

EARLITEEN

THIRD YEAR,
SECOND QUARTER

Sabbath School Lessons



EARLITEEN SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS

Third Year, Second Quarter



**THE
SUPERNATURAL**

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INTRODUCTION

With many people claiming to have supernatural powers from God or to have communication with supernatural forces, every Christian needs to understand clearly what the Bible says about the supernatural forces surrounding him. There are many occurrences which the human being cannot explain on the basis of nature. If he is ignorant of the great controversy being fought in the invisible world between Christ and Satan, he will be left open to the deception and destruction of the evil one.

Therefore these lessons are very important in establishing the dividing line between what is good and what is evil in the supernatural world. With the eye of faith, we can see God and His holy angels at work, preserving His people from all evil influence. Study your lessons carefully, searching God's word for the truth He desires you to know. His Holy Spirit will guide you as you seek Christ's righteousness.

MORTALITY/IMMORTALITY

Bible definition: "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory." 1 Corinthians 15:54.

Dictionary definition: Mortal: Subject to death, human being. Immortal: Exempt from death. Immortality: Unending existence.

Match the answers at right to the questions.

1. **What is the natural state of man's existence?** A. "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."
"For the wages of sin is death." Romans 5:12; 6:23.
2. **To what are all men subject?** B. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life;..."
"... The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, ... taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction." John 3:36; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9.
3. **Who alone is immortal?** C. "Shall mortal man be more just than God? shall a man be more pure than his maker?" Job 4:17.
4. **To whom is the promise of immortality extended?** D. "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. Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-54.
5. **From whom is immortality withheld?** E. "Which in His times He shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; ..." 1 Timothy 6:15, 16.

6. **What is the reward of all men?** F. "To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:" "But glory, honour, and peace to every man that worketh good. ..." Romans 2:7, 10.
"If they [youth] are respectful, kind, affectionate, and truly polite, ... their characters are recorded in the books of Heaven as valuable." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 130.
7. **What are some of the characteristics of those to whom the gift of eternal life is given?** G. "The traits of character you cherish in life will not be changed by death or by the resurrection. ... The work of transformation must be done new." —*The Adventist Home*, p. 16.
8. **What will the Christian character reflect?** H. "The Infinite Eye can search the heart, and read every defect in the character. He does not estimate youth by their outward appearance, but from the goodness they possess at heart, which can only be gained by watchfulness and prayer." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 130.
9. **How may a good character be gained?** I. "Though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered." Hebrews 5:8.
"If you are seeking to reflect the life and character of Christ, you will be true and obedient to your parents." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 130.
10. **What is the importance of a good character here on earth?** J. "And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just."
"And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be." Luke 14:14; Revelation 22:12.

LIFE AND DEATH

Biblical definition:

“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.” Genesis 2:7. “These things said He: and after that He saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. Then said His disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that He had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.” John 11:11-14.

Dictionary definition:

Life: The period between birth and death, the quality that distinguishes a vital and functional being from a dead body.

Death: A permanent cessation of all vital functions, the end of life.

1. How does the Bible define life as opposed to death? Genesis 2:7; Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6, 10.

2. What happens to man when he loses his life? Ecclesiastes 12:7; Job 14:12-14.

3. What is the meaning of the word “hell” in Psalm 16:9, 10?

NOTE: “David testified that the soul of Christ was not to be left in hell (the grave), nor was His flesh to see corruption.” —*The Story of Redemption*, p. 245.

4. How was the power of death over mankind broken? Hebrews 2:9, 14, 15.

NOTE: “As man’s substitute and surety, the iniquity of man was laid upon Christ; He was counted a transgressor that He might redeem them from the curse of the law. . . . He, the sin-bearer, endures judicial punishment for iniquity and becomes sin itself for man.” —*The Story of Redemption*, p. 225.

5. How thoroughly will all ungodly men be destroyed? 2 Peter 3:7, 10; Malachi 4:1.

6. Who will hear the voice of Jesus at the resurrection? John 5:28, 29.

7. How many resurrections will there be? Revelation 20:4-6; Acts 24:15.

NOTE: “But those who have not, through repentance and faith, secured pardon, must receive the penalty of transgression—‘the wages of sin.’ They suffer punishment varying in duration and intensity, ‘according to their works,’ but finally ending in the second death.” —*The Great Controversy*, p. 544.

8. In whom may the faithful trust for their deliverance from death and hell? 2 Peter 2:9.

9. Why may a righteous man face death without fear? Thessalonians 4:13-18.

NOTE: “. . . The voice of the Son of God calls forth the sleeping saints. He looks upon the graves of the righteous, then raising His hands to heaven, He cries: ‘Awake, awake, awake, ye that sleep in the dust, and arise!’ . . . From the prison-house of death they come, clothed with immortal glory, . . .” —*The Great Controversy*, p. 644.

