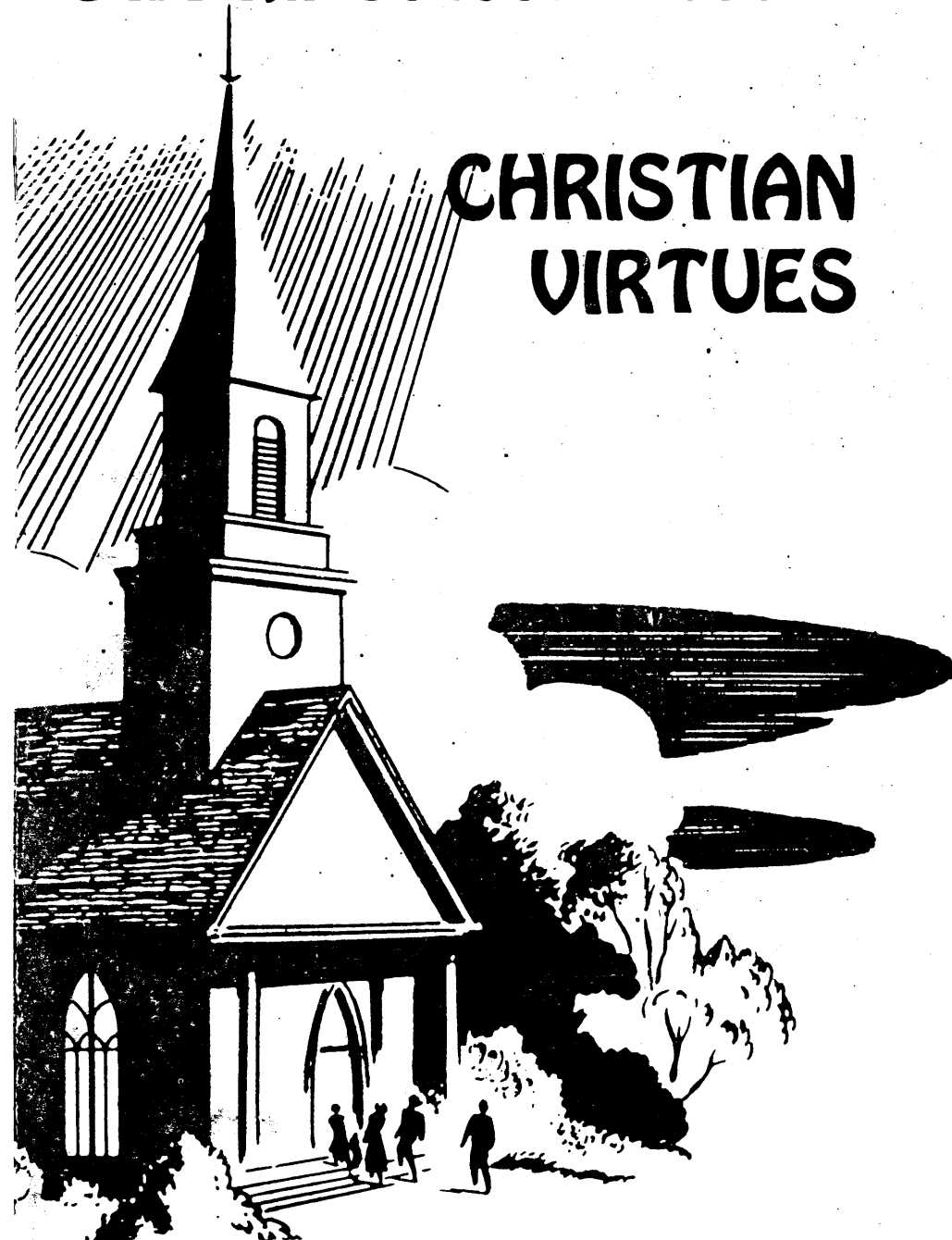


YOUTH FIRST YEAR, FOURTH QUARTER **Sabbath School Lessons**

CHRISTIAN VIRTUES



YOUTH SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS

CHRISTIAN VIRTUES

FIRST YEAR—FOURTH QUARTER

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY
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ABBREVIATIONS

AH	<i>The Adventist Home</i>
BC	<i>Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary</i>
CD	<i>Counsel on Diet and Foods</i>
CG	<i>Child Guidance</i>
CH	<i>Counsels on Health</i>
CS	<i>Counsels on Stewardship</i>
DA	<i>The Desire of Ages</i>
MB	<i>Mount of Blessing</i>
MH	<i>The Ministry of Healing</i>
PK	<i>Prophets and Kings</i>
PP	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i>
TM	<i>Testimonies to Ministers</i>
Test.	<i>Testimonies for the Church</i>

INTRODUCTION

"Christian Virtues" are those actions in life which are uplifting and ennobling. To make a complete list of them would be difficult. In these lessons we will examine what the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy say about certain virtues which can brighten the lives of those who have them as well as of those all around them.

