SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON QUARTERLY

RIGHTEOUSNESS BY FAITH IN CHRIST

SENIOR DIVISION, No. 264, SECOND QUARTER, 1961

THE BLESSING OF DAILY STUDY

"The beauty and riches of the word have a transforming influence on mind and character."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 132.

"There is nothing more calculated to strengthen the intellect than the study of the Scriptures. No other book is so potent to elevate the thoughts, to give vigor to the faculties, as the broad, ennobling truths of the Bible. If God's word were studied as it should be, men would have a breadth of mind, a nobility of character, and a stability of purpose rarely seen in these times."—*Steps to Christ,* page 90.

"The more you search the Scriptures with humble hearts, the greater will be your interest. . . . Every day you should learn something new from the Scriptures."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 266.

My Daily Lesson Study Pledge

As one who greatly desires to improve his knowledge of the Scriptures, I pledge myself to the careful and prayerful study of some portion of my Sabbath school lesson each day of the week.

Name .....

LESSON TITLES FOR THE QUARTER

1. Righteousness
2. The Great Need of the Church
3. God's Eternal Purpose
4. The Origin and Nature of Sin
5. Restoring the Union With God
6. Imputed Righteousness—Justification by Faith
7. Sanctification Through Imparted Righteousness
8. Righteousness Imparted Through Communion with Christ
9. Righteousness Received Through Faith
10. Doing God's Will
11. Faith Counted for Righteousness
12. The Three Angels' Messages and Righteousness by Faith
13. The Latter Rain and Righteousness by Faith

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Sabbath School Lesson Quarterly

RIGHTEOUSNESS BY FAITH IN CHRIST

General Introduction

God has entrusted to the Seventh-day Adventist Church the responsibility and privilege of giving the last gospel message to the world. This solemn work can be carried out successfully only by consecrated instruments. That they might be spiritually prepared to meet their Lord and to finish His work, the message of righteousness by faith in Christ has been entrusted to them. This is not a new message, for it is a part of the plan of salvation as revealed in the word of God and has always been a fundamental belief and teaching of the remnant church, though at times it may have been obscured beneath the doctrinal emphasis on the law.

During the General Conference session of 1888, held in Minneapolis, this vital teaching was re-emphasized and clarified. Wrote Ellen G. White:

"This message was to bring more prominently before the world the uplifted Saviour, the sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. It presented justification through faith in the Surety; it invited the people to receive the righteousness of Christ, which is made manifest in obedience to all the commandments of God. Many had lost sight of Jesus. They needed to have their eyes directed to His divine person, His merits, and His changeless love for the human family. All power is given into His hands, that He may dispense rich gifts unto men, imparting the priceless gift of His own righteousness to the helpless human agent. This is the message that God commanded to be given to the world. It is the third angel's message, which is to be proclaimed with a loud voice, and attended with the outpouring of His Spirit in a large measure."—*Testimonies to Ministers,* pages 91, 92.

Ellen White wholeheartedly sustained this righteousness-by-faith emphasis. There were those, however, who were fearful that the distinctive doctrinal truths "entrusted to us" might be neglected, because of this renewal of emphasis on Christ and Him crucified. But the exaltation of Christ as the "center of the message," did not weaken and does not now weaken any "line of truth that has made the Seventh-day Adventist people what they are."—*Testimonies,* vol. 6, p. 17. This is as true today as it was over seventy years ago.

"The third angel's message calls for the preservation of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and this truth must be brought before the world; but *the great center* of attraction, Jesus Christ, must not be left out of the third angel's message. By many who have been engaged in the work for this time, Christ has been made secondary, and theories and arguments have had first place. . . .

"Laborers in the cause of truth should present the righteousness of Christ, not as new light, but as precious light that has for a time been lost sight of by the people. . . .

"What a loss it is to the soul who understands the strong claims of the law, and who yet fails to understand the grace of Christ which doth much more abound! It is true that the law of God reveals the love of God when it is preached as the truth in Jesus; for the gift of Christ to this guilty world must be largely dwelt upon in every discourse."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, pp. 383, 384. (Italics supplied.)

Since 1888 much has been published and preached on the subject of righteousness by faith. The following books from the pen of Ellen G. White emphasize this great truth: *Gospel Workers* (1892); *Steps to Christ* (1892); *Christ Our Saviour* (1896); *The Desire of Ages* (1898); *Christ's Object Lessons* (1900); *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing* (1900). Many other books, articles, and sermons by leaders and ministers have continued to bring this great truth to the church and the world.

It is the earnest longing and prayer of the leaders of the church and the Sabbath School Department that our believers around the world, as they study these lessons, will come to know Christ better, for in Him the righteousness of God is embodied, and in Him is the righteousness of God revealed.

Righteousness

MEMORY VERSE: "In His days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is His name whereby He shall be called, The Lord our Righteousness." Jer. 23:6.

STUDY HELPS: "Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing," pages 18-21 (the Beatitudes, Matt. 5:6); "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of March 16.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: General Introduction and survey of the lesson. ☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-4. ☐
Monday: Questions 5-9. ☐
Tuesday: Questions 10-13. ☐
Wednesday: Question 14; read from "Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing." ☐
Thursday: Read other Study Helps. ☐
Friday: Review entire lesson. ☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. Divine Righteousness
1. God—everlasting Source of righteousness. Ps. 119:142.
2. Observed in God's actions and judgments. Ps. 145:17; 9:8.

II. Christ's Righteousness
3. Exalted because of righteousness. Heb. 1:8, 9.
4. Embodied in His names. Mal. 4:2; Jer. 33:15, 16.

III. Man's Righteousness
5. Compared to filthy rags. Isa. 64:6.
6. None righteous—all helpless. Rom. 3:10; Jer. 13:23.

IV. Christ Our Righteousness
7. "The Lord our Righteousness." Jer. 23:6.
8. Gift through Christ. Rom. 5:17.
9. Made to be righteousness for us. 1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Cor. 5:21.

V. The Practice of Righteousness
10. Antidote to sin and pathway to life. Dan. 4:27; Prov. 12:28; 10:2.
11. Evidence of new birth and stable character. Rom. 5:21; Ps. 15:1-5.
12. Makes us acceptable to God. Acts 10:35.
13. Brings peace and assurance. Isa. 32:17.

VI. Counsel to Seek Righteousness
14. Hunger and thirst for. Matt. 5:6.

THE LESSON

Introduction: The Source and Definition of Righteousness

In this first lesson we study briefly the subject of righteousness in general. We discover that God is the only source of righteousness and that man has no righteousness of his own. We learn how much depends upon acquiring God's righteousness. We understand that righteousness is the opposite of sinfulness. We study several definitions which are vitally necessary to our understanding of our objectives. Having studied the counsel given us to seek righteousness most earnestly, we find that the gift of righteousness is received through Christ, for He is our righteousness.

What is the meaning of the word "righteousness"? It would be well to dwell upon the following definitions until we are able to see how they are related to one another:

(1) "Righteousness is rightdoing."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 312.

(2) "Righteousness is holiness, likeness to God, and 'God is love.' 1 John 4:16. It is conformity to the law of God, for 'all Thy commandments are righteousness' (Psalm 119:172), and 'love is the fulfilling of the law' (Romans 13:10). Righteousness is love, and love is the light and the life of God. The righteousness of God is embodied in Christ. We receive righteousness by receiving Him."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 18.

(3) "The law requires righteousness,—a righteous life, a perfect character."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 762.

(4) "The righteousness of Christ is . . . a principle of life that transforms the character and controls the conduct."—*Ibid.,* pp. 555, 556.

(5) "The righteousness which Christ taught is conformity of heart and life to the revealed will of God."—*Ibid.,* p. 310.

Divine Righteousness

1. What do the Scriptures teach concerning the character of God? Ps. 119:142.

2. What are we told about God's actions and judgments? Ps. 145:17; 9:8.

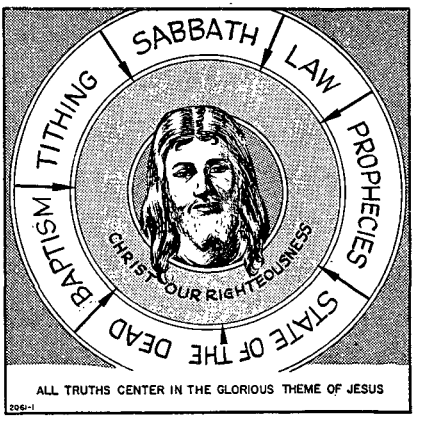
Christ's Righteousness

3. What testimony does the Father bear concerning Jesus? Heb. 1:8, 9.

4. What beautiful term is found in names applied to the Lord Jesus in the Old Testament? Mal. 4:2; Jer. 33:15, 16.

Man's Righteousness

5. To what is man's righteousness compared? Isa. 64:6.



6. How many human beings may claim to be righteous? What ability do we have to change our condition? Rom. 3:10; Jer. 13:23.

Christ Our Righteousness

7. What does the Bible declare Christ to be? Jer. 23:6.

NOTE.—"Christ our righteousness is the one sublime message set forth in the Sacred Scriptures. However varied the forms and phrases in which this message may be unfolded and presented, yet always, from every point of the circle, the central commanding theme is, Christ our righteousness."—A. G. Daniells, *Christ Our Righteousness,* page 15.

8. How is the righteousness of Christ received? Rom. 5:17.

NOTE.—Again and again the apostle Paul has sought to impress upon us that God's righteousness is a gift through the Lord Jesus. We cannot earn it by works, but we do obtain it by faith.

9. How is the exchange of Christ's righteousness for our sins further described? 1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Cor. 5:21.

The Practice of Righteousness

10. What is possible through the practice of righteousness? Dan. 4:27; Prov. 12:28; 10:2.

NOTE.—"Break off your sins by practicing righteousness" (R.S.V.). Deeds of righteousness, good works, and "almsgiving" (the word used in the Greek version), certainly have their role in the worthy quest for a righteous character.

11. What evidence of change will be seen in the lives of those who practice righteousness? Ps. 15:1-5.

12. What two things make a man acceptable to God? Acts 10:35.

13. What is the work and effect of righteousness? Isa. 32:17.

Counsel to Seek Righteousness

14. What are we counseled to do to obtain righteousness? Matt. 5:6.

Think on These Things

We can be saved only by faith in the substitutionary death of Christ. How then were people saved before He died on the cross?

Is it possible to know and believe the great truths entrusted to us and yet not possess the righteousness of Christ?

Why was an emphasis on the message of righteousness by faith in Christ necessary in 1888? Is it possible that it is needed today?

What is the real purpose of the message of righteousness by faith?

Lesson 2, for April 8, 1961

The Great Need of the Church

MEMORY VERSE: "And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent." John 17:3.

STUDY HELPS: "Testimonies," vol. 3, pp. 252-272; "Christ's Object Lessons," chapter, Without a Wedding Garment; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of March 23.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-5.	☐
Monday: Questions 6-9.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 10-12.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 13, 14; begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Thursday: Read further from Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. The Laodicean Message

1. Addressed to remnant church. Rev. 3:14, first part.
2. Its Author. Rev. 3:14, last part.

II. The Solemn Threefold Charge

3. First charge: lukewarmness. Rev. 3:15, 16.
4. Second charge: self-sufficiency. Rev. 3:17, first part.

5. Third charge: poverty, blindness, and nakedness. Rev. 3:17, last part.

III. The Threefold Remedy

6. Gold—faith and love. Rev. 3:18, first part.
7. White raiment—righteousness of Christ. Rev. 3:18, second part; 19:8.
8. Eyesalve—spiritual discernment. Rev. 3:18, last part.
9. Rebuke given in love. Rev. 3:19.

IV. The Marriage Supper

10. Invitation to guests. Matt. 22:2, 3.
11. The examination and essential qualification. Matt. 22:11.
12. Fate of the rejected. Matt. 22:12, 13.

V. The Essential Knowledge and Experience

13. A knowledge of God and Christ. John 17:3; 1 John 5:20.
14. Christ in the heart will change the life. Rev. 3:20, 21.

THE LESSON

Introduction: The Laodicean Message Will Do Its Work

In His infinite love, the Lord Jesus addresses a special message to His remnant church. It is a most solemn denunciation, but it offers hope and comfort. It is given because Christ loves His church and desires it to repent. He has entrusted to her the final proclamation of the gospel message, and she must be prepared to give it in power and purity to the world. Accompanying the message of rebuke is a most wonderful threefold remedy. The church has been long in accepting the message and permitting it to accomplish what the Saviour desires. But we have this blessed assurance given long years ago: "God has given the message time to do its work. The heart must be purified from sins which have so long shut out Jesus. *This fearful message will do its work.*"—*Testimonies,* vol. 1, p. 186. (Italics supplied.)

The Laodicean Message

1. What symbolic name is given to the last church? Rev. 3:14, first part.

NOTE.—"I was shown that the testimony to the Laodiceans applies to God's people at the present time."—*Testimonies,* vol. 1, p. 186.

"The message to the Laodicean church is applicable to all who have had great light and many opportunities, and yet have not appreciated them."—*The Faith I Live By,* page 306.

2. Who is the Author of the Laodicean message? Rev. 3:14, last part. Compare Rev. 1:5.

The Solemn Threefold Charge

3. What is the first charge brought against the church? Rev. 3:15, 16.

4. How is the self-sufficiency of the church described? Rev. 3:17, first part.

NOTE.—We are rich in a knowledge of Scriptural truth. All the light of the centuries is shining upon us. The great question is, has this truth passed from the realm of theory and entered into the inner sanctuary of the soul to purify it?

5. How does the Saviour describe the true condition of the church? Rev. 3:17, last part.

NOTE.—The condition of many in the church is thus described in modern language: "What pride is prevailing in the church, what hypocrisy, what deception, what love of dress, frivolity, and amusement, what desire for supremacy! All these sins have clouded the mind, so that eternal things have

not been discerned."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, p. 125.

"What is it that constitutes the wretchedness, the nakedness of those who feel rich and increased with goods?—*It is the want of the righteousness of Christ.*"—Ellen G. White, *The Review and Herald,* Aug. 7, 1894. (Italics supplied.)

The Threefold Remedy

6. What is the first remedy offered? Rev. 3:18, first part. Compare James 2:5; Gal. 5:6.

NOTE.—"Faith and love are the true riches, the pure gold which the True Witness counsels the lukewarm to buy."—*Testimonies,* vol. 4, p. 88.

7. With what is the spiritual nakedness of the church to be covered? Rev. 3:18, second part; 19:8.

NOTE.—"The white raiment is purity of character, the righteousness of Christ imparted to the sinner."—*Testimonies,* vol. 4, p. 88.