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WHO IS GOD?

1. Who is in the Godhead? Matthew 28:19; John 17:20-23.

NOTE: "The unity that exists between Christ and His disciples does not destroy the personality of either. They are one in purpose, in mind, in character, but not in person. It is thus that God and Christ are one." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, p. 269.

"Christ has given His Spirit as a divine power to overcome all hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil, and to impress His own character upon His church." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 671.

2. Who is:

A. The Father? Matthew 12:50; 6:9.

"He [Christ] pointed His hearers to the Ruler of the universe, under the new name, 'Our Father.' . . . He teaches that God cares for every lost soul; . . ." —*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, p. 74.

B. The Son? John 1:1, 14, 29, 34.

"Christ did not make believe take human nature; . . . He did in reality possess human nature. . . . The Word existed as a divine being, even as the eternal Son of God, in union and oneness with His Father. From everlasting He was the Mediator of the covenant, . . ." —*Selected Messages*, Book 1, p. 247.

C. The Holy Spirit? Ephesians 4:30.

"Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the Third Person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 671.

3. What is the work of:

A. The Father? 1 Corinthians 8:6.

"The infinite Father ministers to the life of every living thing." —*Education*, p. 103.

B. The Son? Luke 19:10; Hebrews 9:15, 24, 28.

" . . . Jesus, as a personal Saviour, came to the world. As a personal Saviour He ascended on high. . . . He intercedes in the heavenly courts. Before the throne of God in our behalf ministers 'One like unto the Son of man.' " —*The Ministry of Healing*, pp. 418, 419.

C. The Holy Spirit? John 14:16, 17, 26; 16:13.

"The Comforter is called 'the Spirit of truth.' His work is to define and maintain the truth. He first dwells in the heart as the Spirit of truth, and thus He becomes the Comforter. There is comfort and peace in the truth, but no real peace or comfort can be found in falsehood." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 671.

4. What is seen in God's:

A. Character?

"The character of God is righteousness and truth; . . ." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 467.

"When we study the divine character in the light of the cross, we see mercy, tenderness, and forgiveness blended with equity and justice." —*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 333.

B. Nature?

"God is the eternal, uncreated Fountain of all good. All who trust in Him will find Him to be this. To those who serve Him, looking to Him as their heavenly Father, He gives the assurance that He will fulfill His promises. His joy will be in their hearts, and their joy will be full." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 199.

C. Personality?

"God saw that a clearer revelation than nature was needed to portray both His personality and character. He sent His Son into the world to manifest, so far as could be endured by human sight, the nature and the attributes of the invisible God." —*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 419.

5. What is the nature of God's existence? Psalm 90:2; Hebrews 13:8.

6. To what supreme homage is God entitled? Exodus 20:3; Luke 10:27.

7. With what respect is the presence of God to be entered? Exodus 3:4-6.

NOTE: "Humility and reverence should characterize the deportment of all who come into the presence of God." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 252.

8. Can the power of God be fully explained? Job 11:7-9; Romans 11:33.

NOTE: "No finite mind can fully comprehend the existence, the power, the wisdom, or the works of the Infinite One." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 116.

9. Why is a knowledge of God essential? Proverbs 30:5, 6.

NOTE: "The knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ expressed in character is an exaltation above everything else that is esteemed on earth or in heaven. It is the very highest education. It is the key that opens the portals of the heavenly city. This knowledge it is God's purpose that all who put on Christ shall possess." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, p. 317.

OUR GREAT ADVERSARY

1. Who committed the first sin? Ezekiel 28:12-15.

2. Who is Satan?

A. Revelation 12:9, 10 (accuser)

B. Matthew 4:3 (tempter)

C. Luke 12:58 (adversary)

D. 2 Corinthians 4:4 (god of this world)

E. John 8:44 (devil, liar, murderer)

F. Revelation 20:2 (dragon)

3. When was Satan's name changed from Lucifer? Why? Isaiah 14:12-15.

4. Why was he cast out of heaven? Revelation 12:4, 7-9.

5. What is Satan's aim here on earth? 1 Peter 5:8; 2 Corinthians 4:4. What is Christ's mission? Hebrews 2:14.

6. What is Satan's power? Revelation 12:12; Ephesians 2:2, 3; 2 Corinthians 11:14.

7. How does Satan use his power to work against man? Revelation 12:13, 17; 13:12-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:9; Matthew 24:24; Deuteronomy 13:1-5.

8. How may this great adversary be resisted? Ephesians 6:10-12; Matthew 26:41; James 4:7; Romans 8:2, 3.

9. What tactics did Satan use in his attempt to overthrow Jesus Christ when He was here on earth? Matthew 2:13-21; Matthew 4:1-11.

