



SGSA Kids Bible Study Program

**GRADE 7&8
CURRICULUM B**

(YEAR 2)





GRADE 7&8

CURRICULUM B

(YEAR 2)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION



SGSA
Kids Bible
Study
Program

ERA 1

ERA 1: CREATION

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CREATION

Overview

God creates the world and creates man (Adam), then Adam sins and destroys God's original plan for man. Later, and through Noah, the creation is re-blessed.

LESSON 1

Creation

ADAM & EVE creation (Genesis 2:18-24)

LESSON 2

Accepted Offering

CAIN & Abel (Genesis 4:2-13)

LESSON 3

End of Flood

Creation renewal, post flood (Genesis 8)

LESSON 4

Re-Blessing the Creation

Creation re-blessed, post flood (Genesis 9:1-17)





LESSON 1
Creation

LESSON 2
**Accepted
Offering**

LESSON 3
End of Flood

LESSON 4
**Re-Blessing
the Creation**

CREATION

Genesis 2:18-24



ERA 1: CREATION

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LESSON CONCEPT:

God sets-up the “prototype” for marriage.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- In Chapter 1, the Bible tells us the story of creation. While it took a longtime to be finished, it is recorded concisely in one chapter.
- In Chapter 2, the Holy Scripture is showing how God cared not only for man’s material aspects, but also his psychological and spiritual needs.
- Seeing man lonely in paradise, God intended to make him a helper comparable to him.
- The expression “comparable to him” reveals God’s intention for marriage.
- God created Eve as the sole wife of Adam. By creating Eve from Adam’s side, the Holy Scripture established the concept of “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh” (Gen. 2:24)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why is the story of the creation of Eve a symbol of the creation of the church?
- --> The water and blood that came out of Christ’s side when He died on the cross point to Eve who came from Adam’s side when he was asleep. The water and blood symbolize the Baptism and Eucharist (i.e. the Church).
- As verse 24 states, man and woman cannot separate after marriage because they became one flesh; If Eve symbolizes the church, who is the Man who leaves His Father?





LESSON 1
Creation

LESSON 2
**Accepted
Offering**

LESSON 3
End of Flood

LESSON 4
**Re-Blessing
the Creation**

CREATION

Genesis 2:18-24

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Being thankful that God gave me a family to live with, a family who cares for me.
- The Holiness of the Sacrament of Matrimony:
 - » Christ has united my parents into one flesh and is present in our home everyday.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- There is no Christian marriage outside the Church (before the altar). This is because Matrimony is a sacrament where the Holy Spirit unifies the bride and groom, and Christ completes their unity.
- Therefore, the Church teaches us that every Christian house is a small Church where God dwells.
- The concept of Marriage was never changed from the Old Testament to the New Testament. Compare the lesson verse to the following:
- For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh (Matthew 19:5).

Bible Verse

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh
(Genesis 2:24)

ERA 1: CREATION

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LESSON 1
Creation

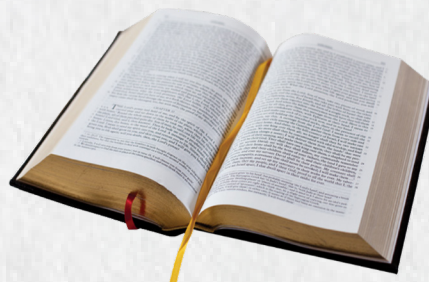
LESSON 2
Accepted
Offering

LESSON 3
End of Flood

LESSON 4
Re-Blessing
the Creation

ACCEPTED OFFERING

Genesis 4:2-13



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

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LESSON CONCEPT:

God desires a pure heart above anything else.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Eve gave birth to Cain then she gave birth to Able.
- Able offered a blood sacrifice to God from the flock, and God accepted his sacrifice.
- Cain offered a sacrifice from the fruit of the earth, but God did not accept his sacrifice.
- When God clothed Adam and Eve with tunics of animal skin, He showed them how to present an acceptable blood sacrifice. The blood sacrifice is a symbol of Christ's own sacrifice on the Cross.
- Cain was angry, yet God assured him that if he does what is right, he would be accepted; but if Cain refuses, then a sin lies at his door.
- Cain told his brother to go with him to the field, then he attacked and killed him.
- God asked Cain about his brother, and Cain replied, "Am I my brother's keeper?"
- God told Cain that the blood of his brother is crying to Him from the ground.
- Cain was cursed from the earth: the ground will not yield its crops to him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why was Cain's sacrifice not accepted?
- Why did Cain end up killing his brother? (usually killing starts with an emotion of anger, and God warns us not to let a bad emotion grow within us lest it develops into a more serious sin/fall)





LESSON 1
Creation

LESSON 2
**Accepted
Offering**

LESSON 3
End of Flood

LESSON 4
**Re-Blessing
the Creation**

ACCEPTED OFFERING

Genesis 4:2-13

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Does God compare between my offering and others'?
- How can I offer God the best of what I have?
- What is an acceptable sacrifice in God's eyes today
- Leaving bad friends/habits/...
- Offering time/compassion to others/...
- Discuss different examples of when sin starts as a tiny thought, then it grows and rules over someone's life.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The church remembers and prays for everyone who willingly gives:
- Remember, O Lord, those who have brought to You these gifts, those on whose behalf they have been brought, and those by whom they have been brought. Give them all the heavenly reward.

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

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Bible Verse

For I desire mercy and not sacrifice. (Hosea 6:6)





LESSON 1
Creation

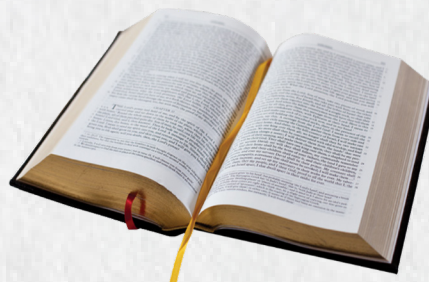
LESSON 2
Accepted
Offering

LESSON 3
End of Flood

LESSON 4
Re-Blessing
the Creation

END OF FLOOD

Genesis 8



ERA 1: CREATION

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ERA 6: KINGDOM

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ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Because I am the son of the heavenly Father, I cannot tolerate evil.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- For 150 days water prevailed on earth.
- God sent a wind over the earth and the water receded.
- The ark rested on the mountain of Ararat, and the water continued to recede until the tops of mountains were seen.
- Noah then opened a window and sent a raven which kept going back and forth.
- Noah then sent a dove for three times, and on the third time, it never returned.
- Noah removed the covering from the ark and saw that the water had dried up, and after 57 more days the earth was completely dry.
- God commanded Noah to come out of the ark with his family and all living creatures with him.
- Noah went out of the ark and built an altar and offered a burnt offering on it.
- God smelled the pleasing aroma and said in His heart that He will never curse the ground for man's sake.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- As the raven fed on carcasses of those who died in their sins without repentance, the raven represents the status of sin. That's why the raven didn't come back to the ark that contains the righteous people who refused to sin like others.
- What does building an altar after the flood represent in the New Testament? (Communion)





LESSON 1
Creation

LESSON 2
**Accepted
Offering**

LESSON 3
End of Flood

LESSON 4
**Re-Blessing
the Creation**

END OF FLOOD

Genesis 8

LIFE APPLICATION:

- The flood represents Baptism and the Altar represents Communion. This is how you gain your membership in the Church.
- What do we need to do to separate ourselves from sin in the world?
 - » Keep yourself inside the Ark (Church).

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- As a child of God, I cannot live in sin. And every time I sin, I need to renew my status and get back to my original pure status.
- God, through His Church, provided me with a powerful renewal tool: repentance and partaking of the holy Eucharist.

ERA 1: CREATION

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Bible Verse

“For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?” (2 Corinthians 6:14)





LESSON 1
Creation

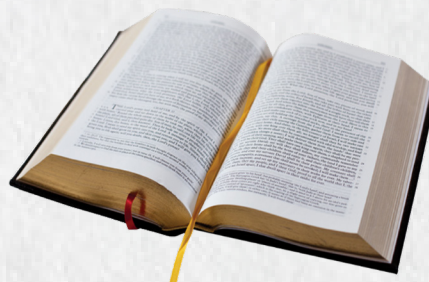
LESSON 2
Accepted
Offering

LESSON 3
End of Flood

LESSON 4
Re-Blessing
the Creation

RE-BLESSING THE CREATION

Genesis 9:1-17



ERA 1: CREATION

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ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

God blesses mankind and gives them a new Law (Noah's Law).

LESSON SUMMARY:

- As Noah and his sons left the ark, God blessed them with a blessing similar to that of Adam and Eve. Noah and his sons are now a new start for mankind.
- This blessing is a symbol of the blessing that the Church received in the New Testament. So, in place of the first Adam, we got the Second Adam (Jesus Christ); and in place of the first Eve, we got the new Eve (The Church), through whom children of God would be born, multiply and grow. Through the first Adam and the first Eve, we were physically born, and through Jesus Christ and the Church, we were spiritually born.
- God then gave Noah a new Law:
 - » Man was vegetarian but God allowed Noah to eat the flesh of animals. The human body was getting weaker, which required this new allowance.
 - » Man was warned against eating flesh with its blood. An animal's life is in its blood. And life belongs to God. Man is allowed only to eat the animal's meat, but the blood remains a symbol to Christ's blood sacrifice on the cross. This role belonged only to Christ.
- God established a covenant with Noah and his children and made the rainbow as a sign of that covenant between Him and them.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What was the event that led to the blessing of Noah and his sons?
- What is the sacrifice with a soothing aroma that was accepted by God the Father in the New Testament?





LESSON 1
Creation

LESSON 2
**Accepted
Offering**

LESSON 3
End of Flood

LESSON 4
**Re-Blessing
the Creation**

RE-BLESSING THE CREATION

Genesis 9:1-17

LIFE APPLICATION:

- On our baptism day, there was a covenant set between God and each one of us, that our parents took on our behalf. Now that you are responsible for yourself, search what this covenant is and how you can keep it and grow in it.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Only one baptism!
- At the end of the flood, God promised that He will never repeat it. As the flood symbolizes baptism, the church never repeats baptism.
- However, when I fall into a sin and I need to be cleansed, the sacrament of repentance and confession will be the way to get renewed.

ERA 1: CREATION

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ERA 12: REVELATION

Bible Verse

My son, keep my words, and treasure my
commands within you. Keep my commands and
live (Proverbs 7:1-2)



ERA 2

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

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ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

PATRIARCH

Overview

A time of godly men presiding over the growing family of God's people. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, successive generations of the same family, ruled over the Hebrew people in the earliest days of their existence.

LESSON 1 **Abraham**

Lot leaves Abraham and dwells in Sodom (Genesis 13)

LESSON 2 **Isaac**

Isaac obeys God (Genesis 26:1-6)

LESSON 3 **Jacob**

Jacob meets with Esau (Genesis 33)

LESSON 4 **Joseph**

Jacob's final blessing to Joseph (Genesis 48)





LESSON 1
Abraham

LESSON 2
Isaac

LESSON 3
Jacob

LESSON 4
Joseph

ABRAHAM

Genesis 13



ERA 1: CREATION

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ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Is God present in all the decisions I make?

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Although Abram was very rich, this worldly richness did not occupy his heart. Lot, on the other hand, had been preoccupied with sheep, cows and tents.
- Because the land could not support them both, Abram, the older, yielded the right of choice to Lot the younger, with joy and content. This act revealed the faithful and pure heart of Abram, and exposed Lot's materialistic heart, as he chose the best option for himself, and left his uncle the second-best option.
- The second mistake that Lot committed was regarding the land that he chose as the land of Egypt. Spiritually, this means that his heart was still preoccupied with worldly riches.
- The last sin committed by Lot was that he did not care for the inhabitants of that land, as they were very sinful people.
- God then told Abram that He will give him all the land that he could see. He also told Abram that he will make his descendants innumerable.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- When Abram gave Lot the right to choose, what did this reveal about Abram?
- What does Lot's choice reveal?
- How will God bless those who keep Him in their decisions?





