

## LESSON 1 EXERCISES

Fill in the blanks:

1. What was the Bible first written upon? \_\_\_\_\_
2. In what language was the New Testament written? \_\_\_\_\_

3. In what language was the Old Testament written? \_\_\_\_\_

4. In what year was the King James translation completed? \_\_\_\_\_

5. One reason for having modern translations is because many words used during the time of King James have \_\_\_\_\_ meanings.

Circle **T** if the answer is true and **F** if it is false:

1. T F The New Testament was written hundred of years before the Old Testament.
2. T F All of the Old Testament was written on one scroll.
3. T F The King James translation was the first Bible.
4. T F All of the translations of the Bible were copied from the King James version.
5. T F Translate means to change from one language to another.



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## Personal Bible Correspondence Course

### LESSON 1



### THE VERSIONS OF THE BIBLE

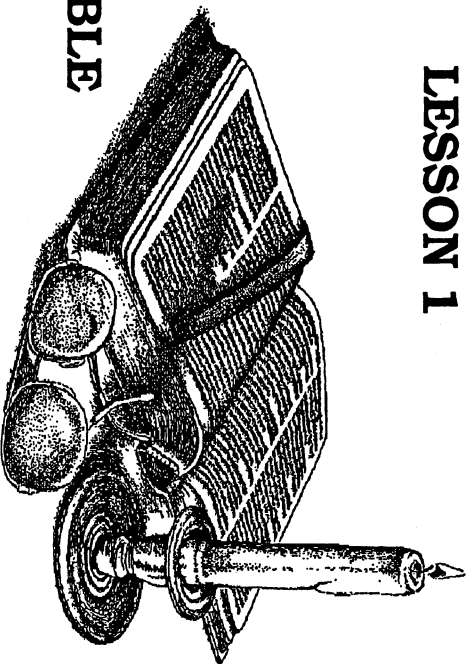
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## LESSON 1



### THE VERSIONS OF THE BIBLE

These lessons are prepared for those who already believe in the Bible as God's word. Therefore we will not take time to prove that the Bible is inspired of God.

Sometimes it is very confusing because we have so many different translations of the Bible (King James, Revised version, Phillips translation, etc.). The one used by most people is the King James. Some people think that the King James version was the first Bible, and that the others were copied from it. Many people think that other translations are incorrect, or that the other Bibles are not as good as the King James Bible. This is not true.

The Bible was first written on scrolls. There were a large number of these scrolls written over a long period of time. These were written in the language of the Hebrew and Greek people. The Old Testament was written mostly in the Hebrew language and the New Testament was written in the Greek language.

The Old Testament was written hundreds of years before the New Testament. Therefore while the New Testament was being written, people were studying the Old Testament scrolls.

The Old Testament was made up of many scrolls just as we would have many books in our library today. For example, Isaiah was on one scroll. Daniel was on another scroll.

During the 17th century King James of England wanted a Bible that everyone could read. So he had some scholars (people who could read and write the Hebrew and Greek language) to translate the Bible into the English language. Translate means to change from one language to another. The scholars translated the scrolls that were written in the English language so we could read them. This translation was completed in the year 1611.

It has been a long time since King James had the Bible printed in English. Many of the words that were used then mean something entirely different today. For example; when the King James version was printed "let" meant "hinder", "allow" meant "approve", "communicate" meant "share", "prevent" meant "precede", "kine" meant "cows", etc. In Genesis we read that Pharaoh saw seven fat kine come up out of the river. Today we would say "cow". For this reason we have more modern translations (versions) that would say that the Pharaoh saw seven fat cows instead of seven fat kine. Some translations might not be as accurate as others and we need to be careful in choosing the version we want. Most translations are good though and are easily understood.

Even though some words have changed since King James had the Bible translated, this version is used more than any other.

In lesson two we will begin a study of the Bible. We will use the King James version as that is the one most people own. Scriptures will be given from time to time from some other versions to make the lessons easier understood.

## LESSON 2 EXERCISES

Fill in the blanks:

1. Bible history can be divided into \_\_\_\_\_ main periods.
2. The three ages, or periods, of Bible history are the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Christ lived under the \_\_\_\_\_ period.
4. The Old Testament is good for our \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The law of Moses was fulfilled when Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.

Circle **T** if the answer is true and **F** if it is false:

1. T F A patriarch is a farmer.
2. T F We are now living under the law of Moses.
3. T F The Old Testament has served its purpose.
4. T F When a new will is made the old will is no good.
5. T F According to the New Testament the Christian is expected to offer animal sacrifices.

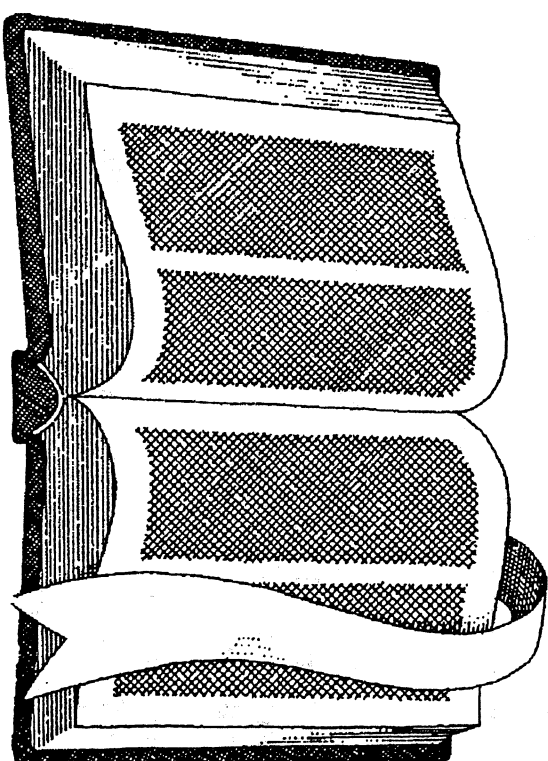
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### LESSON 2 DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE



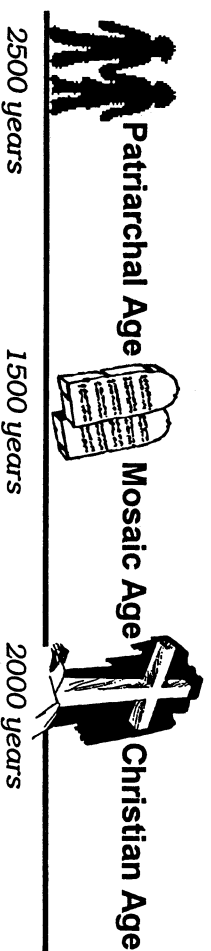
“...rightly dividing the word of truth.” (II Timothy 2:15)

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## LESSON 2

### DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE

For all practical purposes Bible history can be divided into three main periods: the Patriarchal, the Mosaic and the Christian age. These periods are illustrated in the diagram below.



The Patriarchal age designates the period in which God ruled through the Patriarchs. A patriarch is simply the father of a family. God first taught his people by talking with the fathers of each family and they taught the rest of the family.

The Mosaic age (also called Law of Moses, Old Law and Mosaic Period) began as one would expect, with Moses. God chose to lead His people through Moses. God gave Moses the law and Moses taught the people.

The Christian age is the period in which we are now living. Our present age of Bible history did not begin until after the death of Jesus Christ (Hebrews 9:15-17). Jesus was born near the close of the Mosaic age and was subject to the law of Moses. However, when Christ was crucified the law of Moses was fulfilled. *"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth"* (Romans 10:4). *"Then hath he said, Lo, I am come to do thy will. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second"* (Hebrews 10:9).

Most of us have some knowledge of the Bible. We know that

there is an Old Testament and a New Testament. Usually when something is old it is no longer useful, it has fulfilled its purpose (Hebrews 8:13). This is true with the Old Testament. It has served its purpose according to Galatians 3:24 and Colossians 2:14).

Although the Old Testament is good for our learning (Romans 15:4), no one in the present age is expected to follow it. God expects us to be obedient to Jesus Christ. The Son of God *"is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises"* (Hebrews 8:6). The people under the Old Testament had to offer animal sacrifices. Today we do not do this because Jesus Christ sacrificed himself for all mankind (Hebrews 9:12). Thus Christ took away the law of Moses and gave us a better law.

Perhaps this example will help us to understand the difference between the Old and New Testaments: A man has a large sum of money and much land. He makes a will in order to divide this among his children when he dies. After this will is made he adopts several more children. If he were to die these children would receive nothing. He realizes this so he makes a new will to include these children also. The old will is still there but is no good. The will that was drawn up last is the one that will be honoured at the man's death.

The same is true with the Old and New Testaments. The Old was made, then was taken away at the death of Christ (Colossians 2:14) and the New Testament then came into effect (Hebrews 10:9).

As we take these lessons we need to check and study all of the Bible references that are given in each lesson.

Lesson three will go into detail on the first period of Bible history, the Patriarchal age.

