

JUNIOR

SECOND YEAR,
THIRD QUARTER

Sabbath School Lessons

**Christ's
Miracles**

JUNIOR SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS

CHRIST'S MIRACLES

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INTRODUCTION

This quarter we will study the miracles of Christ—those which He performed while on earth as a man and those which His disciples performed in His name after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the time of Pentecost.

We will also try to understand our relationship to Christ at the present time regarding miracles.

As our faith increases, we will attain to that power which Christ revealed. Speaking of the miracle on the Sea of Galilee, the Spirit of Prophecy tells us: "When Jesus was awakened to meet the storm, He was in perfect peace. There was no trace of fear in word or look, for no fear was in His heart. But He rested not in the possession of almighty power. It was not as the 'Master of earth and sea and sky' that He reposed in quiet. That power He had laid down, and He says, 'I can of Mine own self do nothing.' John 5:30. He trusted in the Father's might. It was in faith—faith in God's love and care—that Jesus rested, and the power of that word which stilled the storm was the power of God." —*The Desire of Ages* (DA), p. 336.

We encourage each one, teacher and student, to carefully read the notes from the Spirit of Prophecy. In this way we will avoid the errors and deceptions of these last days.

Lesson 1

IDENTIFICATION AND PURPOSE

Definition of a miracle: A supernatural intervention into the natural course of events.

1. Give an example of an experience in your life that you might consider a miracle.
2. "Christ never worked a miracle except to supply a genuine necessity, and every miracle of Christ was of a character to lead the people to

_____." DA 366.

3. "Every miracle that Christ performed was a sign of His _____."
_____." DA 406.

4. What power did the Saviour reveal in His miracles? DA 336.

5. Do God's miracles always appear as miracles?

NOTE: "God's miracles do not always bear the outward semblance of miracles. Often they are brought about in a way which looks like the natural course of events. . . .

"Natural means, used in accordance with God's will, bring about supernatural results." —*Selected Messages*, Book 2, p. 346.

Lesson 2

THE EFFECT OF CHRIST'S MIRACLES

1. What is needed to be a recipient of a miracle? Matthew 9:20-22.
2. Does everyone appreciate Christ's miracles in his behalf? Luke 17:11-19.
3. Did Jesus ever perform a miracle merely to satisfy the curious? Luke 23:8, 9.

NOTE: "Herod questioned Christ in many words, but throughout the Saviour maintained a profound silence. At the command of the king, the decrepit and maimed were then called in, and Christ was ordered to prove His claims by working a miracle. Men say that Thou canst heal the sick, said Herod. I am anxious to see that Thy widespread fame has not been belied. Jesus did not respond, . . .

"Herod was irritated by this silence. It seemed to indicate utter indifference to his authority. To the vain and pompous king, open rebuke would have been less offensive than to be thus ignored. Again he angrily threatened Jesus, who still remained unmoved and silent.

"The mission of Christ in this world was not to gratify idle curiosity. He came to heal the brokenhearted. Could He have spoken any word to heal the bruises of sin-sick souls, He would not have kept silent. But He had no words for those who would but trample the truth under their unholy feet." DA 729, 730.

4. *Did Jesus ever perform a miracle in His own behalf? Matthew 27:39-43.*

NOTE: "... Herod still continued to urge: If Thou canst work miracles for others, work them now for Thine own good, and it will serve Thee a good purpose. Again he commanded, Show us a sign that Thou hast the power with which rumor hath accredited Thee. But Christ was as one who heard and saw not. The Son of God had taken upon Himself man's nature. He must do as man must do in like circumstances. Therefore He would not work a miracle to save Himself the pain and humiliation that man must endure when placed in a similar position." DA 729.

5. *After studying the above questions, do you think that a miracle is enough to bring about a conversion of a person?*

6. *All of the following people witnessed or heard of Christ's miracles. Check the ones who benefited by them.*

_____ Judas Iscariot (Matthew 27:3-5)

_____ Simon Peter (John 21:15-17)

_____ Pilate (Matthew 27:24, 26)

_____ Woman of Samaria (John 4:28-30)

_____ King Herod (Luke 23:11, 12)

_____ Nicodemus (John 19:39, 40)

_____ Mary Magdalene (Luke 7:37, 38)

Lesson 3

PROVIDING FOR OTHERS

1. *Upon what occasion did Jesus perform His first miracle? John 2:1-11. What was the miracle?*