The virtues which we think of first are, of course, the fruits of the Spirit — love, joy, peace, etc. But true Christian virtue involves more than this. "Christian life is more than many take it to be. It does not consist wholly in gentleness, patience, meekness, and kindliness. These graces are essential; but there is need also of courage, force, energy, and perseverance. The path that Christ marks out is a narrow, self-denying path. To enter that path and press on through difficulties and discouragements requires men who are more than weaklings." MH 497

A true Christian is one who is not just an abstainer from evil but who is active in doing good. We live in a world filled with crime and corruption — with bad news. Constantly hearing and seeing the evil of sinful mankind, we could easily become cynical. The Apostle Paul, however, admonished all Christians to raise their sights above the foul atmosphere of this wicked world to the bright vision of true Christian virtue.

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Philippians 4:8.

". . . There must be a constant development of Christian virtue, a constant advancement in Christian experience. This we should seek with intensity of desire, that we may adorn the doctrine of Christ our Saviour." TM 506

PRACTICAL USEFULNESS

1. *What is God looking for in the church and in every individual Christian? Revelation 2:2, 9, 13, 19; 3:1, 8, 15.*

NOTE: "The active virtues must be cultivated as well as the passive. The Christian, while he is ever ready to give the soft answer that turneth away wrath, must possess the courage of a hero to resist evil. With the charity that endureth all things, he must have the force of character which will make his influence a positive power for good. Faith must be wrought into his character. His principles must be firm; he must be noble-spirited, above all suspicion of meanness." 5T 404

2. *What characteristic did Elisha demonstrate before being called as a prophet? 1 Kings 19:19-21.*

NOTE: "By faithfulness in little things, Elisha was preparing for weightier trusts. Day by day, through practical experience, he gained a fitness for a broader, higher work. He learned to serve; and in learning this, he learned also how to instruct and lead. The lesson is for all. None can know what may be God's purpose in His discipline; but all may be certain that faithfulness in little things is the evidence of fitness for greater responsibilities. Every act of life is a revelation of character; and he only who in small duties proves himself a workman that needeth not be ashamed, can be honored by God with higher service." PK 218

3. *What was one of the great sins of Sodom? Ezekiel 16:49.*
4. *How does God look upon those whose lives center around feasting and idleness? 1 Corinthians 10:7.*

NOTE: "... There is nothing more desired among men than riches and leisure, and yet these gave birth to the sins that brought destruction upon the cities of the plain. Their useless, idle life made them a prey to Satan's temptations, and they defaced the image of God, and became satanic rather than divine. Idleness is the greatest curse that can fall upon man, for vice and crime follow in its train. It enfeebles the mind, perverts the understanding, and debases the soul. Satan lies in ambush, ready to destroy those who are unguarded, whose leisure gives him opportunity to insinuate himself under some

attractive disguise. He is never more successful than when he comes to men in their idle hours." PP 156, 157

5. *What will happen to those who are not diligent in their work? Proverbs 10:4, 5.*
6. *What is necessary before we can inherit God's promises? Hebrews 6:10-12.*
7. *What is a basic principle of nature? Ecclesiastes 10:18.*

NOTE: "Action is a law of our being. Every organ of the body has its appointed work, upon the performance of which its development and strength depend. The normal action of all the organs gives strength and vigor, while the tendency of disuse is toward decay and death. Bind up an arm, even for a few weeks, then free it from its bands, and you will see that it is weaker than the one you have been using moderately during the same time. Inactivity produces the same effect upon the whole muscular system." MH 237, 238

8. *In his work, what example did the Apostle Paul give? Acts 20:32-35.*
9. *What is the result of overlooking the simple duties of life? Ecclesiastes 10:18.*
10. *Are only men required to be efficient with their hands? Proverbs 31:10-13, 27.*
11. *What was the cause of King David's great sin? 2 Samuel 11:1, 2.*

NOTE: "Employ every spare moment in doing something. In this way an effectual door will be closed against a thousand temptations. Had King David been engaged in some useful employment, he would not have been guilty of the murder of Uriah. Satan is ever ready to employ him who does not employ himself." 4T 412

12. *Where does practical usefulness begin? Luke 16:10.*

NOTE: "He who feels that it is of no consequence how he performs the smaller tasks, proves himself unfit for a more honored position. He may think himself fully competent to

take up the larger duties; but God looks deeper than the surface. After test and trial, there is written against him the sentence, 'Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.' His unfaithfulness reacts upon himself. He fails of gaining the grace, the power, the force of character, which is received through unreserved surrender." PK 218, 219

Lesson 2

HONESTY AND INTEGRITY

1. *What does the ninth commandment warn against? Exodus 20:16.*
2. *Who is the originator of all deception and lies? John 8:44.*
3. *What promise is given to those who are unswervingly truthful? Psalm 15:1, 2.*

NOTE: "As we deal with our fellow men in petty dishonesty, or in more daring fraud, so will we deal with God. Men who persist in a course of dishonesty will carry out their principles until they cheat their own souls, and lose heaven and eternal life. They will sacrifice honor and religion for a small worldly advantage. . . . Honesty should stamp every action of our lives. Heavenly angels examine the work that is put into our hands; and where there has been a departure from the principles of truth, 'wanting' is written in the records." CS 142

