

Bible Readings

FOR THE

Home Circle

*A Topical Study of the Bible, Systematically
Arranged for Home and Private Study*

Containing
Two Hundred Readings, in Which Are Answered
Nearly Four Thousand Questions on Im-
portant Religious Subjects, Con-
tributed by a Large Num-
ber of Bible Students

NEW, REVISED, AND
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THE VALUE OF BIBLE STUDY

THE Bible is God's great text-book for man. It is His lamp to our feet and light to our path in this world of sin. The value of Bible study cannot therefore be overestimated.

Considered from a literary standpoint alone, the Bible stands preeminent. Its terse, chaste style; its beautiful and impressive imagery; its interesting stories and well-told narratives; its deep wisdom and its sound logic; its dignified language and its elevated themes, all make it worthy of universal reading and careful study.

As an educating power, the Bible has no equal. Nothing so broadens the vision, strengthens the mind, elevates the thoughts, and ennobles the affections as does the study of the sublime and stupendous truths of revelation. A knowledge of its principles is an essential preparation to every calling. To the extent that it is studied and its teachings are received, it gives strength of character, noble ambition, keenness of perception, and sound judgment. Of all the books ever written, none contains lessons so instructive, precepts so pure, or promises so great as the Bible.

There is nothing that so convinces the mind of the inspiration of the Bible as does the reading of the Bible itself, and especially those portions known as the prophecies. After the resurrection of Christ, when everything else seemed to have failed to convince the disciples that He had risen from the dead, He appealed to the inspired Word, and "expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself" (Luke 24: 25-27), and they believed. On another occasion He said, "If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead." Luke 16: 31.

As a guide, the Bible is without a rival. It gives a calm peace in believing, and a firm hope of the future. It solves the great problem of life and destiny, and inspires to a life of purity, patience, and well-doing. It fills the heart with love for God and a desire to do good to others, and thus prepares for usefulness here and for a home in heaven. It teaches the value of the soul, by revealing the price that has been paid to redeem it. It makes known the only antidote for sin, and presents the only perfect code of morals ever given. It tells of the future and the preparation necessary to meet it. It makes us bold for the right, and sustains the soul in adversity and affliction. It lights up the dark valley of death, and points to a life unending. It leads to God, and to Christ, whom to know is life eternal. In short, it is the one book to live by and die by.

As the king of Israel was instructed to write him a copy of the law, and to read therein "all the days of his life," that he might "fear the Lord," keep His word, and thus prolong his days and the days of his children (Deut. 17: 18-20), so ought men now to study the Bible, and from it learn that fear which is the beginning of wisdom, and that knowledge which is unto salvation. As an aid and incentive to this, "Bible Readings for the Home Circle" has been prepared and published.

Bible Readings; Their Value and Use

Briefly stated, a Bible reading consists of questions asked concerning some subject, and answers to them from the Bible. In other words, Bible readings mean a topical study of the Bible by means of questions and answers.

In either receiving or imparting knowledge, there is nothing like the interrogation-point. Nothing so readily quickens thought or awakens interest as a question. Children would learn little if they asked no questions, and he would indeed be a poor teacher who asked and answered none.

Knowing the value of this means of awakening thought, arousing interest, and imparting information, God, in His wisdom, inspired those who wrote the Bible to ask many questions, that He might set us to thinking and studying about the great themes with which it deals. See Job 38: 4, 7; 14: 14; Ps. 8: 4; Mal. 3: 1, 2, 8; Ex. 32: 26; 1 Chron. 29: 5.

But God not only asks questions; He answers them. The following may be cited as a few short Bible readings, taken, both questions and answers, directly from the Bible itself:—

"What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?

"Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it." Ps. 34: 12-14.

"Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?

"They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine." Prov. 23: 29, 30.

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in His holy place?

"He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation." Ps. 24: 3-5. See also Psalm 15, and Isa. 33: 14-17.

The Bible itself, therefore, sets the example of giving instruction and of imparting most valuable information by means of asking questions and answering them.

The readings in this book as originally prepared, were contributed by a large number of Bible workers, whose experience in giving Bible readings had taught them the most effective methods of presenting the different subjects treated. Over one million two hundred and fifty thousand copies of the book as thus prepared, have been sold.

The work has recently been thoroughly revised and re-written, much enlarged, entirely reillustrated, with the readings classified and carefully arranged according to topics, by a large committee of able critics and Bible students. So extensive has been the revision, and so much and valuable the new matter added, that the present work is practically a new book, although retaining the same name and the same general plan as the former work. Thus prepared, it is once more sent forth on its mission of light and blessing.

As a help in enabling the reader quickly to discover the words which most directly answer the question asked, they are generally printed in italic, unless the entire scripture quoted is required for the purpose.

"Bible Readings" will be found an excellent aid to private, family, and public study of the Word of God.

NOTE

THIS plain edition of "Bible Readings for the Home Circle" is published in response to an urgent demand from gospel workers for these valuable readings in compact form. The subscription edition contains 800 pages, is printed on heavy paper, and has about 300 illustrations. It is too large and heavy to carry about conveniently.

This thin paper edition contains all the readings complete, and the type work is uniform with the regular book. We trust it will meet the need of those workers who wish to have these readings always near them for reference.

THE PUBLISHERS.

PART I

The Bible; How to Study and Understand It

THE SCRIPTURES

1. By what name are the sacred writings of the Bible commonly known?

"Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in *the Scriptures*, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner?" Matt. 21: 42.

2. What other title is given this revelation of God to man?

"And He answered and said unto them, My mother and My brethren are these which hear *the word of God*, and do it." Luke 8: 21.

3. How were the Scriptures given?

"All scripture is given *by inspiration of God*." 2 Tim. 3: 16.

4. By whom were the men directed who thus spoke for God?

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved *by the Holy Ghost*." 2 Peter 1: 21.

5. What specific instance is mentioned by Peter?

"Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, *which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas*, which was guide to them that took Jesus." Acts 1: 16.

6. How does David express this same truth?

"*The Spirit of the Lord spake by me*, and His word was in my tongue." 2 Sam. 23: 2.

7. Who, therefore, did the speaking through these men?

"*God*, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets." Heb. 1: 1.

8. For what purpose were the Scriptures written?

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

9. For what is all scripture profitable?

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." 2 Tim. 3: 16.

10. What was God's design in thus giving the Scriptures?

"That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." Verse 17.

11. What estimate did Job place upon the words of God?

"Neither have I gone back from the commandment of His lips; I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food." Job 23: 12.

12. Upon what evidence did Jesus base His Messiahship?

"And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself." Luke 24: 27.

13. What three general divisions did Jesus recognize as including all the writings of the Old Testament?

"And He said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning Me." Verse 44.

14. What does God's character preclude Him from doing?

"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began." Titus 1: 2.

15. What is God called in the Scriptures?

"He is the Rock, His work is perfect: for all His ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He." Deut. 32: 4.

16. What, therefore, must be the character of His word?

"Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy word is truth." John 17: 17.

17. What test should therefore be applied to every professed teacher of truth?

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them," Isa. 8: 20.

18. What does God design that His word shall be to us in this world of darkness, sin, and death?

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Ps. 119:105.

19. To what extent has God magnified His word?

"Thou hast magnified Thy word above all Thy name." Ps. 138:2.

NOTE.— God did this by backing His promises with an oath based upon Himself. Heb. 6:13, 14. By this He pledged and placed at stake His name, or character, for the fulfilment of His word.

20. In what is the true poetry of life to be found?

"Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage." Ps. 119:54.

21. How long will the word of God endure?

"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand forever." Isa. 40:8. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away." Matt. 24:35.

THE STUDY OF THE SCRIPTURES

1. WHAT did Christ say to the Jews concerning the study of the Scriptures?

"Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me." John 5:39.

2. For what were the Bereans commended?

"These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so." Acts 17:11.

NOTE.— "If God's Word were studied as it should be," says a modern Bible student, "men would have a breadth of mind, a nobility of character, and a stability of purpose that are rarely seen in these times. But there is little benefit derived from a hasty reading of the Scriptures. One may read the whole Bible through, and yet fail to see its beauty or comprehend its deep and hidden meaning. One passage studied until its significance is clear to the mind and its relation to the plan of salvation is evident, is of more value than the perusal of many chapters with no definite purpose in view, and no positive instruction gained."

3. By what comparison is it indicated that some portions of God's Word are more difficult to understand than others?

"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat." Heb. 5:12.

4. In what way is this comparison further explained?

"For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a *babe*. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of *full age*, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." Verses 13, 14.

5. What writings are specifically mentioned as containing some things difficult to understand?

"And account that the long-suffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother *Paul* also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; as also in all *his epistles*, speaking in them of these things; *in which are some things hard to be understood*, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction." 2 Peter 3: 15, 16.

NOTE.— Some scriptures are too plain to be misunderstood, while the meaning of others cannot so readily be discerned. To obtain a comprehensive knowledge of any Bible truth, scripture must be compared with scripture, and there should be "careful research and prayerful reflection." But all such study will be richly rewarded.

6. Who alone comprehends the things of God?

"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but *the Spirit of God*." 1 Cor. 2: 11.

7. How thoroughly does the Spirit search out the hidden treasures of truth?

"But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for *the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God*." Verse 10.

8. What is one purpose for which the Holy Spirit was sent?

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, *He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you*." John 14: 26.

9. Why cannot the natural man receive the things of the Spirit?

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, *because they are spiritually discerned*." 1 Cor. 2: 14.

10. For what spiritual enlightenment should every one pray?

"*Open Thou mine eyes*, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law." Ps. 119: 18.

11. For what spiritual gift did the apostle Paul pray?

"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you *the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him.*" Eph. 1: 17.

12. Upon what conditions is an understanding of divine things promised?

"*Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; if thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God.*" Prov. 2: 3-5.

13. What great blessing did Christ confer upon His disciples after His resurrection?

"*Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures.*" Luke 24: 45.

14. What beings of a higher order than man desire to study the truths revealed in the gospel of Christ?

"Which things *the angels* desire to look into." 1 Peter 1: 12.

15. What is promised him who wills to do God's will?

"If any man will [willeth to, R. V.] do His will, *he shall know of the doctrine*, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of Myself." John 7: 17.

16. How did Christ reprove those who, though familiar with the letter of the Scriptures, failed to understand them?

"Jesus answered and said unto them, *Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God.*" Matt. 22: 29.

17. What are the Scriptures able to do for one who believes them?

"And that from a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, *which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*" 2 Tim. 3: 15.

18. When asked by the rich young man the conditions of eternal life, to what did Jesus direct his attention?

"He said unto him, *What is written in the law? how readest thou?*" Luke 10: 26.

19. Whom did Jesus pronounce blessed?

"But He said, *Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.*" Luke 11: 28.

20. What did Christ say concerning the book of Daniel?

"When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (*whoso readeth, let him understand*)." Matt. 24: 15.

21. What other book of the Bible is especially commended for our study?

"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear *the words of this prophecy [the book of Revelation]*, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." Rev. 1: 3.

POWER IN THE WORD

1. THROUGH what agency did God create the heavens?

"By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth." "For He spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast." Ps. 33: 6, 9.

2. By what does Christ uphold all things?

"Upholding all things by the word of His power." Heb. 1: 3.

3. Of what are some willingly ignorant?

"For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished." 2 Peter 3: 5, 6.

4. By what are the present heavens and earth reserved for a similar fate?

"But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." Verse 7.

5. In what other scripture is it shown that creative power is exercised through the word of God?

"Let them praise the name of the Lord: for He commanded, and they were created." Ps. 148: 5.

6. What change is wrought in one who is in Christ?

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature [margin, R. V., there is a new creation]: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Cor. 5: 17.

7. What is this new creation also called?

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be *born again*, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3: 3.

8. Through what agency is this new creation, or new birth, accomplished?

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, *by the word of God*, which liveth and abideth forever." 1 Peter 1: 23.

9. What is the first creative commandment recorded in the Bible? and what was the result of it?

"And God said, *Let there be light: and there was light.*" Gen. 1: 3.

10. What connection is there between the creation of light in the beginning, and the light of the gospel?

"For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give *the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*" 2 Cor. 4: 6.

11. Why were the people astonished at Christ's teaching?

"And they were astonished at His doctrine: *for His word was with power.*" Luke 4: 32.

12. What testified to the power of the word of Christ?

"And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a word is this! *for with authority and power He commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out.*" Verse 36.

13. What did Christ say is the seed of the kingdom of God?

"The seed is *the word of God.*" Luke 8: 11.

14. Where should the word of Christ dwell?

"Let the word of Christ *dwell in you richly in all wisdom.*" Col. 3: 16.

