# CHRISTIAN VIRTUES

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

# Quarterly

Senior Division, No. 284, Second Quarter, 1966

H. M. Tippett

# THE BLESSING OF DAILY STUDY

"With joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." Isa. 12:3.

"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and Thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart; for I am called by Thy name, O Lord God of hosts." Jer. 15:16.

"As a means of intellectual training, the opportunities of the Sabbath are invaluable. Let the Sabbath School lesson be learned, not by a hasty glance at the lesson scripture on Sabbath morning, but by careful study for the next week on Sabbath afternoon, with daily review or illustration during the week. Thus the lesson will become fixed in the memory, a treasure never to be wholly lost."—*Education*, pages 251, 252.

"Every day some portion of time should be appropriated to the study of the lessons, not merely in learning to mechanically repeat the words, while the mind does not comprehend the meaning; but to go to the very foundation, and become familiar with what is brought out in the lesson." —*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, page 53.

## 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. Goodness and Nobility
2. Faithfulness and Dependability
3. Temperance and Sobriety
4. Liberality and Benevolence
5. Self-Denial and Sacrifice
6. Purity and Morality
7. Patience and Forbearance
8. Meekness and Humility
9. Reverence and Worship
10. Diligence and Industry
11. Kindness and Sympathy
12. Justice and Equity
13. Zeal and Soul Saving

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# Sabbath School Lesson Quarterly

## CHRISTIAN VIRTUES

### GENERAL INTRODUCTION

It has been some time since we reviewed the cardinal principles of Christian living in a comprehensive way such as is presented here. The preparation of these lessons was motivated by a desire to promote the practice in everyday life of those graces and virtues by which we bear witness to the world of the faith that sustains our Christian experience.

The emphasis has been placed on the active rather than on the passive virtues. The stern "Thou shalt nots" of the Bible, though important for our counsel, give place here to the injunction of Jesus, "This do, and thou shalt live," which is applicable throughout life. The titles of the lessons are twofold to give wider scope, if possible, to the leading thought of each week's study. These lessons give opportunity for extensive study in the counsel of the spirit of prophecy, to which much reference has been made.

**Lesson 1, for April 2, 1966**

## Goodness and Nobility

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5:16.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Testimonies," Vol. 1, pp. 303-310; Vol. 5, pp. 532-541; Vol. 9, pp. 19-29; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

### DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

| | Check Here |
|---|---|
| Sabbath afternoon: Read the General Introduction and the first study help. | ☐ |
| Sunday: Lesson Introduction; Ques. 1-4. | ☐ |
| Monday: Ques. 5-8; read second study help. | ☐ |
| Tuesday: Ques. 9-11; read third study help. | ☐ |
| Wednesday: Ques. 12, 13. | ☐ |
| Thursday: Review first eight questions; learn memory verse. | ☐ |
| Friday: Review last five questions; meditate on Key Thought. | ☐ |

### Lesson Outline:

**Introduction**

**I. The Divine Example**

1. God the only source of goodness. Luke 18:18, 19.
2. Nature of God's goodness. Ex. 33:19, first part; 34:6, 7.
3. Jesus demonstrates God's goodness. Acts 10:38.
4. Christ's pattern of service. Luke 4:18, 19.

**II. The Effects of Goodness**

5. Man in his natural state. Ps. 14: 2, 3.

6. God's goodness and man's salvation. Rom. 2:4.
7. Goodness to be desired. Ps. 107: 9; Matt. 5:6.
8. Fruits of goodness. Gal. 5:22, 23.

**III. God's Ideal for Man**

9. Exalted standard for Christian conduct. 1 Peter 1:15, 16; Matt. 5:48; Eph. 4:13.
10. Influence of a godly life. Matt. 5:16; 1 Peter 2:12.
11. Character of believers looking for Christ's coming. Titus 2:11-14.

**IV. The Power for Noble Living and Its Reward**

12. God working in man. Heb. 13:20, 21.
13. The eternal reward. Matt. 25:21.

**Key Thought:**

"True goodness is . . . true greatness." —*Testimonies*, Vol. 2, p. 305.

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## THE LESSON

### Introduction

Without dispute the supreme virtue in Christian living is godliness, from which stems every other virtue in the list of Christian graces enjoined on the children of God. To cultivate all the attributes of a noble character is to attain the goodness manifested in Jesus as He moved among men. This holy objective is the work of a lifetime and can be realized only in progressive spiritual growth as we daily recognize God's goodness, appropriate His power in overcoming temptation, and in fellowship and communion with Christ strive to follow the divine pattern.

### The Divine Example

**1. How did Jesus direct seekers after virtue to the true source of goodness? Luke 18:18, 19.**

NOTE.—"The ruler had addressed Christ merely as an honored rabbi, not discerning in Him the Son of God. The Saviour said, 'Why callest thou Me good?' . . . God is the one good. If you recognize Me as such, you must receive Me as His Son and representative."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, pages 390, 391.

**2. What is the nature of God's goodness? Ex. 33:19, first part; 34: 6, 7. Compare 1 John 4:8, last part.**

NOTE.—"Selfishness prevents us from beholding God. The self-seeking spirit judges of God as altogether such a one as itself. Until we have renounced this, we cannot understand Him who is love. Only the unselfish heart, the humble and trustful spirit, shall see God as 'merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.' "—*The Desire of Ages*, page 302.

"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. How did Jesus reveal the character of God? Acts 10:38.**

**4. To what broad pattern of service was He dedicated? Luke 4:18, 19.**

## The Effects of Goodness

5. What is said of man in his natural state? Ps. 14:2, 3.

NOTE.—"We must behold Christ. It is ignorance of Him that makes men so uplifted in their own righteousness. When we contemplate His purity and excellence, we shall see our own weakness and poverty and defects as they really are."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 159.

6. What part does God's goodness play in man's salvation? Rom. 2:4.

NOTE.—"Without the divine working, man could do no good thing. God calls every man to repentance, yet man cannot even repent unless the Holy Spirit works upon his heart. . . . The Saviour is continually drawing men to repentance; they need only to submit to be drawn, and their hearts will be melted in penitence."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 8, pp. 64, 65.

7. To be filled with God's goodness, how intense must be our desire? Ps. 107:9; Matt. 5:6.

NOTE.—"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."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 8, p. 322.

8. With what other fruits of the Spirit is goodness identified? Gal. 5:22, 23.

NOTE.—"Those who become new creatures in Christ Jesus will bring forth the fruits of the Spirit. . . . The proud and self-assertive become meek and lowly in heart. The vain and supercilious become serious and unobtrusive. The drunken become sober, and the profligate pure. The vain customs and fashions of the world are laid aside."—*Steps to Christ,* page 58.

## God's Ideal for Man

9. How exalted is the standard for Christian conduct? 1 Peter 1:15, 16; Matt. 5:48; Eph. 4:13.

NOTE.—The word here translated "conversation" really means "conduct" or "way of living."

"By sin the image of God in man has been marred and well-nigh obliterated; it is the work of the gospel to restore that which has been lost; and we are to cooperate . . . in this work."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 743.

"God's ideal for His children is higher than the highest human thought can reach. . . .

"The ideal of Christian character is Christlikeness. As the Son of man was perfect in His life, so His followers are to be perfect in their life."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 311.

10. How far-reaching is the influence of a godly life? Matt. 5:16; 1 Peter 2:12.

NOTE.—"The Jews thought to confine the benefits of salvation to their own nation; but Christ showed them that salvation is like the sunshine. It belongs to the whole world. The religion of the Bible is not to be confined between the covers of a book, nor within the walls of a church. It is not to be brought out occasionally for our own benefit, and then to be carefully laid aside again. It is to sanctify the daily life, to manifest itself in every business transaction and in all our social relations."—*The Desire of Ages,* pages 306, 307.

11. How are the believers described who look for the Lord's coming? Titus 2:11-14.

NOTE.—The word "peculiar" here has the connotation of "special" or "set apart." We must be different from the world in an attractive sort of way, not odd and eccentric in an offensive way.

"How many shrink from the purifying process! They are unwilling to live out the truth, unwilling to appear singular in the eyes of the world. It is this mingling with the world that destroys our spirituality, pureness, and zeal. Satan's power is constantly exercised to stupefy the sensibilities of God's people, that their consciences may not be sensitive to wrong, and that the sign of distinction between them and the world may be destroyed."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 1, pp. 274, 275.

### The Power for Noble Living and Its Reward

**12. What noble aim is expressed in the apostolic benediction to the Hebrews? Heb. 13:20, 21.**

NOTE.—"Holiness is not rapture: it is an entire surrender of the will to God; it is living by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God; it is doing the will of our heavenly Father; it is trusting God in trial, in darkness as well as in the light; it is walking by faith and not by sight; it is relying on God with unquestioning confidence, and resting in His love."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 51.

**13. What reward is in store for those who measure up to the Christian standard? Matt. 25:21.**

NOTE.—"Upon the heads of the overcomers, Jesus with His own right hand places the crown of glory. For each there is a crown, bearing his own 'new name' (Revelation 2:17), and the inscription, 'Holiness to the Lord.' . . .

"Before the ransomed throng is the Holy City. Jesus opens wide the pearly gates, and the nations that have kept the truth enter in. There they behold the Paradise of God, the home of Adam in his innocency. Then that voice, richer than any music that ever fell on mortal ear, is heard, saying: 'Your conflict is ended.' 'Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.' "—*The Great Controversy,* page 646.

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**Lesson 2, for April 9, 1966**

## Faithfulness and Dependability

**MEMORY VERSE:** "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much." Luke 16:10.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Testimonies," Vol. 5, pp. 272-285; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 546-556; "Christ's Object Lessons," pages 325-365; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

### DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

| | Check Here |
|---|---|
| Sabbath afternoon: Read the Introduction; survey lesson, following outline. | ☐ |
| Sunday: Ques. 1-4; read first study help. | ☐ |
| Monday: Ques. 5-9; read second study help. | ☐ |
| Tuesday: Ques. 10-12; read third study help. | ☐ |
| Wednesday: Ques. 13-15. | ☐ |
| Thursday: Review Ques. 1-9; learn memory verse. | ☐ |
| Friday: Review Ques. 10-15; meditate on Key Thought. | ☐ |

## Lesson Outline:

### Introduction

### I. Faithfulness a Divine Attribute

1. Assurance of God's faithfulness. Isa. 25:1; 1 Cor. 1:9.
2. God's faithfulness described. Lam. 3:22, 23; 1 Cor. 10:13.
3. Abiding nature of His faithfulness. Ps. 119:89, 90, 160; 2 Tim. 2:13.
4. The example of Jesus. Luke 6:12; Matt. 4:10; Luke 4:16; Mark 12:17.

### II. Faithful Witnesses of Old

5. Samuel defends his integrity. 1 Sam. 12:3, 4.
6. Incentive to faithfulness. 1 Sam. 12:24.
7. Job's integrity. Job 1:20-22.
8. Daniel's fidelity. Dan. 6:10.
9. Nehemiah's steadfastness. Neh. 6:3, 4.

### III. Fidelity in Life's Routines

10. Faithfulness in every responsibility. Luke 16:10.
11. Doing all things with our might. Eccl. 9:10; Rom. 12:11.
12. Test of stewardship. 1 Cor. 4:2.

### IV. The Rewards of Faithfulness

13. Promise made to servants who had improved their talents. Matt. 25: 21, 23.
14. Reward assured to those who persevere. Gal. 6:9.
15. Happy prospect of those who endure. Matt. 24:13; Rev. 2:10, last part.

### Key Thought:

"Success is not the result of chance or of destiny; it is . . . the reward of faith and discretion, of virtue and persevering effort."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 353.

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## THE LESSON

### Introduction

In a world of shifting values and moral defection such as is ours today, leaders of industry and finance place a high premium on the dependable man or woman. They recognize the quality of fidelity in men by appointing them to high office, heavy responsibilities, and rich remuneration. God has a high standard of attainment for His church in these last days, too, and "the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him." 2 Chron. 16:9. Only those who measure up to the "high calling of God in Christ Jesus" can share in the unspeakable riches of His grace.

### Faithfulness a Divine Attribute

**1. What assurance are we given that God is faithful? Isa. 25:1; 1 Cor. 1:9.**

NOTE.—"That which above all other considerations should lead us to prize the Bible is that in it is revealed to men the will of God. Here we learn the object of our creation and the means by which that object may be attained. We learn how to improve wisely the present life and how to secure the future life."—*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students,* page 53.

**2. How is the faithfulness of God further described? Lam. 3:22, 23; 1 Cor. 10:13.**

NOTE.—"The Bible shows us God in His high and holy place, not in a state of inactivity, not in silence and solitude, but surrounded by ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of holy beings, all waiting to do His will. Through these messengers He is in active communication with every part of His dominion. By His Spirit He is everywhere present. Through the agency of His Spirit and His angels He ministers to the children of men."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 417.

**3. How abiding is God's faithfulness? Ps. 119:89, 90, 160; 2 Tim. 2:13.**

NOTE.—"It is not by inherent power that year by year the earth yields its bounties and continues its march around the sun. The hand of the Infinite One is perpetually at work guiding this planet. It is God's power continually exercised that keeps the earth in position in its rotation." —*The Ministry of Healing,* page 416.

**4. How did Jesus show His fidelity to heaven's principles in personal devotion? Luke 6:12. In resisting temptation? Matt. 4:10. In Sabbath keeping? Luke 4:16. In good citizenship? Mark 12:17.**

NOTE.—"We must put on the heavenly graces, and, with the eye directed upward to the crown of immortality, keep the Pattern ever before us."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 2, p. 358.

## Faithful Witnesses of Old

**5. In his parting speech to Israel as their ruler, how did Samuel defend his integrity, and what did the people acknowledge? 1 Sam. 12:3, 4.**

NOTE.—"Samuel was not seeking merely to justify his own course. He had previously set forth the principles that should govern both the king and the people, and he desired to add to his words the weight of his own example. From childhood he had been connected with the work of God, and during his long life one object had been ever before him—the glory of God and the highest good of Israel."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 614.