LESSON 1
Abraham

LESSON 2
Isaac

LESSON 3
Jacob

LESSON 4
Joseph

ABRAHAM

Genesis 13

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Do I pray before making any decision?
- What are my priorities when I compare 2 choices?
- How should I resolve a conflict with one of my close contacts without damaging our relationship?

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- When the church goes into the process of appointing a new Pope, the Church realizes that this is mainly God's choice and decision.
- All the believers will fast for 3 days, then a liturgy is prayed and a box containing the names of the 3 nominees is placed inside the sanctuary during all the prayers of the liturgy.
- At the end of the liturgy and the special prayers, a child picks 1 of the 3 names, thus we know that this is God's choice and decision.

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ERA 12: REVELATION

Bible Verse

I have set the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved (Psalm 16:8)





LESSON 1
Abraham

LESSON 2
Isaac

LESSON 3
Jacob

LESSON 4
Joseph

ISAAC

Genesis 26:1-6



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

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ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

God blesses His obedient children.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Isaac experienced the same hardship that his father Abraham went through; famine.
- It appears the famine was constrained to the land, and it did not affect Isaac's faith and hope in God.
- Abraham went to Egypt during the famine that happened during his time without seeking God's counsel.
- Isaac sought God's counsel, and God appeared to him, and commanded him not to go to Egypt.
- God commanded Isaac to stay in this land; and in return, God would give this land to Isaac and to his descendants. God also told Isaac that He will perform the oath that He gave to Abraham by multiplying Isaac's descendants as the stars of heaven.
- We notice that because Isaac sought the counsel of God, God appeared to him.
- Isaac then obeyed God and stayed in Gerar.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Do you think that righteous people do not face problems and tribulations in their lives? (both Abraham and Isaac suffered a famine)
- How do the people of Faith think and act at the times of tribulations?





LESSON 1
Abraham

LESSON 2
Isaac

LESSON 3
Jacob

LESSON 4
Joseph

ISAAC

Genesis 26:1-6

LIFE APPLICATION:

- In the time of affliction, why is it difficult to seek God and obey His commandments?
- What are the blessings of God that we receive when we obey His commandments?

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- "... I will give to your descendants all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws." (Genesis 26:4-5)
- In these verses God blesses Isaac for the sake of his father Abraham although at that time Abraham had already died.
- This implies that Abraham is still alive in heaven, and this is exactly the concept of "intercession" that we have in our church.
- We ask for the intercession of St Mary, the heavenly orders and the Saints because we know that they are living in heaven, and they are praying for us.

Bible Verse

Dwell in this land, and I will be with you and bless you
... because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My
charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws
(Genesis 26:3, 5)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

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LESSON 1
Abraham

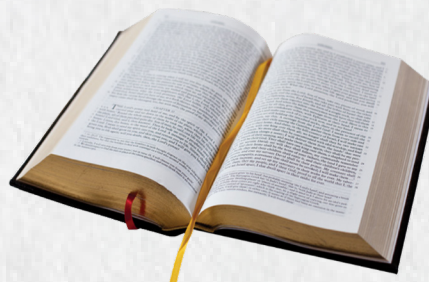
LESSON 2
Isaac

LESSON 3
Jacob

LESSON 4
Joseph

JACOB

Genesis 33



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ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

God protects His children who rely on Him.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Jacob returned to Esau his brother. Esau came to meet him with 400 men.
- Jacob went before his family “like a good shepherd” to protect them in case of an attack.
- Jacob, in a humble spirit, bowed to the ground when he met Esau. Similarly, our Lord Jesus Christ led the church in the procession of conquest through His Humility.
- When Esau saw his brother, he ran to him, fell on his neck and kissed him, as though he had forgotten the past with all its envy and grudge. He also showed his brotherly love by inquiring about the great number of people who came with Jacob.
- Esau wasn't comfortable accepting Jacob's gifts in the beginning and instead offered Jacob hospitality, but he finally accepted the gifts after Jacob's insistence.
- Esau offered to leave some of his men with Jacob to help and guide him.
- Jacob then journeyed to Succoth. Then, he set forth to Shechem where he bought a parcel of land and pitched his tent.
- The first thing Jacob did as he returned to Canaan was to build an altar for God, and called it 'El Elohe Israel' meaning 'God of Israel'.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why did Jacob fear meeting his brother Esau?
- How did God strengthen Jacob before meeting with Esau? (Read Genesis 32)





LESSON 1
Abraham

LESSON 2
Isaac

LESSON 3
Jacob

LESSON 4
Joseph

JACOB

Genesis 33

LIFE APPLICATION:

- What should we do when faced with a difficult situation in our life?
 - » Pray to ask for help, think, plan; and God will bless
- How do we meet people who might have bad feelings towards us (like envy or a grudge)?
 - » We show them true love and talk humbly with them; and God will bless

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- In the liturgy, after the reconciliation prayer, the deacon says: "Greet one another with a holy kiss,..."
- The reason behind this is that we cannot pray in unity with our brothers and sisters in church while holding any feelings of envy and/or a grudge against any other church member.

Bible Verse

I will not let You go unless You bless me! (Genesis 32:26)

ERA 1: CREATION

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LESSON 1
Abraham

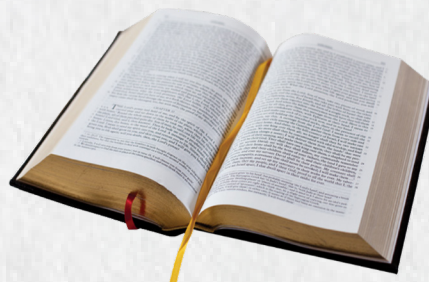
LESSON 2
Isaac

LESSON 3
Jacob

LESSON 4
Joseph

JOSEPH

Genesis 48



ERA 1: CREATION

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ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

The faithful acquires the love, respect and blessing of people around them.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Joseph was told that his father Jacob was too ill, so he hastened to bring his 2 sons, Manasseh the elder and Ephraim the younger, to his father to get his blessings.
- As he blessed Joseph, Jacob proclaimed:
 - » That God appeared to him at Luz and blessed him
 - » That Joseph's two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, would be considered Jacob's sons. By that, Joseph would get a bigger portion than any of his brothers, becoming two tribes, while each of his brothers became only one tribe.
 - » Rachel's death and place of burial in Ephrath - Bethlehem.
- Joseph then placed his older son "Manasseh" on the right side of Jacob, and Ephraim to his left, so that Jacob would bless Manasseh as the firstborn.
- Jacob then crossed his hands and put his right hand on Ephraim and his left on Manasseh. Joseph wanted to move Jacob's right hand on Manasseh, but Jacob refused saying "I know, my son, I know. He too will become a people, and he too will become great. Nevertheless, his younger brother will be greater than he, and his descendants will become a group of nations."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Can you name other occasions when the younger was preferred over the older? (Cain & Abel, Jacob & Esau, Isaac & Ishmael,...)
- What does this preference represent? (That Jesus Christ, the second Adam had a blessing to all mankind that the first Adam could not have)

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LESSON 1
Abraham

LESSON 2
Isaac

LESSON 3
Jacob

LESSON 4
Joseph

JOSEPH

Genesis 48

LIFE APPLICATION:

- In the Old Testament, receiving the blessing of the fathers was of great significance. Do we look to receive the blessing of our church in the same way? The church's blessing is more powerful because it is spiritual, and it relates to my eternal life.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- At the end of the assembly of any believers, the priest ends with a special blessing: "The love of God the Father; the grace of the only begotten Son, our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ and the communion and gift of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Go in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you".
- The concept of receiving a special spiritual blessing before leaving the church and returning to our normal activities is very Biblical.

Bible Verse

By you Israel will bless, saying, 'May God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh! (Genesis 48:20)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

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ERA 3

ERA 1: CREATION

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EXODUS

Overview

The Exodus was the mass movement of the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt back to the Promised Land of Canaan.

LESSON 1 Deliverance

The song of Moses (Exodus 15)

LESSON 2 The Law

The Israelites deny God and worship a golden calf (Exodus 32)

LESSON 3 The Rebellion

Rebellion of Korah, Dathan & Abiram (Numbers 16:1-40)

LESSON 4 Forty Years of Wandering

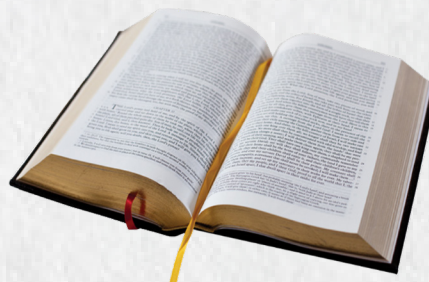
The sin of Moses & Aaron, and their death before reaching the promised land (Numbers 20 & 27)





DELIVERANCE

Exodus 15



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Praising God fills me with spiritual joy and strength.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Moses is praising the Lord because He delivered the Israelites from the hand of Pharaoh through the Red Sea and made Pharaoh and his army drown in the Red Sea.
- When Pharaoh asked Moses and the sons of Israel to get out of Egypt after the tenth strike (killing all Egypt's firstborn) he regretted that decision and gathered his army and his elite chariot captains to chase the Israelites.
- Yet, God split the Red Sea and made a passage for the Israelites to pass to the other side.
- When Pharaoh saw the sea was split, he chased them in.
- The Lord then brought the water back and drowned Pharaoh and his elite army in the sea with a mighty hand.
- Moses, Miriam and the Israelites praised the Lord for through His glory and mighty hand, He delivered them out of Egypt.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why did God allow Pharaoh to chase His people?
- Why did God not lead the people to a land passage but rather to a dead end into the sea?
- Why did Moses and Miriam sing this song?



DELIVERANCE

Exodus 15

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Praise the Lord for all His blessings in your life.
- Praise the Lord to remind yourself of all His promises and all the good things that He will reward you with for living according to His commandments.
- Consider attending the midnight praises (a.k.a. “tasbeha”).

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The church practices praising the Lord in the midnight praises (a.k.a. “tasbeha”).
- The First Canticle of the midnight praises is taken from Exodus 15. It reminds us of the Lord’s blessings and deliverance of His people in the Old and New Testaments.