8. What is the remedy for the spiritual blindness of the church? Rev. 3: 18, last part.

NOTE.—Many mistake a theoretical knowledge of the truth for its sanctifying power in life. "We are fully sustained in our positions by an overwhelming amount of plain Scriptural testimony. But we are very much wanting in Bible humility, patience, faith, love, self-denial, watchfulness, and the spirit of sacrifice. We need to cultivate Bible holiness."—*Testimonies,* vol. 3, p. 253.

9. In what spirit is this severe rebuke given? Rev. 3:19.

The Marriage Supper

10. Through what illustration did the Saviour represent the gospel invitation? Matt. 22:2, 3.

NOTE.—"The third call to the feast represents the giving of the gospel to the Gentiles."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 309.

11. What essential qualification is required of each guest for participation in the wedding supper? Matt. 22:11.

NOTE.—"By the king's examination of the guests at the feast is represented a work of judgment. The guests at the gospel feast are those who profess to serve God, those whose names are written in the book of life. But not all who profess to be Christians are true disciples. Before the final reward is given, it must be decided who are fitted to share the inheritance of the righteous."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 310.

"By the wedding garment in the parable is represented the pure, spotless character which Christ's true followers will possess. . . . *It is the righteousness of Christ, His own unblemished character, that through faith is imparted to all who receive Him as their personal Saviour.*"—*Ibid.* (Italics supplied.)

"All must pass the scrutiny of the great King, and only those are received who have put on the robe of Christ's righteousness." —*Ibid.,* p. 312.

12. What will be the terrible fate of those who have failed to put on the wedding garment? Matt. 22:12, 13.

NOTE.—"It is possible to be a formal, partial believer, and yet be found wanting, and lose eternal life. It is possible to practice some of the Bible injunctions, and be regarded as a Christian, and yet perish because you are lacking in essential qualifications that constitute Christian character." —Ellen G. White, *The Review and Herald,* Jan. 11, 1887.

The Essential Knowledge and Experience

13. What knowledge is essential to eternal life? John 17:3; 1 John 5:20.

NOTE.—"The sum and substance of the whole matter of Christian grace and experience is contained in believing on Christ, in knowing God and His Son whom He hath sent."—Ellen G. White, *The Review and Herald,* May 24, 1892.

14. What vital decision on our part is necessary before the Lord Jesus will bring about a great change in our lives? Rev. 3:20, 21.

NOTE.—If we will permit Jesus to come into our hearts, "we can overcome. Yes; fully, entirely. Jesus died to make a way of escape for us, that we might overcome every evil temper, every sin, every temptation, and sit down at last with Him."—*Testimonies,* vol. 1, p. 144.

"To all who believe, Christ gives a new character. This character, through His infinite sacrifice, is the reproduction of His own. "The Author of our salvation will be the Finisher of the work."—*Ibid.,* vol. 6, p. 449.

Think on These Things

In what ways are we guilty of lukewarmness? Are we spiritually indolent in our personal, devotional lives? Do we pray indolently? Do we endeavor so to apply our minds to the study of the word of God that we constantly gain from it new strength and help?

Have we personally put on the wedding garment? Do we know Christ as our personal Saviour and Friend? Are we constantly looking unto Him? When did we last consciously commune with Him?

Lesson 3, for April 15, 1961

God's Eternal Purpose

MEMORY VERSE: "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." 1 John 4:16.

STUDY HELPS: "Patriarchs and Prophets," chapters 1 and 2; "The Great Controversy," chapter 29; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of March 30.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: General survey. ☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-3. ☐
Monday: Questions 4-6; read from Study Helps. ☐
Tuesday: Questions 7-9; read from Study Helps. ☐
Wednesday: Questions 10-14. ☐
Thursday: Read further from Study Helps. ☐
Friday: Review entire lesson. ☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. The Nature of God

1. Creator; self-existent One; foretells future. Isa. 40:25-28; 46:9, 10; Rev. 1:8.
2. Merciful, gracious, long-suffering, full of goodness, truth, love. Ex. 34:6; 1 John 4:8, 16.
3. Nature of God's government. Heb. 1:8; Ps. 89:14.

II. God's Purpose in Creation

4. Worlds and angels created. Heb. 1:2; Col. 1:16, 17.
5. Created for God's glory. Isa. 43:7; Luke 12:32.
6. Love the basis of all God's actions. Jer. 31:3; 1 John 4:19.

III. Man on Probation

7. Man created upright. Gen. 1:27, 31; Eccl. 7:29.
8. Character to be perfected by obedience. Gen. 2:16, 17; Deut. 30:15-20.
9. Physical and spiritual life dependent upon God. Acts 17:28; John 15:4, 5.

IV. God's Revealed Will—Guide to Conduct

10. Law—holy, just, good, eternal, unchangeable, righteous. Rom. 7:12, 14.
11. Whole duty of man. Eccl. 12:13, 14.
12. Obedience, a condition of life. Matt. 19:16-19.
13. God's purpose to be realized. Isa. 45:18; Ps. 37:29.
14. Obedience, the evidence of love. 1 John 5:2, 3.

THE LESSON

Introduction: Jesus Came to Reveal the True Nature of God

" 'The light of the knowledge of the glory of God' is seen 'in the face of Jesus Christ.' From the days of eternity the Lord Jesus Christ was one with the Father; He was 'the image of God,' the image of His greatness and majesty, 'the outshining of His glory.' It was to manifest this glory that He came to our world. To this sin-darkened earth He came to reveal the light of God's love,—to be 'God with us.' . . . By coming to dwell with us, Jesus was to reveal God both to men and to angels."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 19.

The Nature of God

1. What are three important, distinguishing characteristics of God? Isa. 40:25-28; 46:9, 10; Rev. 1:8.

2. When asked by Moses to reveal Himself, what essential characteristics of His divine nature did God emphasize? How did John describe Him? Ex. 34:6; 1 John 4:8, 16.

NOTE.—"So to Israel, whom He desired to make His dwelling place, He had revealed His glorious ideal of character. The pattern was shown them in the mount when the law was given from Sinai, and when the Lord passed by before Moses and proclaimed, 'The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.' Ex. 34:6, 7."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 209.

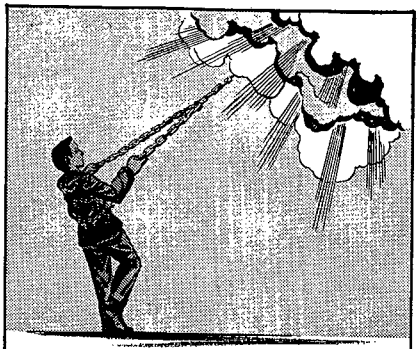
"Pray with Moses, 'Show me Thy glory.' What is this glory?—the character of God." —*Testimonies to Ministers,* page 499.

3. What description is given of the nature of God's government? Heb. 1:8; Ps. 89:14.

God's Purpose in Creation

4. How did the worlds and their inhabitants, and angelic beings, come into existence? Heb. 1:2; Col. 1:16, 17.

5. For what purpose were all things created? What is God's purpose for His people? Isa. 43:7; Luke 12:32.



"A GOLDEN CHAIN,... DIVINE LOVE, IS PASSED AROUND EVERY IMPERILED SOUL."

2061-3

NOTE.—"The work of creation was a manifestation of His love."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 739.

"Every manifestation of creative power is an expression of infinite love. The sovereignty of God involves fullness of blessing to all created beings."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 33.

6. What is God's unchanging attitude toward even those who have sinned? What should be our attitude toward Him? Jer. 31:3; 1 John 4:19.

NOTE.—"The love of God still yearns over the one who has chosen to separate from Him, and He sets in operation influences to bring him back to the Father's house. . . . A golden chain, the mercy and compassion of divine love, is passed around every imperiled soul. The Lord declares, 'I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee.'"—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 202.

"Love is of God. The unconsecrated heart cannot originate or produce it. It is found only in the heart where Jesus reigns. 'We love, because He first loved us.' 1 John 4:19, R.V."—*Steps to Christ,* page 59.

Man on Probation

7. In what clear, unmistakable language does the Bible describe the state of man when created by God? Gen. 1:27, 31; Eccl. 7:29.

8. What was the one restriction placed upon man? What fundamental principle of God's dealings with man does this reveal? Gen. 2:16, 17; Deut. 30:15-20.

NOTE.—Although Adam and Eve were created pure and upright, they were not placed beyond the possibility of doing wrong. By the one restriction He placed upon them, God was establishing His ownership and their responsibility to Him. They were free moral agents. God, whose nature is love, did not desire an obedience based upon fear or abject slavery. Man must be free to exercise his will, for only by right choices could man develop right habits and thus form a righteous character.

"The tree of knowledge, which stood near the tree of life in the midst of the garden, was to be a test of the obedience, faith, and love of our first parents. . . . If they endured the trial, they would finally be placed beyond his [Satan's] power, to enjoy perpetual favor with God."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* pages 48, 49.

9. How dependent are we upon God for both physical and spiritual life? Acts 17:28; John 15:4, 5.

NOTE.—"Not by its own inherent energy does the earth produce its bounties, and year by year continue its motion around the sun. An unseen hand guides the planets in their circuit of the heavens. A mysterious life pervades all nature,—a life that sustains the unnumbered worlds throughout immensity; that lives in the insect atom which floats in the summer breeze; that wings the flight of the swallow, and feeds the young ravens which cry; that brings the bud to blossom and the flower to fruit.

"The same power that upholds nature, is working also in man. . . . The laws that govern the heart's action, regulating the flow of the current of life to the body, are the laws of the mighty Intelligence that has jurisdiction of the soul. From Him all life proceeds."—*Education,* page 99.

God's Revealed Will—Guide to Conduct

10. By what terms is the law of God described? Rom. 7:12, 14.

NOTE.—"The law of God is as sacred as God Himself. It is a revelation of His will, a transcript of His character, the expression of divine love and wisdom."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 52.

11. How does the wise man summarize the whole duty of man? Eccl. 12:13, 14.

NOTE.—"The law of God is the standard by which the characters and the lives of men will be tested in the judgment."—*The Great Controversy,* page 482.

"By the first angel, men are called upon to 'fear God, and give glory to Him' and to worship Him as the Creator of the heavens and the earth. In order to do this, they must obey His law. Says the wise man: 'Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.' Ecclesiastes 12:13. Without obedience to His commandments, no worship can be pleasing to God. 'This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.' 'He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.' 1 John 5:3; Proverbs 28:9." —*Ibid.,* p. 436.

12. What is the essential requirement for entrance into heaven and the gift of eternal life? Matt. 19:16-19.

NOTE.—"God requires perfection of His children. His law is a transcript of His own character, and it is the standard of all character. This infinite standard is presented to all that there may be no mistake in regard to the kind of people whom God will have to compose His kingdom."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 315.

13. In what way will God's eternal purpose in the creation of man and this earth be realized? Isa. 45:18; Ps. 37:29.

NOTE.—"At his creation, Adam was placed in dominion over the earth. But by yielding to temptation, he was brought under the power of Satan. . . . When man became Satan's captive, the dominion which he held, passed to his conqueror. . . . But Christ, by His sacrifice paying the penalty of sin, would not only redeem man, but recover the dominion which he had forfeited. All that was lost by the first Adam will be restored by the second. . . . God created the earth to be the abode of holy, happy beings. . . . That purpose will be fulfilled, when, renewed by the power of God, and freed from sin and sorrow, it shall become the eternal abode of the redeemed."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 67.

14. How is conformity to God's will and purposes revealed? 1 John 5:2, 3.

Think on These Things

Can the Ten Commandments ever be found faulty, or become out of date? Is there any conflict between the law of God and the law of love?

Can we intelligently say that we love God and yet deliberately transgress His law?

Can we claim to keep the law of God and yet not possess the love of God in our hearts?

The Origin and Nature of Sin

MEMORY VERSE: "For if by one man's offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by One, Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:17.

STUDY HELPS: "Patriarchs and Prophets," chapter 3; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of April 6.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: General survey. ☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-4. ☐
Monday: Questions 5-7; begin reading from Study Helps. ☐
Tuesday: Questions 8-11. ☐
Wednesday: Question 12; read further from Study Helps. ☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps. ☐
Friday: Review entire lesson. ☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. Lucifer's Rebellion

1. Originally created perfect. Ezek. 28:12, 15.
2. Sin originated with Lucifer. Ezek. 28:17; Isa. 14:13, 14; John 8:44.

II. Results of Rebellion

3. Disloyal angels cast down to earth with Satan. Rev. 12:4, 7-9.
4. Wicked show enmity to righteousness and law of God. Rom. 8:7.

III. The Fall of Man

5. Satan deceived Eve. Gen. 3:1-6.
6. Three avenues of temptation. 1 John 2:15-17.
7. Adam's sin willful. Gen. 3:12.

IV. The Results of Transgression

8. Before sin, God talked to man. Gen. 1:28-30; 2:16, 17; 3:9.
9. Sin separates from God. Isa. 59:1, 2.
10. Brings us into bondage to Satan. John 8:34.
11. Wages of sin, death; gift of God, eternal life. Rom. 6:23.

V. Restoration Through Christ

12. The lost dominion restored. John 16:33; Rom. 5:17, 21.

THE LESSON

Introduction: Lucifer the Author of Sin; the Nature of His Rebellion

"Nothing is more plainly taught in Scripture than that God was in no wise responsible for the entrance of sin; that there was no arbitrary withdrawal of divine grace, no deficiency in the divine government, that gave occasion for the uprising of rebellion. Sin is an intruder, for whose presence no reason can be given. It is mysterious, unaccountable; to excuse it is to defend it. Could excuse for it be found, or cause be shown for its existence, it would cease to be sin."—*The Great Controversy*, pages 492, 493.

"Sin originated in self-seeking. Lucifer, the covering cherub, desired to be first in heaven. He sought to gain control of heavenly beings, to draw them away from their Creator, and to win their homage to himself."—*The Desire of Ages*, page 21.

Lucifer's Rebellion

1. What words of Ezekiel to the king of Tyrus are applied to Lucifer? Ezek. 28:12, 15.

NOTE.—"Lucifer in heaven, before his rebellion, was a high and exalted angel, next in honor to God's dear Son. His countenance . . . was mild and expressive of happiness. . . . His form was perfect; his bearing noble and majestic. . . . Yet Christ, God's dear Son, had the pre-eminence over all the angelic host. He was one with the Father before the angels were created."—*The Story of Redemption,* page 13.

2. What sins are stated as originating with Lucifer? Ezek. 28:17; Isa. 14:13, 14; John 8:44.

NOTE.—"Lucifer in heaven desired to be first in power and authority."—*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students,* page 32.