**6. What reason for faithfully serving God was set before Israel in the days of Samuel? 1 Sam. 12:24.**

**7. What did Job do when deprived of his dearest possessions? Job 1: 20-22.**

**8. What example of faithfulness did Daniel set? Dan. 6:10.**

NOTE.—"Why should he cease to pray now, when he most needed to pray? Rather would he relinquish life itself, than his hope of help in God. . . . He did not try to conceal his act. Although he knew full well the consequences of his fidelity to God, his spirit faltered not. . . . Neither the king nor his decree could make him swerve from allegiance to the King of kings."—*Prophets and Kings,* pages 541, 542.

**9. What example of fidelity did Nehemiah show in the work of the Lord? Neh. 6:3, 4.**

NOTE.—"The faith of him who is constantly advancing does not weaken; for above, beneath, beyond, he recognizes Infinite Love, working out all things to accomplish His good purpose. God's true servants work with a determination that will not fail, because the throne of grace is their constant dependence."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 660.

## Fidelity in Life's Routines

**10. What basic principle is found in the work and conduct of a reliable person? Luke 16:10.**

NOTE.—"All may be certain that faithfulness in little things is the evidence of fitness for greater responsibilities. Every act of life is a revelation of character, and he only who in small duties proves himself 'a workman that needeth not to be ashamed' can be honored by God with higher service."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 218.

11. What should be our attitude to our daily tasks? Eccl. 9:10; Rom. 12:11.

NOTE.—"Whether pleasing or unpleasing, we are to do the duty that lies nearest. . . .

"He does not permit us to pass by the homely but sacred duties that lie next us. Often these duties afford the very training essential to prepare us for a higher work. Often our plans fail that God's plans for us may succeed."—*The Ministry of Healing*, page 473.

"Examine under the microscope the smallest and commonest of wayside blossoms, and note in all its parts the exquisite beauty and completeness. So in the humblest lot true excellence may be found; the commonest tasks, wrought with loving faithfulness, are beautiful in God's sight."—*Education*, page 114.

12. What is the test of Christian stewardship? 1 Cor. 4:2.

NOTE.—"The knowledge of God's grace, the truths of His Word, and temporal gifts as well,—time and means, talents and influence,—are all a trust from God to be employed to His glory and the salvation of men. Nothing can be more offensive to God, who is constantly bestowing His gifts upon man, than to see him selfishly grasping these gifts and making no returns to the Giver."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, pp. 731, 732.

## The Rewards of Faithfulness

13. What promise was made to the faithful servants who had improved their talents? Matt. 25:21, 23.

NOTE.—"The talents, however few, are to be put to use. The question that most concerns us is not, How much have I received? but, What am I doing with that which I have?"—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 329.

"Our reward for working with Christ in this world is the greater power and wider privilege of working with Him in the world to come."—*Ibid.*, p. 361.

14. How will those who persevere be rewarded? Gal. 6:9.

NOTE.—"Holiness will lead its possessor to be fruitful and abound in all good works. He will never become weary in well-doing, neither will he look for promotion in this world. He will look forward for promotion to the time when the Majesty of heaven shall exalt the sanctified ones to His throne. . . . The Lord then enumerates the works of self-denial and mercy, compassion and righteousness, which they had wrought."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 2, p. 445.

15. What assurance is given those who patiently endure earth's trials? Matt. 24:13; Rev. 2:10, last part.

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**Lesson 3, for April 16, 1966**

# Temperance and Sobriety

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." 1 Cor. 10:31.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Testimonies," Vol. 2, pp. 354-376; "Prophets and Kings," pages 479-490; "The Ministry of Healing," pages 325-335; "Temperance," pages 137-169; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

## DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

| | Check Here |
|---|---|
| Sabbath afternoon: Survey lesson, following the outline. | ☐ |
| Sunday: Read Introduction; Ques. 1-5. | ☐ |
| Monday: Ques. 6-8; read first study help. | ☐ |
| Tuesday: Ques. 9, 10; read second study help. | ☐ |
| Wednesday: Ques. 11-14; read third study help. | ☐ |
| Thursday: Review Ques. 1-8; read fourth study help; learn memory verse. | ☐ |
| Friday: Review Ques. 9-14; meditate on Key Thought. | ☐ |

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### Lesson Outline:

**Introduction**

**I. Warnings and Obligations**

1. Timely warning. Luke 21:34.
2. Obligations on Christians. 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; 3:16, 17.
3. The principle in self-mastery. 1 Cor. 9:25-27.
4. Moderation in all things. 1 Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:23.
5. Responsibilities of administrators. Prov. 31:4, 5.

**II. Daniel's Example and Belshazzar's Feast**

6. Daniel's resolution and its results. Dan. 1:8, 12, 15.
7. God's displeasure on Belshazzer. Dan. 5:1-4.
8. Retribution on the king. Dan. 5:5, 30.

**III. John the Baptist and Herod Antipas**

9. The prophecy concerning John the Baptist. Luke 1:15.
10. The intemperate wrath of Herod. Mark 6:18, 21-27.

**IV. Temperance in All Things**

11. The broad principle of conduct for the church. Titus 2:1-6.
12. Personal responsibility for our conduct. Rom. 14:21; Hab. 2:15.
13. Temperance in speech. Col. 4:6; Matt. 5:37.
14. Safeguard against modern excesses. Phil. 4:5; Col. 3:17.

**Key Thought:**

"Men and women . . . need to be impressed with the fact that all their powers of mind and body are the gift of God, and are to be preserved in the best possible condition for His service."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 130.

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## THE LESSON

### Introduction

Only the temperate are free from spiritual bondage and ready for the infilling of God's power. The broad principle of moderation in all things lawful for our use calls not only for abstinence from liquor and narcotics, but for a check on every form of excess, whether mental or physical. In eating and drinking, in labor, study, and recreation, moderation is an admirable Christian virtue.

### Warnings and Obligations

**1. Of what must those beware who look for Jesus' coming? Luke 21:34.**

NOTE.—"Men who are engaged in giving the last message of warning to the world, a message which is to decide the destiny of souls, should make a practical application

in their own lives of the truths they preach to others. They should be examples to the people in their eating, in their drinking, and in their chaste conversation and deportment."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 3, pp. 490, 491.

**2. What solemn sense of obligation should deter Christians from sensual indulgences? 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; 3:16, 17.**

NOTE.—"If all who profess to be followers of Christ were truly sanctified, their means, instead of being spent for needless and even hurtful indulgences, would be turned into the Lord's treasury, and Christians would set an example of temperance, self-denial, and self-sacrifice. Then they would be the light of the world."—*The Great Controversy,* page 475.

"He who remains in willing ignorance of the laws of his physical being and who violates them through ignorance is sinning against God."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 348.

**3. What is the fundamental principle in self-mastery, and how did Paul exercise it? 1 Cor. 9:25-27.**

NOTE.—"As our first parents lost Eden through the indulgence of appetite, our only hope of regaining Eden is through the firm denial of appetite and passion. Abstemiousness in diet and control of all the passions will preserve the intellect and give mental and moral vigor, enabling men to bring all their propensities under the control of the higher powers and to discern between right and wrong, the sacred and the common."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 3, p. 491.

**4. What spiritual objective should inspire moderation and self-control in all things? 1 Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:23.**

NOTE.—"To have firm religious principles is an inestimable treasure. It is the purest, highest, and most elevated influence mortals can possess.' Such have an anchor. Every act is well considered, lest its effect be injurious to another and lead away from Christ. The constant inquiry of the mind is: Lord, how shall I best serve Thee, and glorify Thy name in the earth?"—*Testimonies,* Vol. 2, p. 129.

**5. What social evils result from the intemperance of rulers and legislators? Prov. 31:4, 5.**

NOTE.—"Oh, how often has the life of the innocent been sacrificed through the intemperance of those who should have been guardians of justice! . . . Those who have jurisdiction over the lives of their fellowmen should be held guilty of a crime when they yield to intemperance. All who execute the laws should be law keepers. They should be men of self-control. They need to have full command of their physical, mental, and moral powers, that they may possess vigor of intellect, and a high sense of justice."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 222.

## Daniel's Example and Belshazzar's Feast

**6. When offered the king's dainties, what resolve did Daniel make and what did he propose? What was the result? Dan. 1:8, 12, 15.**

NOTE.—"Daniel and his associates had been trained by their parents to habits of strict temperance. They had been taught that God would hold them accountable for their capabilities, and that they must never dwarf or enfeeble their powers. This education was to Daniel and his companions the means of their preservation amidst the demoralizing influences of the court of Babylon."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 482.

**7. What abandoned conduct brought God's displeasure upon Belshazzar? Dan. 5:1-4.**

NOTE.—"With reason dethroned through shameless intoxication, and with lower im-

pulses and passions now in the ascendancy, the king himself took the lead in the riotous orgy. . . .

"Little did Belshazzar think that there was a heavenly Witness to his idolatrous revelry; that a divine Watcher, unrecognized, looked upon the scene of profanation, heard the sacrilegious mirth, beheld the idolatry."—*Prophets and Kings,* pages 523, 524.

**8. How swift was the retribution upon the king? Dan. 5:5, 30.**

## John the Baptist and Herod Antipas

**9. What was prophesied of John the Baptist before his birth? Luke 1:15.**

NOTE.—"In the time of John the Baptist, greed for riches, and the love of luxury and display had become widespread. Sensuous pleasures, feasting and drinking, were causing physical disease and degeneracy, benumbing the spiritual perceptions, and lessening the sensibility to sin. John was to stand as a reformer. By his abstemious life and plain dress he was to rebuke the excesses of his time. Hence the directions given to the parents of John,—a lesson of temperance by an angel from the throne of heaven."—*The Desire of Ages,* pages 100, 101.

**10. Rebuked by John the Baptist for his profligacy, to what intemperate lengths did Herod go? Mark 6: 18, 21-27.**

NOTE.—"The king was dazed with wine. Passion held sway, and reason was dethroned. . . .

"Oh, how often has the life of the innocent been sacrificed through the intemperance of those who should have been guardians of justice! He who puts the intoxicating cup to his lips makes himself responsible for all the injustice he may commit under its besotting power."—*The Desire of Ages,* pages 221, 222.

## Temperance in All Things

**11. What broad principle of conduct did Paul give Titus for the church? Titus 2:1-6.**

**12. How responsible are we for our conduct and influence? Rom. 14:21; Hab. 2:15.**

NOTE.—"Through Christ, God has invested man with an influence that makes it impossible for him to live to himself. Individually we are connected with our fellowmen, a part of God's great whole, and we stand under mutual obligations. . . .

"This is a responsibility from which we cannot free ourselves. Our words, our acts, our dress, our deportment, even the expression of the countenance, has an influence."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 339.

**13. What admonition is given to us regarding our speech? Col. 4:6; Matt. 5:37.**

NOTE.—"No evilspeaking, no frivolous talk, no fretful repining or impure suggestion, will escape the lips of him who is following Christ."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 337.

"God's Word condemns also the use of those meaningless phrases and expletives that border on profanity. It condemns the deceptive compliments, the evasions of truth, the exaggerations, the misrepresentations in trade, that are current in society and in the business world."—*Education,* page 236.

**14. What principle, if heeded, will keep us from the excesses of our time? Phil. 4:5; Col. 3:17.**

NOTE.—"Whatever our department of labor, be it housework or field work or intellectual pursuits, we may perform it to the glory of God so long as we make Christ first and last and best in everything."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 459.

# Liberality and Benevolence

**MEMORY VERSE:** "I have showed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Gospel Workers," pages 454-457; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 335-345; "Patriarchs and Prophets," pages 525-536; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

## DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

| | Check Here |
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| Sabbath afternoon: Survey the lesson, following outline. | ☐ |
| Sunday: Read Introduction; Ques. 1-3. | ☐ |
| Monday: Ques. 4-7; read first study help. | ☐ |
| Tuesday: Ques. 8-11; read second study help. | ☐ |
| Wednesday: Ques. 12-15; read third study help. | ☐ |
| Thursday: Review Ques. 1-7; learn memory verse. | ☐ |
| Friday: Review Ques. 8-15; meditate on Key Thought. | ☐ |

## Lesson Outline:

### Introduction

### I. God's Ownership

1. God the source of all wealth. 1 Chron. 29:11, 12, 14.
2. God's claim on the world's wealth. Ps. 89:11; Hag. 2:8.
3. Spiritual danger of the prosperous. Deut. 8:11-14, 18.

### II. God's Requirements in Tithes and Offerings

4. God's proportion of men's income. Lev. 27:30, 32.
5. Promise to the tithe payer. Mal. 3:10-12.
6. Israel's offerings for the tabernacle. Ex. 35:29.
7. Attitudes in giving contrasted. 2 Cor. 9:7; Matt. 6:1.

### III. The Rewards of Generous Giving

8. The law of sowing and reaping. 2 Cor. 9:6; John 12:24.
9. Promise to those who honor God with gifts. Prov. 3:9, 10.
10. How God rewards the giver. Luke 6:38.
11. Blessings delayed yet assured. Eccl. 11:1.

### IV. Liberality Among Brethren

12. Paul recalls Jesus' words on giving. Acts 20:35.
13. Those who fail to feel a brother's need. 1 John 3:17.
14. Promises to those who share. Prov. 11:25; 19:17; 22:9.
15. Our abiding sufficiency. 2 Cor. 3:5.

### Key Thought:

"Spiritual prosperity is closely bound up with Christian liberality."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 344.