Bible Verse

Sing to the Lord, for He has triumphed gloriously! (Exodus 15:21)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
Deliverance

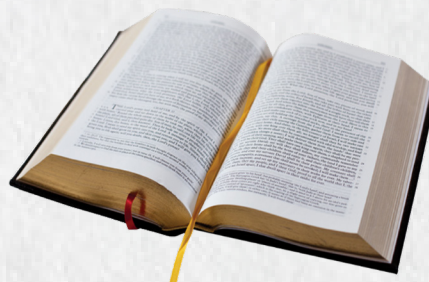
LESSON 2
The Law

LESSON 3
The Rebellion

LESSON 4
40 Years of Wandering

THE LAW

Exodus 32



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

- God loves His children who fear Him and punishes those who worship idols.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- When Moses was delayed to come down from mount Sinai where he was receiving the 10 commandments, the Israelites went to Aaron and asked him to make them gods to lead them, as they felt leaderless.
- Aaron made them a golden calf from their earrings.
- They worshiped and offered to that calf. They ate, drank and rose up to play (sin).
- When God saw that, He told Moses to go down because the people had corrupted themselves and the Lord was going to consume them. Moses pleaded to the lord not to.
- Moses went down and when he saw what the people were doing, he broke the tablets written by God.
- Moses burnt the calf, grounded it to powder and scattered it on the water and ordered the people to drink it.
- Moses asked the sons of Levi, who did not defile themselves by worshiping the calf, to kill all those who worshiped the calf, sinned and defiled themselves and others.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why did the people want another god?
- Why did they specifically want a god made of gold in the form of a calf ? (like Egyptian gods)
- Why did Aaron consent to the people's wishes ? (he had a weak faith, and he feared the people)





THE LAW

Exodus 32

LIFE APPLICATION:

- What is the symbolic meaning of that golden calf? Where do we see people “worshipping a golden calf” nowadays?
- Focus on God, and not things valued by the people of the world (power, evil fun, richness, etc..)
- The children of God do not imitate the bad behaviors of worldly people. Evil people who refuse to repent will sure be punished.
- Every person is responsible for their deeds, and you shall not yield to the people’s pressure.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- All liturgical prayers in the church books ascribe worship to the Holy Trinity (The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit) as the only One God to worship.
- As an example, we pray: “Through the intercessions of the Theotokos St Mary, O Lord grant us the forgiveness of our sins. We worship You O Christ, with Your Good Father and The Holy Spirit for You have come and saved us ...”.
- We may ask for the intercessions of the saints or the angels; but we only worship the Holy Trinity.

Bible Verse

And the Lord said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book” (Exodus 32:33)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





THE REBELLION

Numbers 16:1-40



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Following the Church doctrine and order pleases God.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Korah, the Levite, rose up against Moses and Aaron with 250 prominent leaders in the congregation, asking for priesthood (like Aaron).
- Dathan and Abiram were from the tribe of Reuben (the older brother), and they rejected the leadership of Moses.
- Moses asked all the congregation to be separated from the rebels' tents because the Lord would punish them severely. Then, the earth opened and swallowed all their tents.
- Moses asked Korah: is it not enough that God chose you son of Levi to serve the tabernacle, that you want also the priesthood?
- Moses asked Korah and the 250 men to take their censers and put incense in them before the Lord (work of the priests) and the Lord would choose the priests He appointed.
- When Korah and the 250 men started raising incense, God rejected their rebellion and sent a fire that consumed them; confirming that Aaron and his sons are His appointed priests.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why did God set this order (priests, servants, leadership) in the congregation? (for the sake of organization)
- Why was God angered by Korah and his group? (Because priesthood is a call from God, not by human request)



THE REBELLION

Numbers 16:1-40

LIFE APPLICATION:

- God gave authority to the church (clergy) to establish rites and doctrines that every believer must follow. For example: fasts, liturgies, hourly prayers, sacraments,...
- The fellowship practiced by all Christians is a positive product of submitting to our church, which pleases God.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Different fasts were established and organized by the church. God gave authority to the church to do so.
- As believers, we ought to obey our church and be committed to all the fasts.
- We cannot excuse ourselves from obeying our church just because we have a different opinion or because we want to relax ourselves.

Bible Verse

No outsider, who is not a descendant of Aaron, should come near to offer incense before the Lord (Numbers 16:40)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
Deliverance

LESSON 2
The Law

LESSON 3
The Rebellion

LESSON 4
40 Years of Wandering

FORTY YEARS OF WANDERING

Numbers 20 & 27



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Sin has negative consequences. Although God does not like sin, He accepts any sinner who repents.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- The people of Israel rebelled against Moses and Aaron for leading them into the Wilderness of Zin where there is no food nor water, unlike Egypt.
- Moses and Aaron bowed before the Lord to ask Him what to do. The Lord commanded them to speak to the rock and water would come out for the people to drink.
- Moses and Aaron went to the people and Moses called them "rebels" and struck the rock two times. An abundance of water came out of the rock to the people and their animals to drink.
- Then, the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron and told them: since you did not obey My word and hallow Me in the eyes of the people you shall not enter the promised land.
- Aaron died on mount Hor and his son Eleazar took his place.
- Moses died on Mount Abarim and his disciple Joshua the son of Nun took his place.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why was God angry with Moses and Aaron to that extent? (Because striking the rock was a symbol of crucifying Christ that happened once, and God asked them this time to talk to the rock as God is able to provide them water in different ways)
- How did Moses respond to the Lord when He told him he has to go on Mount Abarim to Join his fathers ? (He asked God to appoint a new leader) And what does that show? (Humility and care for his people)





FORTY YEARS OF WANDERING

Numbers 20

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Always recognize that the Lord is the reason for your success and not your own skills or how smart you are.
- Always obey the Lord's commandments even if you don't understand the reason behind them (for now).
- Beware of getting angry, because this will most likely lead you to a wrong action.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The martyrs are people who insisted to follow God even if it cost them their own lives.
- They refused any sort of negotiations or deviation from God's commandments. They glorified God through their obedience.
- Therefore, the Church venerates them, and we name the churches after the martyrs and saints.

Bible Verse

You also shall be gathered to your people, as Aaron your brother was gathered. For in the Wilderness of Zin, during the strife of the congregation, you rebelled against My command to hallow Me at the waters before their eyes (Numbers 27:13-14)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION



ERA 4

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

CONQUEST

Overview

After the Israelites had wandered in the wilderness for 40 years, they were at Jericho and needed to forge ahead and not shrink in the face of their circumstances the way their fathers did.

LESSON 1

Getting Ready

Rahab hides the 2 spies (Joshua 2)

LESSON 2

Jericho

Destruction of Jericho (Joshua 6)

LESSON 3

Conquest

The Northern conquest (Joshua 11:1-15)

LESSON 4

Reward

An altar by the Jordan (Joshua 22)





GETTING READY

Joshua 2



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Faith (how Rahab believed) and the blood of Christ (scarlet cord) are the keys to our salvation.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Joshua sent out two men to spy secretly, saying, “Go, view the land, especially Jericho”.
- They went and came to the house of a harlot named Rahab and lodged there.
- Rahab hid the two spies from the king’s soldiers. She believed that God of Israel is the true God, as they heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea.
- She asked them to save her life and her household.
- They told her to bind the line of scarlet cord in the window, so that every soul in this house would be saved when the Israelites would come.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why do we praise the faith of Rahab?
- What does the house of Rahab represent? (Those inside the church will be saved)
- What does the scarlet cord represent? (The blood of Christ)



GETTING READY

Joshua 2

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Our salvation is through the church and the blood of Christ.
- Show your faith by your works.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The Church has seven different sacraments.
- Four of them are called the “Redemptive Sacraments”
- These are: Baptism, Chrismation, Confession and Eucharist.
- Every believer must practice these four sacraments to be saved.

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

Bible Verse

The Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath (Joshua 2: 11)



JERICHO

Joshua 6



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

- The prayer of the church at the altar (ark of covenant) defeats all the powers of evil (Jericho).
- Prayers can be silent (inside your heart) or in shouting (as liturgies and praises).

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Joshua ordered the Israelites to follow the priests holding the Ark of the Covenant and march around Jericho silently, once per day, for six consecutive days.
- On the seventh day they would march around the city 7 times and then will shout when they hear the priests blow the trumpets.
- After following Joshua's instructions, the wall fell flat, and the Israelites took Jericho.
- Only Rahab and her household were saved because she hid the 2 spies.
- They took all the precious vessels to the treasury of the house of the Lord.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What do you think the Israelites were doing while marching around the city? (Silent prayer)
- What tools did the Israelites use to defeat the devil (Jericho)? (power of the altar – personal prayers – public prayers)



JERICHO

Joshua 6

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Some of the problems that we encounter are really complicated, how can we face these? (Pray and use the power of the altar)
- If I memorize parts of the psalms and pray them when I am alone and have some free time, these prayers will defeat all the evil powers that I might encounter.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- We bring our requests to the altar by writing them on a piece of paper and giving them to Abouna during the liturgy.
- Abouna prays for all the requests that he receives at the altar.
- Our Lord, who is present on the altar in His Body and Blood, will respond to Abouna's prayers and our requests and will provide an answer to us.

Bible Verse

Shout, for the Lord has given you the city! (Joshua 6:16)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION



LESSON 1
Getting Ready

LESSON 2
Jericho

LESSON 3
Conquest

LESSON 4
Reward

CONQUEST

Joshua 11:1-15



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Do not negotiate with evil. Just say NO to all types of evil.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- A group of kings from the north made an alliance to fight against Joshua and the Israelites.
- But the Lord assured Joshua that He will deliver all those kings and their armies to the hands of the Israelites.
- After Joshua defeated them, he destroyed their cities – as Moses had previously commanded him.
- The Lord instructed Moses to completely destroy and kill all the evil nations that worshiped idols and lived and practiced all types of evil.
- They were granted many opportunities to repent and get back to the Lord, but they had completely refused to submit, and this was their just judgment from God.
- Their existence would have led the Israelites to deviate from worshiping God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- As a military leader seeing an enemy coming against him with a larger army, why did Joshua not start negotiating some peace conditions? (No negotiations with evil).
- Why did the Lord command Moses and Joshua to destroy and kill all the nations that worship idols?

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CONQUEST

Joshua 11:1-15

LIFE APPLICATION:

- When I get invited to an event/party/etc., I must make sure that the Lord will be happy to be present in this place.
- Some challenges/disagreements between friends can lead to evil endings. For these types of challenges, my response should be a “NO”.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Over history, different heretics tried to introduce false doctrines to the church.
- As the church must defend the true faith, the church called for councils to discuss these heresies.
- If the heretic admitted that he was mistaken (repented), he was accepted back to the church.
- But, if the heretic insisted on his wrong doctrine, then the church would excommunicate him, as there is no negotiation with evil.

Bible Verse

Joshua ... left nothing undone of all that the Lord had commanded Moses (Joshua 11:15)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION



REWARD

Joshua 22



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

I must upkeep my spiritual memories and incentives lest I fall in lukewarmness.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Joshua sends the Reubenites, the Gadites and half the tribe of Manasseh to their land of possession, to the east of the Jordan river.
- After they returned, they built an altar by the Jordan.
- When the rest of the tribes heard about it, they got very troubled and sent to the two and half tribes to ask about this altar. At that time, the Jews were only permitted to offer their sacrifices on the altar of the tabernacle. So, the altar built by the two and half tribes was seen as treachery and rebellion against worshipping God.
- The two and half tribes explained that this altar was not built to offer sacrifices but to be a witness between their descendants and the descendants of the rest of the tribes.
- They feared that because they physically separated from the bigger group, they might not be considered part of the Israelites over time.
- So, they built this replica to be a witness between both sides to remind everyone that they are one nation worshipping the One and Only God of Hosts.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- The Israelites living in the Old Testament could only offer sacrifices on one altar in Jerusalem. Why? (As they were surrounded by many nations worshipping idols, God wanted them to come to the altar in Jerusalem, meet with the priests, get a chance to confirm their faith and ask the priests any spiritual questions they had. God didn't want them to deviate to worshipping idols, if they stopped coming to Jerusalem and having these spiritual encounters with the priests)



REWARD

Joshua 22

LIFE APPLICATION:

- What is lukewarmness? Why do some people suffer from it?
- My spiritual friends and memories, and the spiritual places I visit, will keep me spiritually attached to the Lord and to heaven.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Why is it important to visit a monastery or a convent from time to time?
- When I visit these holy places, see the life of the monks and nuns, and listen to their spiritual advice, stories or experiences, it keeps me spiritually hot.
- When I later remember what I have seen and learned in these visits, I regenerate spiritually and get a push to continue my spiritual warfare.