"Satan fell because of his ambition to be equal with God. . . . It was this ambitious pride that led to his rebellion, and by the same means he seeks to cause the ruin of man."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 702.

"When God said to His Son, 'Let Us make man in Our image,' Satan was jealous of Jesus."—*Early Writings,* page 145.

"Lucifer desired God's power, but not His character. He sought for himself the highest place, and every being who is actuated by his spirit will do the same."—*The Desire of Ages,* pages 435, 436.

Results of Rebellion

3. How successful was Satan's deceitful rebellion? How did the war in heaven terminate? Rev. 12:4, 7-9.

NOTE.—"By disguising himself in a cloak of falsehood, he had gained an advantage. . . . It was his policy to perplex with subtle arguments concerning the purposes of God." —*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 41.

"The underworking was so subtle that it could not be made to appear before the heavenly host as the thing that it really was; and so there was war in heaven, and Satan was expelled with all who would not stand on the side of loyalty to God's government." —Ellen G. White Comments, *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,* vol. 4, p. 1143.

The "stars" of Revelation 12:4 are the angels.

4. To what do Satan and his followers show enmity? Rom. 8:7. Compare Acts 13:10.

The Fall of Man

5. How was Eve deceived into disobeying God? Gen. 3:1-6.

NOTE.—Satan first insinuated doubts regarding God's wisdom, "Yea, hath God said?" Then he introduced doubts about His truthfulness, "Ye shall not surely die." Finally, he suggested mistrust of God's goodness and intentions, "Ye shall be as gods," as though God were withholding something good from them.

6. What three avenues of temptation are mentioned by the apostle John? 1 John 2:15-17.

NOTE.—In tempting Eve, Satan combined in one temptation all three of the avenues given in our text. When tempting Christ in the wilderness he pursued each separately.

"Satan commenced his work with Eve, to cause her to disobey. She first erred in wandering from her husband, next, in lingering around the forbidden tree, and next in listening to the voice of the tempter, and even daring to doubt what God had said—In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. She thought, Perhaps it does not mean just as the Lord said. She ventured to disobey. She put forth her hand, took of the fruit, and ate. . . . She offered the fruit to her husband, thereby tempting him."—*Spiritual Gifts,* vol. 1, pp. 20, 21.

7. While Eve was deceived by Satan, what indicates that Adam sinned willfully? Gen. 3:12. Compare 1 Tim. 2:14.

NOTE.—"Adam understood that his companion had transgressed the command of God. . . . There was a terrible struggle in his mind. He mourned that he had permitted Eve to wander from his side. But now the deed was done; he must be separated from her whose society had been his joy. How could he have it thus? . . . Love, gratitude, loyalty to the Creator—all were overborne by love to Eve. . . . He resolved to share her fate; if she must die, he would die with her. After all, he reasoned, might not the words of the wise serpent be true?"—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* pages 56, 57.

The Results of Transgression

8. Before being driven from the Garden of Eden, what great privilege and pleasure had Adam and Eve enjoyed? Gen. 1:28-30; 2:16, 17; 3:9.

NOTE.—"Adam had enjoyed the companionship of God and of holy angels."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 56.

"In their innocence and holiness they had joyfully welcomed the approach of their Creator; but now they fled in terror, and sought to hide in the deepest recesses of the garden."—*Ibid.,* p. 57.

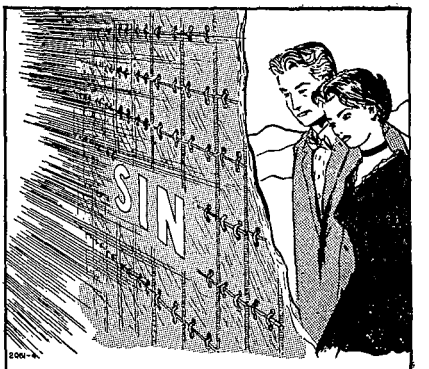
Since the entrance of sin in this world, God's principal method of communicating His will to man has been through the gift of prophecy.

9. What does sin do to our relationship with God? Isa. 59:1, 2.

NOTE.—"By sin we have been severed from the life of God."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 84.

"But when sin entered, they severed their connection with God, and the light that had encircled them departed. Naked and ashamed, they tried to supply the place of the heavenly garments by sewing together fig leaves for a covering.

"This is what the transgressors of God's law have done ever since the day of Adam and Eve's disobedience. They have sewed together fig leaves to cover the nakedness caused by transgression. They have worn the garments of their own devising, by works of their own they have tried to cover their sins, and make themselves acceptable with God.



SIN BECAME A CURTAIN SEPARATING MAN FROM GOD.

"But this they can never do. . . .

"Only the covering which Christ Himself has provided can make us meet to appear in God's presence."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 311.

10. When by disobedience we sever our fellowship with God, what do we become? John 8:34.

NOTE.—"We are held fast in the snare of Satan, 'taken captive by him at his will.' Ephesians 2:1; Isaiah 1:5, 6; 2 Timothy 2:26. God desires to heal us, to set us free." —*Steps to Christ,* page 43.

11. What will be the final result? What wonderful alternative to death is offered us? Rom. 6:23.

NOTE.—"The death referred to in these scriptures is not that pronounced upon Adam, for all mankind suffer the penalty of his transgression [the first death]. It is 'the second death' that is placed in contrast with everlasting life."—*The Great Controversy,* page 544.

Restoration Through Christ

12. Although man has sinned, what wonderful promises are made to correct the results of Adam's failure? John 16:33; Rom. 5:17, 21.

NOTE.—"As soon as there was sin, there was a Saviour. Christ knew that He would have to suffer, yet He became man's substitute. As soon as Adam sinned, the Son of God presented Himself as surety for the human race, with just as much power to avert the doom pronounced upon the guilty as when He died upon the cross of Calvary." —Ellen G. White Comments, *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,* vol. 1, p. 1084.

"Since the Fall the Lord has wrought out His will in the plan of redemption, a plan by which He is seeking to restore man to his original perfection. Christ's death on the cross has made it possible for God to receive and pardon every repentant soul."—Ellen G. White, *Signs of the Times,* June 12, 1901, quoted in *The Faith I live By,* page 76.

Think on These Things

When Lucifer sinned, why was he not immediately destroyed? Is God showing the same compassion to us day by day?

What do you think is Satan's purpose in seeking to lead men into sin?

What will you prize most when all the effects of sin have been removed?

Can you see in the light of this lesson why we are told, "Guard well the avenues to the soul"? Through which avenue is Satan now seeking entrance to your heart? Will you not close that avenue to him?

Lesson 5, for April 29, 1961

Restoring the Union With God

MEMORY VERSE: "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me." Rev. 3:20.

STUDY HELPS: "Steps to Christ," chapter, Consecration; "The Desire of Ages," pages 328-332; "Christ's Object Lessons," chapters, Hidden Treasure and The Pearl; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 112-122; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of April 13.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-3.	☐
Monday: Questions 4-6; begin reading from Study Helps.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 7-11.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 12-14; read further from Study Helps.	☐
Thursday: Read further from Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. God's Drawing Love

1. Jesus, revealer of the Father. Matt. 11:25-27; John 14:8, 9.
2. God sent His Son. 1 John 4:10.
3. God's love leads to repentance. Rom. 2:4.

II. Surrender—Pathway to Union

4. Sin separates from God. Isa. 14:13, 14; 59:2.
5. Deny self, enthrone Christ. Luke 9:23.
6. The invitation. Rev. 3:20.

III. How Saul Was Changed

7. Saul's opposition to Jesus. Acts 22:4; 26:9-11.
8. Stephen's humility. Acts 7:58-60.

9. Saul surrenders. Acts 9:3-6.
10. Now a servant of Jesus. Rom. 1:1.
11. Christ reigns within. Gal. 2:20.

IV. Blessings of Union With Christ

12. Obedience permits God to work in us. Phil. 2:12, 13.
13. God works righteousness in us. Ps. 37:5, 6.
14. Promises of guidance and victory. Prov. 3:5, 6; Ps. 32:8; James 4:6, 7.

THE LESSON

Introduction: The Gospel Is the Revelation of Righteousness by Faith

"The gospel," we read, "is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." In it "is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith." Rom. 1:16, 17.

The gospel is the "good news" that God so loved us that He sent His Son to save us from sin and to reveal His righteousness in us. To undo the damage sin has done, we must come to know God and His Son personally. "And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent." John 17:3. We must not only know about God and about Christ; we must come to know the Father and the Son for ourselves. "Acquaint now thyself with Him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee." Job 22:21. As we catch even a faint glimpse of the wonderful, loving nature of God, we come to know and love Him and seek to be united to Him. Sin severed the union between God and man. Our only hope of victory over sin is the restoration of this union. The Saviour said, "Without Me ye can do nothing." John 15:5. We must be grafted into the Vine to draw upon His life and power.

God's Drawing Love

1. Because of the wrong and distorted conceptions of God prevalent in human minds, what did Jesus come to this world to do? Matt. 11:25-27; John 14:8, 9.

NOTE.—"The earth was dark through misapprehension of God. That the gloomy shadows might be lightened, that the world might be brought back to God, Satan's deceptive power was to be broken. . . . To know God is to love Him; His character must be manifested in contrast to the character of Satan. . . . Only He who knew the height and depth of the love of God could make it known."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 22.

"Christ came to reveal God to the world as a God of love, full of mercy, tenderness, and compassion. . . . The work of creation was a manifestation of His love; but the gift of God to save the guilty and ruined race, alone reveals the infinite depths of divine tenderness and compassion."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, pp. 738, 739.

2. How did God prove His love for sinners? 1 John 4:10. Compare Rom. 8:32.

NOTE.—"The Father loves us, not because of the great propitiation, but He provided the propitiation because He loves us."—*Steps to Christ,* page 13.

3. What leads a sinner to repentance? Rom. 2:4.

NOTE.—"Such love is without a parallel. . . . The matchless love of God for a world that did not love Him! The thought has a subduing power upon the soul and brings the mind into captivity to the will of God."—*Steps to Christ,* page 15.

Surrender—Pathway to Union

4. What course caused Lucifer's separation from God? What similar course separates all sinners from their loving heavenly Father? Isa. 14:13, 14; 59:2.

NOTE.—We have noted in a previous lesson that self-exaltation, pride, and unholy ambition caused Satan to choose his own independent course of disobedience and rebellion. Adam and Eve also chose to follow their own course of action and decided to obey Satan instead of God. God could help them only if they desired His help and were willing to receive it. He had to withdraw His help when they enthroned self and dethroned Him. When Adam and Eve sinned, God did not cut off the current of physical life, but continued it, to give them an opportunity to repent.

"When they [Adam and Eve] listened to the voice of the tempter, and sinned against God, the light of the garments of heavenly innocence departed from them; and in parting with the garments of innocence, they drew about them the dark robes of ignorance of God."—Ellen G. White Comments, *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,* vol. 1, p. 1084.

5. How may the union and communion of the soul with God, which have been disrupted by sin, be restored? Luke 9:23. Compare John 12:24-26.

NOTE.—"The warfare against self is the greatest battle that was ever fought. The yielding of self, surrendering all to the will of God, requires a struggle; but the soul must submit to God before it can be renewed in holiness."—*Steps to Christ,* page 43.

"Many realize their helplessness; they are longing for that spiritual life which will bring them into harmony with God. . . . Put your will on the side of Christ. . . . He will impart life to the soul that is 'dead in trespasses.' . . . Place your hand in His, and let Him guide you."—*The Ministry of Healing,* pages 84, 85.

"By yielding up your will to Christ, you ally yourself with the power that is above all principalities and powers."—*Steps to Christ,* page 48.

6. What gracious invitation does God extend to man to be set free from sin, without forcing the will? Rev. 3:20. Compare Jer. 24:7.

How Saul Was Changed

7. Previous to his conversion, what was Paul's attitude toward Christ and His followers? Acts 22:4; 26:9-11.

8. What demonstration of Christ-like humility and forgiveness had Saul recently witnessed? Acts 7:58-60.

9. When Saul was confronted by Jesus on the Damascus road, what change of attitude did he manifest? Acts 9:3-6.

NOTE.—When the Saviour met him on the Damascus road and inquired, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" it proved the turning point in his life. His submissive words, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" reveal the basic change. Where before he resisted Jesus, he was now yielding to Him and inquiring what the Saviour desired him to do. He was opening the door of his heart to permit the Saviour to enter and direct his life.

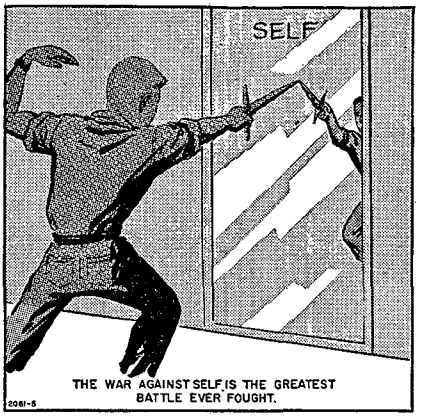
10. What words reveal his new relationship to Christ? Rom. 1:1.

11. How complete was his death to self and his submission and fellowship with his Master? Gal. 2:20.

Blessings of Union With Christ

12. What does humble submission permit God to do in us? Phil. 2: 12, 13.

NOTE.—"There is nothing that Satan fears so much as that the people of God shall clear the way by removing every hinderance, so that the Lord can pour out His Spirit upon a languishing church and an impenitent con-



gregation. . . . When the way is prepared for the Spirit of God, the blessing will come." —*Selected Messages,* b. 1, p. 124.

13. When we commit our ways to Him, what will the Lord bring forth in us? Ps. 37:5, 6.

NOTE.—"The proud heart strives to earn salvation; but both our title to heaven and our fitness for it are found in the righteousness of Christ. The Lord can do nothing toward the recovery of man until, convinced of his own weakness, and stripped of all self-sufficiency, he yields himself to the control of God. Then he can receive the gift that God is waiting to bestow. From the soul that feels his need, nothing is withheld. He has unrestricted access to Him in whom all fullness dwells."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 300.

14. What other wonderful blessings does yielding to God's will secure for us? Prov. 3:5, 6; Ps. 32:8; James 4:6, 7.

NOTE.—

"God knows, He loves, He cares,
Nothing this truth can dim,
He does the very best for those
Who leave the choice to Him."

"Those who decide to do nothing in any line that will displease God, will know, after presenting their case before Him, just what course to pursue."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 668.

"Those who surrender their lives to His guidance and to His service will never be placed in a position for which He has not made provision."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 248.