## LESSON 3 EXERCISES

*Fill in the blanks*

1. The Patriarchal age began with \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Patriarchal age ended at \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The Patriarchal age lasted about \_\_\_\_\_ years.
4. The last thing God created was \_\_\_\_\_.
5. We learn from the lessons of Adam and Eve and Cain that God always punishes man when he \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

**Circle T if the answer is true and F if it is false:**

1. T F God did not care if Adam and Eve ate of the Tree of knowledge of good and evil.
2. T F Abel was the first murderer.
3. T F God did not punish Adam and Eve when they disobeyed Him.
4. T F God was pleased with Abel's sacrifice because he offered it by faith.
5. T F After eating of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, Adam gave to Eve and she ate also.



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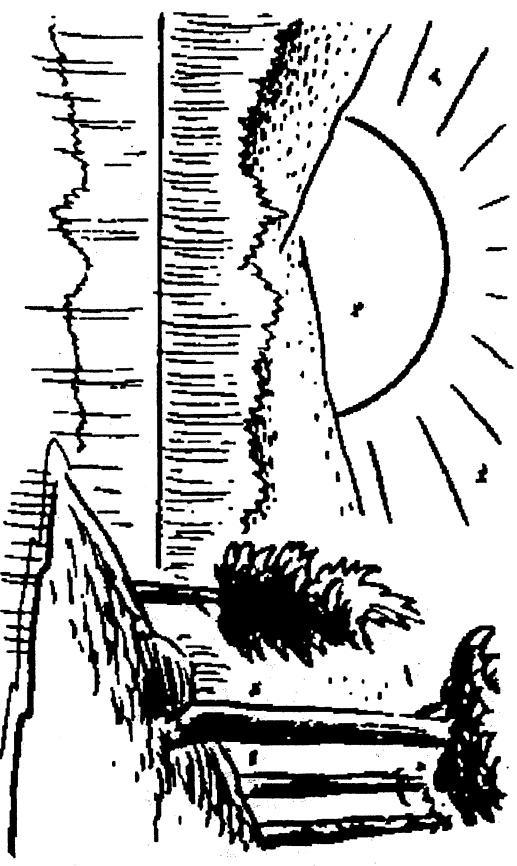
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### LESSON 3 THE PATRIARCHAL AGE THE CREATION



**"In the beginning God..." (Genesis 1:1)**

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## LESSON 3

### THE PATRIARCHAL AGE

#### PART 1

#### THE CREATION

In our last lesson we discussed briefly the three ages, or periods, in which we can divide Bible history. The first of these is the Patriarchal age, or the age in which God spoke directly with the Fathers.

This period began with Adam and ended with the giving of the law of Moses at Mount Sinai. This was about 2500 years. We can read about this age in the Bible from Genesis to the first twenty chapters of Exodus, the first two books in the Bible.

In the very beginning of the Bible we read where God created (or made) everything. He created the stars, sun, moon, the earth and everything in it. The last thing to be created was man. God formed Adam, the first man, out of the dust of the earth and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul. (Genesis 2:7). After Adam was created God took a rib from his side and created the first woman, Eve.

At this time the world and all that was in it, including Adam and Eve, were perfect. God planted a beautiful garden and put Adam and Eve in it to take care of it. They were allowed freedom of the entire garden except for the tree of knowledge of good and evil. God told them not to eat of the fruit of that tree.

One day the devil in the form of a serpent came to Eve. He persuaded Eve to eat the fruit that God had told them not to eat. After Eve ate of the fruit she then gave to Adam and he ate also. The Bible tells us "And the eyes of them both were

opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons (Genesis 3:7).

When God came that evening to walk with them they hid themselves because they now realized they were naked. After God had talked with them He pronounced a curse upon the serpent (Genesis 3:14-15), upon Eve (Genesis 3:16), and upon Adam (Genesis 3:17-18). Then God drove Adam and Eve out of the beautiful garden of Eden. (Genesis 3:24). This was part of their punishment for disobeying God.

In Genesis chapter four we read of three of Adam and Eve's sons. Their names were Cain, Abel and Seth.

Here in Genesis chapter four we read of the first murder. Cain and Abel both offered sacrifices to God. Cain offered the fruit of the ground which God had not commanded. Abel brought a lamb which God had commanded and offered it. The Bible tells us that "*By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain*" (Hebrews 11:4). God was pleased with Abel's offering but disappointed with Cain's. After this Cain was angry that his offering was not accepted by God. Then he performed the terrible act of murder by killing his brother. After this God put a curse upon Cain (Genesis 4:11-12).

We learn from the lessons of Adam, Eve and Cain, that God always punishes man when he disobeys Him. This should be a warning to us today.

Our lesson was taken from the first four chapters of Genesis. To learn even more about our lesson we should read these chapters.

In the next lesson we will study more about other Patriarchs and how God dealt with them.

## LESSON 4 EXERCISES

**Fill in the blanks:**

1. Noah preached to the people and worked on the ark for almost \_\_\_\_\_ years.
2. The water covered the land for \_\_\_\_\_ days. (Genesis 8:3)
3. Noah and his family were in the ark for almost \_\_\_\_\_
4. Noah took \_\_\_\_\_ clean animals and \_\_\_\_\_ unclean animals into the ark.
5. God confused their \_\_\_\_\_ when the people decided to build a tower to reach to Heaven.

**Circle T if the answer is true and F if it is false:**

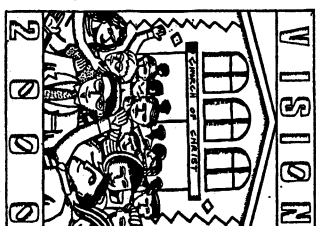
1. T F Noah was a wicked man before the flood.
2. T F Noah did not change but just a few things that God told him to do.
3. T F There were eight people saved from the flood.
4. T F Noah was saved from the flood because he did exactly what God commanded.
5. T F We should be very careful to obey the commandments God has given to us in the New Testament just as Noah obeyed in the Old Testament.



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### LESSON 4 THE PATRIARCHAL AGE

#### THE FLOOD



*"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."* (Genesis 8:22)

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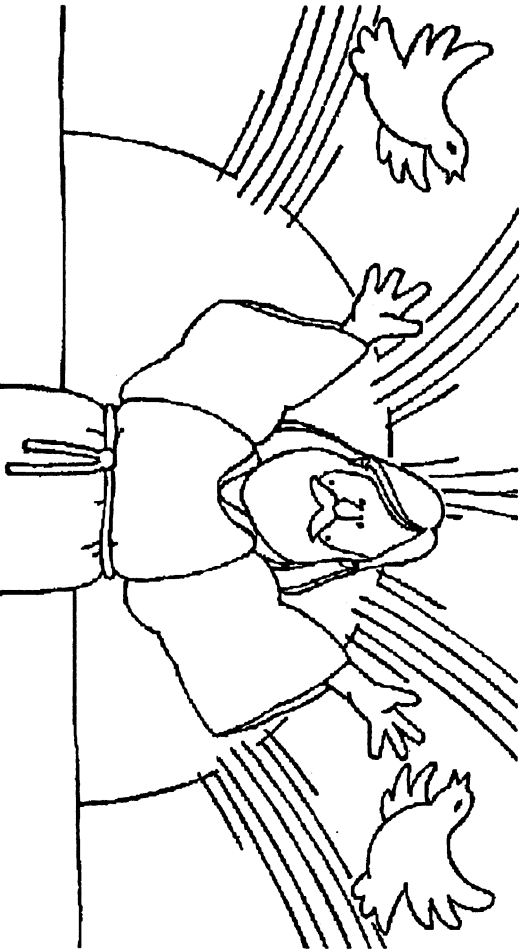
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## THE PATRIARCHAL AGE

### PART 2: THE FLOOD



In lesson three we studied about the first Patriarch, Adam. We also discussed the CREATION, the DISOBEDIENCE of Adam and Eve, and the birth of their first two sons.

The next important person we meet in the book of Genesis is Noah. The people became wicked and God was sorry that he had made the world. However, Noah was a good man and the Bible tells us in Genesis 6:8 that he found grace in the eyes of God.

God told Noah to build an ark, a big boat, for God planned to destroy the world by a flood. Noah preached to the people while he was building the ark. Noah preached for almost a hundred years trying to get people to turn away from the evil things they were doing and turn back to God. At the same time he was preaching he was building the ark. No one would listen to Noah and finally God sent rain until it flooded and destroyed everything that was not in the ark. It rained for forty days and nights until all the dry land, even the mountains, were covered with water. So God purged, or cleaned, the world

with water. The water covered the earth for 150 days. Noah and his family had to stay in the ark for almost one year until the water dried up.

So Noah did just as God had commanded him. He built the ark exactly as God said. He put exact number of animals in the ark that God told him (two of every unclean animal and seven of every clean). It is very important to notice that Noah did not change anything God said to suit himself. He obeyed God "to the letter" and was rewarded with salvation from the flood for himself, his wife, their three sons and their wives. The Bible says, "*thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he*" (Genesis 6:22).

Noah is a good example for us today. We should not try to change what God commands. As we studied briefly in lesson one we are given commandments to follow in the New Testament. We should obey these commandments of God just as Noah obeyed long ago.

An important event that happened after the flood was the building of the tower of Babel.