Bible Verse

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all Your works; I muse on the work of Your hands (Psalm 143:5)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

ERA 5

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

JUDGES

Overview

This was a dark period for the Jewish people, they lost their spiritual moorings... everyone did what was right in their own eyes. This was a “morally degraded, socially perverted and spiritually bankrupt time of almost 400 years”

LESSON 1

Cycles

SSSS – Sin, Suffer, Supplicate, Salvation – The parable of the trees (Judges 9:7-21)

LESSON 2

Judges

Samson & Delilah (Judges 16)

LESSON 3

Rebellion

Saul’s unlawful sacrifice (1 Samuel 13)

LESSON 4

Samuel

Samuel anoints Saul then David as kings (1 Samuel 10 & 16)





ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

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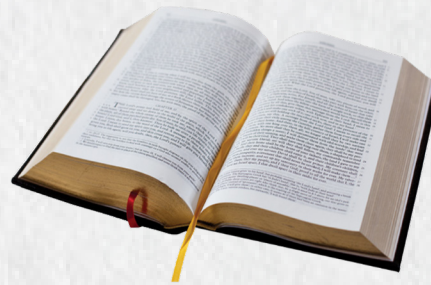
ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

CYCLES

Judges 9:7-21



LESSON CONCEPT:

Opposing 'sin' requires a strong connection with the Church (olive tree), the spirit of unity and love (fig tree) and to adhere to Christ's sacrifice (the vine).

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Jotham was the only son of Gideon to remain alive.
- He told a parable to rebuke the men of Shechem for their choice of Abimelech as king.
- The worthy trees (such as the Olive, the Fig and the Vine) didn't want to be king, but the unworthy Bramble agreed to be king.
- The olive tree produces oil that symbolizes the church guided by the Holy Spirit. It also symbolizes true servants who always care for and guide their flock. They are not pre-occupied with any worldly glory.
- The fig fruit contains a huge number of seeds, all united together. This symbolizes the spirit of oneness and unison between the different church members. No one seeks to be a leader.
- The vine symbolizes the blood of Christ and His holy sacrifice. Christ is the only true leader in church.
- Men of Shechem supported Abimelech as he was their brother, not realizing their bad choice.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How do you treat people who disagree with you?
- What are the consequences of an unwise choice?
- Do you get what you want at the expense of others?



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

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ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

CYCLES

Judges 9:7-21

LIFE APPLICATION:

- If you disagree with one of your friends, do you find a way to reconcile quickly?
- Between my friends and siblings, I should always strive for unity, as well as preserving the love and harmony between us.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The first prayer in the liturgy of the faithful, after we declare our Christian faith through the Creed, is called the “Reconciliation Prayer”.
- It is very important for the Church that all her members be reconciled with each other and with God.
- We are reconciled with God when we reject “sin”, repent and get united to Him through communion.

Bible Verse

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal
but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds (2
Corinthians 10:4)



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

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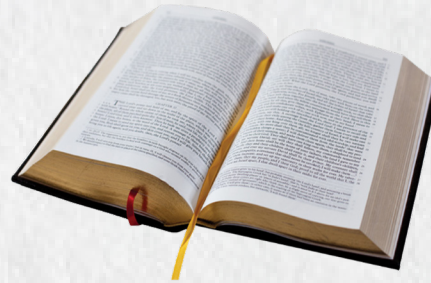
ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

JUDGES

Judges 16



LESSON CONCEPT:

My personal spiritual life can only be discussed with my father of confession.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Samson loved a woman called Delilah.
- The Philistines were harassing her to try to find the secret of Samson's strength.
- He gave her phony answers at first then he told her his secret.
- His strength was taken from him, and he was imprisoned.
- It is important to remain vigilant against the sources of sin. Note that when we sin, we separate ourselves from God and from His protection.
- Samson's true strength stemmed from his status as a Nazirite who consecrated his whole life to God.
- In prison, his hair started growing back: it shows us that he had time to think and repent like the prodigal son. So, God restored his strength because he was back on the right path.
- He implored the Lord to help him one last time to defeat evil.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How many times did Samson deceive Delilah?
- Why did Delilah try to find the secret of Samson's strength?
- What did the Philistines do to Samson after cutting his hair?



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

JUDGES

Judges 16

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Do you keep secrets?
- Who do you trust with your secret(s)? Why?
- Some of our personal spiritual relationship with God can only be discussed with my father of confession. Can you think of an example?
- Discuss how can we live as a Nazirite (consecrated individuals) to the Lord.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The Church and the Bible teach us that some spiritual practices should be kept in secret; like prayer, fasting, giving alms, etc.
- This is because we may fall into pride if we discuss them openly, or we may get into wrong comparisons.
- However, I can discuss anything with my father of confession. He cares for my spiritual growth and help me identify any weaknesses and fix them.

Bible Verse

But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. (Matthew 6:6)



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

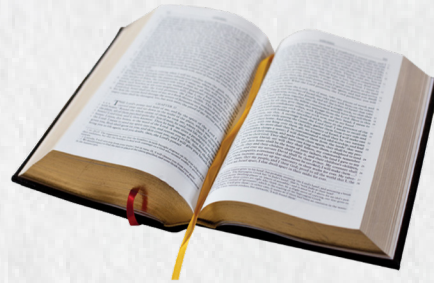
ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

REBELLION

1 Samuel 13



LESSON CONCEPT:

Follow the rules and system of the church to receive God's blessings. Rebels lose out.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Saul was the king for about 20 years. He started his reign by conquering the enemies. But due to his pride, he became weak and only retained a small army of 3,000.
- Jonathan his son, who was more committed, was able to defeat a garrison of the Philistines.
- The Philistines came back in huge numbers, and Saul's army was terrified and fled.
- After waiting for Samuel to come and offer a sacrifice, Saul decided to offer the sacrifice himself (though he is not a priest).
- Samuel arrived and Saul tried to explain what he did, blaming Samuel because he was late, instead of apologizing and repenting.
- Moreover, he said "I felt compelled, and offered a burnt sacrifice," such a weak excuse.
- Samuel didn't accept Saul's justification, saying "you have not kept the commandment of the Lord your God".
- Samuel proclaimed God's judgment upon Saul's household, and Saul ended up with 600 soldiers.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why was it important for Saul to wait for Samuel?
- Why did God reject Saul as a king?
- What mistakes did Saul make?

REBELLION

1 Samuel 13

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Whose lead do we follow in our lives?
- How do you feel when you face stressful situations? Where is your haven?
- After I receive God's support and blessing, I must thank Him and praise His name.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- A priest is called by God for this service.
- The main role of a priest is to administer the sacraments to the congregation.
- In every liturgy we pray, there must be a priest, a deacon and a congregation. Without one of these 3 members, a liturgy cannot be prayed.
- We need to understand the rites of the church and abide by them.

Bible Verse

And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the Lord your God, which He commanded you. (1 Samuel 13:13)



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

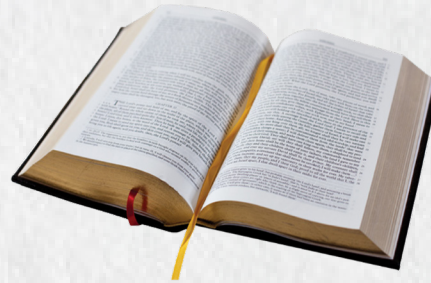
ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION



SAMUEL

1 Samuel 10 & 16



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

God calls us all to become saints: some accept (like David), and others reject (like Saul).

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Samuel anoints Saul privately and gives him some signs to assure him that this is from God. Also, these signs are loaded with godly messages to Saul (see commentaries by Fr. Antonios Fikry).
- Saul hides his experience from his family till he is publicly proclaimed as king by Samuel later.
- When Saul displeases the Lord, He sends Samuel to anoint David as a new king.
- Samuel thinks that one of Jesse's elder sons will be the chosen king by God.
- Finally, God reveals His choice to Samuel, and he anoints the youngest son, David.
- Saul is troubled by a distressing spirit.
- A solution is suggested to find a skillful harp player, and this is how David gets to join Saul's court.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What is the significance of the anointing with oil?
- What were the 3 signs Saul was to look for when he departed from Samuel?
- Why did Samuel think that Eliab might be the son God had chosen?
- How is David described in his meeting with Samuel?



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

SAMUEL

1 Samuel 10 & 16

LIFE APPLICATION:

- How does God talk to me to call me to heaven? (The Bible, a sermon, a friend, a parent, maybe even a stranger, ...)
- When I receive God's message, how do I respond? (My love for God can be evaluated by my response to His message)

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The anointing with oil in the OT was only for kings, priests or prophets.
- Note that these are the 3 main roles of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- In the NT, every believer is anointed with the holy oil (Mayron) after baptism.
- By this anointment, the Holy Spirit dwells in us and directs us in our way to heaven.
- Our role is to obey His directions and follow them diligently.

Bible Verse

For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7)

ERA 6

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

KINGDOM

Overview

Israel wanted “total freedom” to ignore the directives of God. As a result, the Kingdom Era was a very stormy time with many ups and downs... a righteous king would prosper, and an unrighteous king would falter... in the down times the nation collapsed and suffered at the hands of warring neighbors.

LESSON 1

United Kingdom

David versus Saul (1 Samuel 24 & 26)

LESSON 2

King David

God’s covenant with David, and David’s prayer (2 Samuel 7)

LESSON 3

Northern Kingdom

Ahaziah asks the idols & God rejects his arrogance (2 Kings 1)

LESSON 4

Southern Kingdom

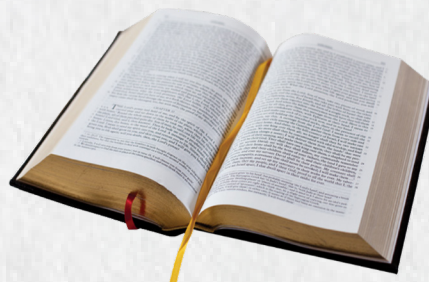
Rehoboam forsook the law of the Lord (2 Chronicles 12)





UNITED KINGDOM

1 Samuel 24 & 26



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

If you truly rely on God, you will not seek any revenge. Your true strength is your ability to forgive.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Because of his jealousy, king Saul decided to find David and kill him.
- Saul entered a cave where David and his men (army) were hiding, and David's men begged him to kill Saul.
- David refused to kill Saul, and here we find David:
 - » Refusing to harm the Lord's anointed, and
 - » His heart was troubled after he cut the corner of Saul's robe. This reveals how David's heart was so gentle and peaceful.
- Then, David revealed his presence to Saul.
- Saul honored David's mercy towards him.
- In a later time, a similar incident took place.
- David took Saul's spear and the jug of water while he and his army were in deep sleep.
- David confronted Saul again with the evidence of his mercy, and Saul apologized to David.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How did David's men react to the opportunity of killing Saul?
- Why did David decide to spare Saul's soul?
- Why did David's heart trouble him?
- How did David wait for the blessing to come through God?



UNITED KINGDOM

1 Samuel 24 & 26

LIFE APPLICATION:

- God has a way to fulfill His promises.
- We are to love our enemies and never repay evil for evil.
- When someone wrongs you, ask God to enable you to forgive. This is your true strength as a faithful Christian.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Our church has a litany in the liturgy for the king or the president.
- We always pray to our rulers because we believe that God is in control of everything.
- Also, we are reminded every time when we stand to pray that we must forgive: "... and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us..."