15. What did Christ say of the unbelieving Jews respecting the word of God?

"*Ye have not His word abiding in you: for whom He hath sent, Him ye believe not.*" John 5: 38.

16. How does the word of God work in the believer?

"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the

word of God, *which effectually worketh also in you that believe.*" 1 Thess. 2: 13.

17. What nature is imparted through the promises of God?

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: *that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*" 2 Peter 1: 4.

18. By what are believers made clean?

"Now ye are clean *through the word which I have spoken unto you.*" John 15: 3.

19. How may a young man cleanse his way?

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

20. How did God heal His people anciently?

"*He sent His word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.*" Ps. 107: 20.

21. How did the centurion show his faith in the power of Christ's word to heal?

"The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof: but *speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.*" Matt. 8: 8.

22. What power has the word when hidden in the heart?

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, *that I might not sin against Thee.*" Ps. 119: 11. See also Ps. 17: 4.

23. Why did God humble Israel, and suffer them to hunger?

"And He humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, . . . *that He might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.*" Deut. 8: 3.

24. What is required beyond a mere hearing of the word?

"But be ye *doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.*" James 1: 22.

25. What is the result of doing God's will?

"And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but *he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.*" 1 John 2: 17.

THE LIFE-GIVING WORD

1. WHAT is the nature of the word of God?

"For the word of God is *quick*, and *powerful*, and *sharper than any two-edged sword*, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a *discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*" Heb. 4: 12.

2. How are the oracles of God described?

"This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received *the lively oracles* to give unto us." Acts 7: 38.

3. What did Christ declare His words to be?

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

4. What was Peter's testimony concerning Christ's words?

"Then Simon Peter answered Him, Lord, to whom shall we go? *Thou hast the words of eternal life.*" Verse 68.

5. What did Christ declare His Father's commandment to be?

"And I know that His commandment is *life everlasting.*" John 12: 50.

6. What lesson was intended by feeding the children of Israel with the manna?

"And He humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; *that He might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.*" Deut. 8: 3.

7. What interpretation did Jesus give to this lesson?

"Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but My Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. *For the bread of God is He which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.*" John 6: 32, 33.

8. In further explanation of the meaning of this lesson, what did Jesus declare Himself to be?

"And Jesus said unto them, *I am the bread of life:* he that

cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst." Verse 35.

9. What benefit is derived from eating this bread of life?

"As the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth Me, even he shall live by Me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live forever." Verses 57, 58.

10. What instance is recorded of one who fed upon the true manna?

"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and Thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by Thy name, O Lord God of hosts." Jer. 15: 16.

11. What name is applied to Jesus as the revelation of the thought of God in the flesh?

"In the beginning was *the Word*, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1: 1. "And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called *The Word of God*." Rev. 19: 13.

12. What was in the Word?

"In Him was *life*; and the life was the light of men." John 1: 4.

13. What is Jesus therefore also called?

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of *the Word of life*." 1 John 1: 1.

14. Why did the Jews fail to find life in the Scriptures?

"Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me. And ye will not come to Me, that ye might have life." John 5: 39, 40.

15. What constitutes a part of Christian experience?

"And have *tasted the good word of God*, and the powers of the world to come." Heb. 6: 5. See answer to question 10.

16. In assigning him his life-work, what instruction did Jesus give to Peter?

"Jesus saith unto him, *Feed My sheep*." John 21: 17.

17. What apostolic injunction indicates the way in which this instruction is to be obeyed?

"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; *Preach the word*; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine." 2 Tim. 4: 1, 2.

18. How are we instructed to pray for both physical and spiritual nourishment?

"Give us this day our daily bread." Matt. 6: 11.

NOTE.—When "the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us," the thought of God was revealed in human flesh. When holy men of God "spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost," the thought of God was revealed in human language. The union of the divine and the human in the manifestation of God's thought in the flesh is declared to be "the mystery of godliness;" and there is the same mystery in the union of the divine thought and human language. The two revelations of God, in human flesh and in human speech, are both called the *Word of God*, and both are the *Word of life*. He who fails to find Christ thus in the Scriptures will not be able to feed upon the Word as the life-giving Word.

CHRIST IN ALL THE BIBLE

1. Of whom did Christ say the Scriptures testify?

"Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and *they are they which testify of Me*." John 5: 39.

NOTE.—"Search the Old Testament Scriptures: for they are they that testify of Christ. To find Him in them is the true and legitimate end of their study. To be able to interpret them as He interpreted them is the best result of all Biblical learning."—*Dean Alford*.

2. Of whom did Moses and the prophets write?

"Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found Him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, *Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph*." John 1: 45.

NOTE.—In her translation of the Old Testament Scriptures, Helen Spurrell expressed the following wish for all who should read her translation: "May very many exclaim, as the translator has often done when studying numerous passages in the original, *I have found the Messiah!*"

3. From whose words did Christ say the disciples ought to have learned of His death and resurrection?

"O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that *the prophets* have spoken: ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory?" Luke 24: 25, 26.

4. How did Christ make it clear to them that the Scriptures testify of Him?

"And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, *He expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself.*" Verse 27.

5. What did He say a little later to the eleven?

"These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that *all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning Me.*" Verse 44.

6. Where in the Bible do we find the first promise of a Redeemer?

"And the Lord God said unto the serpent, . . . I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and *her seed*; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel." Gen. 3: 14, 15.

7. In what words was this promise renewed to Abraham?

"*In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*" Gen. 22: 18. See also Gen. 26: 4; 28: 14.

8. To whom did this promised seed refer?

"Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, *which is Christ.*" Gal. 3: 16.

9. Whom did God promise to send with Israel to guide them into the promised land?

"Behold, I send *an Angel* before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared." Ex. 23: 20.

10. Who was the Rock that went with them?

"And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed [margin, went with] them: and *that Rock was Christ.*" 1 Cor. 10: 4.

11. In what prophecy are Christ's life, suffering, and death touchingly foretold?

In the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah.

12. Where is the price of Christ's betrayal foretold?

"So they weighed for My price *thirty pieces of silver.*" Zech. 11: 12. See Matt. 26: 15.

13. Where in the Psalms are Christ's dying words recorded?

"My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken Me?" Ps.

22: 1. See Matt. 27: 46. "Into Thine hand I commit My spirit." Ps. 31: 5. See Luke 23: 46.

14. How is Christ's resurrection foretold in the Psalms?

"I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto Me, Thou art My Son; *this day have I begotten Thee.*" Ps. 2: 7. See Acts 13: 33.

15. Where again in the Psalms is His resurrection foretold?

"For *Thou wilt not leave My soul in hell; neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption.*" Ps. 16: 10. See Acts 2: 25-31.

16. In what words does Daniel foretell Christ's receiving His kingdom?

"I saw in the night-visions, and, behold, one like *the Son of man* came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought Him near before Him. And *there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom*, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom that which shall not be destroyed." Dan. 7: 13, 14. See also Luke 1: 32, 33; 19: 11, 12; Rev. 11: 15.

17. How is Christ's second coming described in the Psalms?

"Let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful together before the Lord; *for He cometh to judge the earth*: with righteousness shall He judge the world, and the people with equity." Ps. 98: 8, 9. "*Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence*: a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He may judge His people. Gather My saints together unto Me; those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice." Ps. 50: 3-5.

18. What is Christ to one renewed after God's image?

"Christ is *all*, and *in all*." Col. 3: 11.

A GLORY in the Word we find
When grace restores our sight;
But sin has darkened all the mind,
And veiled the heavenly light.

When God's own Spirit clears our view,
How bright the doctrines shine!
Their holy fruits and sweetness show
Their Author is divine.

PART II

Sin; Its Origin, Results, and Remedy

CREATION AND THE CREATOR

1. By whom were the heavens and the earth created?

"In the beginning *God* created the heaven and the earth." Gen. 1: 1.

2. Through whom did God create all things?

"For *by Him* [the Son] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: *all things were created by Him, and for Him.*" Col. 1: 16. "All things were made *by Him* [through Him, R. V., margin]: and without Him was not anything made that was made." John 1: 3. See also Heb. 1: 1, 2.

3. What do the heavens declare?

"The heavens declare *the glory of God*; and the firmament showeth His handiwork." Ps. 19: 1.

4. What was God's object in making the earth?

"For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God Himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, *He formed it to be inhabited.*" Isa. 45: 18.

5. In whose image was man created?

"So God created man *in His own image*, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them." Gen. 1: 27.

6. What home did God make for man in the beginning?

"And the Lord God planted *a garden* eastward in Eden; and there He put the man whom He had formed. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food. . . . And the Lord God took the man, and put him into *the garden of Eden* to dress it and to keep it." Gen. 2: 8-15.

7. What may be perceived through the things that are made?

"For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." Rom. 1:20.

8. Whose workmanship is the Christian?

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

9. What assurance is given concerning the unfailing power of the Creator?

"Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of His understanding." Isa. 40:28.

10. What encouraging statement follows concerning the supply of power to the faint?

"He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increaseth strength." Verse 29.

11. To whom are those who suffer exhorted to commit their souls?

"Wherefore let them also that suffer according to the will of God commit their souls in well-doing unto a faithful Creator." 1 Peter 4:19, R. V.

12. What gave special force to the oath of an angel?

"And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, and sware by Him that liveth forever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer." Rev. 10:5, 6.

13. What contrast is drawn in the Scriptures between the Creator and false gods?

"Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. . . . The portion of Jacob is not like them: for He is the former of all things; and Israel is the rod of His inheritance: The Lord of hosts is His name." Jer. 10:11-16.

14. To whom is our worship justly due?

"O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our Maker." Ps. 95: 6.

15. In view of the curse upon this creation, what has God promised?

"For, behold, *I create new heavens and a new earth*: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." Isa. 65: 17. See Rev. 21: 1.

16. What is the true basis of the brotherhood of man?

"*Have we not all one Father? hath not one God created us?* why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?" Mal. 2: 10.

THE ORIGIN OF EVIL

1. WITH whom did sin originate?

"He that committeth sin is of the devil; for *the devil sinneth from the beginning.*" 1 John 3: 8.

NOTE.— Without the Bible, the question of the origin of evil would remain unexplained.

2. From what time has the devil been a murderer?

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. *He was a murderer from the beginning*, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him." John 8: 44.

3. What is the devil's relationship to lying?

"When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for *he is a liar, and the father of it.*" Same verse.

4. Was Satan created sinful?

"Thou wast *perfect* in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, *till iniquity was found in thee.*" Eze. 28: 15.

NOTE.— This, and the statement in John 8: 44, that he "*abode not in the truth,*" show that Satan was once *perfect*, and *in the truth*. Peter speaks of "*the angels that sinned*" (2 Peter 2: 4); and Jude refers to "*the angels which kept not their first estate*" (Jude 6); both of which show that these angels were once in a state of sinlessness and innocence.

5. What further statement of Christ seems to lay the responsibility for the origin of sin upon Satan and his angels?

"Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." Matt. 25: 41.

6. What led to Satan's sin, rebellion, and downfall?

"Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness." Eze. 28: 17. "Thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: . . . I will be like the Most High." Isa. 14: 13, 14.

NOTE.— In a word, pride and self-exaltation led to Satan's downfall, and for these there is no justification or adequate excuse. "Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall." Prov. 16: 18. Hence, while we may know of the origin, cause, character, and results of evil, no good or sufficient reason or excuse can be given for it. To excuse it is to justify it; and the moment it is justified it ceases to be sin. All sin is a manifestation of selfishness in some form, and its results are the opposite of those prompted by love. The experiment of sin will result finally in its utter abandonment and banishment forever, by all created intelligences, throughout the entire universe of God. Only those who foolishly and persistently cling to sin will be destroyed with it. The wicked will then "be as though they had not been" (Obadiah 16), and the righteous shall "shine as the brightness of the firmament," and "as the stars forever and ever." Dan. 12: 3. "Affliction shall not rise up the second time." Nahum 1: 9. See reading on "Origin, History, and Destiny of Satan," page 375.

7. In contrast with the pride and self-exaltation exhibited by Satan, what spirit did Christ manifest?

"Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Phil. 2: 6-8.

8. After man had sinned, how did God show His love, and His willingness to forgive?

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3: 16.

NOTE.— Inasmuch as God, who is love, who delights in mercy, and who changes not, offered pardon and granted a period of probation to man when he sinned, it is but reasonable to conclude that a like course was pursued toward the heavenly intelligences who first sinned, and that only those who persisted in sin, and took their stand in open revolt and rebellion against God and the government of heaven, were finally cast out of heaven. Rev. 12: 7-9.

THE FALL AND REDEMPTION OF MAN

1. WHAT is sin declared to be?

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

2. What precedes the manifestation of sin?

"Then when *lust* hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin." James 1: 15.