## THE LESSON

### Introduction

The rich life is the outflowing life. Stated Scripturally, "The liberal soul shall be made fat." The penny-pinching soul is a miserly one. The truly thrifty person saves that he may give intelligently. True benevolence is not extravagance and impulsive spending, but a consecrated directing of what we have to share into worthy

channels. The philanthropy that Heaven approves is the serving of a neighbor's needs out of a scanty store rather than ostentatious giving from lavish profits. The test of liberality is not in the size of the gift, but in the simple principle, "God loveth a cheerful giver."

## God's Ownership

**1. How did David acknowledge God as the source and distributor of all wealth? 1 Chron. 29:11, 12, 14.**

NOTE.—"All that men receive of God's bounty still belongs to God. Whatever He has bestowed in the valuable and beautiful things of earth is placed in our hands to test us, to sound the depths of our love for Him and our appreciation of His favors."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 736.

**2. To how much of the world's wealth does God lay claim? Ps. 89: 11; Hag. 2:8.**

NOTE.—"Every good thing of earth was placed here by the bountiful hand of God as an expression of His love to man. The poor are His, and the cause of religion is His. The gold and the silver are the Lord's, and He could rain them from heaven if He chose. But instead of this He has made man His steward, entrusting him with means, not to be hoarded, but to be used in benefiting others."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 9, p. 255.

**3. Against what danger are the prosperous warned? Deut. 8:11-14, 18.**

NOTE.—"It is God who gives men power to get wealth, and He has bestowed this ability, not as a means of gratifying self, but as a means of returning to God His own. With this object it is not a sin to acquire means. . . . Wealth will prove a blessing if we regard it as the Lord's, to be received with thankfulness and with thankfulness returned to the Giver."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 6, pp. 452, 453.

## God's Requirements in Tithes and Offerings

**4. What proportion of the bounties God gives to men does He require us to return? Lev. 27:30, 32.**

NOTE.—"As to the amount required, God has specified one tenth of the increase. This is left to the conscience and benevolence of men, whose judgment in this tithing system should have free play. . . .

"All that is withheld of that which God claims, the tenth of the increase, is recorded in the books of heaven against the withholders, as robbery."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 3, p. 394.

**5. What remarkable promise is given to the faithful tithe payer? Mal. 3:10-12.**

NOTE.—"Whenever God's people, in any period of the world, have cheerfully and willingly carried out His plan in systematic benevolence and in gifts and offerings, they have realized the standing promise that prosperity should attend all their labors just in proportion as they obeyed His requirements. . . . But when they robbed God in tithes and in offerings they were made to realize that they were not only robbing Him but themselves, for He limited His blessings to them just in proportion as they limited their offerings to Him."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 3, p. 395.

**6. In what spirit did the children of Israel bring their offerings for the building of the tabernacle? Ex. 35:29.**

NOTE.—"The plan of Moses to raise means for the building of the tabernacle was highly successful. No urging was necessary. Nor did he employ any of the devices to which churches in our day so often re-

sort. He made no grand feast. He did not invite the people to scenes of gaiety, dancing, and general amusement. . . . He was to accept gifts from everyone that gave willingly, from his heart. And the offerings came in so great abundance that Moses bade the people cease bringing, for they had supplied more than could be used."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 529.

"God requires no less of His people in these last days, in sacrifices and offerings, than He did of the Jewish nation. Those whom He has blessed with a competency, and even the widow and the fatherless, should not be unmindful of His blessings. Especially should those whom He has prospered render to Him the things that are His. They should appear before Him with a spirit of self-sacrifice."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 2, p. 599.

**7. What attitude in a giver does God approve? How does He rebuke the proud giver? 2 Cor. 9:7; Matt. 6:1.**

## The Rewards of Generous Giving

**8. What is the law of sowing and reaping? 2 Cor. 9:6; John 12:24.**

NOTE.—"By casting it away the sower multiplies his seed. So by imparting we increase our blessings. God's promise assures a sufficiency, that we may continue to give. . . .

"The law of self-sacrifice is the law of self-preservation."—*Education,* page 110.

**9. What promise is assured to those who honor God with their best gifts? Prov. 3:9, 10.**

NOTE.—"In every dispensation, from Adam's time to ours, God has claimed the property of man, saying: I am the rightful owner of the universe; therefore consecrate to Me thy firstfruits, bring a tribute of loyalty, surrender to Me My own, thus acknowledging My sovereignty, and you shall be free to retain and enjoy My bounties, and My blessing shall be with you."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 477.

**10. In what generous way does God reward the liberal giver? Luke 6:38.**

NOTE.—"Would men make their property secure? Let them place it in the hands that bear the marks of the crucifixion. Would they enjoy their substance? Let them use it to bless the needy and suffering. Would they increase their possessions? Let them heed the divine injunction, 'Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase.' "—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 345.

**11. Although the blessings of benevolence may seem delayed, of what is the generous giver assured? Eccl. 11:1.**

NOTE.—"In this life our work for God often seems to be almost fruitless. Our efforts to do good may be earnest and persevering, yet we may not be permitted to witness their results. To us the effort may seem to be lost. But the Saviour assures us that our work is noted in heaven, and that the recompense cannot fail."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 6, p. 305.

## Liberality Among Brethren

**12. In counseling the church to care for its needy, what words of Jesus did Paul recall? Acts 20:35.**

NOTE.—"Paul sometimes worked night and day, not only for his own support, but that he might assist his fellow laborers. He shared his earnings with Luke, and he helped Timothy. He even suffered hunger at times, that he might relieve the necessities of others."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 352.

**13. What is lacking in the experience of those who fail to feel a brother's need? 1 John 3:17.**

NOTE.—

"'For to share is the bliss of heaven, as
it is the joy of earth;
And the unshared bread lacks savor,
and the wine unshared lacks zest;
And the joy of the soul redeemed would
be little, little worth
If, content with its own security, it
could forget the rest.'"

—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, 1943 ed., p. 112.

14. What liberal promises are made to those who share their bounties? Prov. 11:25; 19:17; 22:9.

15. Who is our abiding sufficiency in every good work? 2 Cor. 3:5.

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**Lesson 5, for April 30, 1966**

# Self-Denial and Sacrifice

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Then said Jesus unto His disciples, If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me." Matt. 16:24.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Testimonies," Vol. 2, pp. 200-215; Vol. 3, pp. 485-492; Vol. 4, pp. 571-575; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

**DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD**

| | Check Here |
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| Sabbath afternoon: Survey lesson, following the outline. | ☐ |
| Sunday: Read Introduction; Ques. 1-4. | ☐ |
| Monday: Ques. 5-8; read first study help. | ☐ |
| Tuesday: Ques. 9-11; read second study help. | ☐ |
| Wednesday: Ques. 12-14; read third study help. | ☐ |
| Thursday: Review Ques. 1-8; learn memory verse. | ☐ |
| Friday: Review Ques. 9-14; meditate on Key Thought. | ☐ |

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## Lesson Outline:

### Introduction

### I. The Divine Example in Sacrifice

1. God's love for the world. John 3:16.
2. The supreme sacrifice of Jesus. John 10:15, 17, 18, 30.
3. How Jesus met temptation. Luke 4:1-4.
4. The marks of a true disciple. Matt. 16:24; Luke 9:23.

### II. Patterns in Self-Denial

5. The self-abnegation of John the Baptist. Mark 1:7; John 3:30.
6. The complete consecration of Paul. Phil. 3:7, 8.
7. The example of Epaphroditus. Phil. 2:25-30.
8. Jesus' reply to Peter's complaint. Matt. 19:27-29.

### III. Admonitions to Believers

9. Every Christian called to consecration. 1 Peter 2:21-24.
10. The battle against sin. Col. 3:5, 8; 1 Peter 2:11.
11. Paul's example in self-discipline. 1 Cor. 9:27.

### IV. The Heavenly Goal

12. Admonitions to believers in the advent. Titus 2:11-13.

13. Earthly gain against eternal loss. Mark 8:34-37.
14. Promise to those who suffer with Christ. 2 Tim. 2:11, 12.

**Key Thought:**

"True happiness will be the result of every self-denial, every crucifixion of self." —*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 345.

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## THE LESSON

### Introduction

In a self-indulgent, self-seeking, self-approving world like ours, a lesson on self-denial and sacrifice goes contrary to the innate sinful heart. Yet nothing elevates the soul and strengthens the spirit like resolute self-control which molds the conduct into patterns that Heaven can approve. Not until we enter truly into the meaning of Christ's sacrifice for the world can we partake of the spirit of His self-denial in our service for Him. Although a way of trials and crosses, it is the sure road to happiness.

### The Divine Example in Sacrifice

**1. How did God reveal the height and depth and breadth of sacrificial love? John 3:16.**

NOTE.—"What an incomparable love is this! A theme for the most profound meditation! The amazing 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."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 80.

"He laid aside His glory, His dominion, His riches, and sought after those who were perishing in sin. He humbled Himself to our necessities, that He might exalt us to heaven. Sacrifice, self-denial, and disinterested benevolence characterized His life. . . . He is a perfect and holy example. . . . Love for souls for whom Christ died will lead to a denial of self and a willingness to make any sacrifice in order to be co-workers with Christ in the salvation of souls."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 2, p. 549.

**2. How closely was Jesus in accord with His Father in the redemption of man? John 10:15, 17, 18, 30.**

NOTE.—"I present before you the life of self-denial, humility, and sacrifice of our divine Lord. The Majesty of heaven, the King of glory, left His riches, His splendor, His honor and glory, and, in order to save sinful man, condescended to a life of humility, poverty, and shame."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 2, pp. 490, 491.

**3. How did the Saviour overcome the temptations of the flesh in the wilderness? Luke 4:1-4.**

NOTE.—"In our own strength it is impossible for us to deny the clamors of our fallen nature. Through this channel Satan will bring temptation upon us. Christ knew that the enemy would come to every human being, to take advantage of hereditary weakness, and by his false insinuations to ensnare all whose trust is not in God. And by passing over the ground which man must travel, our Lord has prepared the way for us to overcome. . . . 'Be of good cheer,' He says; 'I have overcome the world.' "—*The Desire of Ages,* pages 122, 123.

**4. What did Jesus set forth as the mark of a true disciple? Matt. 16:24; Luke 9:23.**

NOTE.—Observe the word "daily" that Luke adds to our memory verse.

"Yes, follow Him through evil as well as through good report. Follow Him in befriending the most needy and friendless. Follow Him in being forgetful of self, abundant in acts of self-denial and self-sacrifice to do others good; when reviled, reviling not again; manifesting love and compassion for the fallen race."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 2, p. 178.

"We cannot equal the pattern; but we shall not be approved of God if we do not copy it and, according to the ability which God has given, resemble it."—*Ibid.*, p. 549.

## Patterns in Self-Denial

**5. What spirit of self-abnegation did John the Baptist manifest? Mark 1:7; John 3:30.**

NOTE.—"For a time the Baptist's influence over the nation had been greater than that of its rulers, priests, or princes. . . .

"Now he saw the tide of popularity turning away from himself to the Saviour. Day by day the crowds about him lessened. . . .

"Looking in faith to the Redeemer, John had risen to the height of self-abnegation. He sought not to attract men to himself, but to lift their thoughts higher and still higher, until they should rest upon the Lamb of God."—*The Desire of Ages,* pages 178, 179.

**6. How completely did Paul give up worldly advantages that he might know Christ? Phil. 3:7, 8.**

**7. For what did Paul commend Epaphroditus? Phil. 2:25-30.**

NOTE.—The example of both Timothy and Epaphroditus was in striking contrast to the spirit of many whom Paul said "seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's." See verse 21.

**8. What reply did Jesus make to Peter's claim that the disciples had sacrificed everything for the gospel? Matt. 19:27-29.**

NOTE.—"God gave all for man and He asks him to place His service above every earthly and selfish consideration. He cannot accept a divided heart. The heart that is absorbed in earthly affections cannot be given up to God."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 223.

## Admonitions to Believers

**9. To what complete consecration is every Christian called? 1 Peter 2: 21-24.**

NOTE.—"A noble, all-round character is not inherited. It does not come to us by accident. A noble character is earned by individual effort through the merits and grace of Christ. . . . It is formed by hard, stern battles with self. Conflict after conflict must be waged against hereditary tendencies."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 331.

**10. Against what physical and spiritual temptations must we wage battle? Col. 3:5, 8; 1 Peter 2:11.**

**11. How did Paul set an example in self-discipline? 1 Cor. 9:27.**

NOTE.—"We are under solemn obligations to God to keep the spirit pure and the body healthy, that we may be a benefit to humanity, and render to God perfect service."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 2, p. 381.

"To all those who fully comply with the conditions in God's Word, and have a sense of their responsibility to preserve physical vigor and activity of body, that they may have well-balanced minds and healthy morals, the race is not uncertain. They all may gain the prize, and win and wear the crown of immortal glory that fadeth not away."—*Ibid.,* Vol. 4, p. 35.

## The Heavenly Goal

**12. What will be the manner of life of those who look for the coming of the Lord? Titus 2:11-13.**

NOTE.—"The Lord, by close and pointed truths for these last days, is cleaving out a people from the world and purifying them unto Himself. Pride and unhealthful fashions, the love of display, the love of approbation—all must be left with the world if we would be renewed in knowledge after the image of Him who created us."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 3, p. 52.

**13. How does God weigh self-denial and unselfish devotion against worldly gain? Mark 8:34-37.**

NOTE.—"Selfishness is death. No organ of the body could live should it confine its service to itself. The heart, failing to send its lifeblood to the hand and the head, would quickly lose its power. As our lifeblood, so is the love of Christ diffused through every part of His mystical body. We are members one of another, and the soul that refuses to impart will perish."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 417.

**14. What assurance is given to all who die to self and suffer for Christ's sake? 2 Tim. 2:11, 12.**

NOTE.—"Were it possible to reach the tree of life in the midst of the Paradise of God without suffering, we would not enjoy so rich a reward for which we had not suffered. We would shrink back from the glory; shame would seize us in the presence of those who had fought the good fight, had run the race with patience, and had laid hold on eternal life. But none will be there who have not, like Moses, chosen to suffer affliction with the people of God."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 1, p. 78.