At this time the people all spoke the same language. They decided to build a tower to reach to heaven. This did not please God at all so he confused their speech. He made some of them to speak one language and some to speak another, etc. They separated into groups that spoke the same language and moved to different parts of the earth.

This lesson cover from Genesis five through Genesis eleven. It would be good to read and study these chapters before trying to answer the questions.

In the next lesson we will study about a very great patriarch, Abraham.



## LESSON 5 EXERCISES

**Fill in the blanks:**

1. God promised Abraham that all nations would be blessed through his \_\_\_\_\_
2. God tested Abraham's faith by asking him to offer \_\_\_\_\_ as a sacrifice.
3. Isaac loved \_\_\_\_\_ more than \_\_\_\_\_
4. Jacob fell in love with uncle's daughter \_\_\_\_\_
5. Jacob had \_\_\_\_\_ children.

**Circle T if the answer is true and F if it is false:**

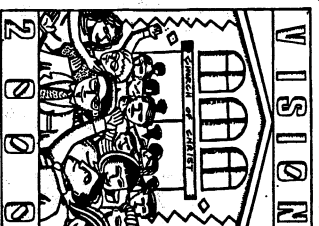
1. T F We read in Bible that Abraham was a man of faith.
2. T F Abraham's servant brought Issac a wife by the name of Rachel.
3. T F When Jacob went to live with his uncle he fell in love with his daughter, Rebekah.
4. T F Rebekah and Jacob tricked Isaac and Esau. Years later Jacob was tricked by his uncle.
5. T F Jacob had thirteen sons.



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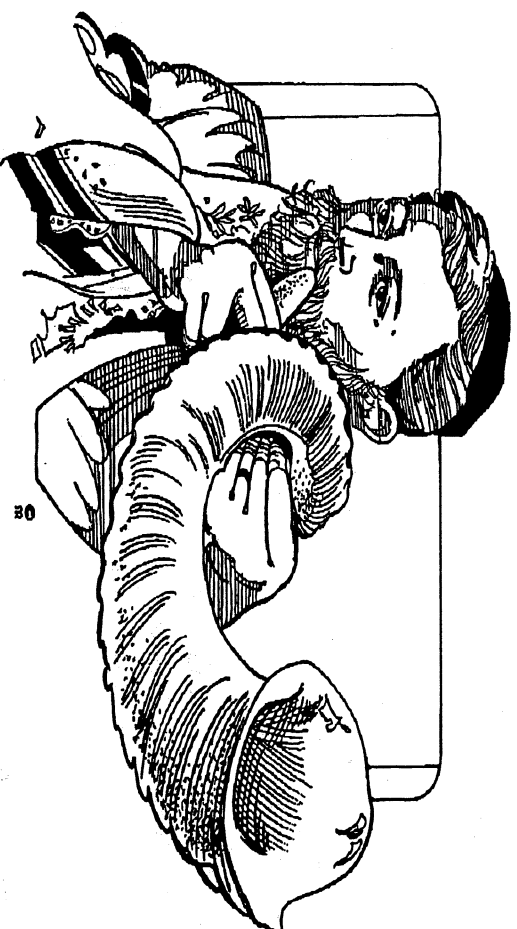
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### LESSON 5 THE PATRIARCHAL AGE ABRAHAM



**"Abraham believed God....And He was called the friend of God."**  
(James 2:23)

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## THE PATRIARCHAL AGE

### PART 3: ABRAHAM



In lesson IV we studied about Noah and the tower of Babel. In this lesson we will study about a great man of faith, Abraham.

In the same chapter (Genesis 11) where we learnt about the tower of Babel, we meet Abraham. Abraham was a great and good man. God promised Abraham that all nations would be blessed through his seed (Genesis 22:18).

Abraham obeyed God and in Hebrews, chapter 11, we read that Abraham was a man of faith. At one time God told Abraham to go into a land that he would show him (Genesis 12:1-3). He obeyed God and was blessed.

According to Romans 4:9-21, when God told Abraham that Sarah would give birth to a son "he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: he staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform". Sarah did conceive and bear a son just as God had promised. See Genesis 21:1-5.

As we said before, Abraham was a man of great faith. God tested his faith one day by telling Abraham to take his son,

Isaac, and offer him as a sacrifice on an altar. Abraham did as God told him thus proving his love for God. Just as Abraham was ready to kill Isaac God stopped him. God sent a ram to be offered instead of Isaac and God was very happy that Abraham loved Him even more than he loved his son.

When Abraham was very old he had his oldest servant promise to return to his homeland and find a wife for Isaac. With God's help the servant brought Rebekah back as the wife of Isaac.

Isaac and Rebekah had twin sons, Esau and Jacob. Esau became a hunter and Jacob was a plain man or man who lived in tents. Isaac loved Esau more than he loved Jacob. Rebekah loved Jacob more than she loved Esau. Because of this jealousy Rebekah deceived Isaac into pronouncing a blessing on Jacob instead of Esau. Because of this Jacob and Esau parted. Esau even planned to kill Jacob.

Jacob left home and went to live with his uncle. He fell in love with his uncle's daughter, Rachel, and asked permission to marry her. His uncle consented only if Jacob promised to work for him seven years. This Jacob did only to be tricked by his uncle. His uncle gave his older daughter, Leah, to Jacob as a wife. Jacob worked for another seven years and then was given Rachel for his wife.

After a long while Jacob and his wives and children went back to his homeland. He was re-united with Esau his brother.

Jacob had thirteen children. In the next lesson we will study about one of these in particular.

This lesson has covered from chapter 11 through chapter 33 of Genesis. Read and study this along with your lesson.

## LESSON 6 EXERCISES

Fill in the blanks:

1. Jacob had \_\_\_\_\_ sons and \_\_\_\_\_ daughter.
2. The Children of Israel are sometimes called \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ was Jacob's favorite son.
4. There was great famine throughout the land of \_\_\_\_\_
5. Joseph's entire family moved to the land of \_\_\_\_\_ and lived in a place called \_\_\_\_\_

Circle T if the answer is true and F if it is false:

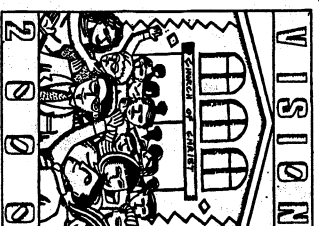
1. T F There were twelve tribes in Israel.
2. T F Joseph was put in charge of all that Potiphar had.
3. T F God was not with Joseph when he was in prison.
4. T F Joseph was not happy to see his brothers when they came to Egypt to buy corn.
5. T F Joseph left Jacob's body in the land of Egypt when he died.



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### LESSON 6

### PATRIARCHAL AGE

### JOSEPH



*"And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man;..."*  
(Genesis 39:2)

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## **PATRIARCHAL AGE**

### **PART 4**

### **JOSEPH**

Jacob had twelve sons and one daughter. Of all these sons Joseph stands out most in Bible history.

We read in the Bible of the children of Israel. The children of Israel, or the Israelites as they are called sometimes, are the descendants of Jacob.

(Descendants means someone's children, their children's children and so forth). We also read of the twelve tribes of Israel. These are from Jacob's twelve sons. The Christ was born many, many years later through the tribe of Judah.



Joseph was Jacob's favorite son. Jacob showed this by giving Joseph a coat of many colors.

The other brothers were jealous of Joseph. One day they sold Joseph to some merchants who were on their way to Egypt. They took his coat and dipped it in the blood of a goat and told his father that he had been killed by a wild beast. Jacob was deeply grieved at this news.

Joseph was sold in Egypt to a man named Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh. Joseph was a very good young man and worked very hard so the Lord was with him, and his master liked him very much. Potiphar made Joseph overseer of his house. In chapter 39 verse 6 of Genesis we read that Joseph was in charge of all that Potiphar had and that he was a good person and well favoured by his master.

A very evil thing happened. Potiphar's wife looked at Joseph and she asked him to do an evil thing with her. Because Joseph would not sin with Potiphar's wife she told a lie on him and he was cast into prison.

Even in Prison though, God was with Joseph (read Genesis chapter 39, 40 and 41). After several years in prison God helped Joseph to tell Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, what a dream he had meant. Because Joseph helped Pharaoh he placed him second in charge over the whole country.

There was a great famine (not enough food to eat) throughout the world. Because of Joseph's wisdom, Egypt stored up food in large store houses so they would have enough to eat during the time of the famine.

Joseph's brothers came to him (not knowing it was their brother) to buy corn. Joseph was very happy to see them although he did not tell them at first that he was their brother. He had them bring his brother Benjamin to him as he had not come with the other brothers.

Finally Joseph told his brothers who he was and then sent for all of his family. They came and lived close by in place called Goshen. Jacob died in Egypt and Joseph took his body back to Canaan to bury him. Joseph died when he was 110 years old and was put in a coffin in Egypt. Later on when the children of Israel returned to Canaan they carried Joseph's body with them.

This lesson has covered from Genesis 34 through Genesis 50. Read study and enjoy the interesting things about Joseph and his family as you do this lesson.

The next lesson will be from the birth of Moses until the law was given to Moses on Mount Sinai.