10. What will Satan's end be? Revelation 20:7-10; Ezekiel 28:18, 19.

NOTE: "The Father's presence encircled Christ, and nothing befell Him but that which infinite love permitted for the blessing of the world. Here was His source of comfort, and it is for us. He who is imbued with the Spirit of Christ abides in Christ. The blow that is aimed at him falls upon the Saviour, who surrounds him with His presence. Whatever comes to him comes from Christ. He has no need to resist evil, for Christ is his defense. Nothing can touch him except by our Lord's permission, and 'all things' that are permitted 'work together for good to them that love God.' Romans 8:28." —*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, p. 71.

THE WORK OF FALLEN ANGELS

1. Who are the fallen angels, and who is their leader? 2 Peter 2:4; Revelation 12:4, 9.

2. What is the goal of the fallen angels?

NOTE: "Evil spirits . . . fallen through sin . . . are leagued together for the dishonor of God and the destruction of man. United with Satan in his rebellion, . . . they have, . . . cooperated with him in his warfare against the divine authority." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 513.

3. How do these evil angels attempt to bind the souls of men in sin? 2 Corinthians 11:3.

4. What are some forms of demon possession? Mark 5:8, 9; 9:17-27; Matthew 12:22; Luke 4:33-36; Acts 16:16.

NOTE: "Those possessed with devils are usually represented as being in a condition of great suffering; yet there were exceptions to this rule. For the sake of obtaining supernatural power, some welcomed the satanic influence. . . . Of this class were those who possessed the spirit of divination, . . ." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 516.

5. How did Jesus deal with the demons who possessed souls? Luke 4:35, 36.

6. Why is the believer to avoid spiritualistic influences? Leviticus 19:31.

7. What does the Bible say regarding communication with the dead? Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6; Isaiah 8:19, 20.

8. What is the charismatic work of evil spirits? Revelation 16:14; 13:13, 14; 1 Timothy 4:1.
9. In what spiritual danger does the unguarded soul place himself especially in these last days? 2 Corinthians 11:14, 15; Matthew 24:24.
10. Therefore, in whom is our strength, and what is our defense? Acts 1:14; 2:2-4.

NOTE: "We do not understand as we should the great conflict going on between invisible agencies, the controversy between loyal and disloyal angels. . . . This is no make believe conflict. It is not mimic battles in which we are engaged. We have to meet most powerful adversaries, and it rests with us to determine which shall win. We are to find our strength where the early disciples found theirs." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 7, p. 213.

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Lesson 6

THE WORK OF HOLY ANGELS

1. What does the word "angel" mean? Daniel 9:21, 22; Luke 1:11-13; 28-31. (Answer: Messenger).
2. What are the angels of God? Psalm 103:19-21.
3. Who protect God's people at all times? Psalm 34:7; Matthew 18:10.

NOTE: "A guardian angel is appointed to every follower of Christ. These heavenly watchers shield the righteous from the power of the wicked one." —*The Great Controversy*, pp. 512, 513.

4. In what other ways are the angels of God employed? Hebrews 1:14; 2 Kings 19:34, 35.
5. What position do the angels occupy in relation to man? Psalm 8:4, 5.
6. What are some of the different orders of angels the Bible speaks of? Genesis 3:24; Isaiah 6:2.
7. How are God's holy angels described? Matthew 25:31; 28:2, 3; 2 Peter 2:11; Psalm 104:4.
8. What interest do the holy angels have in the human family? Luke 15:10; 1 Peter 1:12, last part.
9. What part will the angels of God take in Jesus' return to earth in glory? Matthew 25:31; 24:31.

NOTE: "Christ will come in His own glory, in the glory of His Father, and the glory of the holy angels. Ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands of angels, the beautiful and triumphant sons of God, possessing surpassing loveliness and glory, will escort Him on His way." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 739.

10. What atmosphere is attractive to the angels of God?

NOTE: "Are you all preparing to become members of the heavenly family? Are you seeking in the home life to be fitted to become members of the Lord's family? If so, make the home life happy by mutual self-sacrifice. If we want Jesus in our home, let kind words only be spoken there. The angels of God will not abide in a home where there is strife and contention. Let love be cherished, and peace, and Christian politeness, and angels will be your guests." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 113.

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SUBMISSION

PRO:

"When the soul surrenders itself to Christ, a new power takes possession of the new heart. A change is wrought which man can never accomplish for himself. It is a supernatural work, bringing a supernatural element into human nature. The soul that is yielded to Christ becomes His own fortress, which He holds in a revolted world, and He intends that no authority shall be known in it but His own. A soul thus kept in possession by the heavenly agencies is impregnable to the assaults of Satan.