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**Lesson 6, for May 7, 1966**

# Purity and Morality

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Prov. 4:23.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Testimonies," Vol. 5, pp. 591-603; Vol. 9, pp. 89-96; "The Ministry of Healing," pages 356-362; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

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| Wednesday: Ques. 13-15; read third study help. | ☐ |
| Thursday: Review Ques. 1-8; learn memory verse. | ☐ |
| Friday: Review Ques. 9-15; meditate on Key Thought. | ☐ |

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## Lesson Outline:

**Introduction**

**I. Guarding the Soul Against Evil**

1. Source of purity and moral conduct. Titus 1:15; Prov. 15:26; Matt. 15:19.
2. A sobering deterrent against evil. Hab. 1:13, first part; Gen. 16:13.
3. The natural condition of the heart. Jer. 17:9.
4. How we are kept from impurity. Prov. 4:23; Phil. 4:8; Ps. 51:10.

### II. Lessons From the Past

5. Joseph in Potiphar's house. Gen. 39:9, last part.
6. David's acknowledgment of sin. His reminder of God's requirements. Ps. 51:7; 24:3, 4.
7. Solomon's description of a virtuous wife and mother. Prov. 31:10-12, 20, 27-29.
8. Ruth preserved by her devotion. Ruth 1:16.

### III. Integrity in the Family

9. Jesus' pronouncement on marriage. Matt. 19:4-6.
10. Relationship between husband and wife. Eph. 5:22, 25.
11. Children to honor their parents. Eph. 6:1-3.
12. Rules for harmony in the home. Eph. 6:4; Prov. 6:20.

### IV. Aspects of Pure Religion

13. Pure religion defined. James 1:27.
14. Admonitions for keeping the life pure. Col. 3:5; Rom. 8:12-14.
15. Guarding our influence. 1 Thess. 5:22.

### Key Thought:

"We need a constant sense of the ennobling power of pure thoughts. The only security for any soul is right thinking."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 491.

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## THE LESSON

### Introduction

True morality is more than outward respectability. It involves the thoughts and attitudes of the mind as well as public decorum and social relationships. The pure in heart will be pure in conversation, honest in dealing with others, and zealous in opposing every form of evil. The prevailing licentiousness of the age, flaunted at us from palaces of vice, from books and magazines, from stage and screen, should be a challenge to every Christian who loves his Lord to "gird up the loins" of his mind that the citadel of his soul may not be invaded by evil.

### Guarding the Soul Against Evil

**1. What is the source of morality and purity of conduct? Titus 1:15; Prov. 15:26; Matt. 15:19.**

NOTE.—"The thoughts of the heart are discerned of God. When impure thoughts are cherished, they need not be expressed by word or act to consummate the sin and bring the soul into condemnation. Its purity is defiled, and the tempter has triumphed."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 623.

"To a great degree the experiences of life are the fruition of our own thoughts and deeds."—*Education,* page 146.

**2. What should deter the Christian believer from compromise with evil? Hab. 1:13, first part; Gen. 16:13.**

NOTE.—"As a shield from temptation and an inspiration to purity and truth, no other influence can equal the sense of God's presence. 'All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.' "—*Education,* page 255.

**3. What is the natural condition of the human heart? Jer. 17:9.**

NOTE.—"We must search the Scriptures with humble hearts, trembling at the word of the Lord, if we would not be in any way deceived in regard to our true character. . . . As Christians we are less thorough in self-examination than in anything else; it is no wonder, then, that we make such slow advancement in understanding self."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, pp. 332, 333.

**4. What, then, will keep us from the sin of impurity? Prov. 4:23; Phil 4:8. For what should we pray? Ps. 51:10.**

NOTE.—" 'Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart'—the human heart, with its conflicting emotions of joy and sorrow; the wandering, wayward heart, which is the abode of so much impurity and deceit. 1 Samuel 16:7. He knows its motives, its very intents and purposes. Go to Him with your soul all stained as it is. Like the psalmist, throw its chambers open to the all-seeing eye, exclaiming, 'Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.' "—*Steps to Christ,* pages 34, 35.

## Lessons From the Past

**5. What was Joseph's reply to temptation in the house of Potiphar? Gen. 39:9, last part.**

NOTE.—"The love and fear of God kept Joseph pure and untarnished in the king's court. . . .

"He showed the same sacred regard for God's will when he stood next the throne as when in a prisoner's cell. Joseph carried his religion everywhere, and this was the secret of his unwavering fidelity."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 544.

**6. How did David acknowledge his sin, and what solemn reminder of God's requirements has he left us? Ps. 51:7; 24:3, 4.**

NOTE.—"David's repentance was sincere and deep. There was no effort to palliate his crime. No desire to escape the judgments threatened, inspired his prayer. But he saw the enormity of his transgression against God; he saw the defilement of his soul; he loathed his sin. It was not for pardon only that he prayed, but for purity of heart. David did not in despair give over the struggle. In the promises of God to repentant sinners he saw the evidence of his pardon and acceptance."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 725.

**7. What was the mature observation of Solomon regarding a successful wife and mother? Prov. 31: 10-12, 20, 27-29.**

NOTE.—"Human love should draw its closest bonds from divine love. Only where Christ reigns can there be deep, true, unselfish affection."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 358.

"Around every family there is a sacred circle that should be kept unbroken. Within this circle no other person has a right to come. Let not the husband or the wife permit another to share the confidences that belong solely to themselves."—*Ibid.,* p. 361.

**8. What resolution preserved Ruth in the land of her adoption? Ruth 1:16.**

NOTE.—"To the great principle of love and loyalty to God, the Father of all, the principle of filial love and obedience is closely related. Contempt for parental authority will soon lead to contempt for the authority of God."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 337.

## Integrity in the Family

**9. How did Jesus emphasize the sacred nature of marriage? Matt. 19: 4-6.**

NOTE.—"When the divine principles are recognized and obeyed in this relation, marriage is a blessing; it guards the purity and happiness of the race, it provides for man's social needs, it elevates the physical, the intellectual, and the moral nature."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 46.

**10. How tender should be the relationship between husband and wife? Eph. 5:22, 25.**

**11. What promise is made to children who honor their parents? Eph. 6:1-3. See also Prov. 20:11.**

NOTE.—"Jesus did not ignore His relation to His earthly parents. . . . For eighteen years after He had recognized that He was the Son of God, He acknowledged the tie that bound Him to the home at Nazareth, and performed the duties of a son."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 82.

**12. How may happy harmony in the home be maintained? Eph. 6:4; Prov. 6:20.**

NOTE.—"Fathers and mothers, however pressing your business, do not fail to gather your family around God's altar. Ask for the guardianship of holy angels in your home. Remember that your dear ones are exposed to temptations. Daily annoyances beset the path of young and old. Those who would live patient, loving, cheerful lives must pray. . . .

"Home should be a place where cheerfulness, courtesy, and love abide; and where these graces dwell, there will abide happiness and peace."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 393.

### Aspects of Pure Religion

**13. How is pure religion defined? James 1:27.**

**14. What is necessary in maintaining inward purity of mind and heart? Col. 3:5; Rom. 8:12-14.**

NOTE.—"A terrible picture of the condition of the world has been presented before me. Immorality abounds everywhere. Licentiousness is the special sin of this age. Never did vice lift its deformed head with such boldness as now."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 2, p. 346.

"Choose poverty, reproach, separation from friends, or any suffering rather than to defile the soul with sin. Death before dishonor or the transgression of God's law should be the motto of every Christian."—*Ibid.,* Vol. 5, p. 147.

**15. How should we guard our Christian influence? 1 Thess. 5:22.**

NOTE.—"A faithful record is kept of the acts of the children of men. Nothing can be concealed from the eye of the high and holy One."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 1, p. 336.

"It is Satan's studied plan to make the workers weak in prayer, weak in power, and weak in influence. . . . We . . . must be united in frowning down and condemning everything that bears the least approach to evil."—*Ibid.,* Vol. 5, p. 592.

> "An ordinary mind, well disciplined, will accomplish more and higher work than will the most highly educated mind and the greatest talents without self-control."
> —*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 335.

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**Lesson 7, for May 14, 1966**

## Patience and Forbearance

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness." Col. 1:11.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Gospel Workers," pages 475-480; "Testimonies," Vol. 5, pp. 331-336; "Christ's Object Lessons," pages 243-251; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

## DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: Survey lesson, following the outline. ☐
Sunday: Read Introduction; Ques. 1-4. ☐
Monday: Ques. 5-8; read first study help. ☐
Tuesday: Ques. 9-12; read second study help. ☐
Wednesday: Ques. 13, 14; read third study help. ☐
Thursday: Review Ques. 1-8; learn memory verse. ☐
Friday: Review Ques. 9-14; meditate on Key Thought. ☐

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## Lesson Outline:

### Introduction

### I. Christ the Patient Sufferer

1. As a lamb to the slaughter. Isa. 53:7.
2. Jesus comforts His disciples. John 16:33.
3. Following the Master. Rom. 15:5; Col. 1:10, 11.
4. Spirit of Paul's counsel. 2 Cor. 10:1.

### II. The School of Discipline

5. How to develop patience. Heb. 12:5-7; Rom. 5:3.
6. The experience of Moses. Heb. 11:24-27.
7. David's testimony in trial. Ps. 40:1-3; 94:12.
8. Job's resolution in affliction. Job. 40:3, 4.

### III. The Practice of Patience

9. Patience an active virtue. 1 Thess. 5:14, 15.
10. Advice to Timothy applicable today. 2 Tim. 2:24, 25.
11. Sanctified speech and influence. Titus 3:2; Prov. 15:1.
12. Fortitude among brethren. Rom. 12:16; Col. 3:13.

### IV. The Hope of the Church

13. Harmony among brethren. Eph. 4:2, 3; 2 Thess. 3:5.
14. Patience until coming of the Lord. Heb. 10:35-37; James 5:7, 8.

### Key Thought:

"A Christian must have a sanctified tenderness and love, in which there is no impatience or fretfulness."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 335.

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# THE LESSON

## Introduction

The outward graces of gentleness to the rude, of noble tolerance in trying circumstances, and of forbearance toward thoughtless and thankless people, all arise out of that inward strength of the soul we recognize as patience. Moses exemplified the grace in the midst of the disobedience and unfaithfulness of God's chosen people. Jesus gave us a majestic example of it in His forgiveness of those who hated Him, leaving us that counsel of His loving heart. "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you." Matt. 5:44. Surely the stress of modern living demands a special watchfulness against annoyances that spoil our equanimity of temper.

## Christ the Patient Sufferer

**1. What figure did Isaiah use in describing Christ as the patient Sufferer? Isa. 53:7.**

NOTE.—"The priests and rulers, in great anxiety, urged their accusations against Him. Raising their voices, they declared, He is a traitor, a blasphemer. . . .

"He [Herod] now threatened Jesus, declaring repeatedly that he had power to

release or to condemn Him. But no sign from Jesus gave evidence that He heard a word."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 730.

"Christ's very nobility and godlike bearing goaded them to madness. His meekness, His innocence, His majestic patience, filled them with hatred born of Satan."—*Ibid.,* p. 710.

**2. With what words did Jesus console His disciples concerning their future trials? John 16:33.**

NOTE.—"The trials to which Christians are subjected in sorrow, adversity, and reproach are the means appointed of God to separate the chaff from the wheat."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 3, p. 115.

"The trials hardest to bear are those that come from our brethren, our own familiar friends; but even these trials may be borne with patience."—*Ibid.,* Vol. 8, p. 128.

**3. How are we encouraged to follow the example of Jesus in patience? Rom. 15:5; Col. 1:10, 11.**

NOTE.—The marginal reading of "according to Christ Jesus" is "after the example of."

**4. In what spirit did Paul wish his counsels to be expressed and understood? 2 Cor. 10:1.**

NOTE.—"Paul's patience and cheerfulness during his long and unjust imprisonment, his courage and faith, were a continual sermon. His spirit, so unlike the spirit of the world, bore witness that a power higher than that of earth was abiding with Him."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 464.

## The School of Discipline

**5. How has God designed that we should develop patience? Heb. 12: 5-7; Rom. 5:3.**

NOTE.—"God has a purpose in sending trial to His children. He never leads them otherwise than they would choose to be led if they could see the end from the beginning, and discern the glory of the purpose that they are fulfilling."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 578.

**6. What experience developed patience and forbearance in Moses? Heb. 11:24-27.**

NOTE.—"It was the experience gained during the years of toil and waiting in Midian—the spirit of humility and long-suffering there developed—that prepared Moses to meet with patience the unbelief and murmuring of the people and the pride and envy of those who should have been his unswerving helpers."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 384.

**7. What was David's testimony in the face of deep trial? Ps. 40:1-3. Whom did he call blessed? Ps. 94:12.**

**8. Rather than complain to the Lord in his affliction, what did Job say he would do? Job 40:3, 4.**

NOTE.—"By his patient endurance he vindicated his own character, and thus the character of Him whose representative he was."—*Education,* page 156.

## The Practice of Patience

**9. How may patience become an active virtue? 1 Thess. 5:14, 15.**

NOTE.—"Patience as well as courage has its victories. By meekness under trial, no less than by boldness in enterprise, souls may be won to Christ. The Christian who manifests patience and cheerfulness under bereavement and suffering, who meets even death itself with the peace and calmness of an unwavering faith, may accomplish for

the gospel more than he could have effected by a long life of faithful labor."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 465.

**10. What admonition to Timothy is applicable to every Christian? 2 Tim. 2:24, 25.**

NOTE.—"Those who are walking in the light can afford to be calm, gentle with the erring, 'apt to teach,' making manifest the fact that they have asked and received wisdom of God."—*Testimonies to Ministers,* pages 164, 165.