## LESSON 7 EXERCISES

Fill in the blanks:

1. When Moses was a little baby his mother put him in a \_\_\_\_\_ and hid him in the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. When Pharaoh's daughter found Moses and saw how \_\_\_\_\_ he was she \_\_\_\_\_ him.
3. Pharaoh's daughter brought Moses up in the palace as her own \_\_\_\_\_.
4. After Moses killed the Egyptian he ran away to the land of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Moses was in that land for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Circle **T** if the answer is true and **F** if it is false:

1. T F The new Pharaoh remembered Joseph and how he saved Egypt from the famine.
2. T F The Pharaoh was glad to see the Israelites grow in number.
3. T F When Moses grew up he did not love his people and he forgot them.
4. T F Pharaoh let the Israelites go after the fifth plague.
5. T F God was with the children of Israel when they became unthankful in the wilderness.

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**"By faith Moses,.... Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season."**  
(Hebrews 11:24-25)

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## THE PATRIARCHAL AGE: PART 5 - MOSES

This lesson will cover very briefly part of the life of Moses. We will begin with Exodus the first chapter and end with chapter twenty. Read this as you do your lesson and it will be much more enjoyable.

After Joseph and all his brothers, even all that generation died, there was a new king in Egypt that did not know Joseph. There were many Israelites (descendents of Jacob) and the king was afraid that if a war were to break out between the Egyptians and another nation the Israelites would help the other nation defeat the Egyptians. (Exodus 1:10).

The king tried many ways to keep the Israelites from multiplying but failed. Finally he commanded that all the baby boys should be drowned.

This is where we meet Moses. We do not know much about the birth and death of many people in the Bible. But with Moses we read about his birth, much of his life and of his death.

Moses' mother loved him very much and she kept him at home from Pharaoh's soldiers for awhile. As Moses grew older it was not safe anymore at home so Moses' mother put him in a little basket in the river.

When Pharaoh's daughter came to take a bath in the river she found Moses in the basket. When she saw how beautiful a baby he was she loved him. She loved him so much that she brought him up as her own son. She even let Moses' mother nurse him.

When Moses grew up he loved his own people even though he was brought up as an Egyptian and in king's palace. When he saw the Hebrews (what the Israelites are sometimes called)

being mistreated by the Egyptians he was angry. He even killed one of the Egyptians that was beating a Hebrew.

After the Pharaoh found out about this he planned to kill Moses. Moses ran away to a place called the Land of Midian. He married a woman in that land and lived there for about forty years.

The children of Israel cried out to God to bring them out of the land of Egypt and away from all the troubles that they were suffering. God heard their prayers and He chose Moses to lead them out of the hands of the wicked Pharaoh.

God talked to Moses out of a burning bush and told him to return to the land of Egypt and lead his people out of the land. Moses made several excuses but finally he realized God would help him. So he went to the land of Egypt to deliver God's people out of their bondage (or trouble). Moses (with God's help) tried many ways to get the Pharaoh to let the people leave but he would not let them go. God sent ten plagues upon the Egyptians (Exodus chapters 7 through 12) to try to persuade them to let the Israelites leave Egypt.

After the tenth plague the Pharaoh let the Israelites go. God caused the Red Sea to part and the Hebrews walked across into the wilderness.

The wanderings of the children of Israel in the wilderness are very interesting. Notice how God was always with them. Also notice how they complained and murmured at different things. Because of God's great love for His people He looked after them even when they were so unthankful.

The next lesson will begin with the giving of the law on Mount Sinai, which is also the beginning of the next period of Bible history, the Mosaic Age.

## LESSON 8 EXERCISES

**Fill in the blanks:**

1. The law of Moses lasted until \_\_\_\_\_
2. Aaron made a \_\_\_\_\_ for the people to worship.
3. The Lord \_\_\_\_\_ of the evil which He thought to do unto His \_\_\_\_\_
4. The priests came from the tribe of \_\_\_\_\_
5. Moses died in the land of \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ buried him.

**Circle T if the answer is true and F if it is false:**

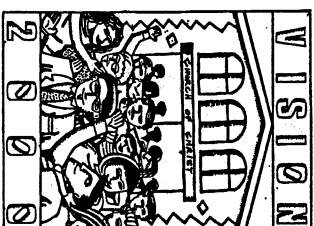
1. T F The Mosaic Age began with Adam.
2. T F The Lord was pleased with Aaron and the people for making and worshipping the golden calf.
3. T F Moses burned the golden calf.
4. T F Moses did exactly as God had said and struck the rock to get water.
5. T F Moses entered the promised land and lived there the rest of his life.



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### LESSON 8 THE MOSAIC AGE WILDERNESS



*"And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years...."*  
(Numbers 14:33)

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## THE MOSAIC AGE: PART 1 - WILDERNESS

The period in Bible history that we call the Mosaic age began when God gave the law to Moses on Mount Sinai. This law lasted until Christ died. During the first part of this period God ruled over the people with judges. Then when the Israelites wanted a king like the people of other nations around them, God gave them a king. God spoke to the Israelites during the time of the judges and kings through His prophets (men who told what was going to happen in the future).

The law was given to Moses on Mount Sinai while the children of Israel were wandering in the wilderness. While Moses was on the mountain receiving the law the people asked Aaron (Moses' brother) to make them gods for they said they did not know what had happened to Moses. Aaron did as the people asked and he made a golden calf for them to worship.

The Lord was very angry with the people for making this idol and worshipping it. God told Moses that he was going to destroy the people. Moses begged the Lord not to destroy them and the Bible tells us in Exodus chapter 32, verse 14 that "The Lord relented from the harm which He thought to do unto His people."

After begging God not to destroy the people Moses came down from the mountain and he saw the people dancing around the calf. He was very angry and he cast down the tablets upon which the law was written and broke them. Then he took the golden calf and burned it in the fire, ground it into power, threw it on the water and made the people drink it. We read of many other things that happened in the wilderness in the book of Exodus and the book of Numbers.

In the book of Leviticus we read more about the law that was

given to Moses on Mount Sinai. This part of the law tells us about the Levites, (the priests came from the tribe of Levi) and the Priesthood, the holy days and the animal sacrifices the people had to offer to God.

The book of Numbers (the fourth book in the Bible) covers a long period of time. In this book we read about the last days at Mount Sinai to the end of the wanderings in the wilderness.

Deuteronomy, the fifth book in the Bible, reviews the law and some of the wandering in the wilderness. In the last chapter of this book we read of the last days and death of the great leader of God's people, Moses.

In Numbers chapter 20 we read where the children of Israel had been in the wilderness for sometime. They had no water and began to complain to Moses and Aaron. God told Moses and Aaron to take the rod, gather all the people together and then speak to the rock and water would come out of the rock. Moses did almost as God had said. He took his rod and gathered all the people together. Then he hit the rock instead of speaking to it as God had told him. The Lord did allow water to come out of the rock. But because Moses did not do exactly as God had told him he was not allowed to enter into the promised land years later. This should be an example for us today to do exactly as God commands us in His New Testament.

However, God took Moses upon a mountain and let him look at the beautiful land that was promised to the children of Israel. Moses died there in the land of Moab and the Lord buried him.

In our next lesson we will study about how God ruled the people with judges, kings and prophets.



## LESSON 9 EXERCISES

Fill in the blanks:

- \_\_\_\_\_ was the leader of the children of Israel after they entered into the promised land.
- \_\_\_\_\_ was the only woman judge.
- The first king of Israel was \_\_\_\_\_
- There were \_\_\_\_\_ kings before the kingdom was divided.
- Jesus Christ himself was a \_\_\_\_\_

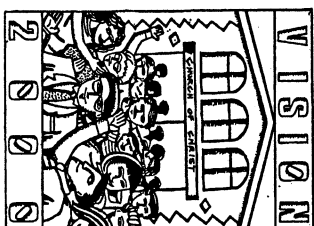
Circle *T* if the answer is true and *F* if it is false:

- T F God's will for the Christian age is revealed in the New Testament.
- T F A prophet was someone who could tell what was going to happen in the future.
- T F Joshua was very wicked and he led the children of Israel away from God.
- T F God heard the Israelites cries and did nothing about it.
- T F The church was to have its origin in Jerusalem.



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### LESSON 9 JUDGES, THE MOSAIC AGE KINGS AND PROPHETS



“...the Lord raised up judges...”

Judges 2:16

“...Nay, but we will have a king over us,” I Samuel 8:19

“The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet...”

Deuteronomy 18:15

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## THE MOSAIC AGE: PART 2 - JUDGES, KINGS & PROPHETS

Joshua was the leader of the children of Israel after they entered into the promised land (Canaan). As long as Joshua ruled them they followed and obeyed God.

After Joshua died the children of Israel began worshipping false gods. God punished them by letting their enemies defeat them. As was their nature, when they were in trouble the Israelites cried out to God to deliver them out of the hands of their enemies. God heard their cries and he raised up judges to deliver them out of the hands of their enemies.

