a. Explain how the sealing work involves the third angel of Revelation 14. What shows the solemn importance of being fully sanctified? Revelation 14:9–12; 1 Thessalonians 5:23, 24.**

**Revelation 14:9-12:** *9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. 12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*

**1 Thessalonians 5:23-24:** *23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.*

“I . . . saw the third angel. Said my accompanying angel, ‘Fearful is his work. Awful is his mission. He is the angel that is to select the wheat from the tares, and seal, or bind, the wheat for the heavenly garner. These things should engross the whole mind, the whole attention.’ ”—Early Writings, p. 118.

“Many do not realize what they must be in order to live in the sight of the Lord without a high priest in the sanctuary through the time of trouble. Those who receive the seal of the living God and are protected in the time of trouble must reflect the image of Jesus fully.

*Continued...*

“I saw that many were neglecting the preparation so needful and were looking to the time of ‘refreshing’ and the ‘latter rain’ to fit them to stand in the day of the Lord and to live in His sight. Oh, how many I saw in the time of trouble without a shelter! They had neglected the needful preparation; therefore they could not receive the refreshing that all must have to fit them to live in the sight of a holy God. Those who refuse to be hewed by the prophets and fail to purify their souls in obeying the whole truth, and who are willing to believe that their condition is far better than it really is, will come up to the time of the falling of the plagues, and then see that they needed to be hewed and squared for the building. But there will be no time then to do it and no Mediator to plead their cause before the Father.” —Ibid., p. 71.

***PRQ3. What do many people misunderstand about the latter rain or refreshing?***

Tuesday, December 24

### 3. A SOLEMN TASK

**b. What final blessing does God bestow especially to prepare the harvest of souls for His kingdom? Joel 2:23; Zechariah 10:1.**

**Joel 2:23:** *Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.*

**Zechariah 10:1:** *Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.*

“The sins of Israel must go to judgment beforehand. Every sin must be confessed at the sanctuary, then the work will move. It must be done now. . . .

“When the four angels let go, Christ will set up His kingdom. None receive the latter rain but those who are doing all they can. Christ would help us. All could be overcomers by the grace of God, through the blood of Jesus.” — Spalding and Magan Collection, 2a, pp. 2, 3.

**PRQ3.** *What do many people misunderstand about the latter rain or refreshing?*

Wednesday, December 25

#### 4. CONDITIONS FOR THE LATTER RAIN

**a. What is needed in order to receive the latter rain? Isaiah 43:25; 44:22.**

**Isaiah 43:25:** *I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.*

**Isaiah 44:22:** *I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee.*

“The names of some will be blotted out of the book of life. Whose shall it be? Let us each examine ourselves carefully to see if we are in the faith; let us be diligent to make sure work for eternity. Jesus says that He will confess the name of the overcomer before His Father, and before the holy angels.”—Historical Sketches, p. 139.

“Those that overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil, will be the favored ones who shall receive the seal of the living God. Those whose hands are not clean, whose hearts are not pure, will not have the seal of the living God. Those who are planning sin and acting it will be passed by. Only those who, in their attitude before God, are filling the position of those who are repenting and confessing their sins in the great anti-typical day of atonement, will be recognized and marked as worthy of God’s protection.”—Testimonies to Ministers, p. 445.

“No special work for God can be accomplished until self and selfishness are overcome.”—Historical Sketches, p. 139.

“Those who come up to every point, and stand every test, and overcome, be the price what it may, have heeded the counsel of the True Witness, and they will receive the latter rain, and thus be fitted for translation.”—Testimonies, vol. 1, p. 187.

“We want the deep movings of the Spirit of God in our hearts, that we may not only be able to secure for ourselves the white raiment, but that we may so influence others that their names may be entered in the book of life, never to be blotted out.”—Historical Sketches, p. 140.

**PRQ4. If our sins are blotted out, with what blessed task can God entrust us?**

Wednesday, December 25

#### 4. CONDITIONS FOR THE LATTER RAIN

**b. What should we realize about the latter rain? Hosea 6:3; Acts 3:19.**

**Hosea 6:3:** *Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.*

**Acts 3:19:** *Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;*

“The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel, are again to be fulfilled in the latter rain at its close. Here are ‘the times of refreshing’ to which the apostle Peter looked forward when he said, ‘Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out [in the investigative Judgment], when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and he shall send Jesus’ (Acts 3:19, 20).

“Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from Heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given.”—The Great Controversy, 1888 ed., pp. 611, 612. [Words in brackets in the original.]

**PRQ4.** *If our sins are blotted out, with what blessed task can God entrust us?*

Thursday, December 26

## 5. ULTIMATE VICTORY

a. When Jesus completes His ministry in heaven, what encouraging declaration will He make in behalf of the overcomers? Revelation 22:11 (last part).

**Revelation 22:11:** *He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.*

**PRQ5.** *What can I do today to ensure I am one of the ultimate overcomers?*

Thursday, December 26

## 5. ULTIMATE VICTORY

**b. How may we realize the wonderful promises made to all who gain the victory through the blood of the Lamb? Revelation 22:14; Isaiah 26:2–4.**

**Revelation 22:14:** *Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.*

**Isaiah 26:2-4:** *2 Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. 3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. 4 Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:*

“Glorious will be the reward bestowed when the faithful workers gather about the throne of God and of the Lamb. . . .They will stand before the throne, accepted in the Beloved. All their sins have been blotted out, all their transgressions borne away. Now they can look upon the undimmed glory of the throne of God. They have been partakers with Christ in His sufferings, they have been workers together with Him in the plan of redemption, and they are partakers with Him in the joy of seeing souls saved in the kingdom of God, there to praise God through all eternity.

“My brother, my sister, I urge you to prepare for the coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven. Day by day cast the love of the world out of your hearts. Understand by experience what it means to have fellowship with Christ. Prepare for the judgment, that when Christ shall come, to be admired in all them that believe, you may be among those who will meet Him in peace. In that day the redeemed will shine forth in the glory of the Father and the Son. The angels, touching their golden harps, will welcome the King and His trophies of victory—those who have been washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb. A song of triumph will peal forth, filling all heaven. Christ has conquered. He enters the heavenly courts, accompanied by His redeemed ones, the witnesses that His mission of suffering and sacrifice has not been in vain.”—Testimonies, vol. 9, pp. 285, 286.

**PRQ5.** *What can I do today to ensure I am one of the ultimate overcomers?*

Friday, December 27

## **PERSONAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. With Christ's help, why must we overcome our character defects?**
- 2. Why has Jesus bidden four mighty angels to hold back the winds?**
- 3. What do many people misunderstand about the latter rain or refreshing?**
- 4. If our sins are blotted out, with what blessed task can God entrust us?**
- 5. What can I do today to ensure I am one of the ultimate overcomers?**