2. *Is a marriage, under God, beautiful to Jesus? DA 144.*

3. *"At a household gathering in a little Galilean village His power was put forth to add to the _____ of a wedding feast." DA 144.*

4. *Circle the number of the correct answer in the following multiple choice questions. The answers are found in DA 144, first paragraph.*

A. *This miracle was performed (1) for priests, kings and rulers, (2) in a big city like New York, (3) in a little Galilean village.*

B. *Jesus desires to make provision for (1) all people to be happy (2) just a few people to be happy, (3) his best friends to be happy.*

C. *Jesus (1) did not like people, (2) was very rude and critical of people, (3) showed interest in and sympathy for all people.*

D. *Jesus wants us (1) to be hermits, (2) to be friends and have innocent social gatherings with each other, (3) to go to dances, movies and horse races with other people.*

5. *How did Jesus feed 5,000 men, besides women and children? Matthew 14:15-21.*

6. *Jesus had the multitude gather up 12 baskets of fragments (leftovers) of bread to encourage us (1) to be selfish, (2) to waste nothing and share with those less fortunate, (3) to eat between meals.*

7. *How else did Jesus provide for men? Luke 5:4-9.*

8. *Is Jesus concerned about our paying taxes to the government? Matthew 17:24-27.*

NOTE: Jesus "saw good to meet the demand, . . . [for the payment of taxes to the Roman government.]" DA 434.

NATURE

1. *Who created all things? John 1:1-3, 14; Hebrews 1:1, 2.*
2. *Since Jesus created all of the universe, do He and His Father have power over nature? Mark 4:36-41.*

NOTE: "He lifts His hand, so often employed in deeds of mercy, and says to the angry sea, 'Peace, be still.' . . .

"When Jesus was awakened to meet the storm, He was in perfect peace. There was no trace of fear in word or look, for no fear was in His heart. . . .

"As Jesus rested by faith in the Father's care, so we are to rest in the care of our Saviour." DA 335, 336.

3. *During another dangerous storm, whom did the disciples see walking on the water toward them? Matthew 14:22-27.*

NOTE: "Jesus has not forgotten them. The Watcher on the shore saw those fear-stricken men battling with the tempest. Not for a moment did He lose sight of His disciples. With deepest solicitude His eyes followed the storm-tossed boat with its precious burden; for these men were to be the light of the world. As a mother in tender love watches her child, so the compassionate Master watched His disciples. When their hearts were subdued, their unholy ambition quelled, and in humility they prayed for help, it was given them.

"At the moment when they believe themselves lost, a gleam of light reveals a mysterious figure approaching them upon the water. But they know not that it is Jesus. The One who has come for their help they count as an enemy. Terror overpowers them. The hands that have grasped the oars with muscles like iron let go their hold. The boat rocks at the will of the waves; all eyes are riveted on this vision of a man walking upon the white-capped billows of the foaming sea.

"They think it a phantom that omens their destruction, and they cry out for fear. Jesus advances as if He would pass them; but they recognize Him, and cry out, entreating His help. Their beloved Master turns, His voice silences their fear, 'Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid.'" DA 381.

4. *What exciting experience did Peter make? Matthew 14:28-31.*

NOTE: "As soon as they could credit the wondrous fact, Peter was almost beside himself with joy. As if he could scarcely yet believe, he cried out, 'Lord, if it be Thou, bid me come unto Thee on the water. And He said, Come.'

"Looking unto Jesus, Peter walks securely; but as in self-satisfaction he glances back toward his companions in the boat, his eyes are turned from the Saviour. The wind is boisterous. The waves roll high, and come directly between him and the Master; and he is afraid. For a moment Christ is hidden from his view, and his faith gives way. He begins to sink. But while the billows talk with death, Peter lifts his eyes from the angry waters, and fixing them upon Jesus, cries, 'Lord, save me.' Immediately Jesus grasps the outstretched hand, saying, 'O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?'

"Walking side by side, Peter's hand in that of his Master, they stepped into the boat together. But Peter was now subdued and silent. He had no reason to boast over his fellows, for through unbelief and self-exaltation he had very nearly lost his life. When he turned his eyes from Jesus, his footing was lost, and he sank amid the waves." DA 381, 382.