4. *Especially for those who carry responsibilities in the work of God, what is one of the greatest necessities? Acts 6:3.*
5. *Why is this so important? Deuteronomy 32:4.*
6. *What is a falsehood which also transgresses another commandment? Exodus 20:7.*

NOTE: If we claim to be Christians and do not live a Christian life, we are in reality bearing false witness. "Everything that Christians do should be as transparent as the sunlight. Truth is of God; deception, in every one of its myriad forms, is of Satan; and whoever in any way departs from the straight line of truth is betraying himself into the power of the wicked one. Yet it is not a light or an easy thing to speak the exact truth. We cannot speak the truth unless we know the truth; and how often preconceived opinions, mental bias, imperfect knowledge, errors of judgment, prevent a right understanding of matters with which we have to do! We cannot speak the truth unless our minds are continually guided by Him Who is truth." MB 68

7. *How did Joseph show his honesty and integrity before God and men? Genesis 39:7-9.*

NOTE: "Joseph's answer reveals the power of religious principle. He would not betray the confidence of his master on earth, and, whatever the consequences, he would be true to his Master in heaven. Under the inspecting eye of God and holy angels many take liberties of which they would not be guilty in the presence of their fellow men, but Joseph's first thought was of God. 'How can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?' he said." PP 217

8. *Who was another example of strict honesty toward God and truth? Daniel 1:8.*

NOTE: "In the history of Joseph, Daniel, and his fellows, we see how the golden chain of truth may bind the youth to the throne of God. They could not be tempted to turn aside from their course of integrity. They valued the favor of God above the favor and praise of princes, and God loved them and spread His shield over them. Because of their faithful integrity, because of their determination to honor God above every human power, the Lord signally honored them before men. They were honored by the Lord God of hosts, whose power is over all the works of His hand in heaven above and the earth beneath. These young were not ashamed to display their true colors. Even in the court of the king, in their words, their habits, their practices, they confessed their faith in the Lord God of heaven. They refused to bow to any earthly mandate that detracted from the honor of God. They had strength from heaven to confess their allegiance to God." MYP 27, 28

9. *What will be the result of being straight-forward and honest Christians? 1 Peter 2:12.*

10. *Is faithfulness and integrity outdated in our modern world?*

NOTE: "The youth of our time may become as precious in the sight of God as was Samuel. By faithfully maintaining their Christian integrity, they may exert a strong influence in the work of reform. Such men are needed at this time. God has a work for every one of them. Never did men achieve greater results for God and humanity than may be achieved in this our day by those who will be faithful to their God-given trust." PP 574

11. *Is stubbornness a sign of integrity?*

NOTE: "Physically, Samson was the strongest man upon the earth; but in self-control, integrity, and firmness, he was one of the weakest of men. Many mistake strong passions for a strong character, but the truth is that he who is mastered by his passions is a weak man. The real greatness of the man is measured by the power of the feelings that he controls, not by those that control him." PP 567, 568

Lesson 3

VIRTUE OF PATIENCE

1. *What is one of the virtues most necessary in these last days? Revelation 14:12.*

NOTE: "The people must be given the truth, straightforward, positive truth. But this truth is to be presented in the spirit of Christ. We are to be as sheep in the midst of wolves. Those who will not, for Christ's sake, observe the cautions He has given, who will not exercise patience and self-control, will lose precious opportunities of working for the Master. The Lord has not given His people the work of making a tirade against those who are transgressing His law." 9T 236

2. *Is a Christian to put up a fight for what he considers his rights when he is oppressed? James 5:1-8.*

3. *What is often necessary to develop patience? Romans 5:3.*

4. *Who especially needs great patience? 2 Corinthians 6:4.*

5. *Who was an excellent example of meekness and patience? Numbers 12:1-3.*

NOTE: "Their accusations were borne by Moses in uncomplaining silence. It was the experience gained during the years of toil and waiting in Midian — the spirit of humility and long-suffering there developed — that prepared Moses to meet with patience the unbelief and murmuring of the people and the pride and envy of those who should have been his unswerving helpers." PP 384

6. *What was the result when Moses lost his patience just once? Numbers 20:7-12.*

7. *Who was mankind's greatest example in patience? John 19:1-11.*

8. *For what other reason is patience so very necessary today? Hebrews 10:35-38.*

9. *Does patience come naturally for most people, or must it be acquired? 1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:5.*

10. *How far is our patience to extend? 1 Thessalonians 5:14.*

11. *What is the final result of patience? Romans 2:7; James 1:4.*

12. *How can each of us gain patience in the Christian life? Hebrews 12:1, 2.*

NOTE: "Shut in by the bulwarks of the mountains, Moses was alone with God. The magnificent temples of Egypt no longer impressed his mind with their superstition and falsehood. In the solemn grandeur of the everlasting hills he beheld the majesty of the Most High, and in contrast realized how powerless and insignificant were the gods of Egypt. Everywhere the Creator's name was written. Moses seemed to stand in His presence and to be overshadowed by His power. Here his pride and self-sufficiency were swept away. In the stern simplicity

of his wilderness life, the results of the ease and luxury of Egypt disappeared. Moses became patient, reverent, and humble, 'very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.' (Numbers 12:3), yet strong in faith in the mighty God of Jacob." PP 248, 251