**11. How will patience sanctify our speech and our influence? Titus 3:2; Prov. 15:1.**

NOTE.—"Do all that lies in your power, without the sacrifice of principle, to conciliate others. . . .

"If impatient words are spoken to you, never reply in the same spirit. . . . Anger met with silence, in a tender, forbearing spirit, quickly dies away."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 486.

**12. What attitude of mind will result in patient forbearance among brethren? Rom. 12:16; Col. 3:13.**

NOTE.—"Do not let anything interpose between you and your brethren. If there is anything that you can do by sacrifice to clear away the rubbish of suspicion, do it. God wants us to love one another as brethren. He wants us to be pitiful and courteous. He wants us to educate ourselves to believe that our brethren love us, and to believe that Christ loves us."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 9, p. 193.

## The Hope of the Church

**13. How can harmony in the church be preserved? Eph. 4:2, 3; 2 Thess. 3:5.**

NOTE.—"Christ designs that heaven's order, heaven's plan of government, heaven's divine harmony, shall be represented in His church on earth."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 680.

"The apostle exhorts his brethren to manifest in their lives the power of the truth which he had presented to them. By meekness and gentleness, forbearance and love, they were to exemplify the character of Christ."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 239.

**14. In view of the soon coming of the Saviour, of what are we reminded? Heb. 10:35-37; James 5:7, 8.**

NOTE.—"Let the afflictions which pain us so grievously become instructive lessons, teaching us to press forward toward the mark of the prize of our high calling in Christ. Let us be encouraged by the thought that the Lord is soon to come. Let this hope gladden our hearts. . . .

"It will not be long till we shall see Him in whom our hopes of eternal life are centered. And in His presence, all the trials and sufferings of this life will be as nothingness."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 9, p. 287.

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**Lesson 8, for May 21, 1966**

# Meekness and Humility

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble." 1 Peter 5:5.

**STUDY HELPS:** "The Desire of Ages," pages 432-442, 642-651; "Prophets and Kings," pages 25-32; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

## DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: Survey lesson, following the outline. ☐
Sunday: Read Introduction; Ques. 1-3. ☐
Monday: Ques. 4-7; read first study help. ☐
Tuesday: Ques. 8-10; read second study help. ☐
Wednesday: Ques. 11-14. ☐
Thursday: Review Ques. 1-7; learn memory verse. ☐
Friday: Review Ques. 8-14; meditate on Key Thought. ☐

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## Lesson Outline:

### Introduction

### I. The Divine Example

1. The humility of Jesus. Phil. 2:6-8; Heb. 5:8.
2. Pride of the Pharisees in contrast. Matt. 9:10-12.
3. Jesus sets an example for His disciples. John 13:4, 5, 15.

### II. The Master's Teachings

4. Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven? Matt. 18:2-4.
5. Jesus rebukes vainglory of the Pharisees. Matt. 23:5-7.
6. Mark of Christian brotherhood. Matt. 23:8-12.
7. The parable of choosing places of honor. Luke 14:7-11.

### III. Old Testament Object Lessons

8. God's mercy to King Ahab. 1 Kings 21:27-29.
9. Solomon's humble prayer for wisdom rewarded. 1 Kings 3:5-14.
10. Josiah's humility averts punishment. 2 Chron. 34:26-28.

### IV. New Testament Admonitions

11. Secret of Paul's success as a laborer for God. Phil. 4:12, first part; 1 Cor. 9:19-23.
12. Paul's exhortation to humility and unity. Phil. 2:3, 4.
13. Peter's exhortation to the church. 1 Peter 5:5, 6.
14. James points the way of favor with God. James 4:6, 10.

### Key Thought:

"The strength of the children of God is in their humility. When they are little in their own eyes, Jesus will be to them their strength and their righteousness, and God will prosper their labors."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 3, p. 307.

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# THE LESSON

## Introduction

Self-sufficiency gives rise to vanity and pride that frequently results in an offensive self-praise. How to be aggressive in the work of God without rudely clamoring for the adoption of our own ideas and belittling other men's plans requires frequent contemplation of the humble spirit of the Master Workman as He went about doing good. He was never elated by applause nor dejected by censure. His self-abasement was not a passive meekness that let men beguile Him into compromise with evil, but an active humility that exalted the dignity of His character. His example and that of His witnesses in all ages afford a pattern for our study in this lesson.

## The Divine Example

1. How is the humility of Christ described? Phil. 2:6-8; Heb. 5:8.

NOTE.—"It was the marvel of all the universe that Christ should humble Himself to save fallen man. That He who had passed from star to star, from world to world, superintending all, by His providence supplying the needs of every order of being in His vast creation—that He should consent to leave His glory and take upon Himself human nature, was a mystery which the sinless intelligences of other worlds desired to understand."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 69.

"It would have been an almost infinite humiliation for the Son of God to take man's nature, even when Adam stood in his innocence in Eden. But Jesus accepted humanity when the race had been weakened by four thousand years of sin."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 49.

**2. How did the pride of the Pharisees contrast with the meekness of Jesus? Matt. 9:10-12.**

NOTE.—"Jesus sat as an honored guest at the table of the publicans, by His sympathy and social kindliness showing that He recognized the dignity of humanity."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 274.

"But although the Pharisees thought so highly of themselves, they were really in a worse condition than the ones they despised. The publicans were less bigoted and self-sufficient, and thus were more open to the influence of truth."—*Ibid.,* p. 275.

**3. What example of humble service rebuked the ambition for eminence among the disciples? John 13:4, 5, 15.**

NOTE.—"There was 'a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.' . . . In heart each still longed for the highest place in the kingdom."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 643.

"Judas, in choosing his position at table, had tried to place himself first, and Christ as a servant served him first."—*Ibid.,* page 645.

"Christ would have His disciples understand that although He had washed their feet, this did not in the least detract from His dignity. . . . No one was so exalted as Christ, and yet He stooped to the humblest duty."—*Ibid.,* p. 649.

## The Master's Teachings

**4. Who did the Saviour say should be greatest in the kingdom of heaven? Matt. 18:2-4.**

NOTE.—"Christ will not undertake to teach the self-righteous, self-conceited, and self-willed. . . . It is only the meek that He will guide in judgment; the meek will He teach His way."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 3, p. 449.

**5. How did Jesus describe the vainglory of the Pharisees? Matt. 23:5-7.**

NOTE.—"In such plain words the Saviour revealed the selfish ambition that was ever reaching for place and power, displaying a mock humility, while the heart was filled with avarice and envy."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 613.

**6. What attitude of mind and principle of conduct will mark true Christian brotherhood? Matt. 23:8-12.**

NOTE.—"Among the peculiarities which should distinguish God's people from the world in these last days, is their humility and meekness. . . . Instead of being ambitious to be equal to another in honor and position, or perhaps even higher, we should seek to be the humble, faithful servants of Christ."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 226.

**7. In what parable did Jesus illustrate the wisdom of humility? Luke 14:7-11.**

## Old Testament Object Lessons

**8. Why did God defer punishment on the house of Ahab? 1 Kings 21: 27-29.**

NOTE.—The apostasy of Ahab was unparalleled among all the kings of Israel. The record tells us, "There was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord." 1 Kings 21:25. How wonderfully gracious, then, was the mercy of God in acknowledging so quickly the evidences of his humility. "The very first reaching out of the heart after God is known to Him. Never a prayer is offered, however faltering, never a tear is shed, however secret, never a sincere desire after God is cherished, however feeble, but the Spirit of God goes forth to meet it."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 206.

**9. What humble confession did Solomon make in the dream God gave him, and how was he rewarded? 1 Kings 3:5-14.**

NOTE.—"The language used by Solomon while praying to God before the ancient altar at Gibeon reveals his humility and his strong desire to honor God. . . . Solomon was never so rich or so wise or so truly great as when he confessed, 'I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.' "—*Prophets and Kings,* page 30.

**10. How did Josiah escape, in his day, the evil that had been decreed against an offending Judah? 2 Chron. 34:26-28.**

## New Testament Admonitions

**11. What was one important reason for Paul's success as a laborer for God? Phil. 4:12, first part; 1 Cor. 9:19-23.**

**12. What exhortation did Paul give to promote harmony in the church? Phil. 2:3, 4.**

NOTE.—"Vainglory, selfish ambition, is the rock upon which many souls have been wrecked and many churches rendered powerless. Those who know least of devotion, who are least connected with God, are the ones who will most eagerly seek the highest place. . . . The soul that is constantly looking unto Jesus will see His self-denying love and deep humility, and will copy His example."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, pp. 174, 175.

**13. How does Peter show the importance of true humility? 1 Peter 5:5, 6.**

NOTE.—One cannot be clothed with humility while wearing the cloak of pride, nor can God strip him for effective service who wears an armor of self-sufficiency. The really humble person sees his relationship to God and to others about him in the true perspective of clear spiritual understanding. All too often it is a late-flowering virtue in Christian experience.

**14. How does James show the way of humble submission to be the way of favor with God? James 4:6, 10.**

NOTE.—"When the Spirit of God, with its marvelous awakening power, touches the soul, it abases human pride. Worldly pleasure and position and power are seen to be worthless. . . . Then humility and self-sacrificing love, so little valued among men, are exalted as alone of worth."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 135.

"Before honor is humility. To fill a high place before men, Heaven chooses the worker who, like John the Baptist, takes a lowly place before God. The most child-like disciple is the most efficient in labor for God."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 436.

Lesson 9, for May 28, 1966

# Reverence and Worship

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear." Heb. 12:28.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Testimonies," Vol. 5, pp. 491-500; Vol. 6, pp. 349-368; "The Ministry of Healing," pages 458-466; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

## DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: Survey lesson, following the outline. ☐
Sunday: Read Introduction; Ques. 1-4. ☐
Monday: Ques. 5-7; read first study help. ☐
Tuesday: Ques. 8-11; read second study help. ☐
Wednesday: Ques. 12-15; read third study help. ☐
Thursday: Review Ques. 1-7; learn memory verse. ☐
Friday: Review Ques. 8-15; meditate on Key Thought. ☐

## Lesson Outline:

### Introduction

### I. The Holy Character of God

1. Declaration of God's character. Ex. 20:3-6.
2. God's supreme attribute. 1 Peter 1:15, 16; Lev. 19:2; 20:7, last part.
3. God revealed to man. Matt. 11:27; John 14:9.
4. Invitation to worship God. Ps. 148:11-13.

### II. Reverence Commanded

5. God's name is holy. Ps. 111:9; Ex. 20:7.
6. The Sabbath is sacred. Ex. 20: 8-11; Ezek. 20:19, 20.
7. Sanctuary to be revered. Ex. 25:8; Isa. 56:7; Lev. 19:30.

### III. God's Presence Hallows Times and Places

8. Jacob at Bethel. Gen. 28:16-19.
9. Paul on Mars' Hill. Acts 17:24-27.
10. Paul and Silas in prison. Acts 16:25, 26.
11. Daniel in Babylon. Dan. 6:10.

### IV. Worship Approved of Heaven

12. Basis of wisdom. Prov. 9:10.
13. Conduct in the sanctuary. Hab. 2:20; Eccl. 5:1; Ps. 95:6.
14. Acceptable worship. Ps. 100:4; Col. 3:16; 1 Chron. 16:29.
15. Assembling together. Heb. 10:25; 12:28.

### Key Thought:

"Nothing that is sacred, nothing that pertains to the worship of God, should be treated with carelessness or indifference."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 491.

## THE LESSON

### Introduction

Reverence for God, for His Word and His sanctuary, must be cultivated before there can be any worship that is acceptable to Heaven. This attitude of mind and heart should be inculcated in children by parents and teachers who themselves have a love for sacred things. "Those who desire their children to love and reverence

God must talk of His goodness, His majesty, and His power, as revealed in His Word and in the works of creation."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 504. Let us remind ourselves that a knowledge of the holy cannot be experienced or maintained with unopened Bibles, absence from the place of worship, or carelessness in our personal devotion.

## The Holy Character of God

**1. What solemn declaration did God make in the first two commandments of the Decalogue? Ex. 20:3-6.**

NOTE.—"Jehovah, the eternal, self-existent, uncreated One, Himself the Source and Sustainer of all, is alone entitled to supreme reverence and worship. Man is forbidden to give to any other object the first place in his affections or his service. Whatever we cherish that tends to lessen our love for God or to interfere with the service due Him, of that do we make a god."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 305.

**2. What supreme attribute of God's character should evoke our reverence and devotion? 1 Peter 1:15, 16; Lev. 19:2; 20:7, last part.**

**3. How has God's holy character been revealed to man? Matt. 11:27; John 14:9.**

NOTE.—"Christ came to the earth to reveal to men the character of His Father." —*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 469.

"All that man needs to know or can know of God has been revealed in the life and character of His Son."—*Testimonies* Vol. 8, p. 286.

**4. To whom and to how many is the invitation given to worship God for His great glory? Ps. 148:11-13.**

## Reverence Commanded

**5. Why should we hallow God's name? Ps. 111:9; Ex. 20:7.**

NOTE.—"We are never in any manner to treat lightly the titles or appellations of the Deity. . . .

"This name is hallowed by the angels of heaven, by the inhabitants of unfallen worlds. When you pray, 'Hallowed be Thy name,' you ask that it may be hallowed in this world, hallowed in you."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* pages 106, 107.

**6. What makes the Sabbath uniquely sacred to God's people? Ex. 20:8-11; Ezek. 20:19, 20.**

NOTE.—"To those who reverence His holy day the Sabbath is a sign that God recognizes them as His chosen people. It is a pledge that He will fulfill to them His covenant. Every soul who accepts the sign of God's government places himself under the divine, everlasting covenant. He fastens himself to the golden chain of obedience, every link of which is a promise."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 6, p. 350.

**7. Why is reverence required in the house of God? Ex. 25:8; Isa. 56:7; Lev. 19:30.**

NOTE.—"To the humble, believing soul, the house of God on earth is the gate of heaven. The song of praise, the prayer, the words spoken by Christ's representatives, are God's appointed agencies to prepare a people for the church above."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 491.