"Christ is ready to impart all heavenly influences. He knows every temptation that comes to man, and the capabilities of every human agent. He weighs his strength. He sees the present and the future, and presents before the mind the obligations that should be met, and urges that common, earthly things shall not be permitted to be so absorbing that eternal things shall be lost out of reckoning.

"The gifts of His grace through Christ are free to all. There is no election but one's own by which any may perish. God has set forth in His Word the conditions upon which every soul will be elected to eternal life—obedience to His commandments, through faith in Christ. God has elected a character in harmony with His law, and any one who shall reach the standard of His requirement, will have an entrance into the kingdom of glory. Christ Himself said, 'He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life.'

"What an exalted position to be identified with one in whom is all perfection centered, who is indeed the Majesty of heaven, but who loves us, although fallen, so much that language cannot express it! He for our sakes laid aside His royal robe, stepped down from the throne of heaven, and condescended to clothe His divinity with humility, and became like one of us except in sin, that His life and character should be a pattern for all to copy, that they might have the precious gift of eternal life." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 23.

CON:

"But unless we do yield ourselves to the control of Christ, we shall be dominated by the wicked one. We must inevitably be under the control of the one or the other of the two great powers that are contending for the supremacy of the world. It is not necessary for us deliberately to choose the service of the kingdom of darkness in order to come under its dominion. We have only to neglect to ally ourselves with the kingdom of light. If we do not cooperate with the heavenly agencies, Satan will take possession of the heart, and will make it his abiding place. The only defense against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart through faith in His righteousness. Unless we become vitally connected with God, we can never resist the unhallowed effects of self-love, self-indulgence, and temptation to sin. We may leave off many bad habits, for the time we may part company with Satan; but without a vital connection with God, through the surrender of ourselves to Him moment by moment, we shall be overcome. Without a personal acquaintance with Christ, and a continual communion, we are at the mercy of the enemy, and shall do his bidding in the end. . . .

"There are none so hardened as those who have slighted the invitation of mercy, and done despite to the Spirit of grace. The most common manifestation of the sin against the Holy Spirit is in persistently slighting Heaven's invitation to repent. Every step in the rejection of Christ is a step toward the rejection of salvation, and toward the sin against the Holy Spirit.

"In rejecting Christ the Jewish people committed the unpardonable sin; and by refusing the invitation of mercy, we may commit the same error. We offer insult to the Prince of life, and put Him to shame before the synagogue of Satan and before the heavenly universe when we refuse to listen to His delegated messengers, and instead listen to the agents of Satan, who would draw the soul away from Christ. So long as one does this, he can find no hope or pardon, and he will finally lose all desire to be reconciled to God." —*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 324, 325.

Mark the following statements as either True or False.

PRO:

1. Ephesians 2:7-10

The change of heart in a spiritually reborn person is done by himself.

True

False

2. Psalm 62:6-8

The soul who yields to God is protected against the attacks of Satan.

True

False

3. Matthew 6:19-21

Temporal affairs are to be controlled so that spiritual affairs are not forgotten.

True

False

4. John 3:14-18

Salvation is conditional, but its loss is unnecessary.

True

False

5. 1 Peter 2:21-22

Jesus was exactly like all other members of the human family when He lived on earth.

True

False

CON:

6. Romans 6:16; Matthew 6:24

Man is not an independent spiritual entity and therefore is under the control of one of two great spiritual powers.

True

False

7. Galatians 2:19-21

A total personal, moment-by-moment commitment to Christ is not necessary.

True

False

8. Ephesians 3:14-20
The faithful are always and constantly aware of the presence of Christ in their lives.

True False

9. Isaiah 63:9, 10
Usually those who reject the Holy Spirit are repentant and yield to His invitation of mercy.

True False

10. Hebrews 6:4-6
Christ is crucified anew when a person rejects the truth he once had in his heart.

True False

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Lesson 8

THE SABBATH AND SUBMISSION

1. When was the Sabbath first established? Genesis 2:2, 3.
2. For whom was the Sabbath made? Who made it? Mark 2:27, 28; Exodus 20:10, 11.

NOTE: "As a sign of His sanctifying power, the Sabbath is given to all who through Christ become a part of the Israel of God." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 288.

3. Why was the Sabbath instituted? Ezekiel 20:19, 20.

NOTE: "The importance of the Sabbath as the memorial of creation is that it keeps ever present the true reason why worship is due God"—because He is the Creator, and we are His creatures. . . . It was to keep this truth ever before the minds of men, that God instituted the Sabbath in Eden. . . . Had the Sabbath been universally kept, man's thoughts and affections would have been led to the Creator as the object of reverence and worship, and there would never have been an idolater, an atheist, or an infidel. The keeping of the Sabbath is a sign of loyalty to the true God." —*The Great Controversy*, pp. 437, 438.