Lesson 4

COURAGE

1. *What helped to bring about the overthrow of Jericho in the days of Joshua? Joshua 2:11.*
2. *In contrast, what trait prevailed in the camp of Israel? Joshua 1:1-7.*
3. *Why did the people of Israel have to wander in the wilderness for forty years? Numbers 13:3, 4, 17-23; 14:1-4, 31-34.*
4. *What helps to develop courage? Isaiah 41:6, 7.*
5. *Will we always be able to depend on encouragement from others? 1 Kings 18:21.*

NOTE: "When the religion of Christ is most held in contempt, when His law is most despised, then should our zeal be the warmest and our courage and firmness the most unflinching. To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few — this will be our test. At this time we must gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their cowardice, and loyalty from their treason. The nation will be on the side of the great rebel leader." 5T 136

6. *Where is the true source of courage? Psalm 27:14.*

NOTE: "There are times when the Christian life seems beset by dangers, and duty seems hard to perform. The imagination

pictures impending ruin before, and bondage or death behind. Yet the voice of God speaks clearly above all discouragements: 'Go forward.' We should obey this command, let the result be what it may, even though our eyes cannot penetrate the darkness and though we feel the cold waves about our feet." 4T 26

7. *When the outlook seems dark and foreboding, how can victory be won? 2 Chronicles 20:20-22.*

NOTE: "If more praising of God were engaged in now, hope and courage and faith would steadily increase. And would not this strengthen the hands of the valiant soldiers who today are standing in defense of truth?" PK 202

8. *What assurance expressed by the apostle Paul is a great strength in times of trouble? Romans 8:28.*
9. *Can anything separate us from the care and love of God? Romans 8:35-39.*

NOTE: "Many make a serious mistake in their religious life by keeping the attention fixed upon their feelings and thus judging of their advancement or decline. Feelings are not a safe criterion. We are not to look within for evidence of our acceptance with God. We shall find there nothing but that which will discourage us. Our only hope is in 'looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith.' There is everything in Him to inspire with hope, with faith, and with courage. He is our righteousness, our consolation and rejoicing." 5T 199, 200

10. *What will be the result of a courageous spirit?*

NOTE: "Courage, hope, faith, sympathy, love, promote health and prolong life. A contented mind, a cheerful spirit, is health to the body and strength to the soul. 'A merry [rejoicing] heart doeth good like a medicine.' Proverbs 17:22." MH 241

"God cannot use men who, in time of peril, when the strength, courage, and influence of all are needed, are afraid to take a firm stand for the right. He calls for men who will do faithful battle against wrong, warring against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. It is to such as these that He will speak the words: 'Well done, good and faithful servant; . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.' Matthew 25:23." PK 142

LONGSUFFERING

1. *Is God a God of vengeance and quick condemnation? Exodus 34:6, 7.*
2. *How does God deal even with those who have rejected Him? Romans 9:22.*
3. *At what early time in history was God's longsuffering shown? 1 Peter 3:19, 20.*

NOTE: "Of the vast population of the earth before the Flood, only eight souls believed and obeyed God's word through Noah. For a hundred and twenty years the preacher of righteousness warned the world of the coming destruction, but his message was rejected and despised. So it will be now. Before the Lawgiver shall come to punish the disobedient, transgressors are warned to repent, and return to their allegiance; but with the majority these warnings will be in vain." PP 102

4. *Who is the greatest example in forbearance and longsuffering? Hebrews 12:2, 3.*
5. *What promise is given to sinful humanity? 2 Chronicles 7:14.*
6. *How did Jesus show His great love and longsuffering, even to those who were unworthy? Luke 23:33, 34.*
7. *According to what measure are we to forgive our fellowmen? Colossians 3:12, 13.*
8. *What important virtue must accompany reproof? 2 Timothy 4:1, 2.*
9. *Can we expect God to forgive us and have long patience with us if we do not treat our fellowmen in the same way? Matthew 6:12, 14, 15.*
10. *How is God's longsuffering compared with that of natural man? Matthew 18: 21, 22.*

NOTE: "Too often when wrongs are committed again and again, and the wrongdoer confesses his fault, the injured one becomes weary, and thinks he has forgiven quite enough. But the Saviour has plainly told us how to deal with the erring: 'If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.' Luke 17:3. Do not hold him off as unworthy of your confidence. Consider 'thyself, lest thou also be tempted.' Galatians 6:1." COL 249

11. *Is it correct to assume that God's longsuffering will never end? Revelation 22:10-12; Matthew 25:1-13; 7:21-23.*

NOTE: "There are limits even to the forbearance of God. The boundary of His longsuffering may be reached, and then He will surely punish. And when He does take up the case of the presumptuous sinner, He will not cease till He has made a full end.