Some of their judges mentioned are Ehud, Gideon, Samson and the woman judge, Deborah. There were many others. After God ruled through judges he then ruled through Kings. God was long suffering with the children of Israel. They decided that they wanted kings like the people around them, so God allowed them to have kings.

The first king was Saul, the second was David and the third was David's son, Solomon. After these kings ruled, the kingdom was divided into two parts. These two kingdoms were called Judah and Israel. Solomon's son Rehoboam was king of Judah which was made up of two tribes, Judah and Benjamin. Jeroboam was king of Israel which was made up of the other ten tribes.

The history of the kings of the children is quite interesting but space will not permit a deeper study of them. From the beginning until the New Testament was written there were prophets. Prophets were people who could tell things that would happen in the future. God told the prophets what was going to happen and the prophets would tell the people.

In the book of Daniel, the second chapter, beginning with the 31st verse we read of the prophecy of the establishment of the

church. God made this prophecy through Daniel. This is why the book is named after the prophet Daniel.

The prophet Isaiah foretold the beginning of the Lord's church. He not only prophesied concerning its establishment, but also designates Jerusalem as the beginning place (Isaiah 2:1-4). The significance of the death of Christ is also foretold by the same prophet (Isaiah 53:3-8).

Jesus Christ himself was a prophet. He foretold many things that were going to happen. He even told His disciples that one of them would sell Him into the hands of His enemies. He also told Peter that he would deny Him three times. Jesus told many things that would happen in the future.

Following the establishments of the church God continued to use prophets to communicate His will (Acts 13:1). However, their mission in the church was to be of temporary duration. At that time the church was told: "we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away" (1 Cor. 13:9-10).

In Acts the 21st chapter and verse 9 we read where Philip had four daughters who prophesied. We read in the same chapter of Agabus the prophet. Agabus prophesied that Paul would be bound in Jerusalem.

With the completion of the New Testament God's will for the Christian age was fully revealed. Once the New Testament was finished spiritual gifts were no longer essential. That God did not intend for the church to have spiritual gifts on a permanent basis is clearly evident from 1 Corinthians 13:8.

In this lesson we have studied very briefly the judges, kings and prophets. As you study the next lesson bear in mind that Jesus Christ lived during the Mosaic period of Bible history.

## LESSON 10 EXERCISES

Fill in the blanks:

1. Jesus lived under the \_\_\_\_\_ although His life is recorded in the \_\_\_\_\_
2. The old law was done away at \_\_\_\_\_
3. Micah prophesied that Jesus would be born in \_\_\_\_\_
4. Jesus was baptized to \_\_\_\_\_ all righteousness.
5. Teaching the word of God is like \_\_\_\_\_

Circle T if the answer is True and F if it is false:

1. T F Jesus performed (or did) many miracles.
2. T F Jesus said that people who heard and understood the word and did not bring forth fruit was like the seed planted in good ground.
3. T F The main reason Christ performed miracles was to prove that he was the Son of God.
4. T F The apostles performed miracles to confirm (or prove) that what they were teaching came from God and was true.
5. T F People who follow Christ and obey His commandments are His disciples.



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## Personal Bible Correspondence Course

### LESSON 10 THE MOSAIC AGE LIFE OF JESUS



*"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." (Luke 2:52)*

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## THE MOSAIC AGE: PART 3 - LIFE OF JESUS

In one of our earlier lessons we mentioned that Jesus lived under the law of Moses. Some people think that He lived under the new covenant (Hebrews 8:1-3) because His life is recorded in the New Testament. When we study the scriptures we learn that He did not live under the new covenant. It was at Jesus' death that the old law, or law of Moses, was done away (Hebrews 9:16). In lesson number two we studied about the two wills. When Christ died the old will, or old law, was taken away and the new law was brought into effect.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem. The place of the birth of the Son of God was foretold by the prophet Micah several hundred years before he was born (Micah 5:1-2). Also, see Matthew 2:1-6. While Jesus was a young child His parents took him to Egypt because Herod wanted to have him killed. The prophet Hosea prophesied that God's Son would live in Egypt for a time (Hosea 11:1). After the death of Herod Joseph and Mary took Jesus to a city called Nazareth. It was here that Jesus grew up (Luke 2:51-52).

Jesus was baptized by John the baptizer in the Jordan River to fulfill all righteousness (Matthew 3:15). God was pleased with Jesus, for He said in Matthew 3:17 just after Jesus was baptized "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased".

Jesus performed many miracles and told many parables during His ministry. His first miracle is recorded in John the second chapter. The first miracle was in Cana of Galilee where he turned water to wine. A Bible miracle is something that is unnatural, something that could not be done by just anyone, like in the example above. It is not natural to turn water into wine. This is a miracle.

A parable is a story told by someone to explain something he is teaching. Jesus told stories about things that people knew about (like planting of seeds) to teach them things that they did not know (such as teaching that the word of God is like planting seeds). Jesus told the story (parable) of the seeds in Matthew 13:3-9 to explain how the word of God falls on good hearts, on hard hearts, etc. Jesus said that when the seed fell on good ground it would bring forth much fruit, some thirty fold, some sixty and some a

hundred fold. Jesus said that he who heard the word and understood it and brought forth fruit was like the good ground.

While on the earth Jesus chose twelve apostles. These men had the power to perform miracles and could give this power to other people. (Acts 8:14-17). However the people to whom they gave this power could not give it to others.

Miracles were done for a purpose. The miracles that Christ performed were to prove to people that He was the Son of God (John 20:30-31). The ones the apostles performed were to confirm the word or to prove that what they were teaching was true (Mark 16:20). The apostles and the ones they gave this power to continue to perform miracles until the word was confirmed. This was when the perfect law came or when the New Testament was completed. We have no need for miracles today because we have the Bible and it has been confirmed (or proven to be true) by miracles. In those days the New Testament was still being written.

Jesus had apostles and disciples while on the earth. His apostles were the first twelve persons that followed Him (Matthew 10). Later Mathias took the place of Judas (Acts 1) and after this Paul was appointed to be an apostle. (1 Cor. 15:7-9). There were never any other apostles appointed by God.

Disciples are followers of Jesus. Today anyone who follows Jesus (does exactly as the Bible commands) is a disciple of Christ. The apostles were also disciples as they surely followed Christ, but all disciples are not apostles.

In Matthew 16:18-19 Jesus told His disciples that He was going to build His church. He also told them that He would give Peter the Keys to the kingdom, or the church. In a later lesson we will follow this through and find where and when the church was established or started. We will also see Peter using these keys that Christ here promised to give him.

This lesson has briefly covered the life of Christ and some of the ways He taught. In our next lesson we will study the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.

## LESSON 11 EXERCISES

Fill in the blanks:

1. The gospel of Christ tells us that Christ \_\_\_\_\_ for our sins according to the scriptures, and that He was

\_\_\_\_\_ and that He \_\_\_\_\_ again the third day according to the scriptures.

2. Gospel means \_\_\_\_\_

3. Judas betrayed Christ for \_\_\_\_\_ pieces of silver.

4. There were \_\_\_\_\_ thieves crucified with Christ.

5. Jesus was crucified because of yours and my \_\_\_\_\_

Circle **T** if the answer is true and **F** if it is false:

1. T F Jesus told both the thieves that today they would be with Him in paradise.

2. T F Jesus suffered on the cross for three hours.

3. T F The sun shone brightly while He was on the cross which made Him very thirsty.

4. T F The Jews had Jesus' legs broken to make Him die faster.

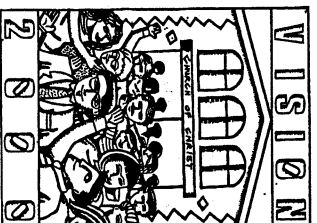
5. T F Jesus arose from the dead on the third day as was prophesied long before.



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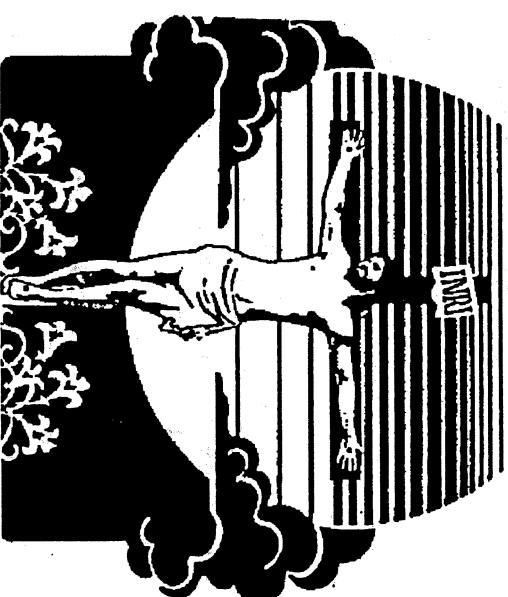
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### LESSON 11 THE MOSAIC AGE DEATH OF CHRIST



“...and He bowed His head, and gave up the ghost.”  
(John 19:30)

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Lesson ten covered briefly the life of Christ. This lesson will deal with His death and resurrection.