4. What is the true meaning of Sabbath worship? Exodus 20:8; 22:31, first part.

NOTE: "But in order to keep the Sabbath holy, men must themselves be holy. Through faith they must become partakers of the righteousness of Christ." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 283.

5. How will those who love the Lord regard Sabbath keeping? Isaiah 58:13, 14.

NOTE: "To all who receive the Sabbath as a sign of Christ's creative and redeeming power, it will be a delight. Seeing Christ in it, they delight themselves in Him. The Sabbath points them to the works of creation as an evidence of His mighty power in redemption. While it calls to mind the lost peace of Eden, it tells of peace restored through the Saviour." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 289.

6. What is the significance of Sabbath worship? Ezekiel 20:12.

NOTE: "Then the Sabbath is a sign of Christ's power to make us holy. And it is given to all whom Christ makes holy." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 288.

7. If the Sabbath ever becomes a burdensome task, what does it indicate?

NOTE: "As the Jews departed from God, and failed to make the righteousness of Christ their own by faith, the Sabbath lost its significance to them. Satan was seeking to exalt himself and to draw men away from Christ, and he worked to pervert the Sabbath, because it is the sign of the power of Christ. The Jewish leaders accomplished the will of Satan by surrounding God's rest day with burdensome requirements." —*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 283, 284.

8. How did Jesus reprove those who accused Him of breaking the Sabbath? Matthew 12:1-6.

NOTE: "Their [the rabbi's] many heartless rites could not supply the lack of that truthful integrity and tender love which will ever characterize the true worshiper of God." —*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 285, 286.

9. What is the purpose of the Sabbath? Matthew 12:7; Hosea 6:6.

NOTE: "... Christ reiterated the truth that the sacrifices were in themselves of no value. They were a means, and not an end. Their object was to direct men to the Saviour, and thus to bring them into harmony with God. It is the service of love that God values. When this is lacking, the mere round of ceremony is an offense to Him. So with the Sabbath. It was designed to bring men into communion with God; but when the mind was absorbed with wearisome rites, the object of the Sabbath was thwarted. Its mere outward observance was a mockery." —*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 286, 287.

10. What is the mark of a people wholly submitted to the Lord's will? Revelation 14:12.

NOTE: "Holiness is . . . an entire surrender of the will to God; it is living by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God; it is doing the will of our heavenly Father; it is trusting God in trial, in darkness as well as in light; it is walking by faith and not by sight; it is relying on God with unquestioning confidence, and resting in His love." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 155.

Lesson 9

THE PRIVILEGE OF PRAYER

1. What counsel was given by the apostle Paul? 1 Thessalonians 5:17. What is the relationship between prayer and the supernatural?

2. What do the following texts say we should pray for?

a. James 5:16

b. 1 Timothy 2:1, 2

c. Matthew 5:44

d. James 1:5

3. What part does faith play in prayer? Hebrews 11:6.

4. Will God automatically grant every request? 1 John 5:14, 15.

5. What products of human nature must be put aside when one prays? 1 Timothy 2:8; Psalm 66:18; James 4:3.

6. What should accompany prayer? Philippians 4:6; Mark 11:24-26.

7. In whose name should prayer be offered? John 14:13, 14.

8. What does it mean to pray in Christ's name?

NOTE: "... God hears prayer. Christ has said, 'If ye shall ask anything in My name, I will do it.' Again He says, 'If any man serve Me, him will My Father honor.' John 14:14; 12:26. If we live according to His word, every precious promise He has given will be fulfilled to us. We are undeserving of His mercy, but as we give ourselves to Him, He receives us. He will work for and through those who follow Him." —*The Ministry of Healing*, pp. 226, 227.

"When Christ ascended to heaven, the sense of His presence was still with His followers. It was a personal presence, full of love and light. . . . He had ascended to heaven in the form of humanity. They knew that He was before the throne of God, their Friend and Saviour still; that His sympathies were unchanged; that He was still identified with suffering humanity. He was presenting before God the merits of His own precious blood, showing His wounded hands and feet, in remembrance of the price He had paid for His redeemed. They knew that He had ascended to heaven to prepare places for them, and that He would come again, and take them to Himself.

"As they met together, after the ascension, they were eager to present their requests to the Father in the name of Jesus. . . . They extended the hand of faith higher and higher with the mighty argument, 'It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.' Romans 8:24." —*Steps to Christ*, pp. 73, 74.