3. What is the final result or fruit of sin?

"And sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth *death.*" Same verse. "The wages of sin is *death.*" Rom. 6: 23.

4. Upon how many of the human race did death pass as the result of Adam's transgression?

"By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so *death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.*" Rom. 5: 12. "In Adam *all die.*" 1 Cor. 15: 22.

5. How was the earth itself affected by Adam's sin?

"*Cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee.*" Gen. 3: 17, 18.

6. What additional curse came as the result of the first murder?

"And the Lord said unto Cain, . . . And *now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; when thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength.*" Gen. 4: 9-12.

7. What terrible judgment came in consequence of continued sin and transgression against God?

"And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth. . . . The end of all flesh is come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence." "And Noah was six hundred years old when *the flood of waters* was upon the earth. . . . The same day were *all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.*" Gen. 6: 7-13; 7: 6-11.

8. After the flood, what came in consequence of further apostasy from God?

"And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let Us go down, and there *confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.* So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city." Gen. 11: 5-8.

9. Into what condition has sin brought the entire creation?

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

10. What explains God's apparent delay in dealing with sin?

"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is *long-suffering to us ward*, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3: 9.

11. What is God's attitude toward the sinner?

"For *I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth*, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye." Eze. 18: 32.

12. Can man free himself from the dominion of sin?

"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? *then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.*" Jer. 13: 23.

13. What place has the will in determining whether man shall have life?

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And *whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*" Rev. 22: 17.

14. To what extent has Christ suffered for sinners?

"He was *wounded* for our transgressions, He was *bruised* for our iniquities: the *chastisement* of our peace was upon Him; and with His *stripes* we are healed." Isa. 53: 5.

15. For what purpose was Christ manifested?

"And we know that *He was manifested to take away our sins*; and in Him is no sin. . . . He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this

"And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let Us go down, and there *confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.* So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city." Gen. 11: 5-8.

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purpose the Son of God was manifested, *that He might destroy the works of the devil.*" 1 John 3: 5-8.

16. What was one direct purpose of the incarnation of Christ?

"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; *that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.*" Heb. 2: 14.

17. What triumphant chorus will mark the end of the reign of sin?

"And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, *Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever.*" Rev. 5: 13.

18. When and by what means will the effects of sin be removed?

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and *the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also, and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*" 2 Peter 3: 10.

19. How will the curse of the confusion of tongues be brought to an end?

"For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve Him with one consent." Zeph. 3: 9.

20. How thoroughly will the effects of sin be removed?

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be *no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*" Rev. 21: 4. "And there shall be *no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it [the holy city]; and His servants shall serve Him.*" Rev. 22: 3.

21. Will sin and its evil results ever appear again?

"What do ye imagine against the Lord? He will make an utter end: *affliction shall not rise up the second time.*" Nahum 1: 9. "There shall be *no more death.*" "And there shall be *no more curse.*" Rev. 21: 4; 22: 3.

NOTE.—That sin exists none can deny. Why it was permitted has perplexed many minds. But He who can bring light out of darkness

(2 Cor. 4:6), make the wrath of man to praise Him (Ps. 76:10), and turn a curse into a blessing (Deut. 23:5), can bring good out of evil, and turn mistakes and downfalls into stepping-stones to higher ground. Heaven will be happier for the sorrows of earth. "Sorrows remembered sweeten present joy," says Robert Pollock, in "The Course of Time," book 1. In the final outcome it will be seen that all things have worked together for good to them that love God. Rom. 8:28. Cowper, despondent and about to drown himself, was carried the wrong way by his driver, and went home to write the inspiring hymn, "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform."

CREATION AND REDEMPTION

1. WHAT is revealed concerning God in the first verse of the Bible?

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."
Gen. 1:1.

2. What contrast is repeatedly drawn in the Scriptures between the true God and false gods?

"Thus shall ye say unto them, *The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth*, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. . . . The portion of Jacob is not like them: for *He is the former of all things*; and Israel is the rod of His inheritance: The Lord of hosts is His name."
Jer. 10:11-16. See Jer. 14:22; Acts 17:22-29; Rev. 14:6-10.

3. Through whom did God work in creating all things?

"In the beginning was *the Word*, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. *All things were made by Him*; and without Him was not anything made that was made." John 1:1-3.

4. Through whom is redemption wrought?

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

5. In what scripture do we learn that Christ, the active agent in creation, is also the head of the church?

"*For by Him were all things created*, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: *all things were created by Him*, and for Him: and He is before all things, and by Him *all things consist*. And He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence." Col. 1:16-18.

6. What scripture shows that the Creator is also the Redeemer?

“But now thus saith *the Lord that created thee*, O Jacob, and He that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for *I have redeemed thee*, I have called thee by thy name; thou art Mine.” Isa. 43: 1.

7. Who is declared to be the source of power to the weak?

“Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, *the Creator* of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of His understanding. *He giveth power to the faint*; and to them that have no might He increaseth strength.” Isa. 40: 28, 29.

8. What prayer of David shows that he regarded redemption as a creative work?

“*Create in me a clean heart*, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.” Ps. 51: 10.

9. Who keeps the heavenly bodies in their places?

“To whom then will ye liken Me, or shall I be equal? saith *the Holy One*. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, *that bringeth out their host by number*: He calleth them all by names by the greatness of His might, for that He is strong in power; not one faileth.” Isa. 40: 25, 26.

10. What can the same Holy One do for the believer?

“Now unto Him that is able to *keep you from falling*, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.” Jude 24, 25.

11. What is the measure of the power which is available for the help of the believer?

“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him: the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us ward who believe, *according to the working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places.*” Eph. 1: 17-20.

12. How great was the deliverance of Israel from Egyptian bondage?

“Ask now of the days that are past, which were before thee, *since the day that God created man upon the earth*, and ask from the one side of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it? . . . *Hath God assayed to go and take Him a nation from the midst of another nation, by temptations, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?*” Deut. 4: 32-34.

NOTE.— The great deliverance of Israel from bondage and oppression in Egypt is but a type of the power of God displayed in the deliverance of man from the bondage and slavery of sin. In both is seen a manifestation of creative power.

13. What scripture plainly states that it is creative power which transforms the believer?

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

14. Of what great work is the Sabbath both a memorial and a sign?

“Remember the Sabbath day; to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: 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 man servant, nor thy maid servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: *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.” Ex. 20: 8-11. “It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever: *for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth*, and on the seventh day He rested, and was refreshed.” Ex. 31: 17.

15. Inasmuch as creation and redemption are both wrought by the same creative power, of what besides the original creation was the Sabbath given to be a sign?

“Moreover also I gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between Me and them, *that they might know that I am the Lord that sanctify them.*” Eze. 20: 12.

16. Through whose agency is the material universe sustained?

“And He [Christ] is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.” Col. 1: 17, R. V., margin.

17. What statement shows that all things, both material and spiritual, are sustained by the same personal agency?

"But to us there is . . . one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him." 1 Cor. 8: 6.

18. Why is God worthy to receive glory and honor?

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for *Thou hast created all things*, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created." Rev. 4: 11.

NOTE.—That comparatively modern view of creation known as evolution, which rests upon human research rather than upon divine revelation, and which substitutes an impersonal force for a personal Creator, overthrows the very foundation of the gospel. Redemption is simply the new creation, and the Creator is the Redeemer. The Head of the original creation is the Head of the new creation. The original creation was wrought through Christ by the power of the word; the new creation, or redemption, is wrought in exactly the same way. The evolutionary theory of creation inevitably involves an evolutionary theory of the gospel, and sets aside the truth concerning sin, the atoning sacrifice of Christ, and the necessity of becoming new creatures through faith in the saving power of Christ.

THE CHARACTER AND ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

1. IN what one word is the character of God expressed?

"He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is *love*." 1 John 4: 8.

2. What are some of the attributes of God?

"The Lord is *righteous* in all His ways, and *holy* in all His works." Ps. 145: 17.

3. Does Christ possess these same attributes?

"By His knowledge shall *My righteous servant* [Christ] justify many." Isa. 53: 11. "Neither wilt Thou suffer *Thine Holy One* to see corruption." Acts 2: 27.

4. When proclaiming His name to Moses, how did the Lord define His character?

"And the Lord descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, *merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty*." Ex. 34: 5-7.

5. What is said of the tender compassion of God?

"But Thou, O Lord, art a God *full of compassion*, and gracious, long-suffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth." Ps. 86: 15.

6. What is said of God's faithfulness in keeping His promises?

"Know therefore that the Lord thy God, He is God, *the faithful God*, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations." Deut. 7: 9.

7. What is said of the strength and wisdom of God?

"Behold, God is *mighty*, and despiseth not any: He is *mighty in strength and wisdom*." Job 36: 5.

8. What treasures are hid in Christ?

"In whom are hid all the treasures of *wisdom and knowledge*." Col. 2: 3.

9. In what language is the justice of God described?

"He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for *all His ways are judgment*: a God of truth and without iniquity, *just and right is He*." Deut. 32: 4.

10. In what words is His impartiality proclaimed?

"For the Lord your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, *which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward*." Deut. 10: 17. "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that *God is no respecter of persons*: but in every nation he that feareth Him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with Him." Acts 10: 34, 35.

11. To how many is the Lord good?

"The Lord is *good to all*: and His tender mercies are over all His works." Ps. 145: 9.

12. Why did Christ tell us to love our enemies?

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; *that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust*." Matt. 5: 44, 45.

13. How perfect does Christ tell His followers to be?

"Be ye therefore perfect, *even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect*." Verse 48.

THE LOVE OF GOD

1. WHAT is God declared to be?

“God is love.” 1 John 4: 16.

2. How great is God’s love for the world?

“*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*” John 3: 16.

3. In what act especially has God’s love been manifested?

“In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that *God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.*” 1 John 4: 9.

4. In what does God delight?

“Who is a God like unto Thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retaineth not His anger forever, because *He delighteth in mercy.*” Micah 7: 18.

5. How are His mercies continually manifested?

“It is of the Lord’s mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. *They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness.*” Lam. 3: 22, 23.

6. Upon how many does God bestow His blessings?

“He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.” Matt. 5: 45.

7. What did Jesus say of the one who loves Him?

“*He that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself unto him.*” John 14: 21.

8. Into what relationship to God does His love bring us?

“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called *the sons of God.*” 1 John 3: 1.

9. How may we know that we are the sons of God?

“*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. . . . The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.*” Rom. 8: 14-16.

10. How is the love of God supplied to the believer?

“And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts *by the Holy Ghost* which is given unto us.” Rom. 5: 5.

11. In view of God's great love to us, what ought we to do?

"Beloved, if God so loved us, *we ought also to love one another.*" 1 John 4: 11.

12. With what measure of love should we serve others?

"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He laid down His life for us: and *we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.*" 1 John 3: 16.

13. What exhortation is based upon Christ's love for us?

"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 sweet-smelling savor." Eph. 5: 2.

14. Upon what ground does God's work for sinners rest?

"But God, who is rich in mercy, *for His great love wherewith He loved us*, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." Eph. 2: 4-6. See Titus 3: 5, 6.

15. In what other way is God's love sometimes shown?

"For whom the Lord loveth He *chasteneth*, and *scourgeth* every son whom He receiveth." Heb. 12: 6.

16. In view of God's great love, what may we confidently expect?

"He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely *give us all things?*" Rom. 8: 32.

17. What is God's love able to do for His children?

"Nevertheless the Lord thy God would not harken unto Balaam; but the Lord thy God *turned the curse into a blessing* unto thee, because the Lord thy God loved thee." Deut. 23: 5.

18. When men appreciate God's love, what will they do?

"How excellent is Thy loving-kindness, O God! therefore the children of men *put their trust under the shadow of Thy wings.*" Ps. 36: 7.

19. How enduring is God's love for us?

"The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, *I have loved thee with an everlasting love*: therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee." Jer. 31: 3.

20. Can anything separate the true child of God from the love of God?

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Rom. 8: 38, 39.

21. Unto whom will the saints forever ascribe praise?

"Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, . . . to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever." Rev. 1: 5, 6.

THE DEITY OF CHRIST,

1. How has the Father shown that His Son is one person of the Godhead?

"But unto the Son He saith, Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever: a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Thy kingdom." Heb. 1: 8.

2. In what other scripture is the same truth taught?

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1: 1.

3. In what way did Christ refer to the eternity of His being?

"And now, O Father, glorify Thou Me with Thine own self with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was." John 17: 5. "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been of old, from everlasting." Micah 5: 2. See margin; and Matt. 2: 6; John 8: 58; Ex. 3: 13, 14.

4. How was Christ begotten in the flesh?

"And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." Luke 1: 35.

5. What scripture states that the Son of God was God manifested in the flesh?

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." John 1: 1, 14.