5. *What strange miracle surprised Christ's disciples? Matthew 21:18-20.*

NOTE: "Christ's act in cursing the fig tree had astonished the disciples. It seemed to them unlike His ways and works. . . .

"The cursing of the fig tree was an acted parable. That barren tree, flaunting its pretentious foliage in the very face of Christ, was a symbol of the Jewish nation. . . .

"They brought ruin upon themselves by refusing to minister to others. The treasures of truth which God had committed to them, they did not give to the world. In the barren tree they might read both their sin and its punishment. Withered beneath the Saviour's curse, standing forth sere and blasted, dried up by the roots, the fig tree showed what the Jewish people would be when the grace of God was removed from them. Refusing to impart blessing, they would no longer receive it. 'O Israel,' the Lord says, 'thou hast destroyed thyself.' Hosea 13:9." DA 582, 583.

READING MEN'S THOUGHTS

1. Is Christ able to read men's thoughts? John 4:15-19.

NOTE: "The listener trembled. A mysterious hand was turning the pages of her life history, bringing to view that which she had hoped to keep forever hidden. Who was He that could read the secrets of her life? There came to her thoughts of eternity, of the future judgment, when all that is now hidden shall be revealed. In its light, conscience was awakened." DA 187, 188.

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

2. Do angels read men's thoughts?

NOTE: "Did you forget that angels of God were in attendance, and that their pure eyes were reading your thoughts, the intents and purposes of the heart, and taking cognizance of every act, and delineating your true, frivolous character?" —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 181.

3. Can Satan and his evil angels read men's thoughts?

NOTE: "Satan cannot read our thoughts, but he can see our actions, hear our words; and from his long knowledge of the human family, he can shape his temptations to take advantage of our weak points of character." —*Messages to Young People*, p. 328.

"The adversary of souls is not permitted to read the thoughts of men; but he is a keen observer, and he marks the words; he takes account of actions, and skillfully adapts his temptations to meet the cases of those who place themselves in his power. If we would labor to repress sinful thoughts and feelings, giving them no expression in words or actions, Satan would be defeated; for he could not prepare his specious temptations to meet the case." —*Selected Messages*, Book 1, pp. 122, 123.

4. In secret prayer, are we safe to pray aloud and express our thoughts to God? Matthew 26:39; James 4:7.

NOTE: "At first they had been much troubled to see their Master, usually so calm and dignified, wrestling with a sorrow that was beyond comprehension. They had prayed as they heard the strong cries of the sufferer." DA 688.

"The soul that loves God, loves to draw strength from Him by constant communion with Him. When it becomes the habit of the soul to converse with God, the power of the evil one is broken; for Satan cannot abide near the soul that draws nigh unto God." —(*The Review and Herald*, December 3, 1889). *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 7, p. 937.

5. Is it possible for men to read other men's thoughts? 1 Corinthians 2:11, first part.

NOTE: "Men of this character may have been esteemed by their brethren as most exemplary Christians; but the eye of God reads the heart and discerns the motives. He sees that which man cannot see in the thoughts and character." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 513.

6. Do you think people who claim to have ESP (extrasensory perception), who are right only about 50% of the time, are being influenced by God or Satan?

NOTE: "When they separate from God, their wisdom will be found to be foolishness. When they are small in their own eyes and lean heavily upon their God, then He will be the arm of their power, and success will attend their efforts; but when they allow the mind to be diverted from God, then Satan comes in and controls the thoughts and perverts the judgment." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 560.

7. Is hypnosis of God or Satan?

NOTE: "The theory of mind controlling mind was originated by Satan, to introduce himself as the chief worker, to put human philosophy where divine philosophy should be. Of all the errors that are finding acceptance among professedly Christian people, none is a more dangerous deception, none more certain to separate man from God, than is this. Innocent though it may appear, if exercised upon patients it will tend to their destruction, not to their restoration. It opens a door through which Satan will enter to take possession both of the mind that is given up to be controlled by another, and of the mind that controls." —*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 243.

HEALING, Part 1

1. *Of all the miracles Jesus performed, those involving healing were performed (1) least often, (2) occasionally, (3) most often.*

NOTE: "When He sent out His disciples He commissioned them to heal the sick as well as to preach the gospel. When He sent forth the seventy He commanded them to heal the sick, and next to preach that the kingdom of God had come nigh unto them. Their physical health was to be first cared for, in order that the way might be prepared for their minds to be reached by those truths which the apostles were to preach." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 225.