Think on These Things

"When we submit ourselves to Christ, the heart is united with His heart, the will is merged in His will, the mind becomes one with His mind, the thoughts are brought into captivity to Him; we live His life. *This is what it means to be clothed with the garments of His righteousness.* Then as the Lord looks upon us He sees, not the fig-leaf garment, not the nakedness and deformity of sin, but His own robe of righteousness, which is perfect obedience to the law of Jehovah."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 312. (Italics supplied.)

Have I really submitted my will to Christ? How fully have I surrendered to Him? Am I willing to pay the price for the spiritual power I so sorely need?

Lesson 6, for May 6, 1961

Imputed Righteousness—Justification by Faith

MEMORY VERSE: "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:1.

STUDY HELPS: "Steps to Christ," chapter, The Test of Discipleship; "Testimonies to Ministers," pages 91-98; "Gospel Workers," pages 161, 162; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of April 20.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-4.	☐
Monday: Questions 5-8.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 9-11; begin reading from Study Helps.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 12, 13; read further from Study Helps.	☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. How Guilt Is Pardoned

1. Law eternal. Matt. 5:18.
2. God is just, and justifies sinner. Rom. 3:25, 26.
3. Substitutionary sacrifice. 1 Cor. 15:3
4. Justification by His blood. Rom. 5:9.

II. How Sin Is Forgiven

5. Conditions of forgiveness. Prov. 28:13.
6. Repentance a gift. Acts 5:31; Rom. 2:4.
7. Confession—cleansing. 1 John 1:9.
8. Condemnation removed. Rom. 8:1.

III. Imputed Righteousness

9. The great transaction. 2 Cor. 5:21.
10. By faith, not works. Rom. 5:1; 3:24, 28, 31.
11. Faith counted for righteousness. Rom. 4:5, 6, 23-25.

IV. Nature Changed

12. Born of Christ. 1 John 5:1; 3:9.
13. Christ's law in our hearts. Heb. 8:10.

THE LESSON

Introduction: Righteousness, Imputed and Imparted

It was prophesied of Jesus, "The Lord is well pleased for His righteousness' sake; He will magnify the law, and make it honorable." Isa. 42:21. Jesus said, "I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love." John 15:10. *"The righteousness of God is embodied in Christ. We receive righteousness by receiving Him."—Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 18. (Italics supplied.)

The work of righteousness is twofold. *"The righteousness by which we are justified is imputed; the righteousness by which we are sanctified is imparted. The first is our title to heaven, the second is our fitness for heaven."—Messages to Young People,* page 35. (Italics supplied.)

In this series of lessons "justification" refers to the transition from a life dedicated to the pursuit of sin to one dedicated to the pursuit of righteousness. "Sanctification" refers to the process of character transformation that accompanies a normal Christian experience.

How Guilt Is Pardoned

1. How enduring is the law of God? Matt. 5:18.

NOTE.—"The law of God, being a revelation of His will, a transcript of His character, must forever endure, 'as a faithful witness in heaven.' [Ps. 89:37.] Not one command has been annulled; not a jot or tittle has been changed. Says the psalmist: 'Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven.' Psalm 119:89."—*The Great Controversy,* page 434.

Since the law of God is perfect and eternal, as is its Author, it does not need to be changed, and cannot be changed or abrogated. Therefore if law and order are to be preserved in the universe, there must be punishment for the transgression of law.

2. In order to maintain justice and yet save the repentant sinner, what wonderful plan did God devise for our salvation? Rom. 3:25, 26.

NOTE.—The transgression of God's law made the death of Christ essential to save man and yet maintain the dignity and honor of the law. Christ took upon Himself the condemnation of sin.

"As man's substitute and surety, the iniquity of men was laid upon Christ; He was counted a transgressor that He might redeem them from the curse of the law."—*The Story of Redemption,* page 225.

3. By what substitutionary provision is the penalty of sin met? 1 Cor. 15:3.

NOTE.—The broken law demands the death penalty. "Without shedding of blood is no remission." Heb. 9:22. For this reason, as man's substitute, Jesus was required to shed His blood.

"God calls for faith in Christ as our atoning sacrifice. His blood is the only remedy for sin."—Ellen G. White, *The Faith I Live By,* page 102.

4. What is it then that justifies us? Rom. 5:9.

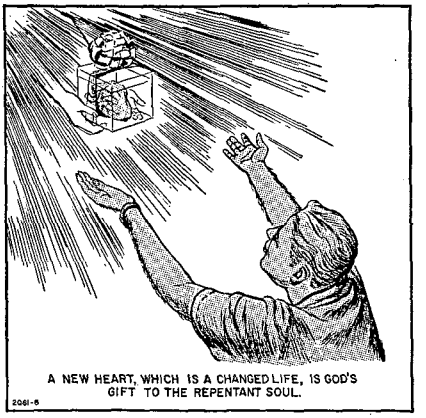
NOTE.—To justify a sinner means three things: (a) that the penalty for his sins be fully met; (b) that he be treated as though he had not sinned; (c) that his nature be so changed that a new life principle now operates within him, enabling him to go on to perfect a righteous character.

How Sin Is Forgiven

5. Upon what conditions is forgiveness of sin offered? Prov. 28:13.

6. Since we cannot change our own natures, what gift does Jesus impart to us? Acts 5:31; Rom. 2:4, last part.

NOTE.—"Many are confused as to what constitutes the first steps in the work of salvation. Repentance is thought to be a work the sinner must do for himself in order that he may come to Christ. They think


A NEW HEART, WHICH IS A CHANGED LIFE, IS GOD'S GIFT TO THE REPENTANT SOUL.

that the sinner must procure for himself a fitness in order to obtain the blessing of God's grace. But while it is true that repentance must precede forgiveness, for it is only the broken and contrite heart that is acceptable to God, yet the sinner cannot bring himself to repentance, or prepare himself to come to Christ. . . . The very first step to Christ is taken through the drawing of the Spirit of God; as man responds to this drawing, he advances toward Christ in order that he may repent. . . .

"Repentance is no less the gift of God than are pardon and justification, and it cannot be experienced except as it is given to the soul by Christ. If we are drawn to Christ, it is through His power and virtue. The grace of contrition comes through Him, and from Him comes justification."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, pp. 390, 391.

7. When genuine repentance leads to confession and a turning away from sin, what is God's wonderful promise to us? 1 John 1:9.

8. When we accept Jesus into our hearts and confess our sins, what change takes place in our relation to the law? Rom. 8:1.

NOTE.—"Through repentance and faith we are rid of sin, and look unto the Lord our righteousness." "Having made us right-

eous through the imputed righteousness of Christ, God pronounces us just, and treats us as just. He looks upon us as His dear children."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, pp. 393, 394.

Imputed Righteousness

9. By what wonderful transaction are we freed from the condemnation of sin and made righteous in God's sight? 2 Cor. 5:21.

NOTE.—"The great work that is wrought for the sinner who is spotted and stained by evil is the work of justification. By Him who speaketh truth he is declared righteous. The Lord imputes unto the believer the righteousness of Christ and pronounces him righteous before the universe. *He transfers his sins to Jesus,* the sinner's representative, substitute, and surety. Upon Christ He lays the iniquity of every soul that believeth."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, p. 392. (Italics supplied.)

10. Upon what grounds alone can one be justified? Rom. 5:1; 3:24, 28, 31.

NOTE.—"Salvation is God's free gift to the believer, given to him for Christ's sake alone. The troubled soul may find peace through faith in Christ, and his peace will be in proportion to his faith and trust. He cannot present his good works as a plea for the salvation of his soul."—Ellen G. White Comments, *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,* vol. 5, p. 1122.

11. When by faith we believe in Christ and accept His atoning blood for our justification, what is imputed to us, and how do we now stand? Rom. 4:5, 6, 23-25.

NOTE.—To "impute" in theological language means to "credit," "transfer," or ascribe "vicariously." When the righteousness of Christ is "imputed" to us in justification, it means that "Christ imputes to us His sinless character, and presents us to the Father in His own purity."—Ellen G. White, *The Review and Herald,* July 12, 1892.

"Christ was treated as we deserve, that we might be treated as He deserves. He was condemned for our sins, in which He had no share, that we might be justified by His righteousness, in which we had no share. He suffered the death which was ours, that we might receive the life which was His."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 25.

Nature Changed

12. When we accept Jesus as our Saviour from sin, what change takes place in our sinful natures? 1 John 5:1; 3:9.

NOTE.—God forgives our sins and imputes the righteousness of Christ to us for our justification, subject to our future obedience to His law. But without a change of heart it would be impossible for us to obey the law. When we yield to Christ and invite Him to come into our hearts, a new life, His life, is now implanted (born) in us.

"When Jesus speaks of the new heart, He means the mind, the life, the whole being. To have a change of heart is to withdraw the affections from the world, and fasten them upon Christ. To have a new heart is to have a new mind, new purposes, new motives. What is the sign of a new heart?—A changed life. There is a daily, hourly dying to selfishness and pride."—*Messages to Young People,* page 72.

13. What new-covenant provision is thus fulfilled? Heb. 8:10. Compare Titus 3:5-7.

NOTE.—The change that Christ accomplishes in us is to bring our natures into harmony with the law of God. This is the work of the "new covenant." He writes His laws in our hearts and puts them in our minds. This change is conversion or the new birth.

"Through this simple act of believing God, the Holy Spirit has begotten a new life in your heart. You are as a child born into the family of God, and He loves you as He loves His Son."—*Steps to Christ,* page 52.

Think on These Things

When is the righteousness of Christ imputed to me in justification—at the time I believe my sins are forgiven, or when my record is examined in the investigative judgment?

What great error prevails in the religious world regarding the provisions of the new covenant?

Have you entered into the new-covenant relationship with your Lord? Is He writing His law in your heart?

Lesson 7, for May 13, 1961

Sanctification Through Imparted Righteousness

MEMORY VERSE: "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." Col. 2:6, 7.

STUDY HELPS: "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 539-545, 557-567; "Christ's Object Lessons," 1941 ed., pp. 46-61; "Steps to Christ," chapter, Growing Up Into Christ; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of April 27.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-3.	☐
Monday: Questions 4-7.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 8-10; read from Study Helps.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 11-13.	☐
Thursday: Read from Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. What Sanctification Is

1. Pressing toward the mark. Phil. 3:12-15.
2. Fighting the good fight. 1 Tim. 6:11, 12.
3. Building character. Col. 2:6, 7; 1 Peter 5:10.

II. What Sanctification Accomplishes

4. A transformation of the life. Rom. 12:1, 2; 2 Cor. 7:1.
5. John a shining example. Mark 3:17; John 13:23.
6. The chastening of God. Heb. 12:5, 6, 11; Rev. 3:19.
7. Faith to endure testing. James 1:2-6.

III. Clothed With Christ's Righteousness

8. Without a wedding garment. Matt. 22:11, 12.
9. One's own righteousness. Rom. 10:2, 3; Rev. 3:17.
10. Holiness attained in this life. Rev. 22:11.

IV. Like Christ at His Coming

11. Complete in God's will. Eph. 5:27; Col. 4:12.
12. Holy as God is holy. 2 Cor. 3:18; 1 Peter 1:15, 16.
13. Faultless at Christ's coming. 1 Thess. 3:12, 13; 1 John 3:2; Jude 24.

Introduction: Meaning of Sanctification

The term *sanctification* has many shades of meaning. As used in connection with the articles of the sanctuary service and in general, it means, "set apart for a holy use," "made holy," "made free from sin," "purified." The term is also used of the *process* by which, after justification, we develop a righteous character. It is also used of the *goal of perfection* toward which the process is directed. It is occasionally used to describe the *experience* of those who are "in Christ" and daily permitting God to mold their lives.

"The Scriptures plainly show that the work of sanctification is progressive. When in conversion the sinner finds peace with God through the blood of the atonement, the Christian life has but just begun. Now he is to 'go on unto perfection;' to grow up 'unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.' "—*The Great Controversy,* page 470.

"Many have an idea that they must do some part of the work alone. They have trusted in Christ for the forgiveness of sin, but now they seek by their own efforts to live aright. But every such effort must fail. Jesus says, 'Without Me ye can do nothing.' Our growth in grace, our joy, our usefulness —all depend upon our union with Christ. It is by communion with Him, daily, hourly, —by abiding in Him,—that we are to grow in grace. He is not only the Author, but the Finisher of our faith. It is Christ first and last and always. He is to be with us, not only at the beginning and the end of our course, but at every step of the way."—*Steps to Christ,* page 69.

What Sanctification Is

1. What pathway of continuous advancement opens before the person who has experienced justification by faith in Jesus Christ? Phil. 3:12-15.

2. What comes into the life of a person who has been justified by faith in Christ? 1 Tim. 6:11, 12.

NOTE.—"A noble character is earned by individual effort through the merits and grace of Christ. God gives the talents, the powers of the mind; we form the character. It is formed by hard, stern battles with self. Conflict after conflict must be waged against hereditary tendencies. We shall have to criticize ourselves closely, and allow not one unfavorable trait to remain uncorrected."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 331.

3. What is included in sanctification? Col. 2:6, 7; 1 Peter 5:10. Compare Rom. 6:4.

NOTE.—"Sanctification consists in the cheerful performance of daily duties in perfect obedience to the will of God."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 360.

"True sanctification is an entire conformity to the will of God."—*The Sanctified Life,* page 9.

What Sanctification Accomplishes

4. As the process of sanctification goes forward, what takes place in a person's life? Rom. 12:1, 2; 2 Cor. 7:1.

NOTE.—As "the leaven hidden in the flour works invisibly to bring the whole mass under its leavening process; so the leaven of truth works secretly, silently, steadily, to transform the soul. The natural inclinations are softened and subdued. New thoughts, new feelings, new motives, are implanted. A new standard of character is set up—the life of Christ. The mind is changed; the faculties are roused to action in new lines. Man is not endowed with new faculties, but the faculties he has are sanctified. The conscience is awakened."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* pages 98, 99.

5. What shining example of character transformation is revealed in one of Christ's disciples? Mark 3:17; John 13:23.

NOTE.—John, one of the "sons of thunder," became the beloved disciple. "John did not naturally possess the loveliness of character that his later experience revealed. By nature he had serious defects. He was not only proud, self-assertive, and ambitious for honor, but impetuous, and resentful under injury. He and his brother were called 'sons of thunder.' Evil temper, the desire for revenge, the spirit of criticism, were all in the beloved disciple. But beneath all this the divine Teacher discerned the ardent, sincere, loving heart."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 540.

"In the life of the disciple John true sanctification is exemplified. During the years of his close association with Christ, he was often warned and cautioned by the Saviour; and these reproofs he accepted. . . . He yielded his resentful, ambitious temper to the molding power of Christ, and divine love wrought in him a transformation of character."—*Ibid.,* p. 557.