Bible Verse

May the Lord repay every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness; for the Lord delivered you into my hand today, but I would not stretch out my hand against the Lord's anointed. (1 Samuel 26:23)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
United Kingdom

LESSON 2
King David

LESSON 3
Northern Kingdom

LESSON 4
Southern Kingdom

KING DAVID

2 Samuel 7



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

The more you humble yourself before God, the more God will exalt you.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- King David asked for Nathan's advice, whether he should build a house (temple) to the Lord. Nathan quickly responded favourably.
- Later, God talked to Nathan and asked him to stop David from building a house to the Lord; David's son would.
- This is because king Solomon is a type of our Lord Christ who built His church in the NT.
- God asked David to prepare all the materials needed for the building, and He supported him to expand the kingdom, strengthen and stabilize it.
- David also composed the psalms that were later used to pray in the temple.
- Saying "I will establish his kingdom forever", God revealed to David the eternal spiritual reign of Christ over His church and all the believers.
- David's humble prayer is also full of thanksgiving.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What did David desire to build?
- What could be wrong with David building a temple?
- What was Nathan's response?
- What did God remind David of?
- What was God's great promise to David?





KING DAVID

2 Samuel 7

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Is it easy for me to accept to change my mind if I find out that my friend's or my parents' arguments are better than mine?
- What if I find some of my thoughts opposing one of God's commandments?
- Try to give a hand to someone (a parent or an elder), especially when you feel you are tired.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The church prays in the liturgy a special litany for anyone who offers anything to God, even those who wish to but are not able "... so also receive the thank offerings of Your servants - those in abundance and those in scarcity, hidden or manifest - those who desire to offer to You but have none..."
- God accepts these offerings full of love and humility as He accepted the desire of David's heart to build a house for Him.

Bible Verse

Who am I, O Lord God? And what is my house, that You have brought me this far? And yet this was a small thing in Your sight, O Lord God; and You have also spoken of Your servant's house for a great while to come. (2 Samuel 7:18-19)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
United Kingdom

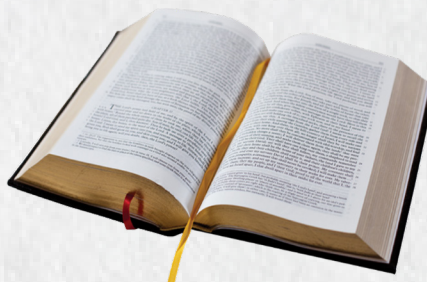
LESSON 2
King David

LESSON 3
Northern Kingdom

LESSON 4
Southern Kingdom

NORTHERN KINGDOM

2 Kings 1



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Unlike an arrogant person, the humble obtains mercy and blessings from God.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab.
- King Ahaziah, being injured, sent messengers to ask Ball-Zebub (an idol!!) If he would recover.
- An angel appeared to Elijah the prophet and asked him to send a message to Ahaziah saying that he would surely die.
- The messengers returned to Ahaziah and reported Elijah's message. So, the king ordered to arrest Elijah.
- God's judgment came upon the first two groups of 50 soldiers, with their captains, who talked to Elijah in arrogance, not realizing that God protected Elijah.
- The third captain came in humility and Elijah went with him after an angel assured Elijah that he would be safe.
- Elijah appeared before Ahaziah, delivered the same message to him and he died in his unbelief.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What happened to Ahaziah?
- Did Ahaziah believe in God?
- How was Elijah described?
- The 3 captains called Elijah "Man of God", what did each of them mean by this? (Mocking vs. reverence)
- Do I leave my life in God's hands?





NORTHERN KINGDOM

2 Kings 1

LIFE APPLICATION:

- We know that there are no idols, but do we have other interests (we may call them “gods”) in our lives that we favour over God sometimes?
- When I need help of any type, and before asking anyone, I should ask God first through a short prayer from my heart: “God please help me”.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- One of the liturgy prayers teaches us to humble ourselves before the Lord to get His mercy and blessings, it says:
- For Your people and Your Church ask You, and through You, the Father with You, saying: (Have mercy)*3 upon us, O God, the Father, the Pantocrator ... Lord have mercy.

Bible Verse

Then he said to him, “Thus says the LORD: ‘Because you have sent messengers to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron, is it because there is no God in Israel to inquire of His word? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone up, but you shall surely die.’” (2 Kings 1:16)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
United Kingdom

LESSON 2
King David

LESSON 3
Northern Kingdom

LESSON 4
Southern Kingdom

SOUTHERN KINGDOM

2 Chronicles 12



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Obeying and serving God delivers my soul eternally.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- King Rehoboam remained faithful to the Lord for the first 3 years of his reign, till he felt he is well established. Then, he forsook God, and all the people with him.
- As a result, God removed His protection and allowed Shishak king of Egypt to attack Jerusalem.
- Shemaiah the prophet revealed God's judgment to Rehoboam and Judah.
- The king and the leaders repented and humbled themselves before the Lord.
- God granted Judah some deliverance in response to their repentance.
- God allowed Shishak to subdue Judah and take away all their treasures, even from the house of the Lord.
- God wanted them to experience the difference between remaining faithful and serving Him versus being unfaithful to Him and serving the foreign earthly kings.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What did Rehoboam do when he felt strong and secure?
- Why did the Egyptians attack the Kingdom of Judah?
- What did the king and the leaders of Israel mean by saying, "The Lord is righteous"?
- What was God's response?





SOUTHERN KINGDOM

2 Chronicles 12

LIFE APPLICATION:

- I must always remain faithful to God. If I am not clear on anything, I may ask my parents, my servant(s), or Abouna.
- If I see one of my friends doing something wrong, I must pray for him/her and then try to talk to them out of my love and care for them.
- If I realize I am doing something wrong, I need to repent and stop the wrong.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Every Christian is called to serve the Lord and his/her brothers/sisters.
- Many services are available in our church so that everyone can serve the Lord.
- In our age, boys can serve the Lord as deacons, girls can serve the Lord helping the younger kids in church to remain quiet and being prepared for communion, and so on...

Bible Verse

When he humbled himself, the wrath of the Lord turned from him. (2 Chronicles 12:12)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION



ERA 7

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

EXILE

Overview

The Kingdom Era teaches us that while God forgives whoever comes to Him in repentance, that doesn't change the fact that sin has consequences. These are manifested in the Exile Era.

Daniel gives leadership and encourages faithfulness among the exiles for the next seventy years.

LESSON 1 **Prophecy**

Blessings versus Curses
(Selections of Deuteronomy 28)

LESSON 2 **Prophets**

Jeremiah's warnings before exile
(Selections of Jeremiah 2)

LESSON 3 **Exiles**

Daniel explains to
Nebuchadnezzar his second
dream (Daniel 4)

LESSON 4 **Power Changes**

Ahab repents but later sins
again, then he dies in the battle
(1 Kings 21:25-29 & 1 Kings
22:1-40)



PROPHECY

Selections of Deuteronomy 28



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Obedience bears blessings, while disobedience bears curses.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Because God is just, and because He rewards everyone according to their deeds, we find in this chapter blessings versus curses (= sin consequences). Everyone has free will, to choose for him/herself.
- (Verse 12) all the blessings can be summarized in these words "The lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens".
- Every believer longs for that day when he/she will live eternally in heaven in full joy and contentment.
- (Verse 36) on the other hand, the evil people, who choose and insist to live away from God, will lose God's protection and compassion. And, in foolishness they "shall serve other gods – wood and stone".
- (Verse 47) describes how the evil react to the good and abundant gifts of God. God always gives, but the problem remains on the recipient's side.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How can we discern and listen to God's voice?
- Who can help and guide me?
- What blessings in my life do I take for granted?



PROPHECY

Selections of Deuteronomy 28

LIFE APPLICATION:

- My life is full of blessings. Am I also a blessing to the people around me?
- When I disobey, am I too proud to repent and ask for forgiveness?
- Do I follow God's commandments out of fear? Or love?

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- In deep spiritual wisdom, our church encourages us and draws our minds to the heavenly life. It's a life full of blessings, peace and purity.
- Many times, in the liturgy, we hear Abouna say "Peace be with you" and "the Lord be with you all".
- Abouna and the deacons dress in white during liturgies, like angels in heaven.
- Just before we leave church, Abouna blesses us saying "go in peace, the peace of the Lord be with you all."

Bible Verse

The Lord will establish you as a holy people to Himself,..., if you keep the commandments of the Lord your God and walk in His ways (Deuteronomy 28:9)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION



PROPHETS

Selections of Jeremiah 2



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

God sends us loving messages through our parents, servants and Abouna. Do we hear and respond properly ?

LESSON SUMMARY:

- (Verses 1 to 8) God reminds the Israelites how they started their journey out of Egypt by getting into a covenant with the Lord to keep all His commandments, so they were “holiness to the Lord”. But slowly, they became ungrateful; and even worse, they turned their backs to God.
- (Verse 9 to 13) God is not happy with His people because they decided to go after idols, which can only harm them. They thought that going after worldly pleasures and evils was better than following God.
- (Verses 14 to 19) consequences: when they turned away from God, they were enslaved to the devil. They got into agreements with other pagan nations, and in doing so, they joined them in their idolatry. The main reason for all the trouble, as declared by the Lord is “the fear of Me is not in you”.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What other gods do we have in our lives?
- What earthly water are we after?
- What does it mean “the fear of Me is not in you”? Can you give few examples?



PROPHETS

Selections of Jeremiah 2

LIFE APPLICATION:

- How can I be sensitive, and not too proud, to listen to the messages that God sends me through people around me?
- Can I be God's messenger to other people?
- Every day, I will read my Bible and pick a verse as a personal message from God.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Is every liturgy that we attend the exact same? Not at all!
- There is a part called "the liturgy of the word" where different passages from the Bible are read. The readings of each liturgy have a different theme.
- In other words, every liturgy has a special message from God to the believers.
- I need to be very attentive to receive my own personal message in every liturgy I attend.

Bible Verse

For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water (Jeremiah 2:13)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

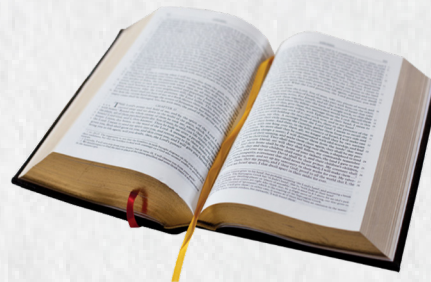
ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

EXILES

Daniel 4



LESSON CONCEPT:

A humble person is well protected by God. However, God disciplines the proud to teach them to humble themselves.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- God sent a second dream to Nebuchadnezzar to warn him of his pride.
- At his time, Babylon was a great and powerful kingdom. Its inhabitants lived under the king's protection, like a mighty tree that hosts all creatures.
- Daniel interpreted the dream saying that God has ordered to cut the tree leaving only its stump and roots.
- God chastises the proud and gives him many chances to repent.
- The king's mind was changed into a beast's mind. He lived with animals for 7 years till he lifted his eyes to heaven (he repented). So, he was restored to humanity and to his kingdom.
- The king told the story himself. This is a sign that he ended his life believing in the true God of heaven.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Discuss what humility is, and what pride is.
- Why do you think God hates pride? What was the main sin of the devil?
- How does this resemble the exile of the Israelites?



EXILES

Daniel 4

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Talking kindly to people and tending to help them when needed are signs of a humble person.
- If you receive words of praise and gratitude because of any service that you offered, give the glory to God and thank Him for allowing you to be a positive person. This protects you from pride.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- After reading the gospel in the liturgy, we pray the litany of the congregation (often prayed by Abouna silently while the gospel is being read). There, we pray the following concerning those who in arrogance and pride oppose and afflict the church:
- “Strip their vanity, show them their weakness speedily. Bring to naught their envies, their intrigues, their madness, their wickedness, and their slanders, which they commit against us...”