In I Corinthians 15:1-4 we learn what is the gospel of Christ. Paul tells the Corinthians that they are saved by the gospel. He says the gospel tells us how that Christ died for our sins, and according to the scriptures, that He was buried and that He rose again on the third day according to the scriptures. Since this is the gospel we must read and study about Christ's death, burial and resurrection if we want to be saved.

Jesus told His disciples that one of them would betray him. Shortly after Jesus said this, Judas, one of the twelve went to the chief priests and Pharisees and agreed to deliver Jesus into their hands for thirty pieces of silver, Judas led the chief priests and Pharisees to Jesus and kissed him. Judas had told them that the one he kissed would be Jesus.

After Judas betrayed Jesus the officers took Him to the high priest. While He was there Peter, one of His twelve apostles, denied even knowing Jesus. He said three times that he did not know who Jesus was. Peter even cursed and told the people he did not know Jesus. Jesus had told Peter earlier that he would do just this. Jesus had said, "I tell thee, Peter, the cock (or rooster) shall not crow this day, before that thou (Peter) shall thrice (three times) deny that thou knowest me" (Luke 22:34). When Peter denied the Lord the third time the rooster crowed. Peter remembered then what Jesus had said and he was very sad and sorry for what he had done. He went out and cried.

Jesus was treated cruelly when He was taken before the high priest. Some people spat on Him and others struck Him on the face. After this He was taken to Pontius Pilate, the governor. Pilate questioned Jesus and then went out to the people and told them that he could find nothing wrong with Jesus. Pilate wanted to release Jesus but the people would not let him. They said, "If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend" (John 19:12).

After this the soldiers put a scarlet robe on Jesus. They planted a crown of thorns and put it on His head then put a reed in His hand. After this they bowed before Him and said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on Jesus and hit Him with the reed. They were mocking the Son of God.

During this time Judas, when he saw that Jesus was condemned, repented and brought the money that had gotten for betraying Jesus and threw it down in the temple. He told the chief priests and elders that he had betrayed Jesus and that Jesus was innocent. Afterwards Judas

hanged himself.

After the soldiers mocked (made fun of) Jesus they led Him away to crucify Him. A man called Simon carried the cross for Jesus. A large number of people including women followed Him. Many of the women were crying. The soldiers took Jesus' clothing and gambled over it. They put a sign over His head on the cross "THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS". Two thieves hung on crosses, one on either side of Jesus.

While Jesus hung on that cross the people mocked Him. They shouted at Him and shook their heads and said awful things to the Son of God. They did not know that He was there for their sins as well as the sins of all people even my sin and yours.

While on the cross one of the thieves asked Jesus to remember him when He came into His Kingdom. Jesus said to the thief, "Today shalt thou be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43). For three hours (12 noon until 3pm) while Jesus hung on the cross there was darkness over the earth.

The Jews asked Pilate to break the legs of the three on the crosses to hasten their death because the bodies were not supposed to remain on the cross on the sabbath. They broke the legs of the two thieves but when they came to Jesus they found Him already dead and did not break His legs. However a soldier came by and took his spear and thrust it into the side of Christ and blood and water came out (John 19:34).

Joseph of Arimathea came to Pilate and asked for the body of Christ. He then, with others, buried the Lord. The people began to worry that His disciples would steal the body of Jesus. They remembered that Jesus said that He would rise again in three days. They asked Pilate to put guards at the cave where Jesus' body lay. Pilate had the stone that was over the opening of the cave sealed and guards were placed there to make sure no one stole the body of Jesus.

As was prophesied long before, Jesus did arise from the dead. An angel came from heaven, rolled back the stone and sat upon it. This happened very early on a Sunday morning. Jesus was seen by many people after He rose from the dead (I Cor. 15:5-9).

This lesson was taken from Matthew chapter 26 through 28, Mark chapters 14 through 16, Luke chapters 22 through 24 and John chapter 18 through 20. To get even more details of Jesus' betrayal, trial, death and resurrection, please read and study these scriptures along with this lesson.

## LESSON 12 EXERCISES

Fill in the blanks:

1. In Ephesians 4:4 we find that there is \_\_\_\_\_ body, and that the body is the \_\_\_\_\_ (Col. 1:18)
2. Jesus said that He was going to build \_\_\_\_\_ church. Therefore the church belongs to \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 16:18-19)
3. Jesus said in Mark 9:1 that the kingdom would come before some standing there would \_\_\_\_\_
4. Jesus said that the kingdom would come with \_\_\_\_\_
5. The apostle would receive power after the \_\_\_\_\_ came upon them.

Circle **T** if the answer is true and **F** if it is false:

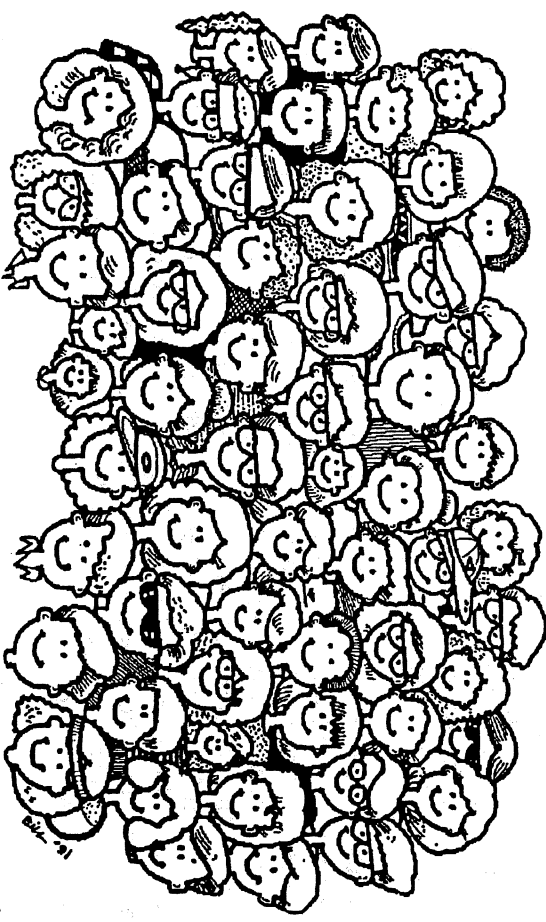
1. T F The church and the kingdom are different.
2. T F The church is an assembly of people called out of the world of sin.
3. T F The Bible teaches that the kingdom, or church, was to come with power, and the power was to come with the Holy Ghost.
4. T F We learn from Acts 2:47 that people do not join the church, but God adds the saved to the church.
5. T F If we do just what we read in the Bible we will be members of that one same church.

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# Personal Bible Correspondence Course

## LESSON 12 THE CHRISTIAN AGE THE CHURCH



“....The churches of Christ salute you.” (Roman 16:16)

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\_\_\_\_\_ Singapore \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_



## THE CHRISTIAN AGE

### PART 1 THE CHURCH

In our last lesson we discussed the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. We learned that these essential facts constitute the gospel (I Cor. 15:3-4). Our next lesson will go into detail on how to obey the gospel. When a person becomes obedient to the gospel of Christ God forgives his sins and adds him to the church that Jesus built (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:47).

Our present lesson will be devoted to a study of the church we read about in the New Testament. Jesus Christ himself is the head of the church (Colossians 1:18). When Jesus went back to heaven it was God who "gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all" (Eph. 1:22-23). Inasmuch as the CHURCH is the BODY and there is but ONE body (I Cor. 12:20; Eph. 4:4), we can readily see that the New Testament presents but ONE CHURCH and Christ is its head.

In Matthew 16:18-19 Jesus told His disciples that he was going to build His church. On that same occasion he told Peter that he would give him the keys to the kingdom. Later we will learn that Peter was given the information which was essential for lost souls to enter the kingdom, which is the church that came into existence on the day of Pentecost as recorded in Acts, chapter 2. Therefore, when we refer to the church in this lesson we do not mean the building; we are referring to the people who have rendered obedience to the gospel of Christ (Acts 2:41). By making a careful study of the passages in the above one will see that the church is the kingdom and the kingdom is the church.

In Mark 9:1 we hear Jesus tell the people that some of them that He was talking to at that time would not die before the kingdom (or church) came. From this we know that it should have come soon after Jesus said this. This same verse also tells us that the kingdom would come with **power**.

Acts 1:8 tell us that they (the apostles) would receive POWER when the Holy Ghost came upon them. Therefore, if the time of the coming of the Holy Ghost can be determined, we will know exactly when the kingdom (or church) had its origin. Observe the following:

- 1) Jesus promised that some would not taste death till they had seen the kingdom come with POWER (Mark 9:1).
- 2) Jesus promised that the apostles would receive POWER when

the Holy Ghost came (Acts 1:8).

- 3) The Holy Ghost came on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2).

Soon after Jesus ascended into heaven, we find that the Holy Ghost came and the apostles were filled with it (Acts 2:1-4). They even began to speak in other languages. This was so that all people could understand what they were saying; for there were people in Jerusalem who were from other parts of the world.

At this time, (Acts the second chapter) we find Peter using the "keys" that Jesus had given him. Peter preached the first gospel sermon on this day and by this preaching he opened the doors to the church. Up until this time, each time the church was mentioned it was in the future, but after Peter preached this sermon and many obeyed the gospel the church was mentioned as in the past. The first time we read of the church after it had been established is Acts 2:47. Here we find that God added to the church those that were being saved.