6. What does Christ say is His relation to the Father?

"I and My Father are *one*." John 10: 30.

7. How was He manifested on earth as a Saviour?

"For unto you is *born* this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2: 11.

8. Why was it necessary that He should be born thus, and partake of human nature?

"Wherefore in all things it behooved Him to be made like unto His brethren, *that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.*" Heb. 2: 17.

9. How was He recognized by the Father while on earth?

"And lo a voice from heaven, saying, *This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*" Matt. 3: 17.

10. What shows that Christ sustains the same relation to the angels as does the Father?

"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." Matt. 16: 27. See Matt. 24: 31.

11. How did Christ assert an equal proprietorship with His Father in the kingdom?

"The Son of man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of *His kingdom* all things that offend, and them which do iniquity." Matt. 13: 41.

12. To whom do the elect equally belong?

"And shall not God avenge *His own elect*, which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them?" Luke 18: 7. "And He [the Son of man] shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together *His elect* from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." Matt. 24: 31.

13. Who are equally joined in bestowing the final rewards?

"But without faith it is impossible to please Him [God, the Father]: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that *He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.*" Heb. 11: 6. "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.*" Matt. 16: 27.

NOTE.—In the texts (Matt. 16:27; 13:41; 24:31) in which Christ refers to the angels as “His angels” and to the kingdom as “His kingdom” and to the elect as “His elect,” He refers to Himself as “the Son of man.” It thus appears that while He was on earth as a man, He recognized His essential deity and His equality with His Father in heaven.

14. What fulness dwells in Christ?

“For in Him dwelleth *all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.*” Col. 2:9.

15. What does God (Jehovah) declare Himself to be?

“Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and His Redeemer the Lord of hosts; I am the *first*, and I am the *last*; and beside Me there is no God.” Isa. 44:6.

16. In what scripture does Christ adopt the same expression?

“And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the *first* and the *last.*” Rev. 22:12, 13.

17. Having such a wonderful Saviour, what are we exhorted to do?

“Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, *let us hold fast our profession.* For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.” Heb. 4:14, 15.

PROPHECIES RELATING TO CHRIST

1. WHOM did Moses say the Lord would raise up?

“The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a *Prophet* from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me, unto Him ye shall harken.” Deut. 18:15. See also verse 18.

2. What use of this prophecy by the apostle Peter shows that it referred to Christ?

“For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A *prophet* shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me. . . . Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of *these days.*” Acts 3:22-24.

3. In what language did Isaiah foretell Christ's birth?

"Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel." Isa. 7: 14.

4. In what event was this prophecy fulfilled?

"Now *all this was done* [the birth of Jesus of the Virgin Mary], that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Matt. 1: 22, 23.

5. Where was the Messiah to be born?

"But thou, *Bethlehem Ephratah*, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel." Micah 5: 2.

6. When was Jesus born?

"Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea *in the days of Herod the king.*" Matt. 2: 1.

7. Under what striking emblem was He prophesied of by Balaam?

"There shall come a *Star* out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel." Num. 24: 17.

8. In what scripture does Christ apply the same emblem to Himself?

"I am the root and the offspring of David, and *the bright and morning star.*" Rev. 22: 16. See also 2 Peter 1: 19; Rev. 2: 28.

9. What prophecy was fulfilled in the slaughter of the children of Bethlehem?

"Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and *slew all the children that were in Bethlehem*, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men. Then was fulfilled *that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet*, saying, In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not." Matt. 2: 16-18.

10. How was Christ's first advent to be heralded?

"*The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness*, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." Isa. 40: 3.

11. By whom was this fulfilled?

"And this is the record of *John*, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? . . . he said, *I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness*, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet *Esaias*." John 1: 19-23.

12. How was Christ to be received by His own people?

"He is *despised* and *rejected* of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was *despised*, and *we esteemed Him not*." Isa. 53: 3.

13. How is the fulfilment of this prophecy recorded?

"He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. *He came unto His own, and His own received Him not*." John 1: 10, 11.

14. What was predicted of Christ's preaching?

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me; because *the Lord hath anointed Me to preach good tidings unto the meek*; He hath sent Me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." Isa. 61: 1.

15. What application did Jesus make of this prophecy?

"And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up: and, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto Him the book of the prophet *Esaias*. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. . . . And He began to say unto them, *This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears*." Luke 4: 16-21. See Luke 7: 19-22.

16. How, according to prophecy, was Christ to conduct Himself when on trial?

"He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, *yet He opened not His mouth*: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, *so He openeth not His mouth*." Isa. 53: 7.

17. When accused by His enemies before Pilate, how did Christ treat these accusations?

"Then said Pilate unto Him, Hearest Thou not how many things they witness against Thee? And *He answered him to never a word*; insomuch that the governor marveled greatly." Matt. 27: 13, 14.

18. What prophecy foretold of the disposal of Christ's garments at the crucifixion?

"They *part My garments* among them, and *cast lots* upon My vesture." Ps. 22: 18.

19. What record answers to this prophecy?

"And they crucified Him, and *parted His garments, casting lots*: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted My garments among them, and upon My vesture did they cast lots." Matt. 27: 35.

20. What was foretold of His treatment while on the cross?

"They gave Me also *gall* for My meat; and in My thirst they gave Me *vinegar* to drink." Ps. 69: 21.

21. What was offered Christ at His crucifixion?

"They gave Him *vinegar* to drink mingled with *gall*: and when He had tasted thereof, He would not drink." Matt. 27: 34. See also John 19: 28-30, and page 111 of this work.

22. With whom did the prophet Isaiah say Christ would make His grave?

"And He made His grave with the *wicked*, and with the *rich* in His death." Isa. 53: 9.

23. With whom was Christ crucified?

"Then were there *two thieves* crucified with Him, one on the right hand, and another on the left." Matt. 27: 38.

24. Who took charge of Christ's body after it was taken down from the cross?

"A *rich man of Arimathæa, named Joseph*, went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. . . . He wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock." Verses 57-60.

25. What experience in the life of a noted prophet indicated the length of Christ's stay in the grave?

"But He answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: for as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Matt. 12: 39, 40.

26. What prophecy foretold Christ's triumph over death?

"For Thou wilt not leave My soul in hell; neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption." Ps. 16: 10. See Acts 2: 24-27.

CHRIST THE WAY OF LIFE

1. WHAT does Jesus declare Himself to be?

"Jesus saith unto him, *I am the way, the truth, and the life*: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." John 14: 6.

2. In what condition are all men?

"But the Scripture hath concluded all *under sin*." Gal. 3: 22. "For *all have sinned*, and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3: 23.

3. What are the wages of sin?

"The wages of sin is *death*." Rom. 6: 23.

4. How many are affected by Adam's transgression?

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so *death passed upon all men*." Rom. 5: 12.

5. What is the gift of God?

"The gift of God is *eternal life*." Rom. 6: 23.

6. How many may receive this gift?

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And *whosoever will*, let him take the water of life freely." Rev. 22: 17.

7. In whom is the gift?

"This is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and *this life is in His Son.*" 1 John 5: 11.

8. In receiving the Son, what do we have in Him?

"He that hath the Son hath *life.*" Verse 12.

9. What loss do those sustain who do not accept Him?

"And he that hath not the Son of God *hath not life.*" Same verse.

10. In what other way is this same truth stated?

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

11. After one truly receives Christ, whose life will be manifested in him?

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but *Christ liveth in me:* and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me." Gal. 2: 20.

12. In what condition are all before they are quickened with Christ?

"God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were *dead in sins,* hath quickened us together with Christ." Eph. 2: 4, 5.

13. What is this change from death to life called?

"Being *born again,* not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." 1 Peter 1: 23.

14. When man first transgressed, what was done to prevent him from living forever in sin?

"And now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever. . . . So *He drove out the man;* and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life." Gen. 3: 22-24.

15. What is declared to be one purpose of Christ's death?

"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and

blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; *that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.*" Heb. 2: 14.

16. Through whom will Abraham receive the promise of the future inheritance?

"The Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto *thy seed* will I give this land." Gen. 12: 7.

17. How many were embraced in God's promises to Abraham?

"And in thy seed shall *all the kindreds of the earth* be blessed." Acts 3: 25.

18. To whom does the "seed" in these promises refer?

"Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is *Christ.*" Gal. 3: 16.

19. What would make the death of Christ in vain?

"*If righteousness come by the law*, then Christ is dead in vain." Gal. 2: 21.

20. Why have all been reckoned under sin?

"But the Scripture hath concluded all under sin, *that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.*" Gal. 3: 22.

21. How then do all become children of God?

"For ye are all the children of God *by faith in Christ Jesus.*" Verse 26.

22. With whom are the children of God joint heirs?

"If children, then heirs; heirs of God, and *joint heirs with Christ.*" Rom. 8: 17.

THOU art the Way, the Truth, the Life;
Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win,
Whose joys eternal flow.

SALVATION ONLY THROUGH CHRIST

1. For what purpose did Christ come into the world?

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world *to save sinners.*" 1 Tim. 1: 15.

2. Why was He to be named "Jesus"?

"Thou shalt call His name Jesus: *for He shall save His people from their sins.*" Matt. 1: 21.

3. Is there salvation through any other?

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, *whereby we must be saved.*" Acts 4: 12.

4. Through whom are we reconciled to God?

"All things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself *by Jesus Christ*, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; to wit, that *God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself*, not imputing their trespasses unto them." 2 Cor. 5: 18, 19.

5. What has Christ been made for us, and for what purpose?

"For He hath made Him to be *sin* for us, who knew no sin; *that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.*" Verse 21.

6. How dependent are we upon Christ for salvation?

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: . . . *without Me ye can do nothing.*" John 15: 5.

7. What three essentials for a Saviour are found in Christ?

Deity. "But unto the Son He saith, *Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever.*" Heb. 1: 8.

Humanity. "When the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, *made of a woman, made under the law.*" Gal. 4: 4.

Sinlessness. "*Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth.*" 1 Peter 2: 22.

8. How did Christ show from the Scriptures that the promised Saviour of the world must be both human and divine?

"While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is He? They say unto Him, *The son of David.* He saith unto them, *How then doth David in spirit call Him Lord, saying, The Lord said unto*

my Lord, Sit Thou on My right hand, till I make Thine enemies Thy footstool? *If David then call him Lord, how is He his son?*" Matt. 22: 41-45.

NOTE.— Another has aptly put this important truth concerning the union of the human and divine in Christ thus: "Divinity needed humanity that humanity might afford a channel of communication between God and man. Man needs a power out of and above himself to restore him to the likeness of God. There must be a power working from within, a new life from above, before men can be changed from sin to holiness. That power is Christ."

9. What two facts testify to the union of divinity and humanity in Christ?

"Concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; and declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead." Rom. 1: 3, 4.

10. How complete was Christ's victory over death?

"I am the first and the last: *I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*" Rev. 1: 17, 18. See Acts 2: 24.

11. How complete is the salvation obtained in Christ?

"Wherefore, *He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.*" Heb. 7: 25.

12. What should we say for such a Saviour?

"Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift." 2 Cor. 9: 15.

THERE'S a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in His justice,
Which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner,
And more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Saviour;
There is healing in His blood.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of man's mind,
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple,
We should take Him at His word;
And our lives would be all sunshine
In the sweetness of our Lord.

FREDERICK W. FABER.

PART III

The Way to Christ

FAITH

1. WHAT is faith declared to be?

"Faith is the *substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*" Heb. 11: 1.

2. How necessary is faith?

"Without faith it is impossible to please Him." Verse 6.

3. Is mere assent to divine truth sufficient?

"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: *the devils also believe, and tremble.*" James 2: 19.

4. What is required besides a belief in the existence of God?

"For he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and *that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.*" Heb. 11: 6, last part.

5. From whom does faith come?

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is the gift of God.*" Eph. 2: 8.

6. Why did God raise Christ from the dead?

"Who by Him do believe in God, that raised Him up from the dead, and gave Him glory; *that your faith and hope might be in God.*" 1 Peter 1: 21.

7. What is Christ's relation to this faith?

"Looking unto Jesus the *author and finisher* of our faith." Heb. 12: 2.

8. What is the basis of faith?

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by *the word of God.*" Rom. 10: 17.

9. What relation does faith bear to knowledge?

"*Through faith we understand* that the worlds were framed by the word of God." Heb. 11: 3.

10. By what principle is genuine faith actuated?

"In Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by *love*." Gal. 5: 6.

11. Of what is faith a fruit?

"But *the fruit of the Spirit* is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, *faith*." Verse 22.

12. What in the early church showed living faith?

"Remembering without ceasing your *work of faith*, and labor of love." 1 Thess. 1: 3.