"Very few realize the sinfulness of sin; they flatter themselves that God is too good to punish the offender. But the cases of Miriam, Aaron, David, and many others show that it is not a safe thing to sin against God in deed, in word, or even in thought. God is a being of infinite love and compassion, but He also declares Himself to be a 'consuming fire, even a jealous God.'" (RH, August 14, 1900) 3BC 1166

Lesson 6

GENTLENESS AND MEEKNESS

1. *What did Jesus promise the meek? Matthew 5:5.*
2. *When will this promise be fulfilled? Psalm 37:10, 11.*
3. *Despite his military training, what type of a person was Moses? Numbers 12:3.*
4. *Had he always been so meek? Exodus 2:11, 12.*

NOTE: "Moses was the greatest man who ever stood as leader of the people of God. He was greatly honored by God, not for the experience which he had gained in the Egyptian court, but because he was the meekest of men. God talked with him face to face, as a man talks with a friend. If men desire to be honored by God, let them be humble. Those who carry forward God's work should be distinguished from all others by their humility. Of the man who is noted for his meekness, Christ says, he can be trusted. Through him I can reveal Myself to the world. He will not weave into the web any threads of selfishness. I will manifest Myself to him as I do not to the world." (MS 165, 1899) 1 BC 1113

5. *How are we to deal even with those who are doing wrong? Galatians 6:1.*

NOTE: "The most precious fruit of sanctification is the grace of meekness. When this grace presides in the soul, the disposition is molded by its influence. There is a continual waiting upon God and a submission of the will to His. The understanding grasps every divine truth, and the will bows to every divine precept, without doubting or murmuring. True meekness softens and subdues the heart and gives the mind a fitness for the engrafted word. It brings the thoughts into obedience to Jesus Christ." SL 14, 15

6. *How are we to act when witnessing for the truth? 1 Peter 3:15.*

7. *Is meekness to be equated with weakness?*

NOTE: "Among the people professing present truth there is not a missionary spirit corresponding with our faith. The ring of the true gold in character is wanting. Christian life is more than they take it to be. It does not consist in mere gentleness, patience, meekness, and kindness. These graces are essential; but there is need of courage, force, energy, and perseverance also." 5T 404

8. *Despite his meekness, what spirit did Moses show in crisis? Exodus 32:19, 20, 26-28.*

9. *What should be the Christian's goal? Titus 3:1, 2.*

10. *Who was an outstanding example of compassion and gentleness? How was this shown? Genesis 33:10-14.*

11. *What illustration shows how the Lord deals with mankind? Isaiah 40:10, 11.*

NOTE: "Christ is sitting for His portrait in every disciple. Every one God has predestined to be 'conformed to the image of His Son.' Romans 8:29." DA 827

Lesson 7

TEMPERANCE, Part 1

1. *In the ladder of Christian growth, what virtue results from knowledge? 2 Peter 1:6.*

2. *What should be our goal in every facet of life? 1 Corinthians 10:31.*

3. *What are we always to keep in view in regard to our physical health? What will be the result of intemperance? 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17.*

4. *What was included in the original diet given man? Genesis 1:29.*

NOTE: "Grains, fruits, nuts, and vegetables, constitute the diet chosen for us by our Creator. These foods, prepared in as simple and natural a manner as possible, are the most healthful and nourishing. They impart a strength, a power of endurance, and a vigor of intellect, that are not afforded by a more complex and stimulating diet." CD 81

5. *When was man first given permission to eat flesh food? Genesis 9:2, 3.*

6. *What restriction was placed upon the use of flesh? Genesis 9:4; Leviticus 3:17; 7:23-27.*

NOTE: "Upon their settlement in Canaan, the Israelites were permitted the use of animal food, but under careful restrictions which tended to lessen the evil results. The use of swine's

flesh was prohibited, as also other animals and of birds and fish whose flesh was pronounced unclean. Of the meats permitted, the eating of the fat and the blood was strictly forbidden." MH 311, 312

7. *Despite these precautions, what would be the result of eating flesh? Genesis 9:5; 5:27; 11:10, 32.*

NOTE: Their life span quickly decreased.

8. *What other commonly eaten foods are God's people warned against?*

NOTE: "Sugar is not good for the stomach. It causes fermentation, and this clouds the brain and brings peevishness into the disposition.

"Far too much sugar is ordinarily used in food. Cakes, sweet puddings, pastries, jellies, jams, are active causes of indigestion. Especially harmful are the custards and puddings in which milk, eggs, and sugar are the chief ingredients. The free use of milk and sugar taken together should be avoided. . . .

"In this fast age, the less exciting the food, the better. Condiments are injurious in their nature. Mustard, pepper, spices, pickles, and other things of a like character, irritate the stomach and make the blood feverish and impure. . . .