In our next lesson we will see what we must do to be added to Christ's church. Study all the scriptures in this lesson for we read in Acts 17:11 about some people who were called noble because they heard the word with an open mind and then studied each day to see if what they heard was true. We should always put God's word first.

Some other good scriptures to read while studying the church are: 3 John 9; Acts 5:11; Acts 8:1; Acts 11:26. These scriptures speak of the church, meaning one, not many. 1 Corinthians 16:19 shows that the church can meet in someone's house. The church does not necessarily have to have a building to be pleasing to the Lord. Ephesians 1:22 teaches that Christ is the head of the church. Ephesians 5:24-25 shows that the church is subject to Christ and that Christ died for the church. One can see by these few scriptures that the church is very important. We should study carefully before becoming a member of just any church.

Some questions we might ask about the church we are a member of are:

Does it have a name found in the Bible? Read Romans 16:16

Does it practice things that the church in the Bible practiced?

Read Acts 2:42

Does it meet each first day of the week to break bread, the Lord's supper? Read Acts 20:7.

There are other things that we will consider about the church that we read about in the Bible. We will study these in other lessons.



## LESSON 13 EXERCISES

**Fill in the blanks:**

1. When the Lord comes He is going to \_\_\_\_\_ on the ones who do not know God.
2. When the Lord comes He is going to take vengeance on the ones who have not \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.
3. The gospel of Christ is how Christ \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead.
4. To obey a form of the gospel of Christ we must \_\_\_\_\_ to our sins, be \_\_\_\_\_ in baptism and \_\_\_\_\_ to walk in a new life.
5. Peter told the people in Jerusalem to \_\_\_\_\_ and be \_\_\_\_\_ for the forgiveness of their sins.

**Circle T if the answer is true and F if it is false:**

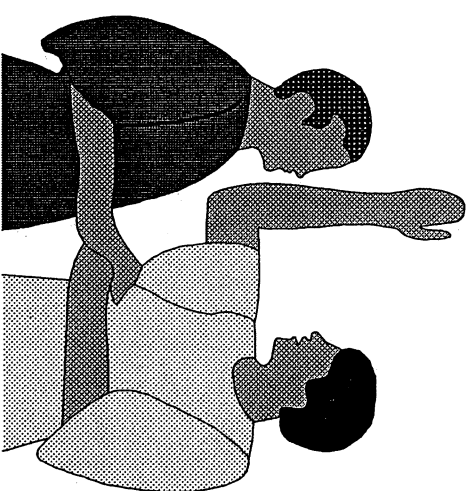
1. T F It is not important to obey the gospel.
2. T F If we obey the gospel as the people obeyed in the Bible we will be members of the church in the Bible.
3. T F The man from Ethiopia told Philip that he believed Jesus was the Son of God then Philip baptized him.
4. T F There are many churches, many faiths and many baptisms in the Bible according to Eph. 4:4-5.
5. T F God adds the saved to the church.

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## Personal Bible Correspondence Course

### LESSON 13 THE CHRISTIAN AGE GOSPEL OBEDIENCE - SALVATION



***"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved;...."***  
(Mark 16:16)

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Singapore \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

This lesson will show us how people in the New Testament obeyed the gospel and thus were saved and became members of the church that we learn of in the New Testament. It is very important to obey the gospel because we read in 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8 that when the Lord comes with His mighty angels He is going to take vengeance on the ones who do not know God and have not obeyed the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

If we use the New Testament as a rule book today and do exactly as the people did in the Bible then we will obey the same gospel they did and we will be members of the church in the Bible. Now let us see how people obeyed the gospel.

The gospel, or good news, is (1) that Christ died (2) was buried and (3) rose from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). How can the death of Christ be "good news"? This is good news to us because Christ died for us, for our sins. In other words He suffered and died so that God would forgive us of our sins.

There are two parts to the gospel, Christ's part and man's part. Christ had done His part by dying on the cross. But what is man's part? We noticed in 2 Thessalonians chapter 1 that we are to obey the gospel. How do we obey the gospel?

Paul told the Roman Christians that they had obeyed a form of the teaching, or doctrine (Romans 6:17). In the first four verses of Romans chapter six we read what the form of teaching is that they obeyed, or how they obeyed the gospel. (1) They died to sin (death is a separation) therefore if we die to sin we separate ourselves from sin or in other words we stop sinning. When one dies to sin he is then (2) buried in baptism, then (3) he rises to walk a new life (Romans 6:1-4). So one can see that in obeying the gospel we do in a symbol what Christ did in real life. Now let us compare 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 and Romans 6:1-4.

1. Christ died --- We die to sin (stop sinning).
2. Christ was buried --- We are buried (put under the water) by baptism.
3. Christ rose again --- We rise out of the water of baptism to live a new life.

We have seen that baptism is a part of obeying the gospel. Mark 16:16 teaches us that if we believe and are baptised we are saved. Therefore when we obey the gospel we are saved from our past sins.

In Acts chapter 2 we read of thousands of people who were gathered in Jerusalem shortly after Christ's death. Peter preached to them and they believed because they were pricked in their hearts. They asked Peter and the others what they should do. Peter told them to repent (or die to their sins) and be baptized (or be buried in water) for the remission (forgiveness) of their sins. Acts 2:41 teaches that they did as Peter commanded and Acts 2:42 teaches that they began to live a new life.

Another example is found in Acts chapter 8. Philip baptized a man from Ethiopia. The man was riding along in a chariot and reading the book of Isaiah, a book in the Old Testament. Philip asked him if he understood what he was reading. The man said that he needed someone to teach him. Then Philip began at the scripture the man was reading and taught him about Jesus. After Philip had taught him they came to some water and the Ethiopian asked Philip if he could be baptized. Philip told him if he believed he could be baptized. The man told Philip that he believed that Jesus Christ was the Son of God. Then they both went down into the water and Philip baptized the man from Ethiopian. They then came up out of the water and the Ethiopia went on his way a very happy man. We see from this example that the Ethiopian (1) heard the word (2) believed the word (3) confessed that Jesus was God's Son (Matthew 10:32 teaches us that if we confess Christ before men that He will confess us before His Father in heaven.) (4) and that he was baptized.

There are many more examples in the book of Acts of people obeying the gospel and being saved. Read these scriptures: Act chapters 8, 9, 10 and 16. These are only a few examples, but notice that in each case of conversion baptism always preceded salvation or the forgiveness of sins. All those who were baptized were old enough to believe what they were taught; therefore babies and young children were not baptized in New Testament times.

When we are baptized (remember this is a part of obeying the gospel) we are saved (Mark 16:16) and when we are saved the Lord adds us to His church (Acts 2:47). We do not have to pick a church of our choice for Christ adds us to His church.

There are many false churches, false faiths, false gods, false baptisms, etc. but we are taught in Ephesians 4:4-6 that there is only one church, one spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism and one God. Let us make sure that we are members of that one church (Christ's church) that we believe in the one Lord and one God, that we are of the one faith and that we are baptized with the one baptism.

## LESSON 14 EXERCISES

**Fill in the blanks:**

1. After people obey the gospel of Christ they are to continue steadfastly in the apostles' \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and in \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and in \_\_\_\_\_

2. The disciples of Christ in the New Testament wore the name \_\_\_\_\_

3. The church of the Bible met on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the week to break bread.

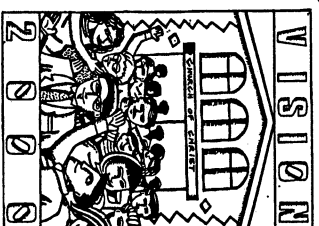
4. The church is taught to lay by in store on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the week.

5. We read in the Bible where the church sang and made music in their \_\_\_\_\_ for the ears of the Lord.

**Circle T if the answer is true and F if it is false:**

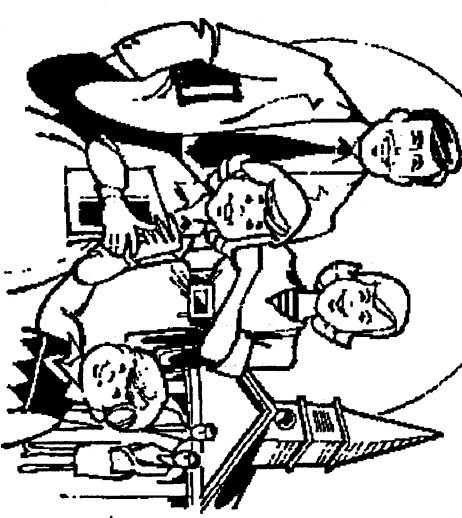
1. T F I Corinthians 14:15 teaches us to sing with the spirit but we don't have to understand what we sing.
2. T F The New Testament teaches us to use instrumental music in worship.
3. T F The church in the Bible was called the church of Christ.
4. T F Christians ate unleavened bread and drank the fruit of the vine when partaking of the Lord's supper.
5. T F Jesus prayed for all His followers to be one.