9. Should we ever feel that we cannot come to Christ in sincere prayer?

NOTE: "Jesus knows the needs of His children, and He loves to listen to their prayers. Let the children shut out the world and everything that would attract the thoughts from God, and let them feel that they are alone with God, that His eye looks into the inmost heart, and reads the desire of the soul, and that they may talk with God. In humble faith you may claim His promises, and feel that although you have nothing in yourself whereby you may claim the favor of God, because of the merits and righteousness of Christ, you may come boldly to the throne of grace, and find help in time of need. There is nothing that can make the soul so strong to resist the temptations of Satan in the great conflict of life, as to seek God in humility, laying before Him your soul in all its helplessness, expecting that He will be your helper and your defender." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 121.

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Lesson 10

THE MYSTERY OF MIRACLES

1. In the parable of the sower, does the seed bring forth fruit by itself?
Mark 4:26-29.

NOTE: "As in the natural; so in the spiritual sowing; the teacher of truth must seek to prepare the soil of the heart; he must sow the seed; but the power that alone can produce life is from God. . . . In the preaching of the word there must be the working of an agency beyond any human power. Only through the divine Spirit will the word be living and powerful to renew the soul unto eternal life." —*Christ's Object Lessons*, pp. 63, 64.

2. Why are God's works in nature and His word given in a mysterious way?
Psalm 111:2.

NOTE: ". . . God has given to men mysteries to command their faith. . . . We may be ever searching, ever inquiring, ever learning, and yet there is an infinity beyond. . . .

"Day by day the wonderful works of God, the evidences of His miraculous power in creating and sustaining the universe, will open before the mind in new beauty." —*Testimony Treasures*, vol. 3, p. 261.

3. What was the importance of the miracles Christ worked during His earthly ministry? Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 12:41; 15:32.

NOTE: "The greatest significance of His miracles is seen in the fact that they were for the blessing of humanity. The highest evidence that He came from God is that His life revealed the character of God. He did the works and spoke the words of God. Such a life is the greatest of all miracles." —*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 406, 407.

4. What is the miracle of conversion? Ezekiel 36:26, 27.

NOTE: "Is it not a miracle that we can break from the bondage of Satan? Enmity against Satan is not natural to the human heart; it is implanted by the grace of God. . . . The change in human hearts, the transformation of human characters, is a miracle that reveals an everliving Saviour, working to rescue souls. A consistent life in Christ is a great miracle." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 407.

5. Why are physical miracles of less importance in present day Christian missionary work?

NOTE: "The way in which Christ worked was to preach the Word, and to relieve suffering by miraculous works of healing. But I am instructed that we cannot now work in this way, for Satan will exercise his power by working miracles. God's servants today could not work by means of miracles, because spurious works of healing, claiming to be divine, will be wrought." —*Selected Messages*, Book 2, p. 54.

6. What miracles and lying wonders is Satan working in these last days?
Matthew 24:4, 5, 23-27.

7. What is the standard by which Christians are to judge the works of God versus the works of Satan? Isaiah 8:20; Matthew 7:15, 16, 20.

NOTE: "For this reason the Lord has marked out a way in which His people are to carry forward a work of physical healing, combined with the teaching of the Word. Sanitariums are to be established, and with these institutions are to be connected workers who will carry forward genuine medical missionary work. Thus a guarding influence is thrown around those who come to the sanitariums for treatment.

"This is the provision the Lord has made whereby gospel medical missionary work is to be done for many souls." —*Selected Messages*, Book 2, p. 54.

8. Are faith healers sent of God? Revelation 16:13, 14.

NOTE: "I am instructed to say that in the future great watchfulness will be needed. There is to be among God's people no spiritual stupidity. Evil spirits are actively engaged in seeking to control the minds of human beings. . . . Those who discard Christ and His righteousness will accept the sophistry that is flooding the world. . . .

"We need not be deceived. Wonderful scenes, with which Satan will be closely connected, will soon take place. God's Word declares that Satan will work miracles. He will make people sick, and then will suddenly remove them from his satanic power. They will then be regarded as healed. These works of apparent healing will bring Seventh-day Adventists to the test. Many who have had great light will fail to walk in the light, because they have not become one with Christ." —*Selected Messages*, Book 2, p. 53.

9. What is a clear sign between God and His people? Exodus 31:12-18.

NOTE: "And Satan, surrounded by evil angels, and claiming to be God, will work miracles of all kinds to deceive, if possible, the very elect. God's people will not find their safety in working miracles, for Satan would counterfeit any miracle that might be worked. God's tried and tested people . . . are to take their stand on the living Word—'It is written.' This is the only foundation upon which they can stand securely. Those who have broken their covenant with God will in that day be without hope and without God in the world." —*Selected Messages*, Book 2, p. 55.