13. What is necessary in order that the preaching of the gospel may be profitable?

"For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being *mixed with faith* in them that heard it." Heb. 4: 2.

14. What is the character of any act or service not performed in faith?

"Whatsoever is not of faith is *sin*." Rom. 14: 23.

15. How does Abraham's experience show that obedience and faith are inseparable?

"*By faith Abraham*, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, *obeyed*; and he went out, not knowing whither he went." Heb. 11: 8.

16. With what, therefore, is the faith of Jesus joined?

"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep *the commandments of God*, and *the faith of Jesus*." Rev. 14: 12.

17. In what other statement is the same truth emphasized?

"But wilt thou know, O vain man, that *faith without works is dead*?" James 2: 20.

18. How is faith brought to perfection?

"Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and *by works was faith made perfect*?" Verse 22.

19. What is the result of faith's being put to the test?

"The trying of your faith *worketh patience*." James 1: 3.

20. What relationship to God is established by faith?

"For ye are all the *children of God by faith in Christ Jesus*." Gal. 3: 26.

21. How do the children of God walk?

"For *we walk by faith, not by sight.*" 2 Cor. 5:7.

22. Upon what condition may one expect answers to prayer?

"But *let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.* For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." James 1:6.

23. To what parts of the ancient armor is faith compared?

"Above all, taking the *shield* of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." Eph. 6:16.
"Putting on the *breastplate* of faith and love." 1 Thess. 5:8.

24. What chapter in the Bible is devoted to faith?

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews. In verses 33-38 are summarized the victories of the heroes of faith.

25. What gives victory in our conflicts with the world?

"This is the victory that overcometh the world, *even our faith.*" 1 John 5:4.

26. What is the ultimate purpose of faith?

"Receiving the end of your faith, even *the salvation of your souls.*" 1 Peter 1:8, 9.

HOPE

1. WHAT is the relation between faith and hope?

"Now faith is the *substance* of things *hoped for*, the evidence of things not seen." Heb. 11:1.

2. Why were the Scriptures written?

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

3. Why should God's wonderful works be rehearsed to the children?

"We will not hide them from their children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and His strength, and His wonderful works that He hath done. . . . *That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments.*" Ps. 78:4-7.

4. In what condition are those who are without Christ?

"Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, . . . that at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, *having no hope*, and without God in the world." Eph. 2: 11, 12.

5. What does hope become to the Christian?

"Which hope we have as *an anchor of the soul*, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil." Heb. 6: 19.

6. Who have hope in their death?

"The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but *the righteous hath hope in his death.*" Prov. 14: 32.

7. In bereavement, from what hopeless sorrow are Christians delivered?

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, *that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.*" 1 Thess. 4: 13.

8. Unto what has the resurrection of Christ begotten us?

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath *begotten us again unto a lively hope* by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1: 3.

9. What is the Christian's hope called?

"Looking for *that blessed hope*, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Titus 2: 13.

10. At what time did Paul expect to realize his hope?

"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me *at that day*: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love *His appearing.*" 2 Tim. 4: 8.

11. What will this hope lead one to do?

"And every man that hath this hope in him *purifieth himself*, even as He is pure." 1 John 3: 3.

12. What does the prophet Jeremiah say is a good thing for a man to do?

"It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord." Lam. 3: 26.

13. What is said of the hope of the hypocrite?

"So are the paths of all that forget God; and *the hypocrite's hope shall perish*: whose hope shall be cut off, and whose trust shall be a spider's web." Job 8: 13, 14.

14. What is the condition of one whose hope is in God?

"Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God." Ps. 146: 5. "*Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.*" Jer. 17: 7.

15. In what may the child of God abound?

"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may *abound in hope*, through the power of the Holy Ghost." Rom. 15: 13.

16. In what do Christians rejoice?

"By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and *rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*" Rom. 5: 2.

17. What will prevent us from being put to shame?

"And *hope maketh not ashamed*; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." Verse 5.

18. In the time of trouble, who will be the hope of God's people?

"The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but *the Lord will be the hope of His people*, and the strength of the children of Israel." Joel 3: 16.

19. What inspiring words are spoken to such as hope in God?

"*Be of good courage*, and He shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord." Ps. 31: 24.

20. How long should our hope endure?

"And we desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of *hope unto the end.*" Heb. 6: 11.

REPENTANCE

1. WHO are called to repentance?

"I came not to call the righteous, but *sinner*s to repentance." Luke 5: 32.

2. What accompanies repentance?

"And that repentance and *remission of sins* should be preached in His name among all nations." Luke 24: 47.

3. By what means is sin made known?

"*By the law* is the knowledge of sin." Rom. 3: 20.

4. How many are sinners?

"We have before proved *both Jews and Gentiles*, that they are all under sin." Verse 9.

5. What do transgressors bring upon themselves?

"Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh *the wrath of God* upon the children of disobedience." Eph. 5: 6.

6. Who awakens the soul to a sense of its sinful condition?

"When *He [the Comforter]* is come, *He will reprove* [margin, *convince*] *the world of sin.*" John 16: 8.

7. What are fitting inquiries for those convicted of sin?

"Men and brethren, *what shall we do?*" "Sirs, *what must I do to be saved?*" Acts 2: 37; 16: 30.

8. What replies does Inspiration return to these inquiries?

"*Repent, and be baptized every one of you* in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins." "*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.*" Acts 2: 38; 16: 31.

9. What will the truly repentant sinner be constrained to do?

"I will *declare mine iniquity*; I will be *sorry* for my sin." Ps. 38: 18.

10. What is the result of godly sorrow?

"For godly sorrow *worketh repentance to salvation.*" 2 Cor. 7: 10.

11. What does the sorrow of the world do?

"The sorrow of the world *worketh death.*" Same verse.

12. How does godly sorrow for sin manifest itself?

"For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a

godly sort, what *carefulness* it wrought in you, yea, what *clearing of yourselves*, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter." Verse 11.

13. What did John the Baptist say to the Pharisees and Sadducees when he saw them come to his baptism?

"O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" Matt. 3: 7.

14. What did he tell them to do?

"Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance." Verse 8.

NOTE.—"There can be no repentance without reformation. Repentance is a change of mind; reformation is a corresponding change of life."
—*Dr. Raleigh.*

15. When God sent the Ninevites a warning message, how did they show their repentance, and what was the result?

"And God saw their works, that *they turned from their evil way*; and God repented of the evil that He had said that He would do unto them; and He did it not." Jonah 3: 10.

16. What leads sinners to repentance?

"Or despisest thou the riches of His goodness and forbearance and long-suffering; not knowing that *the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance*?" Rom. 2: 4.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

1. WHAT instruction is given concerning confession of sin?

"Speak unto the children of Israel, When a man or woman shall commit any sin that men commit, to do a trespass against the Lord, and that person be guilty; *then shall they confess their sin which they have done.*" Num. 5: 6, 7.

2. How futile is it to attempt to hide sin from God?

"But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the Lord: and *be sure your sin will find you out.*" Num. 32: 23.
"Thou hast set our iniquities before Thee, our secret sins in the light of Thy countenance." Ps. 90: 8. "All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."
Heb. 4: 13.

3. What promise is made to those who confess their sins?

"If we confess our sins, *He is faithful and just to forgive us*

our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9.

4. What different results attend the covering and the confessing of sins?

"He that covereth his sins *shall not prosper*: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them *shall have mercy*." Prov. 28: 13.

5. How definite should we be in confessing our sins?

"And it shall be, when he shall be guilty in one of these things, that he shall confess that he hath sinned *in that thing*." Lev. 5: 5.

NOTE.—"True confession is always of a specific character, and acknowledges particular sins. They may be of such a nature as to be brought before God only; they may be wrongs that should be confessed to individuals who have suffered injury through them; or they may be of a public character, and should then be as publicly confessed. But all confession should be definite and to the point, acknowledging the very sins of which you are guilty."—"*Steps to Christ*," page 43.

6. How fully did Israel once acknowledge their wrong-doing?

"And all the people said unto Samuel, Pray for thy servants unto the Lord thy God, that we die not: for *we have added unto all our sins this evil, to ask us a king*." 1 Sam. 12: 19.

7. When David confessed his sin, what did he say God did?

"I acknowledged my sin unto Thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and *Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin*." Ps. 32: 5.

8. Upon what did he rest his hope for forgiveness?

"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy loving-kindness: *according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions*." Ps. 51: 1.

9. What is God ready to do for all who seek for forgiveness?

"For Thou, Lord, art good, and *ready to forgive*; and plentiful in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee." Ps. 86: 5.

10. What is the measure of the greatness of God's mercy?

"For *as the heaven is high above the earth*, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him." Ps. 103: 11.

11. How fully does the Lord pardon when one repents?

"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for *He will abundantly pardon*." Isa. 55: 7.

12. What reason is given for God's readiness to forgive sin?

"Who is a God like unto Thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retaineth not His anger forever, *because He delighteth in mercy.*" Micah 7: 18. See Ps. 78: 38.

13. Why does God manifest such mercy and long-suffering toward men?

"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us ward, *not willing that any should perish*, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3: 9.

14. What prayer did Moses offer in behalf of Israel?

"*Pardon, I beseech Thee, the iniquity of this people* according unto the greatness of Thy mercy, and as Thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now." Num. 14: 19.

15. What reply did the Lord immediately make?

"And the Lord said, *I have pardoned according to thy word.*" Verse 20.

16. When the prodigal son, in the parable, repented and turned toward home, what did his father do?

"When he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and *had compassion*, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him." Luke 15: 20.

17. How did the father show his joy at his son's return?

"The father said to his servants, *Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him*; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: and *bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it*; and let us eat, and be merry: for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." Verses 22-24.

18. What is felt in heaven when a sinner repents?

"Likewise, I say unto you, *there is joy in the presence of the angels of God* over one sinner that repenteth." Verse 10.

19. What did Hezekiah say God had done with his sins?

"Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but Thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for *Thou hast cast all my sins behind Thy back.*" Isa. 38: 17.

20. How completely does God wish to separate sin from us?

"Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea."
Micah 7: 19. "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath
He removed our transgressions from us." Ps. 103: 12.

21. How did the people respond to the preaching of John?

"Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the
region round about Jordan, and were baptized of him in Jordan,
confessing their sins." Matt. 3: 5, 6.

22. How did some of the believers at Ephesus testify to the
sincerity of the confession of their sins?

"And many that believed came, and *confessed, and showed
their deeds.* Many of them also which used curious arts *brought
their books together, and burned them before all men:* and they
counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of
silver." Acts 19: 18, 19.

23. Through whom are repentance and forgiveness granted?

"The God of our fathers raised up *Jesus*, whom ye slew and
hanged on a tree. 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." Acts 5: 30, 31.

24. What is the only unpardonable sin?

"Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy
shall be forgiven unto men: but *the blasphemy against the Holy
Ghost* shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh
a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but
whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be for-
given him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come."
Matt. 12: 31, 32.

NOTE.—As the Holy Spirit is the agent that convicts of sin, and
brings the offer of pardon through the Word, the denial of the Spirit's
work is the refusal of pardon. In other words, the only unpardonable
sin is the sin which refuses to be pardoned.

25. Upon what basis has Christ taught us to ask forgiveness?

"And forgive us our debts, *as we forgive our debtors.*" Matt.
6: 12.

26. What spirit must those cherish whom God forgives?

"For *if ye forgive men their trespasses*, your Heavenly Father
will also forgive you: but if ye forgive not men their trespasses,
neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." Verses 14, 15.

27. What exhortation is based on the fact that God has
forgiven us?

“And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, *forgiving one another*, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.” Eph. 4: 32.

28. In what condition is one whose sins are forgiven?

“*Blessed* is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. *Blessed* is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.” Ps. 32: 1, 2.

CONVERSION, OR THE NEW BIRTH

1. How did Jesus emphasize the necessity of conversion?

“Verily I say unto you, *Except ye be converted*, and become as little children, *ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.*” Matt. 18: 3.

2. In what other statement did He teach the same truth?

“Verily, verily, I say unto thee, *Except a man be born again*, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” John 3: 3.

3. How did he further explain the new birth?

“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, *Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit*, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.” Verse 5.

4. With what comparison did He illustrate the subject?

“*The wind* bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: *so is every one that is born of the Spirit.*” Verse 8.

5. What change is wrought in conversion, or the new birth?

“Even when we were dead in sins, hath *quickened* us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved).” Eph. 2: 5.

6. What is one evidence of this change from death to life?

“We know that we have passed from death unto life, because *we love the brethren*. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.” 1 John 3: 14.

7. From what is a converted sinner saved?

“Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from *death*, and shall hide a multitude of sins.” James 5: 20. See Acts 26: 14-18.