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

Bible Verse

Now I, (..put your own name...), Praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down (Daniel 4:37)



POWER CHANGE

1 Kings 21:25-29, 1 Kings 22:1-40



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

God is extremely merciful, yet at the same time He is fully just.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Elijah the prophet rebukes king Ahab because he killed Naboth to take his vineyard.
- Ahab humbles himself before the Lord, and as God is so merciful, He declares that He accepts Ahab's repentance and postpones Ahab's punishment.
- Later, Ahab and Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, decide to go together to fight the king of Syria to restore a city called Ramoth in Gilead.
- Upon Jehoshaphat's request to ask the Lord before going to war, Ahab gathers a bunch of false prophets who keep saying that Ahab will conquer.
- Jehoshaphat insists to ask a true prophet, so Ahab summons Micaiah who declares Ahab's bad fate if he goes to this battle.
- Ahab insists to go, he disguises himself as a normal soldier, but God's punishment is now due because of Ahab's evil and sinful life and he dies in the battle.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Discuss some examples of sinners who repented and had their lives change, versus others who repented for some time but turned back to their evil life.
- Is God willing to accept anyone who repents?



POWER CHANGE

1 Kings 21:25-29, 1 Kings 22:1-40

LIFE APPLICATION:

- As God is extremely merciful and forgives me every time I come back to him, I must also forgive anyone who wrongs me and then asks me to forgive him/her.
- The more I keep my mind occupied with holy and godly interests and activities, the more I turn away from the life of evil that displeases God. I should dedicate time every day for prayer, reading the Bible, discussing a spiritual idea with my parents or friends, etc.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- We often hear about the saints and the martyrs who suffered for the name of Jesus, and we know about the glory prepared for them in heaven.
- At the same time, history reveals that many of the evil figures who severely persecuted the church were punished fairly by God; not only on earth, but more importantly they will be eternally separated from God and the kingdom of heaven.

Bible Verse

See how Ahab has humbled himself before Me? (1 Kings 21:29)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

ERA 8

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

RETURN

Overview

Ezra leads the people back from exile to rebuild Jerusalem.

God has allowed his people to return from exile to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple and the city walls.

Repentance is the keyword when one decides to return to God.

LESSON 1

Let's Examine our Ways

Song of the Three Young Men
(Daniel 3 – Deuterocanonical)

LESSON 2

Obey God the Almighty

Daniel and the idol's priests – Bel
(Daniel 14 - Deuterocanonical)

LESSON 3

Spiritual Lifestyle (1)

Repentance process (Joel 2:1-17)

LESSON 4

Spiritual Lifestyle (2)

The day of the Lord (Joel 3)



LESSON 1
**Let's Examine
our Ways**

LESSON 2
**Obey God the
Almighty**

LESSON 3
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (1)**

LESSON 4
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (2)**

LET'S EXAMINE OUR WAYS

Daniel 3 - Deuterocanonical



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

I always praise God because He is present with me in my tribulations and suffering, and He comforts me.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- King Nebuchadnezzar makes a golden image and orders all the people to worship it.
- The 3 young men Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego are reported to the king because they refused to comply to his order.
- The 3 young men are cast into the fiery furnace, but the Angel of the Lord accompanies them and saves them from the fire.
- Azariah prays and confesses humbly that God is so just in letting them get exiled because all the Jews went astray from Him.
- He declares that he will always follow the Lord and begs Him for His mercy.
- In full faith and spiritual joy, the 3 young men start praising the Lord for all His glorious works.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What is faith? Does faith contradict logic, thinking and reasoning sometimes?
- To what extent were the 3 young men ready to let God lead their lives? (No matter what)
- Were they assured beforehand that they would certainly escape the fire?





LESSON 1
**Let's Examine
our Ways**

LESSON 2
**Obey God the
Almighty**

LESSON 3
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (1)**

LESSON 4
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (2)**

LET'S EXAMINE OUR WAYS

Daniel 3 - Deuterocanonical

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Stand up for your Christian faith no matter what. God is able to protect you.
- Trust that God is always here with you, even when everyone around you is troubled.
- Always ask for God's help. And always thank Him after you go through any problem where He saved you.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- One of the most beautiful praises that our church prays is the praise of the 3 young men mentioned in the Book of Daniel chapter 3.
- Imagine how and when this praise was composed: inside the fiery furnace, but also, in the presence of the Angel of the Lord (the Son of God Himself).
- That's why our church prays this specific praise every night in the midnight praises. It is called "the third canticle".

Bible Verse

"Then these three, as if with one voice, praised and glorified and blessed God, in the furnace, saying: Blessed are You, Lord, God of our fathers: praiseworthy, and glorious and exalted above all forever" (Daniel 3: 51-52 - Deuterocanonical)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
**Let's Examine
our Ways**

LESSON 2
**Obey God the
Almighty**

LESSON 3
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (1)**

LESSON 4
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (2)**

OBEDY GOD THE ALMIGHTY

Daniel 14 - Deuterocanonical



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Witnessing to God bravely attracts the rulers and defeats the devil.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- At the time of Daniel, a king named Cyrus was in power and he worshiped an idol named "Bel".
- Upon asking Daniel why he didn't worship Bel, he answered saying he only worshiped the living God who created heaven and earth.
- The furious king showed Daniel how much food and drinks Bel consumes every night.
- Daniel sifted ashes in the temple when he was alone with the king, and they closed the doors and departed after setting the food.
- In the morning, the king discovered the footsteps of men, women and children. He interrogated the priests who showed him the secret doors through which they entered every night with their wives and children to eat all the food offered to Bel.
- The king permitted Daniel to destroy Bel and his temple

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What is spiritual wisdom? How is it different than worldly wisdom?
- What do you think of those who deceive others to get what they want?
- Do you see a relationship between courage, confidence and wisdom?





LESSON 1
**Let's Examine
our Ways**

LESSON 2
**Obey God the
Almighty**

LESSON 3
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (1)**

LESSON 4
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (2)**

OBEDY GOD THE ALMIGHTY

Daniel 14 - Deuterocanonical

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Let us pray this week for God to grant us heavenly wisdom.
- Before you talk about God to any of your school friends, pray in your heart and ask God to give you wisdom.
- A spiritual and wise person can witness to the Lord and attract others to God, therefore always pray and think before you talk.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- In the Thanksgiving prayer, our church confirms that evil has no power over God's children:
- All envy, all temptation, all the work of Satan, the counsel of wicked men, the rising up of enemies hidden and manifest. Take them away from us...
- But those things which are good and profitable do provide for us, for it You who have given us the authority to tread on serpents and scorpions and upon all the power of the enemy...

Bible Verse

"The king cried out with a loud voice, saying: Great are You, O Lord, the God of Daniel, and there is none other beside you" (Daniel 14:41 - Deuterocanonical)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
**Let's Examine
our Ways**

LESSON 2
**Obey God the
Almighty**

LESSON 3
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (1)**

LESSON 4
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (2)**

SPIRITUAL LIFESTYLE (1)

Joel 2:1-17



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

The word of God (the trumpet) helps me repent from inside out. Collective repentance with other members of the church.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- (Verses 1 to 11) a warning for the coming judgment, in case the people are stubborn and do not repent.
- (Verse 12) repentance is turning back (U-turn). A repentant heart turns back to God. Fasting and prayer are the main companions of repentance.
- (Verse 13) the heart represents the morals, the mind and the center of the spiritual life. God asks for a true repentance, not a fake one. If we truly repent, God is willing to take away His judgment.
- (Verses 15 to 17) God asks for a collective repentance: for the priests, the elders, the kids as well as every bride & groom. This is how the people of Nineveh repented, and God had mercy on them.
- When God delivered His people to the hands of their enemies, their oppressors would say "Where is their God?" Meaning that their God could not protect them. Reality is, God was chastising them because they were not repenting.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What blessings are there in the life of those who offer true repentance?
- How can we repent sincerely? What is the role of the word of God in repentance? (Reference line)





LESSON 1
**Let's Examine
our Ways**

LESSON 2
**Obey God the
Almighty**

LESSON 3
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (1)**

LESSON 4
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (2)**

SPIRITUAL LIFESTYLE (1)

Joel 2:1-17

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Dedicate a few minutes every day before you go to sleep to think about your day. Thank God for every blessing and offer repentance for every mistake.
- We all commit sins and make mistakes. Forgive people around you to be the son/daughter of God, and so that God may forgive you as well.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Our church offers opportunities for collective repentance during the seasons of fasting.
- The main goal of any fast is to reflect on one's ways and offer a true repentance.
- Prostrations (metanias) are another practice, practiced especially during the great Lent, that explains the idea of repentance:
- We might fall in sin (we worship to the ground), but by the grace of God we can repent and rise again (and then we stand up after worshipping).

Bible Verse

"You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you." (John 15:3)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
**Let's Examine
our Ways**

LESSON 2
**Obey God the
Almighty**

LESSON 3
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (1)**

LESSON 4
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (2)**

SPIRITUAL LIFESTYLE (2)

Joel 3



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Remembering the chastisement of God, His judgment day and His promises leads us to effective and long-lasting repentance.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- God started His judgment of the devil on the day of His crucifixion. The devil now is bound and limited; however, by shedding His blood, God freed His people from Satan's captivity (verse 1).
- (Verses 4 & 5) God's sons and daughters are His silver and His gold; the temples are the love of the world. So, God declares that He will judge and punish all those who cause His people to sin.
- (Verse 10) every humble believer who hides in Christ can confidently say "I am strong." We are not alone, but we are surrounded by others who support us, angels and saints; "cause Your mighty ones to go down there, O Lord" (verse 11).
- (Verse 18) those who live faithfully and are purified by repentance are like mountains and hills; they have a high spiritual rank. Wine symbolizes eternal joy, and milk is a symbol for our ever-growing knowledge of God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- God wants us to repent to enjoy heaven with Him.
- Discuss the idea of God being just. He will judge all evil people.





LESSON 1
**Let's Examine
our Ways**

LESSON 2
**Obey God the
Almighty**

LESSON 3
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (1)**

LESSON 4
**Spiritual
Lifestyle (2)**

SPIRITUAL LIFESTYLE (2)

Joel 3

LIFE APPLICATION:

- God commanded me to love Him and to love all people. In my love for others, I should be concerned for the salvation of the whole world.
- I should pray not only for my own repentance and salvation, but also that God may have mercy on all the world, and guide everyone to the way of heaven.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The church affirms in the liturgy that God is just. Abouna says:
- "... He has appointed a day for recompense, on which He will appear to judge the world in righteousness, and give each one according to his deeds".
- In humility, and with a repentant heart we reply: "According to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins".

Bible Verse

"And come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation." (John 5:29)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION



ERA 9

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

SILENCE

Overview

God didn't send any prophets to the Israelites for the last 400 years of the Old Testament.

However, He worked silently to prepare the nation for the big news: God will appear in the flesh.

Many righteous characters prepare for His blessed incarnation.