## God's Presence Hallows Times and Places

**8. Realizing God had visited him, how did Jacob show his devotion? Gen. 28:16-19.**

NOTE.—"Jacob's statement is not evidence, as some commentators suggest, that Jacob conceived of God as appearing only at certain consecrated places. . . . It is, rather, an expression of his surprise and joy upon finding that whereas he had imagined himself alone, he was in reality in the very company of God."—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on Gen. 28:16.

**9. Of what did Paul remind the Athenians in his address on Mars' Hill? Acts 17:24-27.**

NOTE.—"Although God dwells not in temples made with hands, yet He honors with His presence the assemblies of His people. He has promised that when they come together to seek Him, to acknowledge their sins, and to pray for one another, He will meet with them by His Spirit."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 50.

**10. How did God reward the devotion of Paul and Silas in the Philippian prison? Acts 16:25, 26.**

NOTE.—"Christ was beside them there, and the light of His presence irradiated the gloom with the glory of the courts above."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 35.

**11. Confronted with the decree to cease praying to God, what did Daniel do? Dan. 6:10.**

NOTE.—"Daniel's history is a remarkable one. . . . He was condemned to death because he would not abate one jot of his allegiance to God even in the face of the king's decree. It might, at this day, be called overrighteousness to go, as was his wont, three times a day and kneel before the open window for prayer while he knew that prying eyes were observing him; . . . but Daniel would allow no earthly power to come in between him and his God."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 527.

## Worship Approved of Heaven

**12. What is the basis of wisdom and understanding? Prov. 9:10.**

NOTE.—"It is a law of the mind that it gradually adapts itself to the subjects upon which it is trained to dwell. If occupied with commonplace matters only, it will become dwarfed and enfeebled. . . . In the reverent contemplation of the truths presented in His Word the mind of the student is brought into communion with the infinite mind."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 596.

**13. What instruction is given respecting conduct in the sanctuary? Hab. 2:20; Eccl. 5:1; Ps. 95:6.**

NOTE.—"True reverence for God is inspired by a sense of His infinite greatness and a realization of His presence. . . . The hour and place of prayer and the services of public worship the child should be taught to regard as sacred because God is there."—*Education,* pages 242, 243.

**14. What exercises are acceptable to God as expressions of worship? Ps. 100:4; Col. 3:16; 1 Chron. 16:29.**

NOTE.—"When consecrated believers assemble, their conversation will not be upon the imperfections of others or savor of murmuring or complaint; charity, or love, the bond of perfectness, will encircle them."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 1, p. 509.

"The freewill offerings of the humble, contrite heart He will receive . . . as the sacrifice of grateful obedience."—*Ibid.,* Vol. 2, p. 653.

**15. What counsel to the Hebrews has particular application to the church today? Heb. 10:25; 12:28.**

NOTE.—"Never entertain the thought that you can be Christians and yet withdraw within yourselves. Each one is a

part of the great web of humanity, and the nature and quality of your experience will be largely determined by the experiences of those with whom you associate. Jesus says: 'Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst.' Matthew 18:20. Then let us not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhort one another; and so much the more, as we see the day approaching."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 7, p. 190.

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**Lesson 10, for June 4, 1966**

# Diligence and Industry

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." Eccl. 9:10.

**LESSON HELPS:** "Testimonies," Vol. 5, pp. 178-182; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 346-358; "Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students," pages 273-280; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

## DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

| | Check Here |
|---|---|
| Sabbath afternoon: Read Introduction; survey lesson, following the outline. | ☐ |
| Sunday: Ques. 1-4; read first study help. | ☐ |
| Monday: Ques. 5-8; read second study help. | ☐ |
| Tuesday: Ques. 9-12; read third study help. | ☐ |
| Wednesday: Ques. 13, 14; learn memory verse. | ☐ |
| Thursday: Review Ques. 1-8. | ☐ |
| Friday: Review Ques. 9-14; meditate on Key Thought. | ☐ |

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## Lesson Outline:

### Introduction

### I. Benefits of Honest Labor

1. God's decree on Adam. Gen 3:19.
2. Blessings on the God-fearing toiler. Ps. 128:1, 2.
3. Lot of the laboring man. Eccl. 5:12.
4. Result of diligence. Prov. 10:4.

### II. Christ's Example and Teaching

5. Jesus' occupation. Matt. 13:55; Mark 6:3.
6. Balance between labor and rest. Mark 6:31.
7. Invitation to the toilworn and heavy-laden. Matt. 11:28.
8. Strive for values beyond wages. John 6:27.

### III. Paul's Pattern and Counsel

9. Paul's method of self-support. 1 Cor. 4:11, 12.
10. Paul's counsel to Thessalonian believers. 2 Thess. 3:10, 11.
11. Motive in labor. Col. 3:22, 23.
12. Work to be approved of God. 2 Tim. 2:15.

### IV. Diligence Commended

13. Characteristic of successful leaders. Prov. 22:29.
14. Each day's tasks to be done thoroughly. Eccl. 9:10; 12:14.

**Key Thought:**

"Those who recognize science in the humblest work will see in it nobility and beauty, and will take pleasure in performing it with faithfulness and efficiency." —*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students,* page 273.

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## THE LESSON

### Introduction

Much counsel has come to us emphasizing the need for bringing moral principles into our everyday work. Honest and thorough labor, whether physical or mental, is an old-fashioned virtue that is becoming obscured today by a growing indolence that demands shorter working hours and more leisure for personal pleasure. It is with the conviction that pure religion and conscientious labor go hand in hand that this lesson has been prepared. The lesson calls for a reemphasis of the joy and satisfaction in tasks well done, of objectives realized through perseverance and industry, of accomplishments attained through cultivated skills and fellowship with the Master Workman.

### Benefits of Honest Labor

**1. Because of Adam's transgression, what decree from God came upon the human race? Gen. 3:19.**

NOTE.—"The life of toil and care which was henceforth to be man's lot was appointed in love. It was a discipline rendered needful by his sin, to place a check upon the indulgence of appetite and passion, to develop habits of self-control. It was a part of God's great plan for man's recovery from the ruin and degradation of sin."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 60.

**2. What blessing is promised to the God-fearing toiler? Ps. 128:1, 2.**

NOTE.—"It was God's purpose to alleviate by toil the evil brought into the world by man's disobedience. By toil the temptations of Satan might be made ineffectual and the tide of evil stayed. And though attended with anxiety, weariness, and pain, labor is still a source of happiness and development, and a safeguard against temptation."—*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students,* page 274.

**3. How is the laboring man's lot compared with that of a rich man? Eccl. 5:12.**

NOTE.—"Those who are always busy, and go cheerfully about the performance of their daily tasks, are the most happy and healthy. The rest and composure of night brings to their wearied frames unbroken slumber. The Lord knew what was for man's happiness when He gave him work to do."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 2, p. 529.

**4. How does the lot of the diligent contrast with that of the slothful? Prov. 10:4.**

NOTE.—"The persevering and industrious are not only happy themselves, but they contribute largely to the happiness of others. Competency and comfort are not ordinarily attained except at the price of earnest industry."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 180.

### Christ's Example and Teaching

**5. What was the occupation of Jesus before He began His public ministry? Matt. 13:55; Mark 6:3.**

NOTE.—"Jesus is our example. . . . He lived to please, honor, and glorify His Father in the common things of life. His work began in consecrating the lowly trade of the craftsmen who toil for their daily

bread. He was doing God's service just as much when laboring at the carpenter's bench as when working miracles for the multitude."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 74.

**6. How did Jesus teach the disciples proper balance between labor and rest? Mark 6:31.**

NOTE.—"Christ's words of compassion are spoken to His workers today just as surely as they were spoken to His disciples. . . . It is not wise to be always under the strain of work and excitement, even in ministering to men's spiritual needs."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 362.

"Let the laborer carefully husband his strength, and when wearied with toil, let him turn aside and commune with Jesus."—*Gospel Workers,* page 245.

**7. What invitation of the Saviour shows His sympathy for the careworn toilers of the earth? Matt. 11:28.**

NOTE.—"In these words Christ is speaking to every human being. Whether they know it or not, all are weary and heavy-laden. All are weighed down with burdens that only Christ can remove. . . . He invites us to cast all our care upon Him; for He carries us upon His heart."—*The Desire of Ages,* pages 328, 329.

**8. Beyond earthly security and the reward of toil, for what should we strive? John 6:27. Compare Prov. 23:4, 5.**

NOTE.—"The prayer for daily bread includes not only food to sustain the body, but that spiritual bread which will nourish the soul unto life everlasting."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 112.

"Christ presents to us something higher to toil for than merely what we shall eat, and what we shall drink, and wherewithal we shall be clothed."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 3, p. 164.

## Paul's Pattern and Counsel

**9. In what spirit and manner did Paul support himself in the work of the Lord? 1 Cor. 4:11, 12.**

NOTE.—"Before he became a disciple of Christ, Paul had occupied a high position and was not dependent upon manual labor for support. But afterward, when he had used all his means in furthering the cause of Christ, he resorted at times to his trade to gain a livelihood."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 347.

**10. Of what did Paul remind the believers at Thessalonica? 2 Thess. 3:10, 11.**

**11. How diligently, and with what motive, should all labor and service be performed? Col. 3:22, 23.**

NOTE.—"The humble, common duties of life are all to be performed with fidelity; 'heartily,' says the apostle, 'as to the Lord.' Whatever our department of labor, be it housework or field work or intellectual pursuits, we may perform it to the glory of God so long as we make Christ first and last and best in everything."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 459.

**12. What counsel to Timothy should be heeded by all believers today? 2 Tim. 2:15. Compare Rom. 12:11.**

NOTE.—"None can know what may be God's purpose in His discipline; but all may be certain that faithfulness in little things is the evidence of fitness for greater responsibilities. Every act of life is a revelation of character, and he only who in small duties proves himself 'a workman that needeth not to be ashamed' (2 Timothy 2:15), will be honored by God with weightier trusts."—*Education,* page 61.

### Diligence Commended

13. What characteristic leads to advancement, even in the world's work? Prov. 22:29.

14. In view of the brevity of life, how should each day's tasks be performed? Eccl. 9:10; 12:14.

NOTE.—"We are to look upon every duty, however humble, as sacred because it is a part of God's service. Our daily prayer should be, 'Lord, help me to do my best. Teach me how to do better work. Give me energy and cheerfulness. Help me to bring into my service the loving ministry of the Saviour.' "—*The Ministry of Healing*, page 474.

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**Lesson 11, for June 11, 1966**

## Kindness and Sympathy

**MEMORY VERSE:** "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 6:31.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Christ's Object Lessons," pages 376-389, 243-251; "Testimonies," Vol. 3, pp. 527-534; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

### DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

| | Check Here |
|---|---|
| Sabbath afternoon: Read Introduction; survey lesson, following the outline. | ☐ |
| Sunday: Ques. 1-3; read first study help. | ☐ |
| Monday: Ques. 4-6; read second study help. | ☐ |
| Tuesday: Ques. 7, 8. | ☐ |
| Wednesday: Ques. 9-11; learn memory verse. | ☐ |
| Thursday: Ques. 12, 13; meditate on Key Thought. | ☐ |
| Friday: Review entire lesson. | ☐ |

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### Lesson Outline:

**Introduction**

**I. God's Loving-Kindness**

1. God's kindness and His covenant. Isa. 54:6-10.
2. Appeal of His great loving-kindness. Joel 2:12, 13.
3. Regenerating power of God's love. Titus 3:3-6.

**II. The Saviour's Compassion**

4. Jesus commends quality of God's mercy to His followers. Luke 6: 35, 36.
5. The active compassion of Jesus—
   *a*. To the multitudes. Matt. 14: 14-16.
   *b*. Toward children. Matt. 19:14.
   *c*. Toward His enemies. Luke 22: 50, 51.
6. Mutual helpfulness a Christian duty. Matt. 22:39; Luke 10:27, 28.

**III. Old and New Testament Examples**

7. Love of David and Jonathan. 1 Sam. 19:1-6.
8. Paul's plea for Onesimus. Philemon 10, 16, 17.

### IV. Exhortations to Brotherly Kindness

9. Gracious virtues commended to the elect. Col. 3:12, 13.
10. Communion in the early church. Rom. 12:10; Eph. 4:32.
11. Steps to brotherly kindness and charity. 2 Peter 1:5-7.
12. Gracious speaking and the law of kindness. Prov. 31:26.
13. The golden rule. Matt. 7:12.

**Key Thought:**

"A kind, courteous Christian is the most powerful argument that can be produced in favor of Christianity."—*Gospel Workers,* page 122.

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## THE LESSON

### Introduction

As is clear from this study, kindness is more than a benign feeling toward our neighbor. It is an active and powerful principle that provokes the true Christian to a sense of responsibility in the presence of need. It is a self-sacrificing sympathy born of God's own love for us that makes us kin to the poor and lowly and despised of earth. It is the virtue that impels men beyond the requirements of duty into a service of love that "seeketh not her own." He who is discourteous and unkind forfeits the joy of the communion of saints.

### God's Loving-Kindness

**1. Upon what enduring attribute of His character has God pledged the surety of His covenant? Isa. 54:6-10.**

NOTE.—"As the bow in the cloud results from the union of sunshine and shower, so the bow above God's throne represents the union of His mercy and His justice."—*Education,* page 115.

"When man by his great wickedness invites the divine judgments, the Saviour, interceding with the Father in his behalf, points to the bow in the clouds, to the rainbow around the throne and above His own head, as a token of the mercy of God toward the repentant sinner."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 107.