"Butter is less harmful when eaten on cold bread than when used in cooking; but, as a rule, it is better to dispense with it altogether. Cheese is still more objectionable; it is wholly unfit for food." CD 327, 339, 368

9. *Is it easy to overcome incorrect habits of eating and drinking? 1 Corinthians 9:25-27.*
10. *Who was a great example in temperance reform? Daniel 1:8, 15, 20.*

Lesson 8

TEMPERANCE, Part 2

1. *What was the result of Noah's intemperance? Genesis 9:20, 21.*

2. *What did the wise man Solomon and the prophet Isaiah state regarding the drinking of alcoholic beverages? Proverbs 20:1; Isaiah 5:11.*
3. *What is the sure result of intoxication? Proverbs 23:29-35.*

4. *What was the ultimate cause of Babylon's fall? What caused Belshazzar to commit this great sin against God? Daniel 5:1-4.*

5. *What should fill the life of the Christian instead of alcohol? Ephesians 5:18.*

6. *Should the Christian partake of anything that will dull his mind? 1 Peter 1:13.*

7. *What example did Jesus give in this regard, even amid intense suffering? Matthew 27:34.*

8. *What other substance can be classed as harmful to both mind and body?*

NOTE: "Tobacco is a slow, insidious, but most malignant poison. In whatever form it is used, it tells upon the constitution; it is all the more dangerous because its effects are slow and at first hardly perceptible. It excites and then paralyzes the nerves. It weakens and clouds the brain. Often it affects the nerves in a more powerful manner than does intoxicating drink. It is more subtle, and its effects are difficult to eradicate from the system. Its use excites a thirst for strong drink and in many cases lays the foundation for the liquor habit." MH 327, 328

9. *Is it a sin to partake of tea and coffee?*

NOTE: "Tea and coffee drinking is a sin, an injurious indulgence, which, like other evils, injures the soul. These darling idols create an excitement, a morbid action of the nervous system; and after the immediate influence of the stimulants is gone, it lets down below par just to that degree that its stimulating properties elevated above par." CD 425

10. *What will be the sure result of failure to live up to the light given on temperance reform?*

NOTE: "... The reason why many of us will fall in the time of trouble is because of laxity in temperance and indulgence of appetite.

"Moses preached a great deal on this subject, and the reason the people did not go through to the promised land was because of repeated indulgence of appetite. Nine tenths of the wickedness among the children of today is caused by intemperance in eating and drinking. Adam and Eve lost Eden through the indulgence of appetite, and we can only regain it by denial of the same." Te 150

11. *What should our message to the world contain? Acts 24:25.*
12. *What is promised to everyone who is victorious in the daily affairs of life? Revelation 21:7.*
13. *Does God expect something unreasonable of mankind? How are we to present ourselves to Him? Romans 12:1, 2.*

Lesson 9

MORAL PURITY, Part 1

1. *What did God give man at creation? Genesis 2:21-25.*
2. *Why did God choose this special way of creating man's companion? Genesis 2:23; Ephesians 5:28, 29.*

NOTE: "God Himself gave Adam a companion. He provided 'an help meet for him' — a helper corresponding to him — one who was fitted to be his companion, and who could be one with him in love and sympathy. Eve was created from a rib taken from the side of Adam, signifying that she was not to control him as the head, nor to be trampled under his feet as an inferior, but to stand by his side as an equal, to be loved and protected by him. A part of man, bone of his bone, and flesh of his flesh, she was his second self, showing the close union and the affectionate attachment that should exist in this relation." PP 46

3. *What was one of the sins which brought about the destruction of the antediluvians? Genesis 6:1-5.*

NOTE: "Polygamy had been early introduced, contrary to the divine arrangement at the beginning. The Lord gave to Adam one wife, showing His order in that respect. But after the Fall, men chose to follow their own sinful desires; and as the result, crime and wretchedness rapidly increased. Neither the marriage relation nor the rights of property were respected. Whoever coveted the wives or the possessions of his neighbor, took them by force, and men exulted in their deeds of violence." PP 91, 92

4. *In addition to polygamy, in what other way was the marriage relation perverted? Genesis 6:2; 1 Corinthians 7:39; 2 Corinthians 6:14.*

NOTE: "The children of Seth, attracted by the beauty of the daughters of Cain's descendants, displeased the Lord by intermarrying with them. Many of the worshipers of God were beguiled into sin by the allurements that were now constantly before them, and they lost their peculiar, holy character. Mingling with the depraved, they became like them in spirit and in deeds; the restrictions of the seventh commandment were disregarded, 'and they took them wives of all which they chose.' " PP 81

5. *What does the seventh commandment forbid? Exodus 20:14.*
6. *Is divorce ever permitted by God? Matthew 5:32.*
7. *Where does the sin of immorality begin? Proverbs 23:7 (first part); Matthew 15:19; 5:28.*
8. *What inducement to sin was offered to Joseph? Genesis 39:7.*
9. *Was this just a one-time experience? Genesis 39:10.*
10. *What principle of life saved Joseph from falling into this great sin? Genesis 39:9.*
11. *How determined was the temptress? Genesis 39:11, 12.*

NOTE: "Joseph's answer reveals the power of religious principle. He would not betray the confidence of his master on earth; and, whatever the consequences, he would be true to his Master in heaven. Under the inspecting eye of God and holy angels many take liberties of which they would not be guilty in the presence of their fellowmen, but Joseph's first thought was of God. 'How can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?' he said.