2. *Is it right to take care of the sick on the Sabbath? Luke 14:1-6.*

NOTE: "He will not be held guiltless who neglects to relieve suffering on the Sabbath. God's holy rest day was made for man, and acts of mercy are in perfect harmony with its intent. God does not desire His creatures to suffer an hour's pain that may be relieved upon the Sabbath or any other day." DA 207.

3. *Did Christ use medicine in healing? 2 Kings 20:7; John 9:8-11.*

NOTE: "Pure air, sunlight, abstemiousness, rest, exercise, proper diet, the use of water, trust in divine power—these are the true remedies. Every person should have a knowledge of nature's remedial agencies and how to apply them. It is essential both to understand the principles involved in the treatment of the sick and to have a practical training that will enable one rightly to use this knowledge.

"The use of natural remedies requires an amount of care and effort that many are not willing to give. Nature's process of healing and upbuilding is gradual, and to the impatient it seems slow. The surrender of hurtful indulgences requires sacrifice. But in the end it will be found that nature, untrammelled, does her work wisely and well. Those who persevere in obedience to her laws will reap the reward in health of body and health of mind." —*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 127.

"Natural means, used in accordance with God's will, bring about supernatural results." —*Selected Messages*, Book 2, p. 346.

4. *Why should we avoid the majority of medicine used today?*

NOTE: "A practice that is laying the foundation of a vast amount of disease and of even more serious evils is the free use of poisonous drugs. When attacked by disease, many will not take the trouble to search out the cause

of their illness. Their chief anxiety is to rid themselves of pain and inconvenience. So they resort to patent nostrums, of whose real properties they know little, or they apply to a physician for some remedy to counteract the result of their misdoing, but with no thought of making a change in their unhealthful habits. If immediate benefit is not realized, another medicine is tried, and then another. Thus the evil continues.

"People need to be taught that drugs do not cure disease. It is true that they sometimes afford present relief, and the patient appears to recover as the result of their use; this is because nature has sufficient vital force to expel the poison and to correct the conditions that caused the disease. Health is recovered in spite of the drug. But in most cases the drug only changes the form and location of the disease. Often the effect of the poison seems to be overcome for a time, but the results remain in the system and work great harm at some later period." —*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 126.

5. *Can Satan heal?*

NOTE: "He [Satan] has studied the secrets of the laboratories of nature, and he uses all his power to control the elements as far as God allows. . . .

"While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. . . . He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous. Destruction will be upon both man and beast." —*The Great Controversy*, pp. 589, 590.

6. *Is it God's desire that we have good health? 3 John 2.*

THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. *How should we find the right physician after we have done everything we can to heal ourselves with natural means?*
2. *Who is the greatest physician?*

HEALING, Part 2

Match Christ's words on the right to the person He said these words to when He healed him or her.

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| 1. Bartimaeus, the blind beggar | A. "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." "Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him." Mark 9:23, 25. |
| 2. Roman centurion who asked Christ to speak only, and his palsied servant at home would be healed | B. "Go thy way; thy son liveth." John 4:50. |
| 3. Father who asked for healing of deaf, dumb, epileptic child | C. "Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity." Luke 13:12. |
| 4. Demoniac (mentally possessed) | D. "I will; be thou clean." "See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them." Matthew 8:3, 4. |
| 5. Woman bowed together (bent over) for 18 years | E. "Go shew yourselves unto the priests." "Were there not ten cleansed? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger." Luke 17:14, 17, 18. |
| 6. Woman diseased with an issue of blood for 12 years | F. "Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel." "Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee." Matthew 8:10, 13. |
| 7. Jewish nobleman who asked for healing of son ready to die of an incurable disease | G. "Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole." Mark 10:52. |
| 8. Outcast leper who was healed | H. "And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him." Mark 1:25. |

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| 9. Man with withered hand | I. "Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole." Matthew 9:22. |
| 10. Restored ear of Malchus, servant of high priest | J. "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee." Mark 2:5. |
| 11. Man sick of palsy (paralytic) | K. "I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel." "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt." Matthew 15:24, 28. |
| 12. The lepers healed | L. "Stand forth." "Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill?" "Stretch forth thine hand." Mark 3:3-5. |
| 13. Syrophenician woman who pleaded for healing of possessed daughter | M. "Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword." "Suffer ye thus far. And He touched his ear, and healed him." Matthew 26:52; Luke 22:51. |

THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the importance of each of the above statements of Christ.
2. Why did Jesus say several times, "See thou tell no man"?
3. Do you think that the most popular faith-healers of today, who make a great display on TV, etc., are being led by God?