LESSON 1 The Messenger

St Mary's praise (Luke 1:46-55) & Zacharias the priest's praise and prophecy (Luke 1:67-80)

LESSON 2 The Lord's Servant

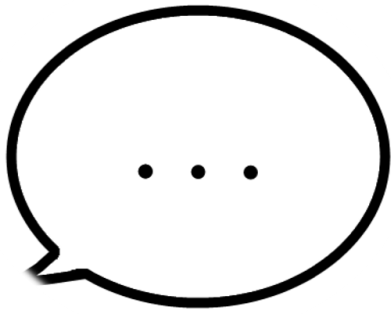
An angel appears to St Joseph to explain the incarnation of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:18-25)

LESSON 3 The Loving Heart

Jesus' birth and the shepherds' visit (Luke 2:1-20)

LESSON 4 The Promise

Jesus' baptism (Matthew 3:13-17) & (John 1:26-36)



THE MESSENGER

Luke 1:46-55, 67-80



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

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ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

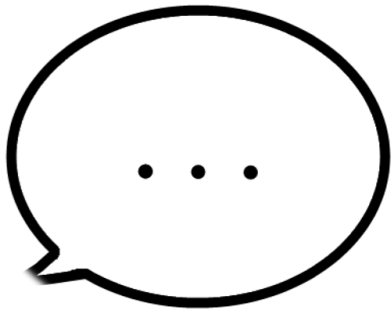
Praising God prepares me spiritually for His kingdom.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- After St Mary and St Elizabeth met, St Mary praised the Lord:
 - » Our true joy is in the Lord and His salvation.
 - » The Lord rejoices in the humble.
 - » The Lord's name is holy.
 - » He has mercy on those who fear Him.
 - » He fills the hungry, those who know they need God, but not those who reject Him.
 - » God never forgets His promises.
- After Zacharias' tongue was loosed, he praised God and prophesied:
 - » God's gift for humanity is "Salvation".
 - » God saves us from all the evil around us.
 - » He gives us a new nature to live in holiness and righteousness.
 - » We prepare ourselves to receive God's salvation through repentance.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why is it important for everyone to learn and to practice praising God?



THE MESSENGER

Luke 1:46-55, 67-80

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Everyone likes the praises of the month of Kiahk, when we come to church on Saturday nights and spend the night praising God.
- Let's take this week to memorize the doxology of St. George, the patron saint of our church.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Music can easily change our mood. That's why most of our liturgical prayers are chanted.
- When you attend the midnight praises (tasbeha), you will hear the tunes change frequently.
- Each tune emphasizes certain meanings in each hymn. It helps me stay focused and joyful while praising the Lord.

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

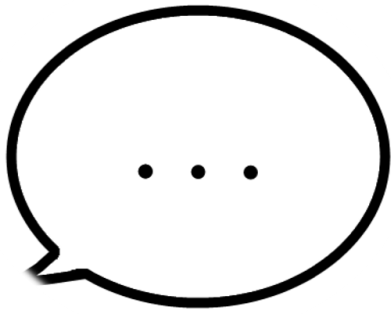
ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

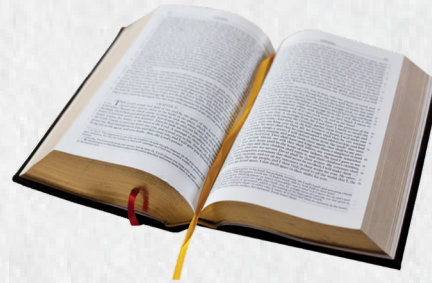
Bible Verse

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior (Luke 1:46-47)



THE LORD'S SERVANT

Matthew 1:18-25



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

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ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

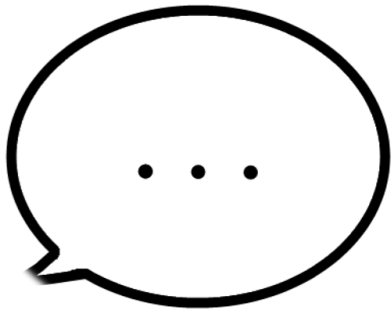
The more I draw near to God and serve Him, the more He gives me spiritual insight and understanding.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- God took the initiative to save us by being incarnate through St Mary.
- In complete humility, St Mary did not tell anyone that she has become the mother of God, even St Joseph.
- Because St Joseph was also a righteous man, God sent him an angel in a dream to explain to him that St Mary conceived by the Holy Spirit; and that when her son is born, He will save humanity.
- His name "Jesus" or "Joshua" means "God saves".
- Again, in complete humility, St Joseph obeyed the vision and God's message and assumed the full responsibility of the holy family.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- When St Mary chose not to defend herself, who intervened to defend her? How?
- Do you think that God reveals the same truth to everyone in the same way? How? (An angel appeared to St. Mary while she was praying, and an angel appear to St. Joseph in a dream)



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

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ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

THE LORD'S SERVANT

Matthew 1:18-25

LIFE APPLICATION:

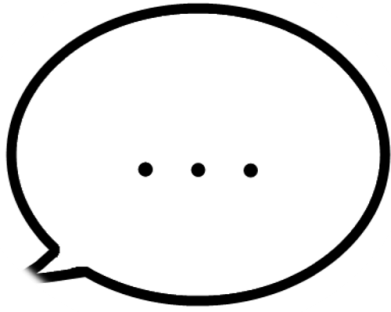
- For my spiritual growth, it is important to spend time every day with the Lord.
- I need to talk to Him in my prayers. Also, I need to hear Him talking to me through His word in the Bible.
- This is how my relationship with God grows every day.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- When we read the stories of different saints and martyrs in the synaxarion, we realize that their growing relationship with God was the top priority of their lives.
- Therefore, whenever they faced any troubles or persecution, their decision was clear: they will never renounce their relationship with God, no matter the cost.

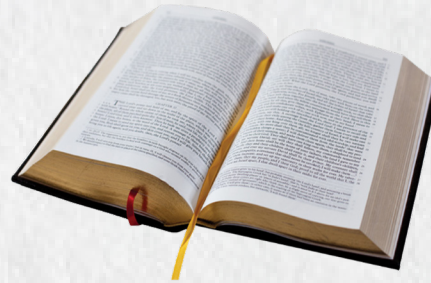
Bible Verse

“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:20-21)

**ERA 1: CREATION****ERA 2: PATRIARCH****ERA 3: EXODUS****ERA 4: CONQUEST****ERA 5: JUDGES****ERA 6: KINGDOM****ERA 7: EXILE****ERA 8: RETURN****ERA 9: SILENCE****ERA 10: CHRIST****ERA 11: CHURCH****ERA 12: REVELATION**

THE LOVING HEART

Luke 2:1-20



LESSON CONCEPT:

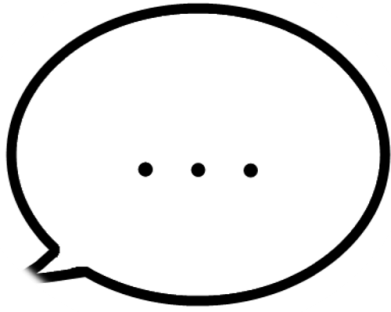
The message of the Gospel brings good tidings and great joy to all those who truly love God.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- God is preparing for the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem as per Micah's prophesy.
- Because of the census, St Joseph the elder and St Mary, who was pregnant, traveled to Bethlehem.
- There, St Mary gave birth, and because there was no room for them in the inn, they remained in a manger.
- A group of shepherds were entrusted to flock the sheep that are approved by the priests to be sacrificed: sheep without blemish.
- An angel appeared to them and led them to the true lamb of God who will sacrifice Himself for the whole world, making peace between heaven and earth. This was the angels' song.
- The shepherds, in full faith, went quickly to see the savior of the world who was just born.
- In their joy, they informed everyone of what they had heard and seen.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Discuss why God chose the shepherds to reveal Jesus' birth to them but not to the priests and the pharisees.

**ERA 1: CREATION****ERA 2: PATRIARCH****ERA 3: EXODUS****ERA 4: CONQUEST****ERA 5: JUDGES****ERA 6: KINGDOM****ERA 7: EXILE****ERA 8: RETURN****ERA 9: SILENCE****ERA 10: CHRIST****ERA 11: CHURCH****ERA 12: REVELATION**

THE LOVING HEART

Luke 2:1-20

LIFE APPLICATION:

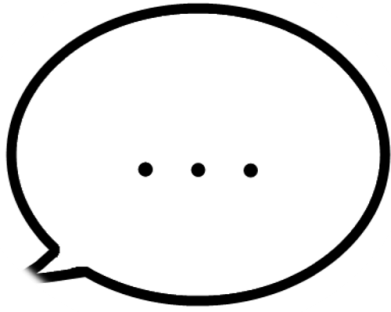
- If I learn something new through my Bible reading, or through my servants or Abouna, I must share it with my friends and family.
- I can also ask my friends about what they have learnt about the word of God. Sharing the word of God brings joy to our hearts.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Psalm 118 in the agpeya (119 in the Bible), is a beautiful psalm that talks about the word of God, and how it is so sweet and brings joy and happiness to everyone's heart.
- Our church prays this psalm everyday in the 1st watch of the midnight prayer.

Bible Verse

“Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:10-11)



THE PROMISE

Matthew 3:13-17 & John 1:26-36



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

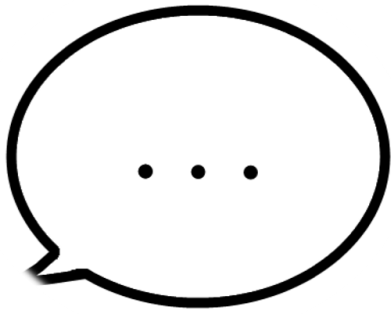
Getting baptized gives me a new nature that allows me to return to heaven and enjoy God's eternal salvation.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- The Lord who was without sin came to be baptized by St John the Baptist. His first step on the way to the Cross.
- St John witnessed and declared Him as "the Lamb of God". The One who, by His sacrifice, will save the whole world.
- By the institution of Baptism, the Lord "fulfilled all righteousness" for mankind. The sin of Adam resulted in a sentence of death; but now there is a new path to acquire righteousness.
- Through the baptism of every believer:
 - » Our sins are forgiven, by dying with the Lord, and
 - » We become united with Him, being resurrected with Him, and He sanctifies our thoughts and deeds.
- It was the first revelation of the Holy Trinity: the Son in the Jordan, the Father's voice from heaven and the Holy Spirit appeared like a dove.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Can a person become Christian without being baptized? Why?
- What is the new nature that I receive in baptism?



THE PROMISE

Matthew 3:13-17 & John 1:26-36

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Let us all ask the Lord in our prayers this week to help us think, speak and act according to the new nature we received in our baptism.
- Thank God every night before you sleep because He opened to us the way for heaven.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The first step for anyone to join the church is to get baptized.
- That's why the baptism room should have 2 doors:
 - » One door through which the person to be baptized enters from outside the church,
 - » The other door opens into the church. After baptism, the new Christian uses this second door to join the believers inside the church and partakes of the holy communion.

Bible Verse

"Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

ERA 10

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

CHRIST

Overview

The Christ era covers the time of Christ's life on earth: His incarnation, ministry and preaching the Kingdom of God, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension into the heavens. In this way, the Divine plan for Mankind's redemption and salvation was fulfilled.

Jesus Christ is God incarnate.

LESSON 1

True Man and True God

He died (Matthew 27:50-54, Luke 23:46-47, John 19:29-30), and He raised Himself (John 11:25, Matthew 28:1-7, Luke 24:1-8)

LESSON 2

The Teacher

The parable of the wicked vinedressers (Matthew 21:33-45)

LESSON 3

The Miracles Maker

Jesus heals a Centurion's servant (Luke 7:1-10)

LESSON 4

The Life Giver

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead (John 11)



LESSON 1
**True Man and
True God**

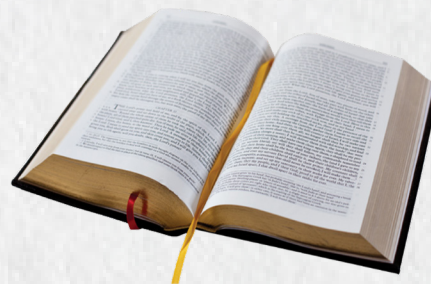
LESSON 2
The Teacher

LESSON 3
**The Miracles
Maker**

LESSON 4
The Life Giver

TRUE MAN & TRUE GOD

Matthew 27:50-54, Luke 23:46-47, John 19:29-30, John 11:25,
Matthew 28:1-7, Luke 24:1-8



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

I am fully protected by the divine power of my Lord
Jesus Christ.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Jesus died on the cross – He is a true Man:
- When He delivered His spirit, many wonders took place: the veil of the temple / the earthquake / the dead who were raised / the centurion and the soldiers believed.
- Jesus raised Himself up – He is a true God:
- Jesus said to Martha before raising Lazarus: “I am the resurrection and the life”.
- An angel rolled the stone after His resurrection and told the women: “He is not here for He is risen”.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Can a normal person raise himself up after he/she dies? Only Jesus Christ can because He is God incarnate.
- Since He is God incarnate, by His death, humanity is reconciled with God the Father, and mankind is freed from the power and grip of death.