10. What mark will all except God's true people receive in the closing days of earth's history? Revelation 13:16; 15:2.

NOTE: "The worshipers of God will be especially distinguished by their regard for the fourth commandment—since this is the sign of His creative power and the witness to His claim upon man's reverence and homage. The wicked will be distinguished by their efforts to tear down the Creator's memorial, to exalt the institution of Rome. In the issue of the contest all Christendom will be divided into two great classes—those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark. . . .

"Fearful tests and trials await the people of God. The spirit of war is stirring the nations from one end of the earth to the other. But in the midst of the time of trouble that is coming—a time of trouble such as has not been since there was a nation—God's chosen people will stand unmoved." —*Selected Messages*, Book 2, p. 55.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF BIBLE PROPHECY

1. What is the Spirit of Prophecy? Revelation 19:10.

2. What is the purpose of Bible prophecy? Romans 15:4; Isaiah 42:9.

3. Whom does God reveal future events to? Amos 3:7; 2 Peter 1:21.

4. What is the test of a true prophet of God? Matthew 7:15-20; Isaiah 8:20.

NOTE: "As professed teachers from God come to us declaring that they have a message from God, it is proper to inquire carefully, 'How do we know that this is truth?'

" . . . It becomes us to be diligent Bible students, that we may know what is according to the law and the testimony. We are safe in no other course of action." —*Selected Messages*, Book 2, p. 99.

5. Of all the books of prophecy in the Holy Bible, what are perhaps the two most important for our time? Revelation 22:7; Daniel 12:9.

6. Why is it so important to understand the prophecies of Daniel and The Revelation thoroughly? Daniel 12:8-10; Revelation 1:1-3.

NOTE: "When the books of Daniel and Revelation are better understood, believers will have an entirely different religious experience. They will be given such glimpses of the open gates of heaven that heart and mind will be impressed with the character that all must develop in order to realize the blessedness which is to be the reward of the pure in heart.

" . . . And those who will not accept the light in regard to the law of God will not understand the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. The book of Daniel is unsealed in the revelation to John, and carries us forward to the last scenes of this earth's history." —*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, pp. 114, 115.

7. Whose example of temperance may we follow in preparation for Biblical study? Daniel 1:15, 16, 20.

NOTE: "Those who search this word should keep the mind clear. Never should they indulge perverted appetite in eating or drinking.

"If they do this, the brain will be confused; they will be unable to bear the strain of digging deep to find out the meaning of these things which relate to the closing scenes of this earth's history." —*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 114.

8. Who was another outstanding prophet, and what did He promise? Luke 24:19; John 14:1-3; Matthew 24:30.

9. Were both the first and second advent of Christ foretold? Isaiah 7:14; Job 19:25; Jude 14, 15.

10. In harmony with past history, what does the Lord's messenger of these last days caution? 1 Thessalonians 5:4-6.

NOTE: "The Jews misinterpreted and misapplied the word of God, and they knew not the time of their visitation. The years of the ministry of Christ and His apostles—the precious last years of grace to the chosen people—they spent in plotting the destruction of the Lord's messengers. Earthly ambitions absorbed them, and the offer of the spiritual kingdom came to them in vain. So today the kingdom of this world absorbs men's thoughts, and they take no note of the rapidly fulfilling prophecies and the tokens of the swift-coming kingdom of God." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 235.

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TOUCHING GREAT PROPHECIES

1. What promise was prophesied by the Lord Himself in the garden of Eden? Genesis 3:15; Romans 16:20; Hebrews 2:14.

NOTE: "To Adam was given an assurance of the coming of the Redeemer. The sentence pronounced on Satan [in Genesis 3:15] was to our first parents a promise of the redemption to be wrought out through Christ." —*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 222.

2. What breach made in God's law is to be restored? Isaiah 58:12-14.

NOTE: "The seal of God's law is found in the fourth commandment. This only, of all the ten, brings to view both the name and the title of the Law-giver. It declares Him to be the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and thus shows His claim to reverence and worship above all others. Aside from this precept, there is nothing in the Decalogue to show by whose authority the law was given. When the Sabbath was changed by the papal power, the seal was taken from the law. The disciples of Jesus are called upon to restore it, by exalting the Sabbath of the fourth commandment to its rightful position as the Creator's memorial and the sign of His authority. . . .

"This prophecy also applies in our time. The breach was made in the law of God when the Sabbath was changed by the Roman power. But the time has come for that divine institution to be restored. The breach is to be repaired. . . ." —*The Great Controversy*, pp. 452, 453.

3. What does the prophecy of Daniel 8 deal with? Daniel 8:14.

NOTE: " . . . And the beginning of the seventy weeks is fixed beyond question at B.C. 457, and their expiration in A.D. 34. From this data there is no difficulty in finding the termination of the 2300 days. The 70 weeks—490 days—having been cut off from the 2300, there were 1810 days remaining. After the end of 490 days, the 1810 days were still to be fulfilled. From A.D. 34, 1810 years extend to 1844. Consequently the 2300 days of Daniel 8:14 terminate in 1844." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 328.