8. To whom are sinners brought by conversion?

"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. . . . Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways; and sinners shall be *converted unto Thee*." Ps. 51: 10-13.

9. In what words to Peter did Jesus indicate the kind of service a converted person should render to his brethren?

"And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and *when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren*." Luke 22: 31, 32.

10. What other experience is associated with conversion?

"For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be *converted*, and I should *heal them*." Matt. 13: 15.

11. What gracious promise does God make to His people?

"*I will heal their backsliding*, I will love them freely: for Mine anger is turned away from him." Hosea 14: 4.

12. By what means is this healing accomplished?

"He [Christ] was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and *with His stripes we are healed*." Isa. 53: 5.

13. What takes place when one is converted to Christ?

"Wherefore if any man is in Christ, *he is a new creation*: the old things are passed away; behold, they are become new." 2 Cor. 5: 17, R. V., margin. See Acts 9: 1-22; 22: 1-21; 26: 1-23.

14. What is the value of merely outward forms?

"For in Christ Jesus *neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision*, but a new creature." Gal. 6: 15.

15. Through what was the original creation wrought?

"*By the word of the Lord* were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth." Ps. 33: 6.

16. Through what instrumentality is conversion wrought?

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incor-

ruptible, *by the word of God*, which liveth and abideth forever." 1 Peter 1: 23.

17. What change is wrought by beholding Jesus?

"But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are *changed into the same image* from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." 2 Cor. 3: 18.

NOTE.—A beautiful statue once stood in the market-place of an Italian city. It was the statue of a Greek slave girl. It represented the slave as tidy and well dressed. A ragged, uncombed little street child, coming across the statue in her play one day, stopped and gazed at it in admiration. She was captivated by it. She gazed long and lovingly. Moved by a sudden impulse, she went home and washed her face and combed her hair. Another day she stopped again before the statue and admired it, and got a new idea. Next day her tattered clothes were washed and mended. Each time she looked at the statue she found something in its beauties to admire and copy, until she was a transformed child. By beholding we become changed.

18. What are the evidences that one has been born of God?

"If ye know that He is righteous, ye know that *every one that doeth righteousness is born of Him*." "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and *every one that loveth is born of God*, and knoweth God." 1 John 2: 29; 4: 7.

19. What is true of every one who believes in Jesus?

"Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is *born of God*." 1 John 5: 1.

20. What do those born of God not do?

"We know that *whosoever is born of God sinneth not*; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not." Verse 18.

21. What indwelling power keeps such from sinning?

"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for *His seed remaineth in him*: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." 1 John 3: 9. See 1 John 5: 4; Gen. 39: 9.

22. What will be the experience of those born of the Spirit?

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

BAPTISM

1. WHAT ordinance is closely associated with believing the gospel?

"And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is *baptized* shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16: 15, 16.

2. What did the apostle Peter associate with baptism in his instruction on the day of Pentecost?

"Then Peter said unto them, *Repent*, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins." Acts 2: 38.

3. In reply to his inquiry concerning salvation, what was the Philippian jailer told to do?

"And they said, *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ*, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." Acts 16: 31.

4. What followed immediately after the jailer and his family had accepted Christ as their Saviour?

"And he took them [Paul and Silas] the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was *baptized*, he and all his, straightway." Verse 33.

5. In connection with Christian baptism, what is washed away?

"And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and *wash away thy sins*, calling on the name of the Lord." Acts 22: 16. See Titus 3: 5; 1 Peter 3: 21.

6. By what means are sins washed away?

"Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins *in His own blood*." Rev. 1: 5.

7. Into whose name are believers to be baptized?

"Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the *Father* and of the *Son* and of the *Holy Ghost*." Matt. 28: 19, R. V.

8. When believers are baptized into Christ, whom do they put on?

"For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have *put on Christ*." Gal. 3: 27.

9. Into what experience are those baptized who are baptized into Christ?

“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were *baptized into His death?*” Rom. 6: 3.

NOTE.—Baptism is a gospel ordinance commemorating the *death, burial, and resurrection* of Christ. In baptism public testimony is given to the effect that the one baptized has been crucified with Christ, buried with Him, and is raised with Him to walk in newness of life. Only one mode of baptism can rightly represent these facts of experience, and that is immersion,—the mode followed by Christ and the primitive church.

10. How is such a baptism described?

“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.” Verse 4.

11. How fully are we thus united with Christ in His experience of death and resurrection?

“For if we have been *planted together* in the likeness of His *death*, we shall be also in the likeness of His *resurrection.*” Verse 5.

12. What will follow this union with Christ in His death and resurrection?

“Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also *live with Him.*” Verse 8.

13. In what working of God is faith to be exercised in connection with baptism?

“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.*” Col. 2: 12.

14. At the beginning of His ministry, what example did Jesus set for the benefit of His followers?

“Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be *baptized of him.*” Matt. 3: 13.

15. What remarkable experience attended the baptism of Jesus?

“And Jesus, when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and He saw *the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him:* and lo a voice from heaven, saying, *This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*” Verses 16, 17.

16. What promise is made to those who repent and are baptized?

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and *ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*" Acts 2: 38.

17. What question did the eunuch ask after Philip had preached Jesus unto him?

"And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; *what doth hinder me to be baptized?*" Acts 8: 36.

18. In order to baptize the eunuch, where did Philip take him?

"And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and *they went down both into the water*, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him." Verse 38.

19. How did the people of Samaria publicly testify to their faith in the preaching of Philip?

"But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, *they were baptized*, both men and women." Verse 12.

20. What instruction did the apostle Peter give concerning the Gentiles who had believed?

"Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? *And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.*" Acts 10: 47, 48.

21. How perfect is the unity into which believers are brought by being baptized into Christ?

"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all *baptized into one body*, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all *made to drink into one Spirit.*" 1 Cor. 12: 12, 13.

22. After being united with Christ in the likeness of His death and resurrection, what should the believer do?

"If ye then be risen with Christ, *seek those things which are above*, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Col. 3: 1.

RECONCILED TO GOD

1. WHAT message of entreaty has God sent to us through His appointed messengers?

"Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, *be ye reconciled to God.*" 2 Cor. 5: 20.

2. Through whom is this reconciliation made?

"All things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself *by Jesus Christ*, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation." Verse 18.

3. What was required in order to effect this reconciliation?

"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." Rom. 5: 10.

4. What basis for reconciliation was made by Christ's death?

"Having made *peace* through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself." Col. 1: 20.

5. Through whom is the reconciliation received?

"We also joy in God *through our Lord Jesus Christ*, by whom we have now received the atonement [margin, reconciliation]." Rom. 5: 11.

6. By what union does Christ reconcile both Jew and Gentile to God through the cross?

"And that He might reconcile both unto God *in one body* by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby." Eph. 2: 16.

7. In what prophecy was the work of reconciliation foretold?

"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.*" Dan. 9: 24.

8. In thus reconciling the world unto Himself, what attitude did God take toward men?

"God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, *not imputing their trespasses unto them.*" 2 Cor. 5: 19.

9. What rendered it possible for God to treat sinners thus?

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and *the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.*" Isa. 53: 6.

10. What was Christ made, to release men from sin?

“For He hath made Him to be *sin* for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.” 2 Cor. 5: 21.

11. How was He treated?

“But He was *wounded* for our transgressions, He was *bruised* for our iniquities: the *chastisement* of our peace was upon Him; and with His *stripes* we are healed.” Isa. 53: 5.

12. What did John declare concerning Him?

“Behold the Lamb of God, *which taketh away* [margin, *beareth*] *the sin of the world.*” John 1: 29.

13. To what place did Christ carry these sins?

“Who His own self bare our sins in His own body *on the tree*, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.” 1 Peter 2: 24.

14. What is the great purpose of Christ in His work of reconciliation?

“And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath He reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, *to present you holy and unblamable and unreprouvable in His sight.*” Col. 1: 21, 22.

ACCEPTANCE WITH GOD

1. IN whom has God made us accepted?

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings . . . in Christ: according as He hath chosen us in Him . . . to the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us *accepted in the Beloved.*” Eph. 1: 3-6.

2. What great gift comes with our acceptance of Christ?

“And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have *everlasting life*: and I will raise him up at the last day.” John 6: 40. See also John 17: 2.

3. What is the first and primary evidence of our acceptance with God?

“If we receive the witness of men, *the witness of God is greater*: for this is the witness of God *which He hath testified of*

“Because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, *Abba, Father.*” Gal. 4: 6. “The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.” Rom. 8: 16.

11. Of what is Christian baptism an evidence?

“As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have *put on Christ.*” Gal. 3: 27.

NOTE.— In baptism, the water and the Spirit both bear witness of God’s acceptance. The same Spirit which, at Christ’s baptism, said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased,” witnesses to the acceptance of every sincere believer at his baptism.

12. To what does the blood of Christ witness?

“These things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. . . . 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.*” 1 John 1: 4-7. “In whom we have redemption through His blood, *the forgiveness of sins.*” Eph. 1: 7. See also Rev. 1: 5, 6.

13. When may we find acceptance with God through Christ?

“I have heard thee *in a time accepted,* and *in the day of salvation* have I succored thee: behold, *now is the accepted time;* behold, *now is the day of salvation.*” 2 Cor. 6: 2.

14. To whom, therefore, should we ascribe glory and honor?

“*Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood,* and hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father; to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.” Rev. 1: 5, 6.

15. What is another evidence of divine acceptance?

“We know that we have passed from death unto life, *because we love the brethren.*” 1 John 3: 14.

16. What blessed assurance is given all believers in Christ?

“And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Phil. 4: 7.

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

1. WHAT is the ground of justification on God's part?

"That being justified *by His grace*, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." Titus 3: 7.

2. What is the means through which this justifying grace is made available to the sinner?

"Much more then, being now justified *by His [Christ's] blood*, we shall be saved from wrath through Him." Rom. 5: 9.

3. How is justification laid hold upon?

"Therefore we conclude that a man is justified *by faith* without the deeds of the law." Rom. 3: 28.

4. What is the only way sinners may be justified, or made righteous?

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but *by the faith of Jesus Christ*, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." Gal. 2: 16.

5. What concrete example makes clear the meaning of this doctrine?

"And He brought him [Abraham] forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and He said unto him, So shall thy seed be. *And he believed in the Lord; and He counted it to him for righteousness.*" Gen. 15: 5, 6.

6. How is the righteousness thus obtained described?

"And be found in Him, not having thine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, *the righteousness which is of God by faith.*" Phil. 3: 9.

7. Upon what basis is justification granted?

"And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the *gift*: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but *the free gift* is of many offenses unto justification." Rom. 5: 16.

8. Upon what basis does the reward come to one who works?

"Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of *debt.*" Rom. 4: 4.

9. Upon what condition is faith reckoned for righteousness?

which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." Acts 13: 38, 39.

17. How has Christ made it possible for righteousness to be imputed to the believer?

"For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so *by the obedience of one* shall many be made righteous." Rom. 5: 19.

18. What prophetic declaration foretold this truth?

"*In the Lord* shall all the seed of Israel be *justified*, and shall glory." Isa. 45: 25.

19. What other prediction asserts the same great truth?

"*By His knowledge shall My righteous servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities.*" Isa. 53: 11.

20. What does the imputed righteousness of Christ enable God to do, and still be just?

"To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: *that He might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.*" Rom. 3: 26.

21. By what name is Christ appropriately called?

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In His days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is His name whereby He shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS." Jer. 23: 5, 6.

22. What blessed experience follows upon the acceptance of Christ as our righteousness?

"Therefore being justified by faith, *we have peace with God* through our Lord Jesus Christ." Rom. 5: 1.

23. What does Christ thus become to the believer?

"For *He is our peace*, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us." Eph. 2: 14.

24. On what basis is there no possibility of justification for the sinner?

"Therefore *by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight*: for by the law is the knowledge of sin." Rom. 3: 20.

25. How does the death of Christ bear testimony to this?

"I do not frustrate the grace of God: for *if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.*" Gal. 2: 21.

26. What is proved by any attempt to be justified by the law?

"*Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.*" Gal. 5: 4.

27. Why did Israel fail to attain unto righteousness?

"But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. Wherefore? *Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling-stone.*" Rom. 9: 31, 32.

28. What is revealed by the law?

"By the law is *the knowledge of sin.*" Rom. 3: 20.

29. What bears witness to the genuineness of the righteousness obtained by faith, apart from the deeds of the law?

"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, *being witnessed by the law and the prophets.*" Verse 21.

30. Does faith set aside the law of God?

"Do we then make void the law through faith? *God forbid: yea, we establish the law.*" Verse 31.

31. What scripture shows that the righteousness which is received by grace through faith must not be made an excuse for continuing in sin?

"What shall we say then? *Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*" Rom. 6: 1, 2.