Lesson 10

MORAL PURITY, Part 2

1. *How should the Christian regard the marriage relationship? Hebrews 13:4 (first part).*
2. *What will happen to those who practice immoral habits? Hebrews 13:4 (last part).*

NOTE: "The liberties taken in this age of corruption should be no criterion for Christ's followers. These fashionable exhibitions of familiarity should not exist among Christians fitting for immortality. If lasciviousness, pollution, adultery, crime, and murder are the order of the day among those who know not the truth, and who refuse to be controlled by the principles of God's word, how important that the class professing to be followers of Christ, closely allied to God and angels, should show them a better and nobler way! How important that by their chastity and virtue they stand in marked contrast to that class who are controlled by brute passions!" AH 329

3. *Is it necessary to actually perform an immoral act to be considered guilty of immorality? Matthew 5:27, 28.*
4. *Why is God so against all acts of immorality? 1 Corinthians 6:15-20.*
5. *What other types of moral impurity are condemned in the word of God? 1 Corinthians 6:9.*

6. *What was one of the great sins which brought down the fire of God on Sodom? Genesis 19:4, 5. Compare this with Genesis 4:1, 17.*

NOTE: This wording denotes the practice of homosexuality; for this reason, this sin is often called sodomy.

7. *Why were the heathen nations to be destroyed by the children of Israel? What were God's people warned against? Leviticus 18:22-26.*
8. *What did the apostle Paul also warn against? Romans 1:24-28.*
9. *Can we expect similar conditions to exist in the last days? Luke 17:26-30.*

NOTE: "In this degenerate age many will be found who are so blinded to the sinfulness of sin that they choose a licentious life because it suits the natural and perverse inclination of the heart. Instead of facing the mirror of the law of God and bringing their hearts and characters up to God's standard, they allow Satan's agents to erect his standard in their hearts. Corrupt men think it easier to misinterpret the Scriptures to sustain them in their iniquity than to yield up their corruption and sin and be pure in heart and life.

"There are more men of this stamp than many have imagined, and they will multiply as we draw near the end of time." AH 329

10. *What are we admonished to do? 1 Timothy 6:11, 12.*

NOTE: "There is no safety for any man, young or old, unless he feels the necessity of seeking God for counsel at every step. Those only who maintain close communion with God will learn to place His estimate upon men, to reverence the pure, the good, the humble, and the meek. The heart must be garrisoned as was that of Joseph. Then temptations to depart from integrity will be met with decision: 'How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?' The strongest temptation is no excuse for sin. No matter how severe the pressure brought to bear upon you, sin is your own act. The seat of the difficulty is the unrenewed heart." AH 331

NEATNESS AND CLEANLINESS

1. *What did Jacob realize was necessary before he and his family could come before the Lord? Genesis 35:1-3.*

NOTE: A complete cleansing was necessary in his household — spiritual and physical.

2. *How careful were the priests to be in personal hygiene? Ezekiel 44:17, 18, 23; Leviticus 16:4.*
3. *Were the Israelites ever excused from cleanliness? Deuteronomy 23:14.*

NOTE: "In order to be acceptable in God's sight, the leaders of the people were to give strict heed to the sanitary condition of the armies of Israel, even when they went forth to battle. Every soul, from the commander-in-chief to the lowest soldier in the army, was sacredly charged to preserve cleanliness in his person and surroundings; for the Israelites were chosen by God as His peculiar people. They were sacredly bound to be holy in body and spirit. They were not to be careless or neglectful of their personal duties. In every respect they were to preserve cleanliness. They were to allow nothing untidy or unwholesome in their surroundings, nothing which would taint the purity of the atmosphere. Inwardly and outwardly they were to be pure." (Letter 35, 1901) 1 BC 1119

4. *Why is it necessary for God's people today to be exacting in order, neatness, and cleanliness? 1 Peter 2:9.*

NOTE: "God requires all who profess to be His chosen people, though they are not teachers of the truth, to be careful to preserve personal cleanliness and purity, also cleanliness and order in their houses and upon their premises. We are examples to the world, living epistles known and read of all men. God requires all who profess godliness, and especially those who teach the truth to others, to abstain from all appearance of evil." 2T 614, 615

5. *Before He can accept them, what does the Lord require of those who have been unclean in body and character? Isaiah 1:16-20; 2 Corinthians 7:1.*

6. *For what additional reason is cleanliness so important? Romans 12:1.*

NOTE: "A great amount of suffering might be saved if all would labor to prevent disease, by strictly observing the laws of health. Strict habits of cleanliness should be observed. Many, while well, will not take the trouble to keep in a healthy condition. They neglect personal cleanliness, and are not careful to keep their clothing pure. Impurities are constantly and imperceptibly passing from the body, through the pores, and if the surface of the skin is not kept in a healthy condition, the system is burdened with impure matter. If the clothing worn is not often washed and frequently aired, it becomes filthy with impurities which are thrown off from the body by sensible and insensible perspiration. And if the garments worn are not frequently cleansed from these impurities, the pores of the skin absorb again the waste matter thrown off." CH 61