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# Personal Bible Correspondence Course

## LESSON 14 THE CHRISTIAN AGE CHRISTIAN WORSHIP



*"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another...."*  
(Hebrews 10:25)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Singapore \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

## THE CHRISTIAN AGE: PART 3

### CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

Lesson 13 went into detail about the gospel. Now we are commanded to obey it and be saved. When we do this we are then added to the Lord's church (Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 2:47).

In the New Testament we learn of many who obeyed the gospel. Now we will learn what to do after one has been added to the Lord's church. We will look at some scriptures and see how the church worshipped in the New Testament.

The first time we read of people obeying the gospel is in Acts chapter 2 verse 41. The very next verse teaches that they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine (teaching) and fellowship, and in breaking of bread (the Lord's supper) and in prayers.

We learn from Acts 11:26 that the name by which the early disciples were called was Christians. In Acts 26:28 King Agrippa told Paul that he was almost persuaded to become a Christian.

Acts 20:7 tells us that the early church met on the first day of the week (Sunday) to break bread (partake of the Lord's supper). When Paul wrote to the church in Corinth he told them to lay by in store (or give) on the first day of the week (Sunday) when they came together. Here in 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 we find the Corinthian Christians also coming together on Sunday. These should serve as examples to us today. We should also come together on the first day of the week to partake of the Lord's supper and to give.

The New Testament has a great deal to say about the giving of our money. We are commanded to (1) give on the first day of the week as God has prospered (or blessed) us (1 Corinthians 16:1-2), (2) we are to plan ahead of time what we are going to give and (3) give that planned amount cheerfully (II Corinthians 9:7).

The Christian should put God first in all things and this includes his material blessings (Luke 6:38). God's people in the Old Testament followed a system which required the giving of a tithe, which

means that ten percent of their prosperity was returned to the Lord (Malachi 3:8). No Christian should want to do less than the Israelites of the long ago.

God's word teaches us to sing. Ephesians 5:19 (Philips translation) says: "Express your joy in singing among yourselves psalms and hymns spiritual songs, making music in your hearts for the ears of the Lord." We are taught in 1 Corinthians 14:15 to sing with the spirit and to understand what we are singing. No where in the New Testament are we taught to use a mechanical instrument (piano, organ, guitar, etc.) to worship God. We are taught not to add to God's word or to take away from it (Revelation 22:18-19.) So we should only sing only and not add to God's word by using mechanical instruments.

We see that the early church wore the name Church of Christ (Romans 16:16). The early disciples were called by the name Christian (Acts 11:26). The church met on the first day of the week (Sunday) (Acts 20:7). When they came together they (1) broke bread (remembered Christ's death by eating unleavened bread and drinking the fruit of the vine (1 Corinthians 11:23-29), (2) taught God's word (Acts 20:7), (3) prayed (Acts 2:42), (4) gave of their money to God (1 Corinthians 16:1-2), (5) sang praises to the Lord (Ephesians 5:19) and (6) had fellowship with each other (Acts 2:42).

If we today would take the Bible alone (not use creed books, confessions of faith, book of Mormons, prayer books etc.) and use only the Bible as our guide we would be the church of Christ that we read about in the Bible.

Jesus prayed just before he was betrayed that we might all be one (John 17:21-23). He did not want many religions. He established only one church and prayed that everyone would be one in it (John 17).

In our next and last lesson we will discuss briefly the organization of Christ's church. We will also discuss some scriptures that teach us how to live a good Christian life after becoming a member of His church.

## LESSON 15 EXERCISES

**Fill in the blanks:**

1. The church of Christ that we read of in the Bible has no \_\_\_\_\_ on earth.
2. The church of the Bible is held together by \_\_\_\_\_ and by the \_\_\_\_\_
3. Each congregation of the Lord's church has \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
4. An elder of the Lord's church is \_\_\_\_\_ and has \_\_\_\_\_
5. In the Lord's church there is always more than \_\_\_\_\_ elder in each congregation.

**Circle T if the answer is true and F if it is false:**

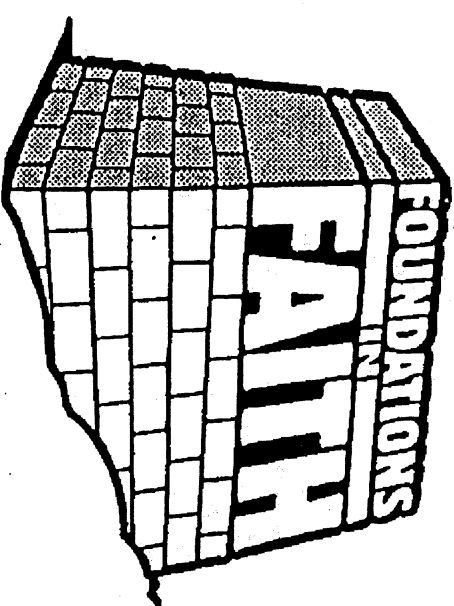
1. T F An elder in the Lord's church is a young man who is not married.
2. T F Elders in the Lord's church are to have the qualifications as found in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1.
3. T F Each member of the Lord's church should either be teaching or learning to teach.
4. T F We learn how Christians should live from the book of Romans through the book of Jude.
5. T F If we are to receive a crown of life we must remain faithful to God unto death.

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## Personal Bible Correspondence Course

### LESSON 15 THE CHRISTIAN AGE ON TO PERFECTION



**"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection....." (Hebrews 6:1)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Singapore \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

## THE CHRISTIAN AGE: PART 4 ON TO PERFECTION

In lesson 14 God's New Testament plan for worship in the Christian age was studied in detail. We have learned that He commands us to be baptized to remove our past sins and when we do this we are added to the Lord's church. In the church we are taught to come together on the first day of each week to partake of the Lord's supper, sing, give, teach, pray and have fellowship with one another.

The church of Christ that we read of in the Bible has no "headquarters" on earth. There are no councils, synods etc. to "hold the church together". It is held together by a common love and by the word of God, the Bible. Members of the church of Christ use only the Bible as their guide and are held together, whether they be in England, China, Fiji, America or anywhere else in the world, by the Bible.

Each congregation of the Lord's church has elders (also called bishops, pastors and overseers), deacons, teachers, preachers and working members. The elders care for the spiritual welfare of the church. I Timothy chapter 3 and Titus chapter 1 gives the qualifications that a man must have before becoming an elder. Read these carefully and notice that an elder is an older man who is married and has faithful children. He is not

a new member of the church and he is a man whom people both in and out of the church respect.

Deacons are appointed to help the elders in carrying out the Lord's work. Their qualifications are found in I Timothy 3.

Notice that where elders and deacons are mentioned in God's word there was never only one. There was always more than one elder or one deacon. Therefore if we are going to be like the church in the Bible, each congregation should have elders and deacons. These elders and deacons should be appointed as soon as there are men in the church who have the qualifications that we read in I Timothy 3 and Titus 1. The church at Philippi had bishops and deacons. (See Philippians 1:1).

In the Lord's church there are preachers who also serve under the elders. Preachers are never called bishop, elder or pastor (unless they are appointed as an elder as well as a preacher) and they should never be referred to as reverend. The only place we find the word reverend in the Bible is in Psalms 111:9 and there it refers to God. A man should never be called a name given to God alone.

Each member of the Lord's church should either be teaching or learning to teach others the will of God. In II Timothy 2:15 Paul tells Timothy to study to show himself approved before God. We should take

Paul's advice as though it were written to us.

From the four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John ) we can learn to pattern our life after the life of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We see Jesus as a lamb when people spoke against Him but as a lion when they attack the word of God. We should be the same.

The book of Acts teaches us how to become a member of the Lord's church. We should use the examples given in Acts and obey the commands given there and we will then become members of the church of Christ.

From the book of Romans through the book of Jude we read letters written to churches and Christians teaching them to live as God would have them.

The book of Revelation is a book of prophecy. Some of these prophecies have been fulfilled. It is a book that requires much studying to understand for it is full of symbols. We are promised to be blessed if we read and hear the words that are written in the book of Revelation (Revelation 1:3).

After we have become a member of the Lord's church and taken the milk (learned the first principles of the teaching of Christ) we are then ready for the meat (the stronger teaching of God's word). Hebrews 6:1 (Phillips translation) says "Let us leave behind the elementary

teaching about Christ and go forward to adult understanding ... "

In Galatians chapter 5 verses 19 through 21 we learn of some things that we should not do. We are taught that if we do these things, we will not inherit the kingdom of God. They are called the works of the flesh and are these: Adultery and fornication (sexual immorality), uncleanness lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murder, drunkenness, reveling and things like these.

The same chapter (Galatians 5:22-23) teaches us about the fruit of the Spirit. Qualities that we should have to be pleasing to God are these: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance.

God requires Christian people to give special attention to their spiritual lives. The apostle Peter explains that the Christian is to add to his faith virtue, knowledge temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love (II Peter 1:5-7). In this way the child of God will "neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

May each of us do our part in obeying the commands of God for we are taught in Revelation 2:10 that if we remain faithful unto death we will receive a crown of life from our father in heaven.