32. Does faith exclude works?

"But wilt thou know, O vain man, that *faith without works is dead?*" James 2: 20.

33. What is the evidence of genuine, living faith?

"Show me thy faith without thy works, and *I will show thee my faith by my works.*" Verse 18.

CONSECRATION

1. WHAT offering did King Hezekiah command to be made when he reestablished the worship of the temple?

“And Hezekiah commanded to offer the *burnt offering* upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song of the Lord began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments ordained by David king of Israel.” 2 Chron. 29: 27.

2. After the people had united in this service, how did Hezekiah interpret its meaning?

“Then Hezekiah answered and said, *Now ye have consecrated yourselves unto the Lord*, come near and bring sacrifices and thank-offerings into the house of the Lord. And the congregation brought in sacrifices and thank-offerings; and as many as were of a free heart burnt offerings.” Verse 31.

NOTE.—The morning and the evening burnt offering, or the continual offering (Ex. 29:42), symbolized the daily consecration of the people to the Lord.

3. How is this consecration urged upon all Christians?

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” Rom. 12: 1.

4. What is the continual sacrifice of praise declared to be?

“Through Him then let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of lips which make confession to His name.” Heb. 13: 15, R. V.

5. How is the service of consecration to be carried forward by the Christian church?

“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up *spiritual sacrifices*, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 2: 5.

6. Who has set the example of complete consecration?

“And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: even as *the Son of man* came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.” Matt. 20: 27, 28.

7. What position has Jesus taken among His brethren?

“For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but *I am among you as he that serveth*.” Luke 22: 27.

18. When truly consecrated, for what is one ready?

"Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? *Then said I, Here am I; send me.*" Isa. 6: 8.

19. How is this willingness for service otherwise expressed?

"Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; *so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God.*" Ps. 123: 2.

BIBLE ELECTION

1. WHAT does the apostle Peter admonish us to do?

"Wherefore . . . brethren, *give diligence to make your calling and election sure.*" 2 Peter 1: 10.

NOTE.— This text at once reveals the fact that our salvation, so far as our own individual cases are concerned, is dependent upon our own action. We are elected to be saved; but we are to give diligence to make this election *sure*. If we do not, it will not meet its purpose in our case, and we shall be lost.

2. What admonition given by Christ teaches the same truth?

"Behold, I come quickly: *hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.*" Rev. 3: 11.

NOTE.— Crowns have been prepared for each of the finally redeemed. Every soul is a candidate in the race for eternal life, and hence for a crown. Faith in Jesus, and perseverance to the end, will hold it fast.

3. Upon what condition is the crown of life promised?

"*Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.*" Rev. 2: 10.

4. In whom, and from what time, have we been chosen unto holiness and salvation?

"According as He hath chosen us *in Him [Christ] before the foundation of the world.*" Eph. 1: 4, first part.

5. What is the character of those thus chosen before the foundation of the world?

"That we should be *holy and without blemish* before Him in love." Same verse, last part, R. V.

4. What distinct purpose did Christ have in giving Himself for the church?

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; *that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.*" Eph. 5: 25, 26.

5. What kind of church would He thus be able to present to Himself?

"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.*" Verse 27.

6. In the experience of sanctification, what attitude must one assume toward the truth?

"God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and *belief of the truth.*" 2 Thess. 2: 13.

7. What instruction shows that sanctification is a progressive work?

"But *grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*" 2 Peter 3: 18. See chap. 1: 5-7.

8. What description of the apostle Paul's experience is in harmony with this?

"Brethren, *I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*" Phil. 3: 13, 14.

9. By what is this cleansing from sin and fitting for God's service accomplished?

"For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: how much more shall the *blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*" Heb. 9: 13, 14. See also chap. 10: 29.

10. What change is thus brought about?

"And be not conformed to this world: but *be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*" Rom. 12: 2.

20. With what sins are rebellion and stubbornness classed?

"For rebellion is as *the sin of witchcraft*, and stubbornness is as *iniquity and idolatry*. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, He hath also rejected thee from being king." Verse 23.

21. Whose voice had more weight with Saul than had the commandment of God?

"And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord, and thy words: because *I feared the people, and obeyed their voice*." Verse 24.

22. What charge did Jesus bring against the Pharisees?

"And He said unto them, Full well *ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition*." Mark 7: 9.

NOTE.— Human tradition is simply the voice of man preserved in the church. To follow the traditions of men instead of obeying the commandments of God is to repeat the sin of Saul.

23. What will be the fate of those who do not obey the gospel of Christ?

"And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire *taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ*." 2 Thess. 1: 7, 8.

24. What condition is attained in obeying the truth?

"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." 1 Peter 1: 22.

25. What promise is made to the obedient?

"If ye be willing and obedient, *ye shall eat the good of the land*." Isa. 1: 19.

26. Whose example are we urged to imitate?

"That ye be not slothful, but followers of them *who through faith and patience inherit the promises*." Heb. 6: 12.

PART IV

Life, Parables, and Miracles of Christ

BIRTH, CHILDHOOD, AND EARLY LIFE OF CHRIST

1. IN what promise was a Saviour from sin first revealed?

“And the Lord said unto the serpent, . . . I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and *her seed*; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel.” Gen. 3: 14, 15.

2. Through whom was a restoration of the lost dominion promised to Abraham?

“To thee will I give it, and to *thy seed* forever.” Gen. 13: 15.

3. Who was this promised seed?

“He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is *Christ*.” Gal. 3: 16.

4. Where was Christ to be born?

“And . . . he [Herod] demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, *In Bethlehem of Judea*.” Matt. 2: 4-6. See Micah 5: 2.

5. Of whom was Christ to be born?

“Behold, *a virgin* shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.” Isa. 7: 14.

NOTE.—Immanuel means “God with us.” See Matt. 1: 23.

6. Before His birth, what did the angel say to Joseph concerning the naming of the child?

“And she shall bring forth a son, and *thou shalt call His name Jesus*: for He shall save His people from their sins.” Matt. 1: 21.

7. At His birth, what message did the angel bring to the shepherds abiding in the field?

“And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I

bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2: 10, 11.

8. In what song of praise did a host of angels join?

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”* Verses 13, 14.

9. What prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled at Christ’s birth?

“*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder.”* Isa. 9: 6.

10. What did the prophet say His name should be called?

“And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end.” Verses 6, 7.

11. What did the devout Simeon say when he saw the child Jesus?

“And when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him after the custom of the law, then took he Him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word: for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.” Luke 2: 27-32.

12. How did the aged prophetess Anna express herself at the sight of Jesus?

“And she coming in that instant *gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of Him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.”* Verse 38.

13. What did the wise men of the East do when they had found Jesus?

“When they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary His mother, and *fell down, and worshiped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.”* Matt. 2: 11.

14. How came Jesus to live for a time in Egypt?

“And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the

“And all that heard Him *were astonished at His understanding and answers.*” Verse 47.

22. With what words do the Scriptures conclude the record of Christ’s early life?

“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.” Verse 52.

NOTE.— Christ’s early life is a pattern for all children and youth. It was marked by respect and love for His mother. He was obedient to His parents, and kind to all. He hated sin, and to every temptation turned a deaf ear. He sought to understand the reason of things, and so increased in knowledge and wisdom. He was sympathetic and tender-hearted, and ever ready to relieve the oppressed, the sorrowing, and the suffering. If we love Christ, we shall love to talk of Him; our sweetest thoughts will be of Him; and by beholding Him we shall be changed into the same image. See note on page 63.

CHRIST’S MINISTRY

1. WITH what words had John the Baptist announced Christ’s ministry?

“He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire.” Matt. 3: 11.

2. How old was Jesus when He began His ministry?

“And Jesus Himself began to be *about thirty years of age.*” Luke 3: 23.

3. By what act and what miraculous manifestations was His ministry opened?

“And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was *baptized of John in Jordan.* And straightway coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opened, and *the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him: and there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*” Mark 1: 9-11.

4. Before entering upon His ministry, through what experience did Jesus pass?

“And immediately the Spirit driveth Him into the wilderness. *And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto Him.*” Verses 12, 13. See also Matt. 4: 1-11; Luke 4: 1-13.

5. With what was Jesus anointed for His work?

"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." Acts 10: 38.

6. Where did Jesus begin His ministry?

"And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into *Galilee*: and there went out a fame of Him through all the region round about. And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all." Luke 4: 14, 15.

7. How did He announce His mission while at Nazareth?

"And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up: and, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto Him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to *heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.* . . . And He began to say unto them, *This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.*" Verses 16-21.

8. How were the people impressed with His preaching?

"And all bare Him witness, and *wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth.*" Verse 22.

9. Why were the people at Capernaum astonished at His teaching?

"And [He] came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the Sabbath days. And they were astonished at His doctrine: *for His word was with power.*" Verses 31, 32.

10. Wherein did His teaching differ from that of the scribes?

"And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at His doctrine: *for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.*" Matt. 7: 28, 29.

11. How did the common people receive Christ?

"And the common people heard Him *gladly.*" Mark 12: 37.

12. In His ministry, what work was closely associated with His preaching?

“And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and *healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.*”
Matt. 4: 23.

NOTE.—In His ministry, Christ combined plain, practical teaching with practical, helpful relief work.

13. How extensive was His fame, and how many were attracted to Him?

“And His fame went *throughout all Syria*: and they brought unto Him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy; and He healed them. And there followed Him *great multitudes* of people from *Galilee*, and from *Decapolis*, and from *Jerusalem*, and from *Judea*, and from *beyond Jordan.*” Verses 24, 25.

14. What expression used frequently in narrating His ministry shows Christ’s deep sympathy with mankind?

“But when He saw the multitude, *He was moved with compassion* on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.” “And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was *moved with compassion* toward them, and He healed their sick.” Matt. 9: 36; 14: 14.

15. In what few words did Christ sum up the object of His ministry?

“For the Son of man is come *to seek and to save that which was lost.*” Luke 19: 10.

16. How did Christ feel over the impenitence of Jerusalem?

“And when He was come near, He beheld the city, and *wept over it.*” Luke 19: 41.

NOTE.—In no other place did Christ appear so much a reformer as in Jerusalem, the headquarters of the Jewish religion, which religion, though having come from Christ Himself, had degenerated into mere formalism and a round of ceremony. Both the beginning and the close of His ministry here were marked by a cleansing of the temple. See John 2: 13-18 and Matt. 21: 12-16.

“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven.” Matt. 5: 17-20.

11. What testimony did Nicodemus bear concerning Him?

“Rabbi, *we know that Thou art a teacher come from God:* for no man can do these miracles that Thou doest, except God be with him.” John 3: 2.

12. What did Christ’s words at Jacob’s well lead the woman of Samaria to ask?

“The woman then left her water-pot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, Come, see a man which told me all things that ever I did: *is not this the Christ?*” John 4: 28, 29.

13. How were the two on the way to Emmaus affected by Christ’s conversation with them?

“And they said one to another, *Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the Scriptures?*” Luke 24: 32.

14. In His teaching, to what did Christ direct attention?

“And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself.” “And He said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the *law of Moses*, and in the *prophets*, and in the *Psalms*, concerning Me. Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand *the Scriptures.*” Verses 27, 44, 45.

15. How did He encourage His disciples to look for the fulfilment of prophecy?

“When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (*whoso readeth, let him understand:*) then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains.” Matt. 24: 15, 16.

NOTE.—Christ was a faithful student, a consistent user, and a perfect expounder, of the Scriptures. He met temptation with the Scriptures;

7. After giving instruction by the use of parables, what question did Christ ask His disciples?

"Jesus saith unto them, *Have ye understood all these things?* They say unto Him, Yea, Lord." Verse 51.

8. How extensively did Christ make use of parables?

"All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and *without a parable spake He not unto them.*" Verse 34.

NOTE.—Parables are simply stories. All, young and old, like to hear a story. Story-telling is one of the most successful means of awakening an interest, securing attention, and teaching, illustrating, and enforcing important truths. Christ, the greatest of all teachers, recognized this, and therefore made constant use of this method of instruction. See reading on "Preaching the Gospel," page 472.

9. How did Christ suggest that His disciples follow His example in teaching gospel truth?

"Then said He unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, *which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.*" Verse 52.

10. Which are some of the most touching and soul-winning of Christ's parables?

The parable of the lost sheep, and that of the prodigal son. Luke 15: 3-7, 11-32.

NOTE.—Each parable is designed to teach some one great and important truth. The first twelve in the list here given are intended to teach the following lessons, respectively: (1) Good and evil in life and judgment. (2) Value of the gospel. (3) Seeking salvation. (4) The visible church of Christ. (5) Truths new and old. (6) Duty of forgiving others. (7) Call at various epochs. (8) Insincerity and repentance. (9) Need of righteousness. (10) Watchful and careful profession. (11) Use of abilities. (12) Final separation of good and bad.