**2. In view of the great loving-kindness of the Saviour, what is the sinner exhorted to do? Joel 2:12, 13.**

NOTE.—"As you see the enormity of sin, as you see yourself as you really are, do not give up to despair. It was sinners that Christ came to save. We have not to reconcile God to us, but—O wondrous love!—God in Christ is 'reconciling the world unto Himself.' 2 Corinthians 5:19. He is wooing by His tender love the hearts of His erring children. No earthly parent could be as patient with the faults and mistakes of his children, as is God with those He seeks to save. No one could plead more tenderly with the transgressor. No human lips ever poured out more tender entreaties to the wanderer than does He. All His promises, His warnings, are but the breathing of unutterable love."—*Steps to Christ,* page 35.

**3. What change is seen in the life that yields itself to the kindness and love of God? Titus 3:3-6.**

NOTE.—"While we were yet unloving and unlovely in character, 'hateful, and hating one another,' our heavenly Father had mercy on us. . . . His love received, will make us, in like manner, kind and tender, not merely toward those who please us, but to the most faulty and erring and sinful. . . .

"Even sinners whose hearts are not utterly closed to God's Spirit, will respond to kindness. . . . To be kind to the unthankful and to the evil, to do good hoping for nothing again, is the insignia of the royalty of heaven."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 75.

## The Saviour's Compassion

4. What standard of mercy did Jesus commend to His followers? Luke 6:35, 36.

NOTE.—"Taking humanity upon Him, Christ came to be one with humanity and at the same time to reveal our heavenly Father to sinful human beings. . . .

"Tender, compassionate, sympathetic, ever considerate of others, He represented the character of God, and was constantly engaged in service for God and man."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 8, p. 286.

5. How was the compassion of Jesus demonstrated *(a)* to the needy multitudes? Matt. 14:14-16; *(b)* toward children? Matt. 19:14; *(c)* toward His enemies? Luke 22:50, 51.

NOTE.—"The people pressed into Christ's presence with urgent, pitiful appeals: Master, bless me. His ear heard every cry. With pity exceeding that of a tender mother He bent over the suffering little ones. All received attention. Everyone was healed of whatever disease he had. The dumb opened their lips in praise; the blind beheld the face of their Restorer. The hearts of the sufferers were made glad."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 163.

6. What commandment of the Saviour makes mutual helpfulness a Christian duty? Matt. 22:39; Luke 10:27, 28.

NOTE.—"The question arises: 'Who is my neighbor?' His reply is the parable of the Good Samaritan, which teaches us that any human being who needs our sympathy and our kind offices is our neighbor."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 226.

"If our hearts are softened and subdued by the grace of Christ, and glowing with a sense of God's goodness and love, there will be a natural outflow of love, sympathy, and tenderness to others."—*Ibid.,* Vol. 5, p. 606.

## Old and New Testament Examples

7. In pleading for the life of David, his rival to the throne, how did Jonathan show his gracious spirit? 1 Sam. 19:1-6.

NOTE.—"Jonathan, by birth heir to the throne, yet knowing himself set aside by the divine decree; to his rival the most tender and faithful of friends, shielding David's life at the peril of his own— . . . the name of Jonathan is treasured in heaven, and it stands on earth a witness to the existence and the power of unselfish love."—*Education,* page 157.

8. What does Paul's plea for Onesimus show regarding the relationship between masters and servants? Philemon 10, 16, 17.

NOTE.—"With his usual tact and kindness, the apostle pleaded the cause of the repentant slave." "Christianity makes a strong bond of union between master and slave, king and subject, the gospel minister and the degraded sinner who has found in Christ cleansing from sin."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* pages 456, 460. See *The Ministry of Healing,* page 489.

## Exhortations to Brotherly Kindness

9. To the exercise of what gracious virtues are the elect of God admonished? Col. 3:12, 13.

NOTE.—"Let each ask himself: Do I possess the grace of love? Have I learned to suffer long and to be kind? Talents, learning, and eloquence, without this heavenly attribute, will be as meaningless as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. Alas that this precious treasure is so lightly valued and so little sought by many who profess the faith!"—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, p. 169.

**10. What principles of Christian fellowship did Paul commend to the early church? Rom. 12:10; Eph. 4:32.**

NOTE.—"The cultivation of a uniform courtesy, a willingness to do to others as we would wish them to do to us, would annihilate half the ills of life."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 133.

**11. By what steps does one reach the flowering of character in brotherly kindness and charity? 2 Peter 1:5-7.**

NOTE.—"Christ, who connects earth with heaven, is the ladder. The base is planted firmly on the earth in His humanity; the topmost round reaches to the throne of God in His divinity. . . . We are saved by climbing round after round of the ladder, looking to Christ, clinging to Christ, mounting step by step to the height of Christ."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 6, p. 147.

**12. What will control and season the tongue of the true Christian? Prov. 31:26.**

NOTE.—"A word of cheer, an act of kindness, would go far to lighten the burdens that are resting heavily upon weary shoulders. . . .

"Let the law of kindness be ever on your lips. Forbearance and unselfishness mark the words and actions of those who are born again, to live the new life in Christ."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 7, p. 50.

**13. What principle of conduct sums up our Christian relationship to others? Matt. 7:12.**

NOTE.—"Thy brother, sick in spirit, needs thee, as thou thyself hast needed a brother's love. He needs the experience of one who has been as weak as he, one who can sympathize with him and help him. The knowledge of our own weakness should help us to help another in his bitter need. Never should we pass by one suffering soul without seeking to impart to him the comfort wherewith we are comforted of God."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* pages 387, 388.

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**Lesson 12, for June 18, 1966**

## Justice and Equity

**MEMORY VERSE:** "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Micah 6:8.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Testimonies," Vol. 4, pp. 309-312, 489-495; "Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing," pages 134-137 (1943 ed., pp. 192-197); "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

### DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: Survey lesson, following the outline. ☐
Sunday: Read Introduction; Ques. 1-4. ☐
Monday: Ques. 5, 6; read first study help. ☐
Tuesday: Ques. 7-9; read second study help. ☐
Wednesday: Ques. 10-15. ☐
Thursday: Review Ques. 1-9; learn memory verse. ☐
Friday: Review Ques. 10-15; meditate on Key Thought. ☐

## Lesson Outline:

### Introduction

### I. The Standard of Equity in Israel

1. Israel's inheritance based on justice. Deut. 16:20.
2. Instructions in equity and justice. Lev. 19:13, 15, 18.

### II. God's Hatred of Double-Dealing

3. Those who led Israel astray. Num. 11:4.
4. Lessons from Israel's failure. Ex. 23:2, first part; Ps. 1:1.
5. Achan's sin and punishment. Joshua 7:20-25.
6. Retribution on Ananias and Sapphira. Acts 5:1-10.

### III. God Frowns on Inequity

7. How the Lord views dishonesty. Prov. 11:1; 20:10.
8. Jeremiah's cry against injustice. Jer. 22:13.
9. Fraud a sign of the last days. James 5:1-6.

### IV. Principles to Live By

10. Description of a just man. Ezek. 18:5, 7-9.
11. A guiding principle for fair dealing. Prov. 3:27.
12. The pronouncement of Jesus. Matt. 5:39-41.
13. Paul's teaching on equity. Rom. 12:17; 13:7, 8.
14. Mutual sharing among brethren. 2 Cor. 8:13-15.
15. God's standard of integrity. Micah 6:8.

### Key Thought:

"Firm integrity shines forth as gold amid the dross and rubbish of the world." —*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 310.

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# THE LESSON

## Introduction

Honesty and fair dealing are among the princely virtues of Christian living. Shortcuts to gain and material advantage are often snares to even well-intentioned people. The neighbor's landmark, the just weight, and fairness in every deal are as inviolable in God's sight as they were in the Mosaic economy. There is no sight dearer to heaven than a Christian who rules his household with equity, covers his neighbor's faults with charity, and tempers his justice with mercy.

## The Standard of Equity in Israel

**1. Upon the observance of what principle was the inheritance of Israel assured? Deut. 16:20.**

NOTE.—"If the Israelites would be true to their trust, they would become a power in the world. God would be their defense, and He would exalt them above all other nations."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 314.

"It was God's purpose that by the revelation of His character through Israel men should be drawn unto Him."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 19.

**2. What were some of the instructions intended to keep the children of Israel a people of justice and equity? Lev. 19:13, 15, 18.**

NOTE.—"Religion does not consist merely in a system of dry doctrines, but in practical faith, which sanctifies the life and corrects the conduct in the family circle and in the church. . . . God requires undeviating principle in the minutest details of the transactions of life."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 337.

## God's Hatred of Double-Dealing

**3. Who were the first to murmur in the wilderness and to lead Israel into apostasy? Num. 11:4.**

NOTE.—"The mixed multitude that came up with the Israelites from Egypt were a source of continual temptation and trouble. . . . They were oftenest the ones to stir up strife and were the first to complain, and they leavened the camp with their idolatrous practices and their murmurings against God."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 408.

**4. What lesson may we learn from Israel's failures? Ex. 23:2, first part; Ps. 1:1.**

NOTE.—"If choice is made of companions who fear the Lord, the influence will lead to truth, to duty, and to holiness. . . . To walk in the counsel of the ungodly is the first step toward standing in the way of sinners and sitting in the seat of the scornful."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 587.

**5. What was Achan's sin, and how was he punished? Joshua 7:20-25.**

NOTE.—"The deadly sin that led to Achan's ruin had its root in covetousness, of all sins one of the most common and the most lightly regarded. While other offenses meet with detection and punishment, how rarely does the violation of the tenth commandment so much as call forth censure. . . .

"For a goodly Babylonish garment, multitudes sacrifice the approval of conscience and their hope of heaven. Multitudes barter their integrity, and their capabilities for usefulness, for a bag of silver shekels." —*Patriarchs and Prophets,* pages 496, 497.

**6. What swift retribution came upon Ananias and Sapphira? Acts 5:1-10.**

NOTE.—"God hates hypocrisy and falsehood. Ananias and Sapphira practiced fraud in their dealing with God; they lied to the Holy Spirit, and their sin was visited with swift and terrible judgment. . . .

"This judgment testified that men cannot deceive God, that He detects the hidden sin of the heart, and that He will not be mocked."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* pages 72, 73.

## God Frowns on Inequity

**7. How does the Lord look upon dishonesty? Prov. 11:1; 20:10.**

NOTE.—"The children of God should not fail to remember that in all their business transactions they are being proved, weighed in the balances of the sanctuary. . . .

"All that is obtained by deceit and fraud will be only a curse to the receiver."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 311.

**8. What message did the Lord give Jeremiah against injustice and oppression? Jer. 22:13.**

NOTE.—"God's Word sanctions no policy that will enrich one class by the oppression and suffering of another. In all our business transactions it teaches us to put ourselves in the place of those with whom we are dealing, to look not only on our own things, but also on the things of others."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 187.

**9. What is described as a particular evil of the last days? James 5:1-6.**

NOTE.—"Belief in the near coming of the Son of man in the clouds of heaven will not cause the true Christian to become neglectful and careless of the ordinary business of life. The waiting ones who look for the soon appearing of Christ will not be idle, but diligent in business. Their work will not be done carelessly and dishonestly, but with fidelity, promptness, and thoroughness."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, p. 309.

## Principles to Live By

**10. What part do fair and honest dealings have in God's description of a just man? Ezek. 18:5, 7-9.**

NOTE.—"A man who is honest before God will deal justly with his fellowmen, whether or not it is for his own personal interest to do so. The outward acts are a fair transcript of the principles within."—*Life Sketches,* page 244.

**11. What words of Solomon set forth a guiding principle in our dealings with others? Prov. 3:27.**

NOTE.—"God has bound us together as members of one family, and this relationship everyone is bound to cherish. There are services due to others which we cannot ignore and yet keep the commandments of God. To live, think, and act for self only is to become useless as servants of God. High-sounding titles and great talents are not essential in order to be good citizens or exemplary Christians."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 4, pp. 339, 340.

**12. How did Jesus show that the Christian is obligated to a higher law than mere duty? Matt. 5:39-41.**

NOTE.—"In the days of Christ these merciful provisions were little regarded; but Jesus taught His disciples to submit to the decision of the court, even though this should demand more than the law of Moses authorized."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 72.

**13. What was Paul's teaching on equity? Rom. 12:17; 13:7, 8.**

NOTE.—"It is the devising of men that leads to injustice and oppression. The cause of God is free from every taint of injustice. It seeks to gain no advantage by depriving the members of His family of their individuality or of their rights. The Lord does not sanction arbitrary authority, nor will He serve with the least selfishness or overreaching. To Him all such practices are abhorrent."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 7, p. 179.

**14. How are brethren counseled to share with one another the blessings of varying abundance? 2 Cor. 8:13-15. See James 2:15, 16.**

NOTE.—"Study to be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate, laying up for yourselves a good foundation against the time to come, that you may lay hold on everlasting life."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 1, p. 706.

**15. How does Micah sum up God's standard of integrity? Micah 6:8.**

NOTE.—"The end is near, and every soul is now to walk carefully, humbly, meekly with Christ Jesus. Our precious Saviour, from whom all the rays of truth radiate to the world, wants us to put not our trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help; but to lean wholly upon Him."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 9, p. 203.

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**Lesson 13, for June 25, 1966**

## Zeal and Soul Saving

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God." Luke 12:8.

**STUDY HELPS:** "Testimonies," Vol. 9, pp. 19-29, 43-48, 109-124; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

## DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: Survey lesson, following the outline. ☐
Sunday: Read Introduction; Ques. 1-4. ☐
Monday: Ques. 5-8; read study help, pp. 19-29. ☐
Tuesday: Ques. 9-11; read study help, pp. 43-48. ☐
Wednesday: Ques. 12-14; read study help, pp. 109-124. ☐
Thursday: Review Ques. 1-8; learn memory verse. ☐
Friday: Review Ques. 9-14; meditate on Key Thought. ☐

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## Lesson Outline:

### Introduction

### I. The Gospel Commission

1. The gospel commission. Matt. 28: 19, 20; Mark 16:15; 13:10.
2. The disciples follow the Lord's command. Mark 16:20.
3. Need of zealous endeavor. John 4:35.
4. Work at the eleventh hour. Matt. 20:6, 7.