DIVINITY FLASHING THROUGH HUMANITY

1. When was the first time Jesus' divinity was clearly seen? Luke 2:46-51.

NOTE: "How is it that ye sought Me?" answered Jesus. 'Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?' And as they seemed not to understand His words, He pointed upward. On His face was a light at which they wondered. Divinity was flashing through humanity. On finding Him in the temple, they had listened to what was passing between Him and the rabbis, and they were astonished at His questions and answers. His words started a train of thought that would never be forgotten." DA 81.

2. How was Satan made to leave after his third temptation of Christ in the wilderness? Matthew 4:10, 11.

NOTE: "Satan had questioned whether Jesus was the Son of God. In his summary dismissal he had proof that he could not gainsay. Divinity flashed through suffering humanity. Satan had no power to resist the command. Writhing with humiliation and rage, he was forced to withdraw from the presence of the world's Redeemer. Christ's victory was as complete as had been the failure of Adam." DA 130.

3. What did the officers, who were sent out by the priests and rulers to arrest Jesus, say when they returned without Him? John 7:31, 32, 45, 46.

NOTE: "But as they [the officers] listened, the purpose for which they had been sent was forgotten. They stood as men entranced. Christ revealed Himself to their souls. They saw that which priests and rulers would not see—humanity flooded with the glory of divinity." DA 459.

4. How was His divinity shown in the temple at the time of the Passover? John 2:13-16.

NOTE: "The eyes of those engaged in their unholy traffic are riveted upon His face. They cannot withdraw their gaze. They feel that this Man reads their inmost thoughts, and discovers their hidden motives. Some attempt to conceal their faces, as if their evil deeds were written upon their countenances, to be scanned by those searching eyes. . . .

"Looking upon Christ, they behold divinity flash through the garb of humanity." DA 157, 158.

5. Do you think the small whip of cords He had made from pieces picked up in the temple yard scared them, or was it His flashing divinity?

NOTE: "Jesus does not smite them with the whip of cords, but in His hand that simple scourge seems terrible as a flaming sword." DA 158.

6. How did Christ reveal Himself to Caiaphas, the wicked high priest? Matthew 26:62-64.

NOTE: "For a moment the divinity of Christ flashed through His guise of humanity. The high priest quailed before the penetrating eyes of the Saviour. That look seemed to read his hidden thoughts, and burn into his heart. Never in afterlife did he forget that searching glance of the persecuted Son of God. . . .

"The words of Christ startled the high priest. The thought that there was to be a resurrection of the dead, when all would stand at the bar of God, to be rewarded according to their works, was a thought of terror to Caiaphas." DA 707, 708.

THOUGHT QUESTION

Did Christ ever use His divinity to resist sin or to relieve His own suffering, or did He rely upon His Father in heaven just as we must?

RESURRECTION

1. What amazing miracle did Christ perform for the widow of Nain? Luke 7:11-16.

NOTE: "In clear, authoritative voice the words are spoken, 'Young man, I say unto thee, Arise.' That voice pierces the ears of the dead. The young man opens his eyes. Jesus takes him by the hand, and lifts him up. His gaze falls upon her who has been weeping beside him, and mother and son unite in a long, clinging, joyous embrace. The multitude look on in silence, as if spell-bound. 'There came a fear on all.' Hushed and reverent they stood for a little time, as if in the very presence of God. Then they 'glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited His people.' The funeral train returned to Nain as a triumphal procession. 'And this rumor of Him went forth throughout all Judea, and throughout all the region round about.'" DA 318, 319.

2. Again, how did Christ show His power over death? Luke 9:41, 42, 49-56.

NOTE: "Jairus pressed closer to the Saviour, and together they hurried to the ruler's home. Already the hired mourners and flute players were there, filling the air with their clamor. The presence of the crowd and the tumult jarred upon the spirit of Jesus. He tried to silence them, saying, 'Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth.' They were indignant at the words of the Stranger. They had seen the child in the embrace of death, and they laughed Him to scorn. Requiring them all to leave the house, Jesus took with Him the father and mother of the maiden, and the three disciples, Peter, James, and John, and together they entered the chamber of death.