7. *Can we expect eternal life if we neglect cleanliness? 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17; Psalm 24:3, 4.*
8. *How should all the affairs of the church be handled? 1 Corinthians 14:33, 40.*
9. *Who were examples of order even when under great stress? Genesis 22:9; 1 Kings 18:30-40.*
10. *What shows that the early Christians had organization and order? Titus 1:4-11.*

STEADFASTNESS

1. *What assurance do we have of God's character? Daniel 6:26.*

2. *What characteristic marks the words spoken by the messengers of God – His angels? Hebrews 2:1-3.*
3. *Is one assured of salvation once he accepts Christ as his Saviour? How alone can we be sure of salvation? Hebrews 3:12-14; 2 Peter 3:17.*
4. *Why is steadfastness so important in the Christian life? 1 Peter 5:8, 9.*
5. *Why was it that Israel failed of fulfilling God's will and were overthrown? Psalm 78:37.*
6. *How is the Christian to deal in business? Psalm 15:4 (last part).*
7. *Why is steadfastness so important in the last days? Matthew 24:24 (last part).*
8. *For this reason, what admonition is given? What does the Lord give to help establish the believer? Ephesians 4:11-15.*
9. *What brought great joy to the apostle Paul? Colossians 2:5-7.*
10. *What admonition is just as applicable to us today as it was to those who lived in the time of Thyatira? Revelation 2:24, 25; Matthew 24:13.*

NOTE: "We have marked illustrations of the sustaining power of firm, religious principle. Even the fear of death could not make the fainting David drink of the water of Bethlehem, to obtain which, valiant men had risked their lives. The gaping lions' den could not keep Daniel from his daily prayers, nor could the fiery furnace induce Shadrach and his companions to fall down before the idol which Nebuchadnezzar set up. Young men who have firm principles will eschew pleasure, defy pain, and brave even the lions' den and the heated fiery furnace rather than be found untrue to God. Mark the character of Joseph. Virtue was severely tested, but its triumph was complete. At every point the noble youth endured the test. The same lofty, unbending principle appeared at every trial. The Lord was with him, and His Word was law." 5T 43

Lesson 13

ECONOMY AND THRIFT

1. *What important lesson of economy did Jesus teach the disciples? John 6:11-13.*

NOTE: "But Christ sanctions no lavish or careless use of means. His lesson is economy, 'Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost,' is for all His followers. (John 6:12.) He who realizes that his money is a talent from God will use it economically, and will feel it a duty to save that he may give.

"The more means we expend in display and self-indulgence, the less we can have to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. Every penny used unnecessarily deprives the spender of a precious opportunity of doing good. It is robbing God of the honor and glory which should flow back to Him through the improvements of His entrusted talents." COL 352

2. *Is one blessed in striving constantly for riches? Genesis 13:10-12; 19:24, 25, 28.*
3. *What is the great danger in striving to be rich and attain to the temporal wealth of others? 1 Timothy 6:9, 10.*

NOTE: "When you are tempted to spend money for knick-knacks, you should remember the self-denial and self-sacrifice that Christ endured to save fallen man. Our children should be taught to exercise self-denial and self-control. The reason so many ministers feel that they have a hard time in financial matters is that they do not bind about their tastes, their appetites and inclinations. The reason so many men become bankrupt and dishonestly appropriate means is because they seek to gratify the extravagant tastes of their wives and children. How careful should fathers and mothers be to teach economy by precept and example to their children!" AH 382, 383

4. *Because riches bring spiritual danger, should all God's people live in poverty? Proverbs 30:8.*
5. *What is a great danger in obtaining money without hard work? Luke 15:11-13.*

6. *What illustration did Jesus use to show His disciples that we must give account of everything given into our hands? What will be the result of unfaithfulness? Luke 16:1, 2.*

NOTE: "We should ever remember that in the judgment we must meet the record of the way we use God's money. Much is spent in self-pleasing, self-gratification, that does us no real good, but positive injury. If we realize that God is the giver of all good things, that the money is His, then we shall exercise wisdom in its expenditure, conforming to His holy will. The world, its customs, its fashions, will not be our standard. We shall not have a desire to conform to its practices; we shall not permit our own inclinations to control us." AH 368

7. *As servants of God, what has been entrusted to each of us? Matthew 25:14.*

8. *Has everyone received the same amount? Matthew 25:15.*

9. *What does the Lord expect of us? Matthew 25:16, 17, 19-23.*

10. *Why was the unfaithful servant condemned? Matthew 25:27.*

11. *In what other area is the Christian to be saving?*

NOTE: "The value of time is beyond computation. Time squandered can never be recovered. . . . The improvement of wasted moments is a treasure." CG 123