6. What discipline is often necessary in the process of sanctification? Heb. 12:5, 6, 11; Rev. 3:19.

NOTE.—"Before we are delivered from Satan's power without, we must be delivered from his power within. The Lord permits trials in order that we may be cleansed from earthliness, from selfishness, from harsh, un-Christlike traits of character. He suffers the deep waters of affliction to go over our souls in order that we may know Him and Jesus Christ whom He has sent, in order that we may have deep heart longings to be cleansed from defilement, and may come forth from the trial purer, holier, happier. Often we enter the furnace of trial with our souls darkened with selfishness; but if patient under the crucial test, we shall come forth reflecting the divine character."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* pages 174, 175.

7. What provision has God made for testing and guidance along the pathway of sanctification? James 1:2-6.

NOTE.—"God's great object in the working out of His providences is to try men, to give them opportunity to develop character."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 283.

Clothed With Christ's Righteousness

8. In the parable of the wedding feast, what searching question was asked one of the guests? Matt. 22: 11, 12.

NOTE.—"By the wedding garment in the parable is represented the pure, spotless character which Christ's true followers will possess. To the church it is given 'that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white,' 'not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing.' Rev. 19:8. Eph. 5:27. The fine linen, says the Scripture, 'is the righteousness of saints.' It is the righteousness of Christ, His own unblemished character, that through faith is imparted to all who receive Him as their personal Saviour."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 310.

"When we submit ourselves to Christ, the heart is united with His heart, the will is merged in His will, the mind becomes one with His mind, the thoughts are brought into captivity to Him; we live His life. This is what it means to be clothed with the garment of His righteousness."—*Ibid.,* p. 312.

9. Into what danger are those likely to fall who do not understand and submit to God's program of righteousness? Rom. 10:2, 3; Rev. 3:17.

NOTE.—"The effort to earn salvation by one's own works inevitably leads men to pile up human exactions as a barrier against sin. For, seeing that they fail to keep the law, they will devise rules and regulations of their own to force themselves to obey. All this turns the mind away from God to self. His love dies out of the heart, and with it perishes love for his fellow men."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, page 123.

10. Should we expect to attain to a state of holiness in this life, or will that come only after the close of probation? Rev. 22:11.

NOTE.—"There will be no future probation in which to prepare for eternity. It is in this life that we are to put on the robe of Christ's righteousness."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 319.

Like Christ at His Coming

11. What is the goal in the process of sanctification? Eph. 5:27; Col. 4:12.

NOTE.—"A character formed according to the divine likeness is the only treasure that we can take from this world to the next."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 332.

12. Toward what ideal is the Christian to strive? What will take place as he does so? 2 Cor. 3:18; 1 Peter 1:15, 16.

13. When will the process of sanctification be complete? 1 Thess. 3:12, 13; 1 John 3:2; Jude 24.

NOTE.—Justification takes but a moment; sanctification requires a lifetime.

"There is no such thing as instantaneous sanctification. True sanctification is a daily work, continuing as long as life shall last."—*The Sanctified Life*, page 10.

Think on These Things

Will there be a change in our characters at the second coming of Christ?

Must all our sins be confessed and forgiven before the close of probation, or can we wait until Jesus appears?

Will there be any character development during the seven last plagues?

Lesson 8, for May 20, 1961

Righteousness Imparted Through Communion With Christ

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

STUDY HELPS: "Steps to Christ," chapter, Growing Up Into Christ; "Messages to Young People," pages 118-142; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 557-567; "Selected Messages," b. 1, pp. 336-339; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of May 4.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: General survey. ☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1, 2. ☐
Monday: Questions 3-5; begin reading from Study Helps. ☐
Tuesday: Questions 6-8; read further from Study Helps. ☐
Wednesday: Questions 9, 10; read further from Study Helps. ☐
Thursday: Questions 11-13; read further from Study Helps. ☐
Friday: Review entire lesson. ☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. Union Formed by Yielding
1. Jacob's victory. Gen. 32:24-28.
2. Power provided. 1 John 4:13, 18, 19.

II. Maintaining the Union
3. Submitting to God, resisting Satan. James 4:7; Col. 2:6.
4. Denying self daily. Luke 9:23; 1 Cor. 15:31.
5. Crucifying flesh and world. Gal. 5:24; 6:14.

III. Abiding in Christ
6. The vine and the branches. John 15:4, 5.
7. Having the mind of Christ. Phil. 2:5; Rom. 7:25.
8. Transformed by association. Acts 4:13; 2 Cor. 3:18.

IV. Communion Through Study of the Word and Prayer
9. Study essential. John 5:39; 6:53, 63; 20:31.
10. Continuous communion. 1 Thess. 5:17; Rom. 12:12.

V. Working Out Our Salvation
11. Work out what God works in. Phil. 2:12, 13.
12. Letting the light shine. Matt. 5:14, 16.
13. Provision in case of failure. Jude 24, 25; 1 John 2:1.

THE LESSON

Introduction: Union Brings Communion

There must first be a union with Christ before there can be communion or fellowship with Him. We must receive Him into our hearts before we can invite Him to stay. An abiding union with the Saviour is necessary before He can transform our characters into His own likeness.

Union Formed by Yielding

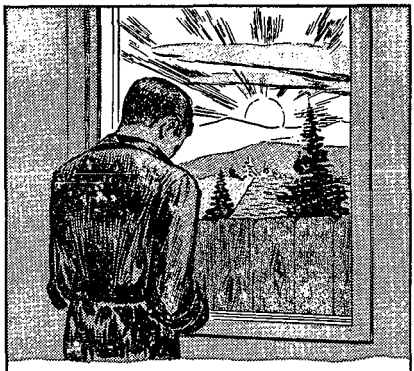
1. What change of attitude on the part of Jacob transformed him from a deceiver into an overcomer? Gen. 32: 24-28.

NOTE.—Facing the great peril of losing his loved ones and also his own life at the hands of a revengeful brother, Jacob deeply repented of his sins and his own deceitful ways. In answer to his earnest prayer, the Saviour came to bless him. But Jacob, in haste and fear, not recognizing the heavenly Messenger, resisted Him with all his might. When Christ crippled his thigh, Jacob realized his mistake and ceased to resist. Instead, he humbly yielded and clung to the Saviour for a blessing.

"Through humiliation, repentance, and self-surrender, this sinful, erring mortal prevailed with the Majesty of heaven."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 197.

2. What power and help are provided to make union with Christ possible? 1 John 4:13, 18, 19.

NOTE.—Surrendering the will to Christ and trusting Him, giving all to Christ and taking all from Him, yielding self and accept-



"CONSECRATE YOURSELF TO GOD IN THE MORNING; MAKE THIS YOUR VERY FIRST WORK."

2061-8

ing the Saviour—this is the pathway to union with our Lord. It is essentially an action of the will, a choice. "Everything depends on the right action of the will."—*Steps to Christ,* page 47.

Many are afraid to yield to God. They are afraid because they do not realize He loves them; afraid He might ask them to do things they think they cannot do; afraid because they are weak, and fear they cannot "hold out." Love casts out that fear, and God promises that His grace is sufficient for all our needs. His promise is that we will never be tempted beyond our power to resist, and He will supply all our needs according to His abundant goodness. Why then should we fear to give ourselves fully into His loving hands?

Maintaining the Union

3. What is necessary on our part in order to maintain the union effected? James 4:7; Col. 2:6.

NOTE.—"Many have an idea that they must do some part of the work alone. They have trusted Christ for the forgiveness of sin, but now they seek by their own efforts to live aright. But every such effort must fail. Jesus says, 'Without Me ye can do nothing.' Our growth in grace, our joy, our usefulness—all depend upon our union with Christ. It is by communion with Him, daily, hourly,—by abiding in Him,—that we are to grow in grace. . . .

"Do you ask, 'How am I to abide in Christ?' In the same way as you received Him at first. 'As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him.' " —*Steps to Christ,* page 69.

4. In the Christian's daily life, how is self to be disciplined? Luke 9:23; 1 Cor. 15:31.

NOTE.—"Christ changes the heart. He abides in your heart by faith. You are to maintain this connection with Christ by faith and the continual surrender of your will to Him; and so long as you do this, He will work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure."—*Steps to Christ,* pages 62, 63.

"Consecrate yourself to God in the morning; make this your very first work. Let your prayer be, 'Take me, O Lord, as wholly Thine. I lay all my plans at Thy feet.' . . . Surrender all your plans to Him, to be carried out or given up as His providence shall indicate."—*Ibid.,* p. 70.

5. What is to be the Christian's attitude toward the flesh and the world? Gal. 5:24; 6:14.

NOTE.—In the matter of not yielding to our fleshly lusts, it should be remembered that appetite is one that should be brought under control. It was yielding to appetite that opened the floodgates of sin upon the world. The evil one sought to bring the Saviour under his control by tempting Him to satisfy His hunger in Satan's way. But under the most trying conditions, after forty days of fasting, the Lord Jesus resisted the temptation, that He might offer us victory over this very common human weakness.

Abiding in Christ

6. How did the Saviour illustrate the connection between Himself and His followers? John 15:4, 5.

NOTE.—"The Holy Spirit, which proceeds from the only-begotten Son of God, binds

the human agent, body, soul, and spirit, to the perfect, divine-human nature of Christ. This union is represented by the union of the vine and the branches. Finite man is united to the manhood of Christ. Through faith human nature is assimilated with Christ's nature. We are made one with God in Christ."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, p. 251.

7. Through what human faculty may we discern spiritual things and learn the secret of abiding in Christ? Phil. 2:5; Rom. 7:25.

NOTE.—"Wherever there is union with Christ there is love. . . . When we are united to Christ, we have the mind of Christ. . . . If we are grafted in Christ, if fiber by fiber we have been united with the living Vine, we shall give evidence of the fact by bearing rich clusters of living fruit."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, p. 337.

"As His goodness, His mercy, and His love are dwelt upon, clearer and still clearer will be the perception of truth; higher, holier the desire for purity of heart and clearness of thought."—*My Life Today,* page 262.

8. What will be the results of constant communion and fellowship with Jesus? Acts 4:13; 2 Cor. 3:18.

NOTE.—"Christ abiding in the soul exerts a transforming power, and the outward aspect bears witness to the peace and joy that reign within. We drink in the love of Christ, as the branch draws nourishment from the vine."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, p. 337.

Communion Through Study of the Word and Prayer

9. How may the mind and heart be brought into communion with Christ? John 5:39; 6:53, 63; 20:31.

NOTE.—"The soul dwelling in the atmosphere of holy thought is transformed by intercourse with God through the study of His word."—*My Life Today,* page 262.

Just as food is assimilated to become part of our physical nature, so we must feed on the word and meditate on Christ till we assimilate His nature. It is a law of the mind that it assimilates that on which it dwells.

10. Since "prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend," how constant should this communion be? 1 Thess. 5:17; Rom. 12:12.

NOTE.—"There is no time or place in which it is inappropriate to offer up a petition to God. There is nothing that can prevent us from lifting up our hearts in the spirit of earnest prayer. In the crowds of the street, in the midst of a business engagement, we may send up a petition to God and plead for divine guidance, as did Nehemiah when he made his request before King Artaxerxes. A closet of communion may be found wherever we are. We should have the door of the heart open continually and our invitation going up that Jesus may come and abide as a heavenly guest in the soul."—*Steps to Christ,* page 99.

Working Out Our Salvation

11. When Christ has transformed us, what will be evident in our lives? Phil. 2:12, 13.

NOTE.—"Connected with Christ, human nature becomes pure and true. Christ supplies the efficiency, and man becomes a power for good."—*Messages to Young People,* page 35.

"Man cannot be saved without obedience, but his works should not be of himself; Christ should work in him to will and do of His good pleasure."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, p. 364.

12. What will men see in the lives of those who are abiding in Christ? Matt. 5:14, 16.

NOTE.—We are to "let" the light within shine out. If we keep the heart's windows

clean of defiling sin, the Saviour will shine out.

13. When we place ourselves fully in His hands, what is Jesus able to do for us? But if we fall, what provision has been made? Jude 24, 25; 1 John 2:1.

NOTE.—"If one who daily communes with God errs from the path, if he turns a moment from looking steadfastly unto Jesus, it is not because he sins willfully; for when he sees his mistake, he turns again, and fastens his eyes upon Jesus, and the fact that he has erred does not make him less dear to the heart of God."—*The Faith I Live By,* page 118.

Think on These Things

Educators tell us that it is "the recency, the frequency, and the intensity of stimuli" which determine the extent of the impressions made on the mind. Ask yourself these questions:

When did I last seek to commune with Christ?
How often do I commune with Him?
Do I seek Him with all my heart?

If I can commune with Jesus any time, anywhere, what is the purpose and advantage of set hours of personal devotion?

Lesson 9, for May 27, 1961

Righteousness Received Through Faith

MEMORY VERSE: "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4.

STUDY HELPS: "The Desire of Ages," pages 201-203, 342-348; "Selected Messages," b. 1, pp. 389-398; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of May 11.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: General survey. ☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1, 2. ☐
Monday: Questions 3-5; begin reading from Study Helps. ☐
Tuesday: Questions 6, 7; read further from Study Helps. ☐
Wednesday: Questions 8-12. ☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps. ☐
Friday: Review entire lesson. ☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. True Faith

1. Belief that there is a God; that He answers prayer. Heb. 11:6.
2. Belief with the heart. Rom. 10:9, 10.

II. How Faith Is Born

3. Hearing of the word. Rom. 10:13, 14, 17.
4. Christ to be lifted up. John 3:14, 15.
5. Exercise of faith. Matt. 9:22; 15:25-28.

III. How Faith Grows

6. Stages of growth. Matt. 6:30; 8:8-10; Acts 6:8.
7. Trials strengthen faith. James 1:3.

IV. Righteousness Through Faith

8. Salvation by faith, not works. Rom. 5:1; Gal. 2:16.
9. Faith brings justification. Titus 3:5-8.
10. Victory through faith. 1 John 5:4.
11. The fight of faith. 1 Tim. 6:11, 12.
12. Saving faith accompanied by works. James 2:20, 22, 26.

Introduction: Justification by Faith

"When God pardons the sinner, remits the punishment he deserves, and treats him as though he had not sinned, He receives him into divine favor, and justifies him through the merits of Christ's righteousness. The sinner can be justified only through faith in the atonement made through God's dear Son, who became a sacrifice for the sins of the guilty world. No one can be justified by any works of his own. He can be delivered from the guilt of sin, from the condemnation of the law, from the penalty of transgression, only by virtue of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Christ. Faith is the only condition upon which justification can be obtained, and faith includes not only belief but trust."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, p. 389.