"Jesus approached the bedside, and, taking the child's hand in His own, He pronounced softly, in the familiar language of her home, the words, 'Damsel, I say unto thee, arise.'

"Instantly a tremor passed through the unconscious form. The pulses of life beat again. The lips unclosed with a smile. The eyes opened widely as if from sleep, and the maiden gazed with wonder on the group beside her. She arose, and her parents clasped her in their arms, and wept for joy." DA 343.

3. What was Jesus' crowning miracle? John 11:32, 37-45.

NOTE: "In delaying to come to Lazarus, Christ had a purpose of mercy toward those who had not received Him. He tarried, that by raising Lazarus from the dead He might give to His stubborn, unbelieving people another evidence that He was indeed 'the resurrection, and the life.' He was loath to give up all hope of the people, the poor, wandering sheep of the house of Israel. His heart was breaking because of their impenitence. In His mercy He purposed to give them one more evidence that He was the Restorer, the One who alone could bring life and immortality to light. This was to be an evidence that the priests could not misinterpret. This was the reason of His delay in going to Bethany. This crowning miracle, the raising of Lazarus, was to set the seal of God on His word and on His claim to divinity. . . .

"'And when He thus had spoken, He cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.' His voice, clear and penetrating, pierces the ear of the dead. As He speaks, divinity flashes through humanity. In His face, which is lighted up by the glory of God, the people see the assurance of His power. Every eye is fastened on the entrance to the cave. Every ear is bent to catch the slightest sound. With intense and painful interest all wait for the test of Christ's divinity, the evidence that is to substantiate His claim to be the Son of God, or to extinguish the hope forever.

"There is a stir in the silent tomb, and he who was dead stands at the door of the sepulcher. . . . Lazarus is set free, and stands before the company, not as one emaciated from disease, and with feeble, tottering limbs, but as a man in the prime of life, and in the vigor of a noble manhood." DA 529, 536.

4. What hope does this miracle give us? John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

5. What has given us a more lively hope in the second coming of Christ? Matthew 28:1-8.

THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. Do you believe that Jesus will come soon?
2. What signs show that His coming is near?

Lesson 10

TRANSFIGURATION

1. What did Jesus predict? Matthew 16:28.

2. What did He mean? Matthew 17:1-9.

NOTE: "The disciples, awaking, behold the flood of glory that illuminates the mount. In fear and amazement they gaze upon the radiant form of their Master. As they become able to endure the wondrous light, they see that Jesus is not alone. Beside Him are two heavenly beings, in close converse with Him. They are Moses, who upon Sinai had talked with God, and Elijah, to whom the high privilege was given—granted to but one other of the sons of Adam—never to come under the power of death." DA 421.

3. Complete the following sentences about the transformation.

- A. He (Moses) represented those _____ . DA 421, last paragraph, 422.
- B. Elijah, who had been translated to heaven without seeing death, represented those _____ . DA 422, first paragraph.
- C. Jesus was clothed _____ . DA 422, first paragraph.

4. What is this scene of the transfiguration called?

NOTE: "Upon the mount the future kingdom of glory was represented in miniature—Christ the King, Moses a representative of the risen saints, and Elijah of the translated ones." DA 422.

THOUGHT QUESTION

When do you think the three disciples of Christ fully understood what all this meant?

Lesson 11

ASCENSION

1. *At the Passover, what words troubled the disciples? John 13:33-37.*

NOTE: "The disciples could not rejoice when they heard this. Fear fell upon them. They pressed close about the Saviour. Their Master and Lord, their beloved Teacher and Friend, He was dearer to them than life. To Him they had looked for help in all their difficulties, for comfort in their sorrows and disappointments. Now He was to leave them, a lonely, dependent company. Dark were the forebodings that filled their hearts." DA 662.

2. *How did He try to comfort them? John 14:1-3.*
3. *When did Jesus first ascend to heaven? John 20:1, 11-17.*
4. *After ascending to heaven to receive assurance that His sacrifice was accepted by the Father, when did He return to receive the homage of His people? John 20:19, 20.*

5. *After 40 days, what time had come? Acts 1:9.*

NOTE: "The time had come for Christ to ascend to His Father's throne. . . . After His resurrection He tarried on earth for a season, that His disciples might become familiar with Him in His risen and glorified body. Now He was ready for the leave-taking. He had authenticated the fact that He was a living Saviour. His disciples need no longer associate Him with the tomb. They could think of Him as glorified before the heavenly universe." DA 829.