4. What is the time of trouble? Revelation 16:1; Matthew 24:21; Daniel 12:1, 2.

5. What does Babylon represent, and what is its character? Revelation 18:2, 4; 17:5.

NOTE: "The existing confusion of conflicting creeds and sects is fitly represented by the term 'Babylon', which prophecy (Revelation 14:8; 18:2) applies to the world-loving churches of the last days." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 124.

6. How many souls will be sealed against the day of the wrath of God just before the second advent of Christ? Revelation 7:2-4.

7. What are the three angels' messages? Revelation 14:6-12.

8. What is the mark of the beast? Revelation 13:15-17.

NOTE: "The powers of earth, uniting to war against the commandments of God, will decree that all, 'both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond' (Revelation 13:16), shall conform to the customs of the church by the observance of the false sabbath. All who refuse compliance will be visited with civil penalties, and it will finally be declared that they are deserving of death. . . .

"With the issue thus clearly brought before him, whoever shall trample upon God's law to obey a human enactment receives the mark of the beast; he accepts the sign of allegiance to the power which he chooses to obey instead of God. . . .

"While one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast [worship Sunday; work Saturday], the other, choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority [worship Sabbath; work Sunday], receive the seal of God." —*The Great Controversy*, pp. 604, 605.

9. Who is the pure woman, and what are the primary characteristics of the faithful remnant people? Revelation 12:13-17.

NOTE: "In Revelation 17 Babylon is represented as a woman—a figure which is used in the Bible as the symbol of a church, a virtuous woman representing a pure church, a vile woman an apostate church." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 381.

10. List what Jesus said would happen in the last days on earth just before He comes again. Matthew 24.

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Lesson 13

CHANGE OF HEART

1. What is the most precious offering that can be made to God? Proverbs 23:26.

NOTE: "I would that all the young could understand how precious is the offering of a youthful heart to God. How lovingly the angels guard the steps of God-fearing, God-loving youth. Jesus knows them by name, and their example is helping other youth to do right. The youth who has hidden within the heart and mind a store of God's words of caution and encouragement, of His precious pearls of promise, from which he can draw at any time, will be a living channel of light." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 98.

2. What does the renewing of mind and heart produce? Who is the true Pattern? Ephesians 4:23, 24.

3. What are the fruits of a genuine heart offering? Colossians 3:12-17.

4. What is the promise of God regarding the new heart? How is this to be understood? Ezekiel 36:26.

NOTE: "The youth especially stumble over this phrase, 'a new heart.' They do not know what it means. They look for a special change to take place in their feelings. This they term conversion. Over this error thousands have stumbled to ruin, not understanding the expression, 'Ye must be born again.' . . . When Jesus speaks of a new heart, He means the mind, the life, the whole being. To have a change of heart is to withdraw the affections from the world, and fasten them upon Christ. To have a new heart is to have a new mind, new purposes, new motives. What is the sign of a new heart?—a changed life. There is a daily, hourly dying to selfishness and pride." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 100.

5. How is the sanctified heart kept new? Philippians 4:7.

NOTE: "It is the love of self that destroys our peace. While self is all alive, we stand ready continually to guard it from mortification and insult; but when we are dead, and our life is hid with Christ in God, we shall not take neglects or slights to heart." —*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, p. 16.

6. What measures are we to take to maintain the new heart? Romans 12:2; Psalm 51:10.

7. How does the newborn babe in Christ grow in Christian grace and stature? John 15:4, 5.

8. How does man become a whole-hearted believer in Christ? Psalm 51:17.

9. What is powerful evidence of a heart made new by Christ? John 13:34, 35; 1 Peter 1:22.

10. What urgent counsel is given in God's word? Romans 13:11, 12, 14.

NOTE: "Make God your entire dependence. When you do otherwise, then it is time for a halt to be called. Stop right where you are, and change the order of things. . . . In sincerity, in soul-hunger, cry after God. Wrestle with the heavenly agencies until you have the victory. Put your whole being into the Lord's hands, soul, body, and spirit, and resolve to be His loving, consecrated agency, moved by His will, controlled by His mind, infused by His Spirit. . . . then you will see heavenly things clearly." —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 105.

ANSWERS (Lesson 1)

1. C
2. A
3. E
4. D
5. B
6. J
7. F
8. I
9. H
10. G

ANSWERS (Lesson 7)

1. False
2. True
3. True
4. True
5. False
6. True
7. False
8. True
9. False
10. True