True Faith

1. What two basic concepts must be found in true faith? Heb. 11:6.

2. What shows that this belief must be more than a mental assent? Rom. 10: 9, 10.

NOTE.—"The faith that is unto salvation is not a mere intellectual assent to the truth. . . . It is not enough to believe *about* Christ; we must believe *in* Him. The only faith that will benefit us is that which embraces Him as a personal Saviour; which appropriates His merits to ourselves. Many hold faith as an opinion. Saving faith is a transaction by which those who receive Christ join themselves in covenant relation with God. Genuine faith is life."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 347.

How Faith Is Born

3. From what does faith come? Rom. 10:13, 14, 17.

NOTE.—"The Scriptures are the great agency in the transformation of character. Christ prayed, 'Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy word is truth.' John 17:17. If studied and obeyed, the word of God works in the heart, subduing every unholy attribute. The Holy Spirit comes to convict of sin, and the faith that springs up in the heart works by love to Christ, conforming us in body, soul, and spirit to His own image. . . .

"The truths of the word of God meet man's great practical necessity—the conversion of the soul through faith."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 100.

4. What example did Jesus use to teach Nicodemus the operation of faith in Christ? John 3:14, 15.

NOTE.—By His Holy Spirit God "calls" or draws the sinner to Himself. He does this primarily through the preaching, reading, and teaching of His word. The sinner comes to recognize his need and hears the wonderful promises of God. Now the magnetic love of God invites the sinner to accept God's offers of help. If the sinner, like the ancient Israelites, believes God and acts on His word, he is exercising faith and finds salvation.

5. How is faith associated with or indispensable in miracles of healing? Matt. 9:22; 15:25-28.

NOTE.—"A living faith means an increase of vigor, a confiding trust, by which the soul becomes a conquering power. Faith takes God at His word."—*Gospel Workers,* page 261.

"In faith the woman of Phoenicia flung herself against the barriers that had been piled up between Jew and Gentile. Against discouragement, regardless of appearances that might have led her to doubt, she trusted the Saviour's love. It is thus that Christ desires us to trust in Him. The blessings of salvation are for every soul. Nothing but his own choice can prevent any man from becoming a partaker of the promise in Christ by the gospel."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 403.

How Faith Grows

6. By what three adjectives are degrees of faith described? Matt. 6:30; 8:8-10; Acts 6:8.

NOTE.—God has given a "measure of faith" to every man. Rom. 12:3. It is ours to exercise.

7. In order to strengthen our faith, what does God permit? James 1:3.

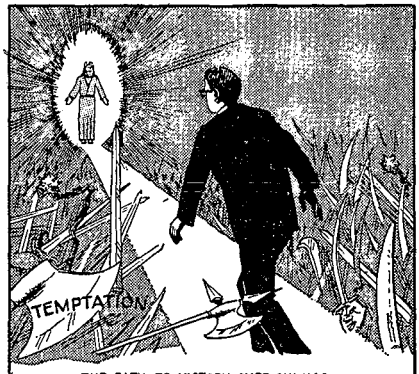
NOTE.—When we accept Christ as our Saviour we have peace *with* God and then He bestows upon us the peace *of* God. But although this peace is in our hearts, that does not mean we shall be free from trials and temptations. So long as we are in these bodies of ours, the flesh will tempt us. So long as the world is around us, it will seek to overcome us and conform us to its standards. So long as Satan is still free, he will tempt us to sin, by every means at his disposal, including sickness, loss of crops, accidents, and other misfortunes. But temptation is not sin. Jesus was tempted. It is yielding to temptation that constitutes sin. Trials are the furnace or crucible in which God refines us for citizenship in His kingdom.

Righteousness Through Faith

8. Why can justification not be by works? Rom. 5:1; Gal. 2:16.

NOTE.—"All have sinned." Rom. 3:23. Therefore, no one can be free from the condemnation of the law and claim righteousness by any work of penance. Furthermore, man's sin has given him a "carnal" nature which is not subject to the law of God. "Sinful men can become righteous only as they have faith in God and maintain a vital connection with Him."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 310.

9. How does the apostle Paul teach that faith not only justifies but also enables us to live the Christian life? Titus 3:5-8.



THE PATH TO VICTORY OVER SIN HAS JESUS AT THE END OF THE WAY.

NOTE.—"Faith is trusting in God. . . . In place of our ignorance, it accepts His wisdom; in place of our weakness, His strength; in place of our sinfulness, His righteousness. . . . Truth, uprightness, purity, are pointed out as secrets of life's success. It is faith that puts us in possession of these. Every good impulse or aspiration is the gift of God; faith receives from God the life that alone can produce true growth and efficiency."—*Gospel Workers,* page 259.

10. How is victory to be gained over the world? 1 John 5:4.

NOTE.—"It was through faith that the ancient worthies 'subdued kingdoms, . . . escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.' "—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 513.

11. In the Christian warfare what must we fight to preserve? 1 Tim. 6:11, 12.

NOTE.—The Christian must strive to keep his mind fixed on Jesus, and must fight the good fight of faith against doubt and discouragement. The pathway to victory is to keep Christ enthroned within by surrender, keep the mind fixed on Him for its transformation, and by faith grasp the mighty hand of God for the power to overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil.

12. **What is the true relationship between faith and works? James 2:20, 22, 26.**

NOTE.—"Genuine faith will be manifested in good works; for good works are the fruits of faith. As God works in the heart, and man surrenders his will to God and co-operates with God, he works out in the life what God works in by the Holy Spirit, and there is harmony between the purpose of the heart and the practice of the life. . . . It is an evidence that a man is not justified by faith when his works do not correspond to his profession. . . . The believer is justified without any merit of his own. . . . He is justified through redemption that is in Christ Jesus. . . . But while he is justified because of the merit of Christ, he is not free to work unrighteousness. Faith works by love and purifies the soul. . . . Where faith is, good works appear. The sick are visited, the poor are cared for, the fatherless and the widows are not neglected, the naked are clothed, the destitute are fed. Christ went about doing good, and when men are united with Him, they love the children of God, and meekness and truth guide their footsteps."—*Selected Messages,* b. 1, pp. 397, 398.

Think on These Things

Is it faith or presumption to demand that God fulfill certain promises as we understand them?

When we pray for greater faith, what may we expect?

Am I developing faith, day by day, by trusting God for the lesser needs of everyday life?

Lesson 10, for June 3, 1961

Doing God's Will

MEMORY VERSE: "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Rom. 8:3, 4.

STUDY HELPS: "Christ's Object Lessons," 1941 ed., pp. 272-283; "Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing," 1956 ed., pp. 147-152 (1943 ed., pp. 211-218); "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of May 18.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-3.	☐
Monday: Questions 4-6; read from Study Helps.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 7-10.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 11-14.	☐
Thursday: Read from Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. Obedience the Test of Profession

1. Salvation for those who obey. Heb. 5:9.
2. Basis of admission to kingdom. Matt. 7:21-23.
3. Evidence of love for Christ. John 14:15, 21, 23, 24.

II. Christ's Example and Enabling Power

4. Christ's constraining power. Rom. 8:3, 4, 6; 2 Cor. 5:14.
5. Christ and His Father's will. John 5:30; 6:38.
6. Obedient unto death. Mark 14:36; Phil. 2:8.

III. Our Responsibility for Known Truth

7. Obedience commensurate with knowledge. James 1:22-25; 4:17.
8. Hearing and doing. Matt. 7:24-27; 21:28-32.
9. Human tradition versus God's commands. Mark 7:7-9.
10. Faith does not set aside the law. Rom. 3:31.

IV. God's Will and Man's Obedience

11. Seeking to know God's will. Rom. 12:2.
12. Obedience from the heart. Rom. 6:17; Eph. 6:6.
13. The new birth and sin. 1 John 3:6, 9; 5:18.
14. Our Advocate. 1 John 2:1.

THE LESSON

Introduction: Theories of Sanctification

There are many false theories of sanctification abroad in the land today. Many of them purport to be Christ-centered and based on the teaching of the word of God. They seem so plausible that multitudes are being deceived. On a subject of such supreme importance surely we cannot afford to be deceived. We have studied how by the works of the law, or our obedience to it, we cannot be saved, for we have all transgressed it at one time or another. But that does not mean we can be saved while living in disobedience to it. To claim to be sanctified by Christ and then to disregard His law is to exalt the cross of Christ and then take away His crown. True sanctification as set forth in God's last message to the world is complete obedience to His law through the indwelling presence of Christ.

"God does not force the will or judgment of any. He takes no pleasure in a slavish obedience. He desires that the creatures of His hands shall love Him because He is worthy of love. He would have them obey Him because they have an intelligent appreciation of His wisdom, justice, and benevolence. And all who have a just conception of these qualities will love Him because they are drawn toward Him in admiration of His attributes."—*The Great Controversy,* page 541.

Obedience the Test of Profession

1. To whom have the blessings of salvation been promised? Heb. 5:9.

2. What relationship is there between doing God's will and obtaining admission to His kingdom? Matt. 7:21-23. Compare Matt. 5:19; 6:10.

NOTE.—"Profession is as nothing in the scale. It is character that decides destiny." —*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 74.

3. Of what is obedience to God's revealed will the visible evidence? John 14:15, 21, 23, 24. Compare Matt. 22:37-40; 1 John 2:5.

NOTE.—"God's great object in the working out of His providences is to try men, to give them opportunity to develop character. Thus He proves whether they are obedient or disobedient to His commands. Good works do not purchase the love of God, but they reveal that we possess that love. If we surrender the will to God, we shall not work in order to earn God's love. His love as a free gift will be received into the soul, and from love to Him we shall delight to obey His commandments."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 283.

Christ's Example and Enabling Power

4. What means has God provided by which He enables us to do His will? Rom. 8:3, 4, 6; 2 Cor. 5:14. Compare Phil. 2:13; Heb. 13:21.

NOTE.—"Through the grace of Christ we may accomplish everything that God requires."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 301.

5. How fully did Christ, living as a Man among men, submit to the will of His Father? John 5:30; 6:38. Compare Heb. 10:7.

NOTE.—"Jesus emptied Himself, and in all that He did, self did not appear. He subordinated all things to the will of His Father."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 14.

6. With what supreme demonstration of submission to the Father's will did Christ provide us? Mark 14:36; Phil. 2:8.

Our Responsibility for Known Truth

7. What responsibility accompanies a knowledge of God's will? What results from a willful neglect of known duty? James 1:22-25; 4:17. Compare John 15:22; Acts 17:30.

NOTE.—"Every man is given sufficient light for the discharge of the duties required of him. Man's responsibilities are proportionate to his opportunities and privileges. God gives to everyone sufficient light and grace to do the work He has given him to do. If man fails to do that which a little light shows to be his duty, greater light would only reveal unfaithfulness, neglect to improve the blessings given."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 265.

8. By what parables did Jesus illustrate the danger of neglecting known duty? Matt. 7:24-27; 21:28-32.

NOTE.—"The test of sincerity is not in words, but in deeds. . . . Words are of no value unless they are accompanied with appropriate deeds."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 272.

9. What do men often substitute for strict obedience to God's expressed will? Mark 7:7-9.

SIN IS LET LOOSE UPON US ONLY WHEN WE UNLOCK THE DOOR BY OUR CONSENT.

NOTE.—"It is the love of self, the desire for an easier way than God has appointed that leads to the substitution of human theories and traditions for the divine precepts."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 409.

10. Does faith make obedience to God's expressed will unnecessary? Rom. 3:31. Compare James 2:17-24.

NOTE.—"Whatever our profession, it amounts to nothing unless Christ is revealed in works of righteousness."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 313.

God's Will and Man's Obedience

11. How only can we ascertain God's perfect will for us? Rom. 12:2.

NOTE.—"Our condemnation in the judgment will not result from the fact that we have been in error, but from the fact that we have neglected heaven-sent opportunities for learning what is truth."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 490.

12. What kind of obedience alone is acceptable to God? Rom. 6:17; Eph. 6:6.

NOTE.—"The expulsion of sin is the act of the soul itself. True, we have no power to free ourselves from Satan's control; but when we desire to be set free from sin, and in our great need cry out for a power out of and above ourselves, the powers of the soul are imbued with the divine energy of the Holy Spirit, and they obey the dictates of the will in fulfilling the will of God."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 466.

"All true obedience comes from the heart. It was heart work with Christ. And if we consent, He will so identify Himself with our thoughts and aims, so blend our hearts and minds into conformity to His will, that when obeying Him we shall be but carrying out our own impulses."—*Ibid.,* p. 668.

13. What is the relation to sin of one who is born again? 1 John 3:6, 9; 5:18. Compare Rom. 6:6-16.

NOTE.—"When it is in the heart to obey God, when efforts are put forth to this end, Jesus accepts this disposition and effort as man's best service, and He makes up for the deficiency with His own divine merit."—*My Life Today,* page 250.

"So long as we do not consent to sin, there is no power, whether human or satanic, that can bring a stain upon the soul."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 32.

14. Why is the child of God not without hope should he fall into sin? 1 John 2:1. Compare 1 John 1:7-10.

NOTE.—"When we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ, we shall have no relish for sin; for Christ will be working with us. We may make mistakes, but we will hate the sin that caused the suffering of the Son of God."—*Messages to Young People,* page 338.

"The character is revealed, not by occasional good deeds and occasional misdeeds, but by the tendency of the habitual words and acts."—*Steps to Christ,* pages 57, 58.

Think on These Things

When only does God attribute sin to men? See James 4:17; Luke 12:47, 48.

Do we with the psalmist "delight" to do God's will? See Ps. 119:97, 174.

Is our Sabbathkeeping a sign of our personal Christian experience, or are we keeping the Sabbath in the legalistic spirit of ancient Israel?

Lesson 11, for June 10, 1961

Faith Counted for Righteousness

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

STUDY HELPS: "Patriarchs and Prophets," chapters 5 to 7, 11; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of May 25.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: General survey. ☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-3. ☐
Monday: Questions 4-6; begin reading from Study Helps. ☐
Tuesday: Questions 7-9; read further from Study Helps. ☐
Wednesday: Questions 10-13. ☐
Thursday: Read from Study Helps. ☐
Friday: Review entire lesson. ☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. Abel, Enoch, Noah

1. Cain's and Abel's offerings. Gen. 4:3-7; Heb. 11:4.
2. Enoch's walk with God. Heb. 11:5; Gen. 5:22.
3. Noah's faith. Heb. 11:7; Gen. 7:1.