### II. Great Movements Under God

5. The spirit of Nehemiah. Neh. 4:6, 17, 18.
6. Jonah's message and its results. Jonah 3:5-10.
7. The revival in Samaria. John 4:39-41.
8. Paul's evangelistic efforts in Ephesus. Acts 19:17-20.

### III. God's Witnesses Today

9. The burden of our testimony. Isa. 43:10; Luke 12:8.
10. The boldness of Peter and John. Acts 4:13.
11. Paul's counsel to Timothy. 2 Tim. 1:8.

### IV. The Needful Preparation

12. Paul's varied experiences as a worker. 2 Cor. 6:4-10.
13. What Peter urges as needful preparation. 1 Peter 3:15.
14. The special message for today. Rev. 14:6.

### Key Thought:

"The inhabitants of the heavenly universe expect the followers of Christ to shine as lights in the world."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 9, p. 22.

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# THE LESSON

## Introduction

Zeal and religious activity are often substituted for an essential knowledge of God. To be effective as a soul-saving virtue, religious enthusiasm must be molded by heavenly wisdom and sanctified common sense. There are few weapons more destructive in Satan's hands than a zeal "not according to knowledge." In it are found the roots of fanaticism. On the other hand, there is danger of drawing back from aggressive service for God because of spiritual indolence or false modesty. "We are to be consecrated channels, through which the heavenly life is to flow to others."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 9, p. 20.

## The Gospel Commission

1. What was Christ's last great commission to His disciples? Matt. 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15; 13:10.

NOTE.—Note the various means of evangelism to be employed—preaching, teaching, publishing. "It is His purpose that divine and human instrumentalities shall unite in the proclamation of the warning message."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 9, p. 19.

**2. How zealously did the disciples follow the Lord's command? Mark 16:20.**

NOTE.—"These disciples prepared themselves for their work. Before the Day of Pentecost they met together, and put away all differences. . . . They did not ask for a blessing for themselves merely; they were weighted with the burden for the salvation of souls. The gospel was to be carried to the uttermost parts of the earth, and they claimed the endowment of power that Christ had promised."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 827.

**3. How did Jesus impress upon His followers the need of zealous endeavor? John 4:35.**

NOTE.—"Let not the fields lying in the shadow of our doors, such as the great cities in our land, be lightly passed over and neglected. . . .

"The destruction of these cities, almost wholly given up to idolatry, is impending." —*Testimonies,* Vol. 8, pp. 31, 32.

**4. In the parable of the householder, what were the eleventh-hour idlers bidden to do? Matt. 20:6, 7.**

NOTE.—"Long has God waited for the spirit of service to take possession of the whole church so that everyone shall be working for Him according to his ability." —*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 111.

"There must be an awakening, a spiritual renovation. The temperature of Christian piety must be raised. . . .

"There is work for every individual who names the name of Christ. A voice from heaven is solemnly calling you to duty. Heed this voice, and go to work at once in any place, in any capacity."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 5, pp. 203, 204.

## Great Movements Under God

**5. With what resolute spirit were the walls of Jerusalem built? Neh. 4:6, 17, 18.**

NOTE.—"Notwithstanding the plots of enemies, open and secret, the work of building went steadily forward, and in less than two months from the time of Nehemiah's arrival in Jerusalem the city was girded with its defenses and the builders could walk upon the walls and look down upon their defeated and astonished foes."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 657.

"Especially today, while earth's history is closing, the Lord requires of His children a vigilance that knows no relaxation."—*Ibid.,* p. 571.

**6. What was the result of Jonah's God-given message to Nineveh? Jonah 3:5-10.**

NOTE.—"The message was not in vain. The cry that rang through the streets of the godless city was passed from lip to lip until all the inhabitants had heard the startling announcement. The Spirit of God pressed the message home to every heart and caused multitudes to tremble because of their sins and to repent in deep humiliation."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 270.

"In every city, filled though it may be with violence and crime, there are many who with proper teaching may learn to become followers of Jesus."—*Ibid.,* p. 277.

**7. How was the message of the Samaritan woman received after her conversion at Jacob's well? John 4: 39-41.**

NOTE.—"As soon as she had found the Saviour the Samaritan woman brought others to Him. She proved herself a more effective missionary than His own disciples. The disciples saw nothing in Samaria to indicate that it was an encouraging field. . . . But through the woman whom they despised, a whole cityful were brought to hear the Saviour."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 195.

**8. How is the great revival under Paul's preaching at Ephesus described? Acts 19:17-20.**

NOTE.—"By burning their books on magic, the Ephesian converts showed that the things in which they had once delighted they now abhorred. . . . Thus they gave evidence of true conversion."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 288.

"The Lord has in our large cities many precious souls who have not bowed the knee to Baal, and He has those who have worshiped Baal ignorantly. On these the light of truth is to shine, that they may see Christ as the way, the truth, and the life."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 9, p. 142.

## God's Witnesses Today

**9. As witnesses for God, what should we make the burden of our confession? Isa. 43:10; Luke 12:8.**

NOTE.—"We are witnesses for God as we reveal in ourselves the working of a power that is divine. Every individual has a life distinct from all others, and an experience differing essentially from theirs. God desires that our praise shall ascend to Him, marked with our own individuality."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 100.

**10. If we would have the boldness of Peter and John, what must be revealed in our testimony? Acts 4:13.**

NOTE.—"No longer were they ignorant and uncultured. . . . No longer were their hopes set on worldly greatness. They were of 'one accord,' of one mind and one soul. Christ filled their thoughts. The advancement of His kingdom was their aim."—*Education,* page 95.

**11. What admonition to Timothy is good counsel for God's last-day witnesses? 2 Timothy 1:8.**

## The Needful Preparation

**12. What rich and varied experience gave Paul his power as a worker for God? 2 Cor. 6:4-10.**

**13. What did Peter urge as needful preparation for winning souls? 1 Peter 3:15.**

NOTE.—"Many who profess to believe the truth for these last days . . . do not know why they believe the truth. . . . They can give no intelligent reason why they believe. Many have allowed their minds to be filled with things of minor importance, and their eternal interest is made secondary."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 2, p. 634.

**14. How is the special message for today described, and how widely must it be proclaimed? Rev. 14:6.**

NOTE.—"The message of Revelation 14 is the message that we are to bear to the world. It is the bread of life for these last days. . . .

"We are not to cease our efforts or relax our vigilance. Never is our zeal to grow less. Our spiritual life must be daily revived by the stream that makes glad the city of our God."—*Testimonies,* Vol. 8, p. 27.

"The Bible is our rule of faith and doctrine. There is nothing more calculated to energize the mind and strengthen the intellect than the study of the Word of God. No other book is so potent to elevate the thoughts or give vigor to the faculties, as the broad, ennobling truths of the Bible."—*Gospel Workers,* page 249.

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## THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING

### June 25, 1966

### Middle East Division

The overflow of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering for the second quarter of 1966 has been assigned by the General Conference for the expansion of God's work in Bible lands. Sixteen Eastern nations, on three continents, representing five language groups, Arabic being the main one, make up the territories of the Middle East Division. The future of the church and the development of God's work in the Bible lands is dependent on Christian education. The training of our youth and the preparation of laborers for the Lord's harvest field is the most urgent and necessary work to accomplish at this time.

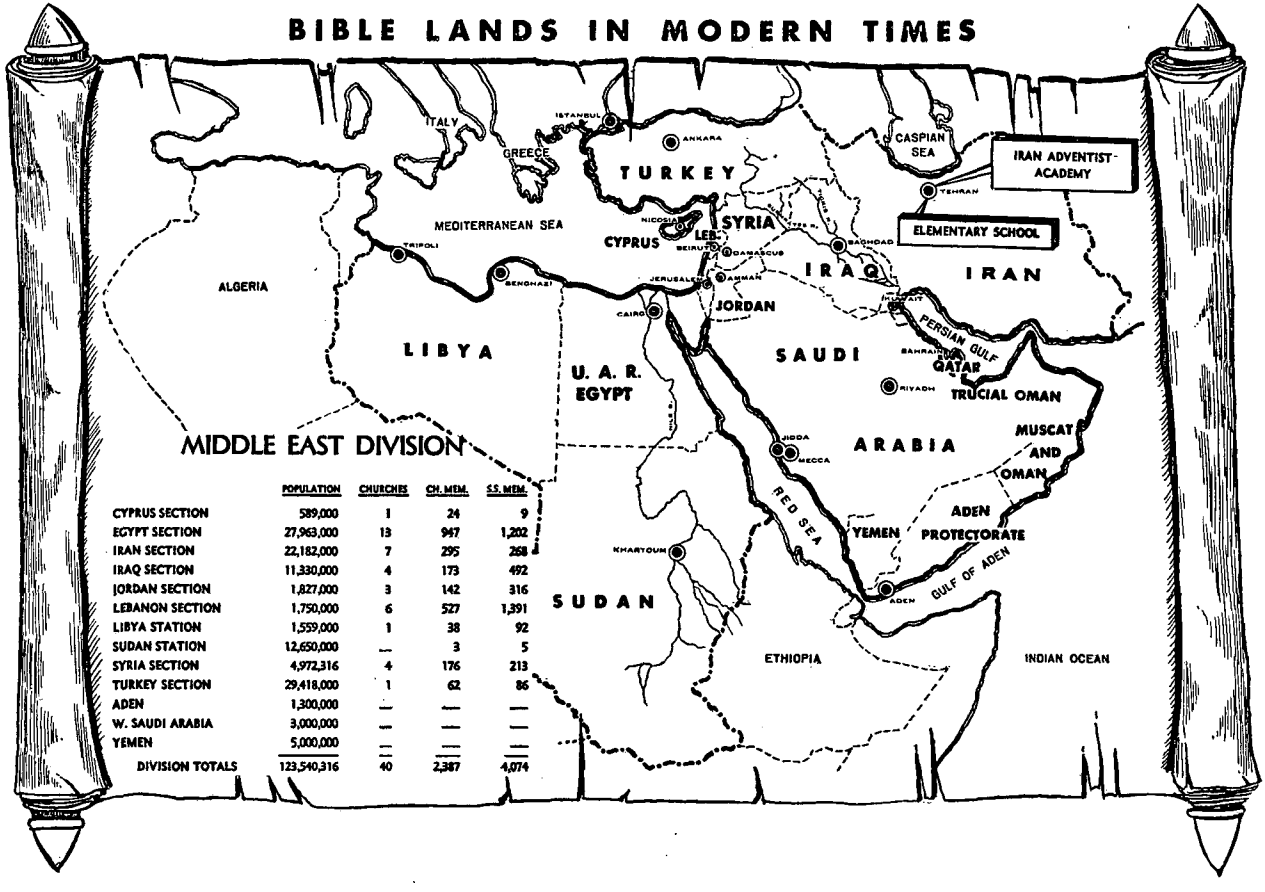
Through the blessings of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, the elementary school in Iran, presently housed in rented quarters with meager facilities, will occupy its new home. The academy, with the advantage of recent recognition and accreditation, will be enlarged. This will provide more space in the dormitory, additional classrooms, and larger provisions for the dining room. This little "school of the prophets," located at the foot of the great snow-covered mountains, will hold high the standards of Christian education, and will mold our youth to be pillars in the church of God.

### Lessons for the Second Quarter, 1966

Sabbath School members who have failed to receive a senior *Lesson Quarterly* for the third quarter of 1966 will be helped by the following outline in studying the first lesson. The title of the series is "The People of Promise." The title of the first lesson is "God's Purpose for This Earth." The memory verse is Psalm 100:3. The study helps are *Patriarchs and Prophets,* pages 44-51, 63-70 (chapters 2 and 4); *S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* and *S.D.A. Bible Dictionary.* The texts to be studied are:

Ques. 1. Isa. 45:18.
Ques. 2. Ps. 8:6-8; 115:16.
Ques. 3. Isa. 43:7; Acts 17:24-27.
Ques. 4. Rom. 3:9-12, 23.
Ques. 5. John 3:16; Col. 1:27.
Ques. 6. Col. 1:19, 20.
Ques. 7. Rev. 22:17.
Ques. 8. Rom. 5:8-10, 21.
Ques. 9. 1 Peter 2:9, 10; Titus 2:14.
Ques. 10. Rev. 7:4, 9, 10.
Ques. 11. Rev. 21:3; 22:3, 4.
Ques. 12. Ezek. 33:11; 2 Peter 3:9.
Ques. 13. Ps. 100:3; 79:13; 95:7.
Ques. 14. Isa. 60:21; Gal. 3:29; Rev. 21:7.

# BIBLE LANDS IN MODERN TIMES




| | POPULATION | CHURCHES | CH. MEM. | S.S. MEM. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CYPRUS SECTION | 589,000 | 1 | 24 | 9 |
| EGYPT SECTION | 27,963,000 | 13 | 947 | 1,202 |
| IRAN SECTION | 22,182,000 | 7 | 295 | 268 |
| IRAQ SECTION | 11,330,000 | 4 | 173 | 492 |
| JORDAN SECTION | 1,827,000 | 3 | 142 | 316 |
| LEBANON SECTION | 1,750,000 | 6 | 527 | 1,391 |
| LIBYA STATION | 1,559,000 | 1 | 38 | 92 |
| SUDAN STATION | 12,650,000 | — | 3 | 5 |
| SYRIA SECTION | 4,972,316 | 4 | 176 | 213 |
| TURKEY SECTION | 29,418,000 | 1 | 62 | 86 |
| ADEN | 1,300,000 | — | — | — |
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| YEMEN | 5,000,000 | — | — | — |
| DIVISION TOTALS | 123,540,316 | 40 | 2,387 | 4,074 |