MIRACLES OF CHRIST

1. WHAT testimony did the chief priests and Pharisees bear concerning Christ's work?

"Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? for *this man doeth many miracles.*" John 11: 47.

2. By what did Peter, on the day of Pentecost, say that Christ had been approved by God?

"Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth,

a man approved of God among you *by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by Him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know.*" Acts 2: 22.

3. By what means did Christ claim to cast out devils?

"But if I *with the finger of God* cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you." Luke 11: 20. Matt. 12: 28 says "by the *Spirit of God.*"

NOTE.— Under the third plague in Egypt,— that of turning the dust into lice,— the magicians, failing to duplicate it, said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." Ex. 8: 18, 19.

4. Upon what ground did Nicodemus rest his belief that Christ was a teacher from God?

"Rabbi, we know that Thou art a teacher come from God: *for no man can do these miracles that Thou doest, except God be with him.*" John 3: 2.

5. After the healing of the blind man, upon what charge did some of the Pharisees seek to prove that Christ was not of God?

"Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, *because He keepeth not the Sabbath day.*" John 9: 16, first part.

NOTE.— This was a false charge. Christ did keep the Sabbath, but not according to the Pharisees' idea of Sabbath-keeping. See reading on "Christ and the Sabbath," page 319.

6. What question did others raise in opposition to this view?

"Others said, *How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles?* And there was a division among them." Same verse, last part.

7. What was the result of Christ's working miracles at His first Passover?

"Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, in the feast-day, *many believed in His name, when they saw the miracles which He did.*" John 2: 23.

8. What question did the performing of these miracles lead many to ask?

"And many of the people believed on Him, and said, *When Christ cometh, will He do more miracles than these which this man hath done?*" John 7: 31.

9. Why were many attracted to Christ?

"A great multitude followed Him, *because they saw His miracles which He did on them that were diseased.*" John 6: 2.

3. For what purpose did Christ come to this world?

"For the Son of man is come *to seek and to save that which was lost.*" Luke 19: 10.

4. Through what was Christ made a complete and perfect Saviour?

"For it became Him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the Captain of their salvation perfect *through sufferings.*" Heb. 2: 10.

5. Because of this, what is Christ able to do?

"For in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, *He is able to succor them that are tempted.*" Verse 18.

6. How complete a Saviour is He?

"Wherefore *He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him,* seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb. 7: 25.

7. From what is He able to keep us?

"Now unto Him that is able *to keep you from falling,* and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen." Jude 24, 25.

8. What does He call those who accept Him?

"Henceforth I call you not servants; . . . I have called you *friends.*" John 15: 15.

9. What kind of friend is He?

"There is a *friend that sticketh closer than a brother.*" Prov. 18: 24.

10. What is the mark of a true friend?

"A *friend loveth at all times,* and a brother is born for adversity." Prov. 17: 17.

PART V

The Holy Spirit

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HIS WORK

1. WHAT precious promise did Jesus make to His disciples shortly before His crucifixion?

“I will pray the Father, and *He shall give you another Comforter*, that He may abide with you forever.” John 14: 16.

2. Who is the Comforter, and what was He to do?

“But the Comforter, even *the Holy Spirit*, whom the Father will send in My name, *He shall teach you all things*, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you.” Verse 26, R. V.

3. Why cannot the world receive Him?

“Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, *because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him.*” Verse 17.

4. How intimate is His union with believers?

“But ye know Him; for *He dwelleth with you*, and shall be *in you.*” Same verse.

5. Whose presence does the Holy Spirit bring to the believers?

“I will not leave you comfortless: *I will come to you.*” Verse 18.

6. What promise is thus fulfilled?

“Lo, *I am with you alway*, even unto the end of the world.” Matt. 28: 20. See also John 14: 21-23.

7. What threefold union is thus established?

“At that day ye shall know that *I am in My Father*, and *ye in Me*, and *I in you.*” Verse 20.

NOTE.— Rom. 8: 9 shows the Spirit of each of the three persons of the Godhead to be one and the same Spirit.

8. How does Jesus, through the Spirit, seek an entrance to every heart?

“Behold, *I stand at the door, and knock*: if any man hear My

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

1. CONCERNING what subject ought we to be informed?

"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant." 1 Cor. 12: 1.

2. When Christ ascended, what did He give to men?

"Wherefore He saith, When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive [margin, a multitude of captives], and gave gifts unto men." Eph. 4: 8.

3. What were these gifts that Christ gave to men?

"And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers." Verse 11.

4. How are these gifts elsewhere spoken of?

"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." 1 Cor. 12: 28.

5. For what purpose were these gifts bestowed upon the church?

"For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: . . . that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." Eph. 4: 12-15.

6. What result is to be obtained by the exercise of the gifts in the church?

"Till we all come in [margin, into] 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." Verse 13.

7. How is unity preserved in the diversities of gifts?

"Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit." 1 Cor. 12: 4.

8. For what purpose is the manifestation of this one Spirit given?

"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

5. Can the wise men of the world foretell the future?

"Daniel answered before the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded can neither wise men, enchanters, magicians, nor soothsayers, show unto the king." Dan. 2: 27, R. V. See notes on page 133.

6. Who did Daniel say could reveal secrets?

"But *there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days.*" Verse 28.

7. How did the prophet Daniel acknowledge the insufficiency of human wisdom?

"As for me, *this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.*" Verse 30.

8. After revealing and interpreting the dream, what did Daniel say?

"The great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass *hereafter.*" Verse 45.

9. How does God show His foreknowledge?

"Behold, the former things are come to pass, and *new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them.*" Isa. 42: 9.

10. How does the Lord reveal Himself to His prophets?

"If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make Myself known unto him in a *vision*, and will speak unto him in a *dream.*" Num. 12: 6.

11. Under what influence did the prophets of old speak?

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as *they were moved by the Holy Ghost.*" 2 Peter 1: 21. See 2 Sam. 23: 2.

12. How are both the origin of prophecy and the means of communicating it still further shown?

"The revelation of Jesus Christ, *which God gave unto Him, to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John.*" Rev. 1: 1.

13. What angel revealed to Daniel his visions and dreams?

and gave gifts unto men. . . . And He gave some, *apostles*; and some, *prophets*; and some, *evangelists*; and some, *pastors* and *teachers*." Eph. 4: 8-11.

21. By what means did God deliver and preserve Israel?

"By a *prophet* the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a *prophet* was he preserved." Hosea 12: 13.

22. When Moses complained of his slowness of speech, what did God say Aaron should be to him?

"And he shall be thy *spokesman* unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a *mouth*, and thou shalt be to him instead of God." Ex. 4: 16.

23. What did God afterward call Aaron?

"And the Lord said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be *thy prophet*." Ex. 7: 1.

24. What is one test by which to detect false prophets?

"When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, *if the thing follow not, nor come to pass*, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him." Deut. 18: 22.

25. What other test should be applied in determining the validity of the claims of a prophet?

"If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, *Let us go after other gods*, which thou hast not known, and *let us serve them*; thou shalt not harken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the Lord your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. *Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear Him, and keep His commandments, and obey His voice*, and ye shall serve Him, and cleave unto Him." Deut. 13: 1-4.

NOTE.— From these scriptures it will be seen that, in the first place, if a prophet's words do not prove to be true, it is evidence that God has not sent that prophet. On the other hand, even though the thing predicted comes to pass, if the pretended prophet seeks to lead others to break God's commandments, this, regardless of all signs, should be positive evidence that he is not a true prophet.

26. What rule did Christ give for distinguishing between true and false prophets?

"By their *fruits* ye shall know them." Matt. 7: 20.

27. What general rule is laid down for testing all prophets?

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isa. 8: 20.

28. How did God's prophets anciently use the words of former prophets in exhorting the people to obedience?

"Should ye not hear the words which the Lord hath cried by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity?" Zech. 7: 7.

29. What is the promised result of believing God's prophets?

"Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper." 2 Chron. 20: 20.

30. What admonition is given regarding the gift of prophecy?

"Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." 1 Thess. 5: 20, 21.

31. What will characterize the last, or remnant, church?

"And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Rev. 12: 17.

32. What is the "testimony of Jesus"?

"The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." Rev. 19: 10. See Rev. 1: 9.

33. What results when this gift is absent?

"Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." Prov. 29: 18. See also Ps. 74: 9.

THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT

1. For what did Christ, just before His ascension, tell His disciples to wait?

"And, behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24: 49.

2. With what did He say they would be baptized?

"Ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." Acts 1: 5.

NOTE.—John the Baptist had foretold this baptism. He said: "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after

me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire." Matt. 3: 11.

3. For what work was this baptism to prepare them?

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and *ye shall be witnesses unto Me* both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1: 8.

4. What were some of the results of the preaching of the gospel under the outpouring of the Spirit?

"Now when they heard this, *they were pricked in their heart*, and said . . . Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. . . . Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: *and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.*" Acts 2: 37-41. "And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; . . . and *believers were the more added to the Lord*, multitudes both of men and women." Acts 5: 12-14. "And the word of God increased; and *the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly*; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith." Acts 6: 7.

5. How did persecution affect the preaching of the gospel?

"And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. . . . Therefore *they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word.*" Acts 8: 1-4.

NOTE.—"Persecution has only had a tendency to extend and establish the faith which it was designed to destroy. . . . There is no lesson which men have been so slow to learn as that to oppose and persecute men is the very way to confirm them in their opinions, and to spread their doctrines."—*Dr. Albert Barnes, on Acts 4: 4.*

6. What words of Peter seem to indicate another outpouring of the Spirit?

"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.*" Acts 3: 19.

7. What event does he speak of as immediately following these times of refreshing?

"*And He shall send Jesus Christ*, which before was preached

unto you: whom the heaven must receive [Syriac, retain] until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began." Verses 20, 21.

NOTE.— From this it seems evident that we may look for another outpouring of the Spirit for a final proclamation of the gospel to all the world just before Christ's second advent and the restitution of all things.

8. What prophecy was fulfilled in the Pentecostal outpouring of the Spirit in the time of the apostles?

"But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said, . . . These are not drunken, as ye suppose, . . . but *this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel*; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: and on My servants and on My handmaidens I will pour out in those days of My Spirit, and they shall prophesy." Acts 2: 14-18. See Joel 2: 28, 29.

9. What expressions in the prophecy of Joel seem to imply a double fulfilment of this outpouring of the Spirit?

"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." Joel 2: 23. See also Hosea 6: 3.

NOTE.— In Palestine the early rains prepare the soil for the seed sowing, and the latter rains ripen the grain for the harvest. So the early outpouring of the Spirit prepared the world for the extensive sowing of the gospel seed, and the final outpouring will come to ripen the golden grain for the harvest of the earth, which Christ says is "the end of the world." Matt. 13: 37-39; Rev. 14: 14, 15.

10. For what are we told to pray at this time?

"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." Zech. 10: 1.

NOTE.— Before the apostles received the baptism of the Spirit in the early rain on the day of Pentecost, they all "continued with one accord in prayer and supplication." Acts 1: 14. During this time they confessed their faults, put away their differences, ceased their selfish ambitions and contentions for place and power, so that when the time for the outpouring came, "they were all *with one accord* in one place," ready for its reception. To be prepared for the final outpouring of the Spirit, all sin and selfish ambition must again be put away, and a like work of grace wrought upon the hearts of God's people.

11. How is the closing work of the gospel under the outpouring of the Spirit described by the revelator?

"After these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and *the earth was lightened with his glory.*" Rev. 18: 1.

12. What does this angel say?

"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, *Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.*" Verse 2.

NOTE.—The religious world will then be in much the same condition as was the Jewish nation after it had rejected Christ at His first advent. See 2 Tim. 3: 1-5.

13. What did Peter on the day of Pentecost tell his hearers to do?

"And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, *Save yourselves from this untoward generation.*" Acts 2: 40.

14. What similar call and appeal will be made under the final outpouring of the Spirit?

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, *Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.*" Rev. 18: 4, 5.

NOTES.—A great work will be accomplished in a short time under the final outpouring of the Spirit. Many voices all over the earth will sound the warning cry. Signs and wonders will be wrought by the believers, and, as at Pentecost, thousands will be converted in a day.

Those who fail to heed this final gospel call, like the unbelieving Jews, will be doomed to destruction. The seven last plagues will overtake them, as war, famine, death, and destruction overtook the Jews, who, not believing in Christ, failed to heed His call to flee, and shut themselves up in Jerusalem to their doom. Those who heed the call, and separate themselves from sin and from sinners, will be saved.

COME, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove,
With all thy quickening powers,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
In these cold hearts of ours.