II. Abraham

4. His call. Gen. 12:1, 4; Heb. 11:8.
5. Abraham's failures. Gen. 12:18; 16:3.
6. The only safe course. Ps. 27:14; 37:5.
7. The supreme test. Gen. 22:1-12.
8. The divine testimonial. Gal. 3:6; James 2:23.
9. Children of faith. Gal. 3:7, 9; Heb. 11:13, 16.

III. The Duty to Rebuke Evil

10. The experience of Phinehas. Num. 25:1-13; Ps. 106:30, 31.
11. God's call to ministers. Isa. 58:1.
12. How carried out. Joel 2:17.
13. Need of preparation. Amos. 4:12.

THE LESSON

Introduction: Examples of Righteousness by Faith

The Bible roster of those whose lives, faith, and deeds merited the citation given to Abraham, "It was accounted to him for righteousness" (Gal. 3:6), is recorded in Hebrews 11. The record of each one of these representatives from the patriarchal age is prefaced by the statement, "By faith." Although they *were accounted righteous,* they were all men "subject to like passions as we are." James 5:17. The record of their lives has been preserved "that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." Romans 15:4.

Abel, Enoch, Noah

1. What offerings were presented by Cain and Abel, and how were they received? What made the difference? Gen. 4:3-7; Heb. 11:4.

NOTE.—After Adam and Eve sinned, the Lord made plain the plan of salvation. The heart of this plan was the infinite sacrifice of the Son of God, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. In harmony with the divine plan Abel brought a lamb and the Lord accepted his offering.

Cain disregarded God's instruction. He failed to bring an offering which was symbolic of the death of Christ. He neither obeyed God nor manifested faith in the atoning sacrifice of Christ for his sin. The Lord said to him, "If you do not do well, sin is couching at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it." Genesis 4:7, R.S.V.

Recognizing his sinfulness and his inability to atone for his own sins, Abel demonstrated his loyalty to God and accepted the Creator's provision for the removal of his sin. By faith he slew his lamb, fully believing that the Lamb of God would shed His precious blood for him. By faith he accepted Christ's sacrifice and righteousness in place of his weakness and sin, so God manifested his approval by flashing down fire from heaven to consume his sacrifice, and "he obtained witness that he was righteous."

2. What is the record regarding the patriarch Enoch? Heb. 11:5; Gen. 5:22.

NOTE.—"Enoch walked with God three hundred years. . . . He lived in a corrupt age, when moral pollution was teeming all around him; yet he trained his mind to devotion, to love purity. His conversation was upon heavenly things. He educated his mind to run in this channel, and he bore the impress of the divine. . . . He was unsullied with the prevailing sins of the age in which he lived. So may we remain pure and uncorrupted. He was a representative of the saints who live amid the perils and corruptions of the last days. For his faithful obedience to God he was translated. So, also, the faithful, who are alive and remain, will be translated."—*Testimonies,* vol. 2, pp. 121, 122.

3. How did Noah demonstrate his faith, and what was his reward? Heb. 11:7; Gen. 7:1.

NOTE.—So strong was Noah's trust in God that in a wicked generation he preached righteousness. So strong was his faith in God's word that He built the ark, putting into it all he possessed, when as yet rain had never fallen on the earth, for the earth, up to this time, was watered by a mist. Noah demonstrated that faith without works is dead. James 2:20.

Abraham

4. How did Abraham first manifest implicit faith in God? Gen. 12:1, 4; Heb. 11:8.

5. How did Abraham reveal his human weakness? Gen. 12:18; 16:3.

NOTE.—The Bible records the weaknesses as well as the good points of the great men of old. This is for our encouragement, lest we forget that they were human beings like ourselves. Their exploits for God were not performed because they were supermen.

6. What is the only safe course for Christians to follow at all times? Ps. 27:14; 37:5.

7. What supreme test next came to Abraham to demonstrate his unquestioning obedience to God? Gen. 22: 1-12.

NOTE.—"None but God could understand how great was the father's sacrifice in yielding up his son to death. . . .

"The father lifts the knife to slay his son, when suddenly his arm is stayed. An angel of God calls to the patriarch out of heaven, 'Abraham, Abraham!' He quickly answers, 'Here am I.' And again the voice is heard,

THE WATCHMAN IS TO SOUND THE ALARM: "PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD."

'Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou anything unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son, from Me.' . . .

"Abraham's great act of faith stands like a pillar of light, illuminating the pathway of God's servants in all succeeding ages. Abraham did not seek to excuse himself from doing the will of God. . . . He knew that God is just and righteous in all His requirements, and he obeyed the command to the very letter."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* pages 152, 153.

8. Because he so admirably met this unusually severe test, what wonderful testimonial did he receive? Gal. 3:6; James 2:23.

9. How do we become members of the household of Abraham? Gal. 3:7, 9; Heb. 11:13, 16.

NOTE.—When such faith in God is manifested by the remnant church, the Pentecostal showers will descend.

The Duty to Rebuke Evil

10. What experience in the Old Testament demonstrates that fearless-

ness for God in reproving sin may be counted for righteousness? Num. 25: 1-13; Ps. 106:30, 31.

11. If sin prevails in the church as it did in the camp of Israel, what is God calling upon His ministers to do? Isa. 58:1.

12. How is this call for reformation to be carried out? Joel 2:17.

NOTE.—Not with javelin thrust, but by weeping between the porch and the altar, is the last reformation to be carried out. Sin must be rebuked in the spirit of meekness and love. While "sharpened" messages denouncing sin, worldliness, and lukewarmness are due, with deep contrition of heart and earnest entreaty to God on the part of leaders and people, a revival and reformation from within the church will be accomplished.

13. What solemn admonition does God make to His people? Amos 4:12.

NOTE.—"In this age, just prior to the second coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven, such a work as that of John is to be done. God calls for men who will prepare a people to stand in the great day of the Lord. . . . As a people who believe in Christ's soon appearing, we have a message to bear —'Prepare to meet thy God.' Amos 4:12."—*Testimonies,* vol. 8, p. 332.

Think on These Things

With Abel, are we following closely the divine blueprint? How about obedience to God in dress, amusements, associations, and diet?

With Enoch, do we constantly lift our hearts to God?

With Noah, are we putting all in the work of God?

Are we children of faithful Abraham?

Are we holding back the blessings of God from the camp of Israel? Are we guilty of worldliness? Are we compromising with sin? Are we unconcerned about the spiritual condition of the church? If we are, we ourselves are in a serious spiritual condition. The seal of God is only placed upon those who "sigh and . . . cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst" (Ezek. 9:4) of Jerusalem, the church.

Lesson 12, for June 17, 1961

The Three Angels' Messages and Righteousness by Faith

MEMORY VERSE: "For He will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth." Rom. 9:28.

STUDY HELPS: "The Great Controversy," chapters 20, 21, 25, 26; "Selected Messages," b. 1, pp. 383-388; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of June 1.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: General survey. ☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-3. ☐
Monday: Questions 4-7; begin reading from Study Helps. ☐
Tuesday: Questions 8, 9; read further from Study Helps. ☐
Wednesday: Questions 10-14. ☐
Thursday: Read from Study Helps. ☐
Friday: Review entire lesson. ☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. Gospel Message Heralding Second Coming

1. The Saviour's prophecy and its fulfillment. Matt. 24:14; Rev. 14:6-12.
2. The gospel and righteousness. Rev. 14:6; Rom. 1:16, 17.
3. In all the world. Matt. 24:14, first part; Rev. 14:6, last part.

II. The First Angel's Message

4. "Fear God." Rev. 14:7, first part; Eccl. 12:13; Ps. 111:10.
5. "Give glory to Him." Rev. 14:7, second part; Matt. 5:16.
6. "Hour of His judgment is come." Rev. 14:7, third part; 2 Cor. 5:10.
7. Worship Creator. Rev. 14:7, last part; Ps. 111:3, 4; 71:19; 36:6.

III. The Second Angel's Message

8. Babylon—symbol of apostasy and evil. Rev. 14:8; 17:4, 5; 18:2, 4, 5.
9. Apostasy and rebellion to be universal. Rev. 18:3; 13:8.

IV. The Third Angel's Message

10. Satan's objective through apostasy. Dan. 7:25; Rev. 12:17.
11. God's warning. Rev. 14:9-11.
12. Deceptive miracles. Rev. 13:13, 14; 2 Thess. 2:9, 10.
13. God's loyal subjects. Rev. 14:12.
14. Obedience through faith of Jesus. Rev. 14:12, last part; Gal. 2:20; 1 John 5:4.

THE LESSON

Introduction: Justification by Faith, the Third Angel's Message

The question now arises: What is the relationship between the message of righteousness by faith and the threefold message of Revelation 14? Are they in any way connected, or is the message of righteousness by faith an independent message? The object of this lesson is to show that these two messages are vitally connected.

"Several have written to me, inquiring if the message of justification by faith is the third angel's message, and I have answered, 'It is the third angel's message in verity.'" —*Selected Messages,* b. 1, p. 372.

The message of justification by faith is a part of the message of righteousness by faith, for we are justified by the imputed righteousness of Christ. Any effort, therefore, to teach that the message of righteousness by faith is independent of the three angels' messages is false teaching.

Gospel Message Heralding Second Coming

1. What great proclamation will be made before the second advent of Christ? Matt. 24:14; Rev. 14:6-12.

NOTE.—"When God sends to men warnings so important that they are represented as proclaimed by holy angels flying in the midst of heaven, He requires every person endowed with reasoning powers to heed the message."—*The Great Controversy,* page 594.

"By the purity, the glory, and the power of the heavenly messenger, divine wisdom has been pleased to represent the exalted character of the work to be accomplished by the message and the power and glory that were to attend it."—*Ibid.,* p. 355.

2. What is this last message specifically called and what is its connection with righteousness by faith? Rev. 14:6; Rom. 1:16, 17.

NOTE.—The final proclamation of God's last message to the world is not of some new truth, but the everlasting gospel, the good news that Jesus saves from sin by the righteousness of Christ received through faith.

"The message of salvation has been preached in all ages; but this message [the opening of the judgment] is a part of the gospel which could be proclaimed only in the last days, for only then would it be true that the hour of judgment *had come.*"—*The Great Controversy,* page 356.

3. What further evidence is provided to show that the message of Revelation 14 is the same as that referred to by the Saviour in Matthew 24:14? Matt. 24:14, first part; Rev. 14:6, last part.

NOTE.—"God has in reserve a firmament of chosen ones that will yet shine forth amidst the darkness, revealing clearly to an apostate world the transforming power of obedience to His law. Even now they are appearing in every nation, among every tongue and people."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 189.

The First Angel's Message

4. In the final proclamation of the everlasting gospel, what is the first great truth to be emphasized? What does the "fear" of God include? Rev. 14:7, first part; Eccl. 12:13; Ps. 111:10.

NOTE.—"By the first angel, men are called upon to 'fear God, and give glory to Him' and to worship Him as the Creator of the heavens and the earth. In order to do this, they must obey His law. . . . Without obedience to His commandments no worship can be pleasing to God. 'This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.' 'He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.' 1 John 5:3; Proverbs 28:9."—*The Great Controversy,* page 436.

5. What is the next truth to be proclaimed with a loud voice? How does sinful man best glorify God? Rev. 14:7, second part; Matt. 5:16.

NOTE.—"Above all lower orders of being, God designed that man, the crowning work of His creation, should express His thought and reveal His glory."—*Testimonies,* vol. 8, p. 264.

6. What solemn announcement is made to the world? Rev. 14:7, third part; 2 Cor. 5:10.

"ALL NEED A KNOWLEDGE FOR THEMSELVES OF THE POSITION AND WORK OF THEIR GREAT HIGH PRIEST."

NOTE.—"The subject of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment should be clearly understood by the people of God. All need a knowledge for themselves of the position and work of their great High Priest. Otherwise it will be impossible for them to exercise the faith which is essential at this time or to occupy the position which God designs them to fill."—*The Great Controversy,* page 488.

7. Whom are we admonished to worship? What do His created works reveal? Rev. 14:7, last part; Ps. 111:3, 4; 71:19; 36:6.

NOTE.—"The duty to worship God is based upon the fact that He is the Creator and that to Him all other beings owe their existence. . . .

"'The importance of the Sabbath as a memorial of creation is that it keeps ever present the true reason why worship is due to God'—because He is the Creator, and we are His creatures."—*The Great Controversy,* pages 436, 437.

The Second Angel's Message

8. By what term is apostasy against God and opposition to righteousness designated in the second angel's message? Rev. 14:8; 17:4, 5; 18:2, 4, 5.

NOTE.—The term *Babel* or *Babylon,* which means "confusion," was first applied to pagan apostasy against God. See Gen. 11:1-9. It was later applied to the papacy, which assimilated pagan errors and superstitions. It now refers to all conflicting faiths, including apostate Protestantism, which defy the authority of God by substituting man-made observances for God's, including the seventh-day Sabbath.

9. How universal will be the acceptance of Babylon's false doctrines and practices? Rev. 18:3; 13:8.

NOTE.—All the world, including apostate Protestantism, Catholicism, and paganism, regardless of divergent viewpoints, will worship the beast by honoring the papal Sunday.

"The second angel's message of Revelation 14 was first preached in the summer of 1844. . . . The churches then [in 1844] experienced a moral fall, in consequence of their refusal of the light of the advent message; but that fall was not complete. As they have continued to reject the special truths for this time they have fallen lower and lower. Not yet, however, can it be said that 'Babylon is fallen, . . . because she made *all nations* drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.' "—*The Great Controversy,* page 389.

The Third Angel's Message

10. What is the principal objective Satan seeks to accomplish through apostate organizations? Dan. 7:25; Rev. 12:17. Compare James 2:10-12.

NOTE.—"Those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus will feel the ire of the dragon and his hosts. Satan numbers the world as his subjects, he has gained control of the apostate churches; but here is a little company that are resisting his supremacy. If he could blot them from the earth, his triumph would be complete."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, pp. 472, 473.

11. What solemn warning against false worship has God issued? Rev. 14:9-11.

12. According to Bible prophecy, what methods will Satan use in his work of deception? Why will many be deceived? Rev. 13:13, 14; 2 Thess. 2:9, 10.

13. What is said of those who accept the threefold message of Revelation 14? Rev. 14:12. Compare Rom. 8:3, 4.

NOTE.—"The third angel's message is the gospel message for these last days."—*Testimonies,* vol. 6, p. 241.

"The third angel's message, embracing the messages of the first and second angels, is the message for this time. We are to raise aloft the banner on which is inscribed: 'The commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.' The world is soon to meet the great Lawgiver over His broken law."—*Ibid.,* vol. 8, p. 197.