6. *Describe the miracle of Christ's ascension in your own words.*

NOTE: "He upbraided them not for their faults and failures; words of the deepest tenderness were the last that fell upon their ears from the lips of their Lord. With hands out-stretched in blessing, and as if in assurance of His protecting care, He slowly ascended from among them, drawn heavenward by a power stronger than any earthly attraction. As He passed upward, the *awe-stricken* disciples looked with straining eyes for the last glimpse of their ascending Lord. A cloud of glory hid Him from their sight; and the words came back to them as the cloudy chariot of angels received Him, 'Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.' At the same time there floated down to them the sweetest and most joyous music from the angel choir." DA 830, 831.

7. *What was outstanding about the two angels? Acts 1:10, 11.*

NOTE: "These angels were of the company that had been waiting in a shining cloud to escort Jesus to His heavenly home. The most exalted of the angel throng, they were the two who had come to the tomb at Christ's resurrection, and they had been with Him throughout His life on earth. With eager desire all heaven had waited for the end of His tarrying in a world marred by the curse of sin. The time had now come for the heavenly universe to receive their King. Did not the two angels long to join the throng that welcomed Jesus? But in sympathy and love for those whom He had left, they waited to give them comfort." DA 832.

Lesson 12

MIRACLES AFTER THE ASCENSION

"The power of the risen Saviour had indeed fallen on the disciples, and their work was accompanied by signs and miracles that daily increased the number of believers." —*The Acts of the Apostles*, pp. 77, 78.

1. *What was the reaction of the priests and rulers to these miracles done in the name of Jesus Christ? Acts 5:17, 18.*
2. *What was the answer of the disciples to such persecution? Acts 5:27-29.*

3. Match up the statements of the disciples on the right with the miracles on the left.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Elymas the sorcerer | A. "For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day." Acts 2:14, 15. |
| 2. Crippled man since birth (had never walked) | B. "O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, . . . And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand." Acts 13: 10, 11. |
| 3. Peter delivered from prison | |
| 4. Possessed damsel healed by Paul | C. "Look on us." "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk." Acts 3:4, 6. |
| 5. "And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they . . . began to speak with other tongues." | D. "Tabitha, arise." Acts 9:40-42. |
| 6. Lame man at temple gate | E. "Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent His angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews." Acts 12:11. |
| 7. Dorcas had died and was raised to life | F. "I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." Acts 16:18.
G. "Stand upright on thy feet." Acts 14:8-10. |

Lesson 13

THE GREATEST MIRACLE OF ALL: A NEW CREATURE

1. What miracle does Jesus want to perform for us? John 3:3-8.

NOTE: "Souls that have borne the likeness of Satan have become transformed into the image of God. This change is in itself the *miracle of miracles*. A change wrought by the Word, it is one of the deepest mysteries of the Word. We cannot understand it; we can only believe, as declared by the Scriptures, it is 'Christ in you, the hope of glory.'" —*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 476.

2. How do we claim such a miracle? Romans 5:1, 2.

3. In our closing work, should we wait for or rely on miracles?

NOTE: "God does not *generally* work miracles to advance His truth. . . .

"Let brother say to brother and sister to sister, 'Come, my fellow laborer, let us put all earnestness into our work; for the night is at hand, where in no man can work.'" —*Evangelism*, pp. 652, 653.

4. Circle the letters of the correct answers below.

God works no miracle—

- A. For persons continually violating laws of health
- B. To provide care for orphans
- C. To counteract the sure result of neglect
- D. To encourage blind superstition
- E. To prevent hardening of the heart
- F. To keep man from reaping what he sows
- G. To provide means to advance His cause
- H. To save men who don't accept the means of salvation
- I. To sustain the faith of His people
- J. When He has already given means to do His work

5. *But what is the promise of God in the finishing of His work? Acts 2:17, 18.*

6. *With the power of the Holy Spirit, what signs and wonders will accompany our work? Mark 16:15-18.*

7. *How can we hasten the fulfillment of this promise? Acts 1:14; 4:32.*

NOTE: "The disciples felt their spiritual need. . . ." —*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 37.