14. What will enable the loyal people of God to overcome the forces of evil? Rev. 14:12, last part. Gal. 2:20; 1 John 5:4.

NOTE.—The message of righteousness by faith "presented justification through faith in the Surety; it invited the people to receive the righteousness of Christ, which is made manifest in obedience to all the commandments of God."—*Testimonies to Ministers,* page 92.

This is what the third angel's message is also designed to reveal. It also indicates that God requires complete obedience to all His commandments. It reveals His great displeasure against and condemnation of those who receive the mark of the beast or make an image to it. It brings to view a people who keep all the commandments of God through the faith of Jesus.

Think on These Things

"The third angel's message calls for the presentation of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and this truth must be brought before the world; but the great center of attraction, Jesus Christ, must not

be left out of the third angel's message. By many who have been engaged in the work for this time, Christ has been made secondary, and theories and arguments have had first place."—*Selected Messages*, b. 1 p. 383.

"In presenting the binding claims of the law, many have failed to portray the infinite love of Christ."—*Ibid.*, p. 371.

"In order to meet the requirements of the law, our faith must grasp the righteousness of Christ, accepting it as our righteousness." —*Ibid.*, p. 374.

Lesson 13, for June 24, 1961

The Latter Rain and Righteousness by Faith

MEMORY VERSE: "Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till He come and rain righteousness upon you." Hosea 10:12.

STUDY HELPS: "The Great Controversy," chapter 38; "Selected Messages," b. 2, pp. 101-118; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 47-56; "The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary," on Scripture references; Lesson Help in "Review and Herald" of June 8.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: General survey. ☐
Sunday: Introduction; questions 1-4. ☐
Monday: Questions 5, 6; begin reading from Study Helps. ☐
Tuesday: Questions 7-9; read further from Study Helps. ☐
Wednesday: Questions 10-12. ☐
Thursday: Read from Study Helps. ☐
Friday: Review entire lesson. ☐

Lesson Outline:

Introduction

I. Righteousness, the Preparation to Receive the Latter Rain

1. Repentance, baptism. Acts 2:38; 3:19.
2. Faith. Gal. 3:14; John 7:39.
3. Prayer. Hosea 10:12; Zech. 10:1.
4. Filled with the Spirit. Acts 2:4; 6:5; Eph. 5:18.

II. Latter Rain Produces Loud Cry

5. Great power attends message. Rev. 18:1, 2; Joel 2:23, 28-32.
6. World lightened with righteousness. Ps. 85:13; Isa. 58:8.

III. The Final Conflict

7. Christ purifies church. Mal. 3:1-4; Song of Solomon 6:10.
8. Church triumphs. Matt. 16:18; Rom. 9:28; Rev. 18:1.
9. Faith our assurance of victory. 1 John 5:4.

IV. Christ's Kingdom of Righteousness

10. Gates open to righteous. Eph. 5:27; 1 John 3:2; Isa. 26:2; Rev. 22:14.
11. Redeemed in white robes at marriage supper. Rev. 7:9, 14; 19:6-9.
12. Reign of righteousness. Isa. 32:1; 35:8-10; 2 Peter 3:13.

Introduction: What Is the "Latter Rain"?

By the symbol of the "latter rain" God represents the final outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Joel 2:23. The latter rain is to be more abundant than the former rain, which was given "moderately." In this outpouring the Lord Jesus will especially manifest His power. See Hosea 6:3. His work for us is accomplished through His imputed and imparted righteousness. He comes through His representative, the Holy Spirit. This special bestowal of spiritual grace in extraordinary measure is imparted to those who by receiving the righteousness of Christ have overcome every besetment and gained the victory through faith. See *Early Writings,* page 71. By this heavenly unction, Christ will empower His church to finish the work and to stand through the time of trouble.

Righteousness, the Preparation to Receive the Latter Rain

1. What conditions are laid down by Peter for receiving the latter rain? Acts 2:38; 3:19.

NOTE.—"It was by the confession and forsaking of sin, by earnest prayer and consecration of themselves to God, that the early disciples prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. The same work, only in greater degree, must be done now."—*Testimonies to Ministers,* page 507.

2. As the result of our exercise of faith, what gift will be bestowed on us? Gal. 3:14; John 7:39.

NOTE.—"Only to those who wait humbly upon God, who watch for His guidance and grace, is the Spirit given. The power of God awaits their demand and reception. This promised blessing, claimed by faith, brings all other blessings in its train."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 672.

3. How earnestly must this blessing be sought? Hosea 10:12; Zech. 10:1.

NOTE.—"Since this is the means by which we are to receive power, why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Spirit? Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, and preach concerning it?"—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 50.

4. With what should the believer pray to be filled? Acts 2:4; 6:5; Eph. 5:18.

NOTE.—It is only as we are completely emptied of self that we can be filled with the Spirit. This simply means entire sanctification, with Christ enthroned within. Eph. 3:16-19.

Latter Rain Produces Loud Cry

5. In the proclamation of the third angel's message, what will be the wonderful effect of this outpouring of the Holy Spirit? Rev. 18:1, 2; Joel 2:23, 28-32.

NOTE.—"The work of this angel [Rev. 18:1] comes in at the right time to join in the last great work of the third angel's message as it swells to a loud cry. And the people of God are thus prepared to stand in the hour of temptation, which they are soon to meet. I saw a great light resting upon them, and they united to fearlessly proclaim the third angel's message."—*Early Writings,* page 277.

"All power is given into His [Jesus'] hands, that He may dispense rich gifts unto men, imparting the priceless gift of His own righteousness to the helpless human agent. This is the message that God commanded to be given to the world. It is the third angel's message, which is to be proclaimed with a loud voice, and attended with the outpouring of His Spirit in a large measure."—*Testimonies to Ministers,* page 92.

THE REDEEMED WILL GIVE GLORY TO GOD FOR HIS SAVING POWER.

6. With what is the world to be lightened? Ps. 85:13; Isa. 58:8.

NOTE.—"The latter rain will be more abundant. The Saviour of men will be glorified, and the earth will be lightened with the bright shining of the beams of His righteousness."—Ellen G. White, *The Review and Herald,* Nov. 22, 1892.

The revelation will be through the lives of His people. It is in men that the image of Christ is to be restored, and through men that the righteous character of Christ is to be reflected.

The Final Conflict

7. What does the Lord do for His church as she enters the final conflict? When thus purified, how is the church described? Mal. 3:1-4; Song of Solomon 6:10.

NOTE.—"Those who are living upon the earth when the intercession of Christ shall cease in the sanctuary above are to stand in the sight of a holy God without a mediator. Their robes must be spotless, their characters must be purified from sin by the blood of sprinkling. . . . While the investigative judgment is going forward in heaven, . . . there is to be a special work of purification, of putting away of sin, among God's people upon earth. This work is more clearly presented in the messages of Revelation 14.

"When this work shall have been accomplished, the followers of Christ will be ready for His appearing."—*The Great Controversy,* page 425.

8. In what words did the Saviour predict the triumph of the church over the confederacy of evil? How extensive will be her witness? Matt. 16:18; Rom. 9:28; Rev. 18:1.

NOTE.—"Human power and human might did not establish the church of God, and neither can they destroy it. Not on the rock of human strength, but on Christ Jesus, the Rock of Ages, was the church founded, 'and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.' "—*Prophets and Kings,* pages 595, 596.

"If the church will put on the robe of Christ's righteousness, withdrawing from all allegiance with the world, there is before her the dawn of a bright and glorious day. . . . Truth, passing by those who despise and reject it, will triumph. . . . When the message of God meets with opposition, He gives it additional force, that it may exert greater influence. Endowed with divine energy, it will cut its way through the strongest barriers and triumph over every obstacle."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 601.

9. What is our assurance of victory? 1 John 5:4.

NOTE.—"We are in the time when tribulations such as the world has never yet seen will prevail. . . . But God has set bounds that Satan cannot pass. Our most holy faith is this barrier; and if we build ourselves up in the faith, we shall be safe in the keeping of the Mighty One."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 297.

Christ's Kingdom of Righteousness

10. What will be the condition of the church that Christ presents to Himself at His coming? To whom will the pearly gates swing open? Eph. 5:27; 1 John 3:2; Isa. 26:2; Rev. 22:14.

11. In what garments will the redeemed be clad and how will they appear at the marriage supper of the Lamb? Rev. 7:9, 14; 19:6-9.

NOTE.—"By the wedding garment in the parable is represented the pure, spotless character which Christ's true followers will possess. . . . It is the righteousness of Christ, His own unblemished character, that through faith is imparted to all who receive Him as their personal Saviour. . . . Only the covering which Christ Himself has provided can make us meet to appear in God's presence."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* pages 310, 311.

12. What will be the nature of the glorious, everlasting kingdom and reign of Christ? Isa. 32:1; 35:8-10; 2 Peter 3:13.

NOTE.—"On Christ's coronation day He will not acknowledge as His any who bear spot or wrinkle or any such thing. But to His faithful ones He will give crowns of immortal glory. Those who would not that He should reign over them will see Him surrounded by the army of the redeemed, each of whom bears the sign, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."—Ellen G. White, *The Review and Herald,* Nov. 24, 1904.

Think on These Things

Have I by the surrender of my will to Christ united myself to the only source of spiritual power?

Have I freely confessed my sins and put them away, claiming justification through Christ's imputed righteousness?

Am I receiving His imparted righteousness by constant communion with Him?

Am I growing in grace by an increase of faith which appropriates more and more of His righteousness?

Out of a deep love to God, am I more fully keeping His commandments through Christ's indwelling presence?

Am I preparing for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit?

THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING

June 24, 1961, Southern African Division

The overflow of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering for the fourth quarter of 1956 amounted to $68,310. 70. This generous sum of money went to the Southern African Division to provide better homes for African workers. For this liberal offering, the workers all over Africa were deeply grateful, for they were badly in need of better and more permanent housing.

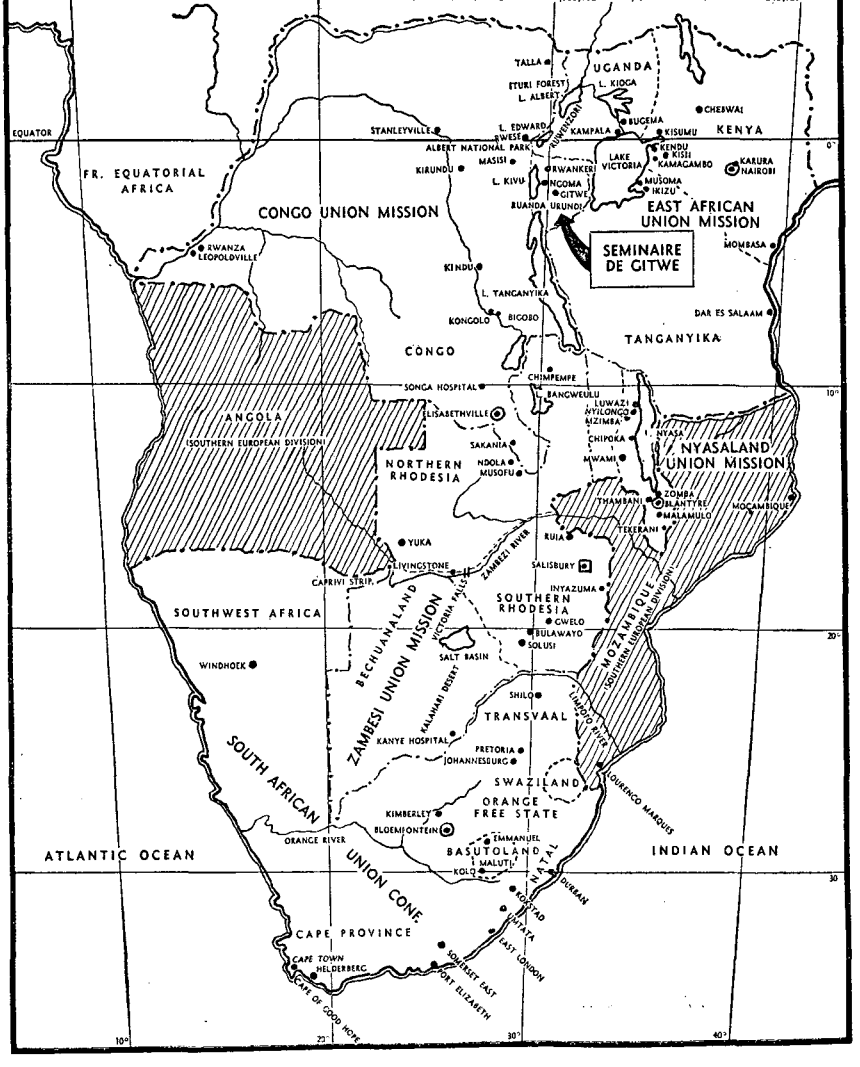
Now, four years and two quarters later, we have the privilege of giving a helping hand to Africa again. This time the overflow will go to another very worthy and very needy project—the training college in the Congo. Too long have our schools in Africa been below standard for the adequate education and training of national workers. The time has come when this urgent need must not be put off longer.

The training college is located at the site of our Gitwe Mission Station, where we have been carrying on work for nearly fifty years. The Congo Union is the largest union mission in the world, with 65,000 baptized members. To shepherd this large membership and to win new thousands to Christ, it is imperative that our young people be given an education that will be comparable to that of the people for whom they work in this enlightened day in Africa. Won't you do your best for this new school while there is still opportunity?

LESSONS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER, 1961

Sabbath school members who have failed to receive a senior *Lesson Quarterly* for the third quarter of 1961 will be helped by the following outline in studying the first lesson. The title of the first lesson is "Jesus—God-Man." The memory verse is John 1:14. The texts to be studied are:

Ques. 1. John 1:1, first part.
Ques. 2. John 1:1 (second part), 2.
Ques. 3. John 1:3.
Ques. 4. John 1:4.
Ques. 5. John 1:5.
Ques. 6. John 1:6-8.
Ques. 7. John 1:9.
Ques. 8. John 1:10, 11.
Ques. 9. John 1:12.
Ques. 10. John 1:13.
Ques. 11. John 1:14.
Ques. 12. John 1:16, 17.
Ques. 13. John 1:18.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DIVISION

UNION MISSION	POPULATION	CHURCHES	CH. MEM.	S.S. MEM.
CONGO	15,976,415	377	64,554	125,183
EAST AFRICAN	25,131,129	283	48,763	86,167
NYASALAND	3,000,000	93	16,474	21,979
SO. AFRICAN U. C.	15,288,358	239	16,837	21,158
ZAMBESI	4,672,200	166	30,897	58,652
DIVISION TOTALS	64,068,102	1,158	177,525	313,139