LESSON 1
**True Man and
True God**

LESSON 2
The Teacher

LESSON 3
**The Miracles
Maker**

LESSON 4
The Life Giver

TRUE MAN & TRUE GOD

Matthew 27:50-54, Luke 23:46-47, John 19:29-30, John 11:25,

Matthew 28:1-7, Luke 24:1-8

LIFE APPLICATION:

- The God who rose from the dead and conquered death is here for me.
- In any difficult situation, ask God for help and He will be there for you.
- I should not despair when someone I love passes away.
- We await the second coming.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- When we partake of the body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are united with Him.
- If God was able to conquer death, then by my union with Him, I'll have His power and protection in my life.
- That's why our church urges us to have communion frequently.

Bible Verse

"And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God."
(Luke 1:35)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
**True Man and
True God**

LESSON 2
The Teacher

LESSON 3
**The Miracles
Maker**

LESSON 4
The Life Giver

THE TEACHER

Matthew 21:33-45



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

I thank God everyday that He is providing for my spiritual needs.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- This parable explains how God provides all the spiritual needs of His sons and daughters.
- The vineyard: represents Israel (OT Jews).
- The vinedressers: represent the high priests, the rabbis and all the Jewish teachers.
- The hedge: represents God's protection as well as the law delivered to them by Moses.
- Dug a winepress: God is waiting to see the spiritual fruits in our lives.
- The tower: represents the prophets and God's messages that they delivered to the people.
- God sends His servants: the natural law (the human conscience), Moses' law and the prophets and their prophecies. Unfortunately, they were all rejected.
- The heir: is the Lord Jesus Christ. The perfect Teacher. When the Jews loved and followed the Lord, because His teaching was different, the bad Jewish chiefs envied Him and plotted to kill Him.
- The chief cornerstone is a stone that connects 2 walls together: this represents the Lord Himself who connected heaven & earth, Jews and Gentiles, OT & NT.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Discuss the importance of sound spiritual teaching, and where to find it.





LESSON 1
**True Man and
True God**

LESSON 2
The Teacher

LESSON 3
**The Miracles
Maker**

LESSON 4
The Life Giver

THE TEACHER

Matthew 21:33-45

LIFE APPLICATION:

- It is very important to have a strong relationship with my church, Abouna, my servants, my parents and my godly friends.
- Through all these people, I can receive clear messages from God that help me grow spiritually.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Throughout church history, different heresies appeared.
- A heresy is a wrong teaching that can lead me away from God.
- This resulted in different councils, where the church fathers (bishops) met, prayed and discussed these heresies and explained why they were wrong.
- If the heretic person insisted on his bad teachings, then he had to be excommunicated (expelled from the church), because we do not tolerate wrong teachings that lead us away from God.

Bible Verse

“The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.” (Matthew 21:42)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
**True Man and
True God**

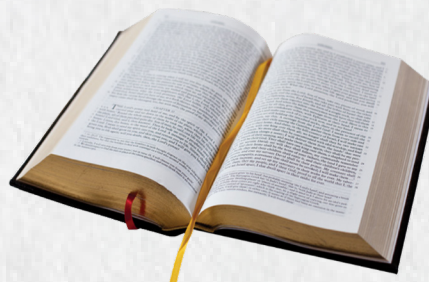
LESSON 2
The Teacher

LESSON 3
**The Miracles
Maker**

LESSON 4
The Life Giver

THE MIRACLES MAKER

Luke 7:1-10



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

With God, nothing is impossible

LESSON SUMMARY:

- This Centurion was a Roman officer, and contrary to the customs of his time (servants had no rights), this man showed compassion to his servant who was sick and about to die.
- This man heard about Jesus, loved Him and his heart changed:
 - » He built a synagogue for the Jews,
 - » He believed that Jesus could heal his servant (faith),
 - » He felt unworthy to have the Lord come to his house.
- Jesus marveled at the Centurion's great faith. The Jews had the Scriptures, the temple, the sacrifices, etc.; But they never had his faith and love for God.
- Based on the Centurion's faith, his servant was healed, even without Jesus going in person to his house.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Do we ask for miracles to test God? Or do we believe and have faith?
- Do we have faith in God's plan for our lives?





LESSON 1
**True Man and
True God**

LESSON 2
The Teacher

LESSON 3
**The Miracles
Maker**

LESSON 4
The Life Giver

THE MIRACLES MAKER

Luke 7:1-10

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Pray for the sick and ask God to do whatever is spiritually beneficial for them.
- Trust God's plan for our lives.
- Have faith always that when you ask God to intervene in any problem, He will surely respond to your prayer.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- We believe that with God, nothing is "impossible", especially when the entire congregation fasts and prays together for God to protect His church.
- The miracle of moving the Mokattam mountain in Cairo at the time of Pope Abraam and St Simon the tanner is a proof that God is always there to save and protect His church and His people.

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

Bible Verse

"I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!" (Luke 7:9)





LESSON 1
**True Man and
True God**

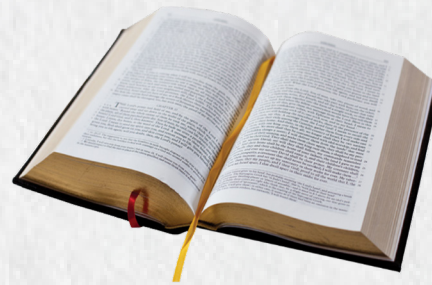
LESSON 2
The Teacher

LESSON 3
**The Miracles
Maker**

LESSON 4
The Life Giver

THE LIFE GIVER

John 11



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

... for You are the Life of us all, ... and the Resurrection of us all (from the liturgy prayers).

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Lazarus is sick and his sisters Martha & Mary send to Jesus to inform Him.
- Jesus spends more time where He was, then He decides to go to Judea (Bethany) after Lazarus is dead.
- The disciples are worried because the Jews wanted to stone Jesus.
- Jesus arrives 4 days after the death of Lazarus.
- Martha comes to meet Jesus and declares her faith in Him as "Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."
- Mary then comes to meet Jesus while weeping.
- Jesus goes to Lazarus' tomb and asks to remove the stone.
- Jesus orders Lazarus to come out of the tomb, and Lazarus obeys and comes out and is resurrected.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why did Jesus delay going to Lazarus?
- What does death mean in the New Testament? (We call it a "departure")





LESSON 1
**True Man and
True God**

LESSON 2
The Teacher

LESSON 3
**The Miracles
Maker**

LESSON 4
The Life Giver

THE LIFE GIVER

John 11

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Every time we sin, we are in a state of spiritual death, because we get separated from God who cannot accept sin.
- Through repentance and confession, we are raised spiritually, and we come back to life.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Before reading the gospel, Abouna prays a litany that includes the following words “for You are the Life of us all, ... and the Resurrection of us all”.
- Note that the word of God (the Gospel) has power in itself.
- That’s why obeying God’s commandments gives us true life.

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

Bible Verse

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live” (John 11:25)



ERA 11

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

CHURCH

Overview

The Church era covers the formation of the Christian Church by the apostles after Jesus' ascension into the heavens. In His unconditional love, God accepts all nations, Jews as well as Gentiles.

LESSON 1 St Paul's Missionary Journeys (1)

Third trip – St Paul preaches, baptizes and performs miracles (Acts 18:23 – 19:20)

LESSON 2 St Paul's Missionary Journeys (2)

Third trip – St Paul raises Eutychus, and bids farewell to the priests in Ephesus (Acts 19: 21 - 20:38)

LESSON 3 St Paul's Missionary Journeys (3)

Third trip - St Paul is willing to die for the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts 21)

LESSON 4 Catholic Epistles

St James' epistle (James 3)





LESSON 1
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (1)

LESSON 2
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (2)

LESSON 3
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (3)

LESSON 4
Catholic Epistles

ST. PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (1)

LESSON 2
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (2)

LESSON 3
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (3)

LESSON 4
Catholic Epistles

ST PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS (1)

Acts 18:23 – 19:20



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

As a true Christian and son of God, I pray for those who don't know our awesome God and I am willing to go and tell them about Him.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- In Ephesus, where Aquila & Priscilla reside, a Jew named Apollos arrives and is preaching in the name of the Lord, although he only knows about the Baptism of John.
- Aquila & Priscilla meet with Apollos, and they take him aside and correct him.
- St Paul comes back to Ephesus; he finds that the people do not know about the Holy Spirit. He teaches them and baptizes them. He stays for 2 yrs in Ephesus healing and converting people.
- While he is there, some exorcists try to cast out evil spirits in Jesus' name, but the evil spirit says to them: "I know Jesus and Paul but who are you"?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What should you do when you hear wrong teaching about God? Maybe at school?
- Imagine how St Paul was arranging his day to make use of every moment to preach the Lord to all unbelievers.





LESSON 1
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (1)

LESSON 2
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (2)

LESSON 3
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (3)

LESSON 4
Catholic Epistles

ST PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS (1)

Acts 18:23 – 19:20

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Always trust the Lord, study His word so that you do not follow the lies of the world.
- Pray for those who don't know God or those who went astray. Ask the Lord to lead them back to Himself.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Our church teaches us to love everyone even those who are away from God, and pray for their salvation:
- Abouna prays: Remember, O Lord, the salvation of this Your holy place, and every place, and every monastery of our orthodox fathers.
- And, the deacon replies: Pray for the salvation of the world and of this city of ours, and of all cities, districts, islands, and monasteries.

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

Bible Verse

“When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.” (Acts 18:26)





LESSON 1
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (1)

LESSON 2
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (2)

LESSON 3
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (3)

LESSON 4
Catholic Epistles

ST PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS (2)

Acts 19:21 – 20:38



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

As a true Christian and son of God, I am very keen to serve all my friends and family humbly and faithfully.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- St Paul decides to go to Macedonia, Achaia, Jerusalem and then Rome. So, he sends Timothy and Erastus ahead of him.
- A crisis breaks out when Demetrius and the other silversmiths, who make shrines of the goddess Diana, get upset because production has gone down since St Paul started preaching.
- After some time of unrest, the city clerk calms the crowds down saying that Christians are not criminals, and if you want to take them to court, you may do so.
- Later, in a city called Troas, a young man, Eutychus, falls asleep during St Paul's talk and falls off the 3rd story. St Paul runs to him, embraces him, and says his life is still in him. Later, Eutychus is brought in alive.
- St Paul then leaves town heading to Jerusalem. While passing by Miletus, he meets with the church priests of Ephesus and exhorts them to faithfully serve God and His flock, and to remember everything he taught them. St Paul explains how he never took charity and always supported himself. He then says goodbye to the Christians of Ephesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Discuss how the ministry of St Paul was successful despite all the challenges





LESSON 1
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (1)

LESSON 2
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (2)

LESSON 3
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (3)

LESSON 4
Catholic Epistles

ST PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS (2)

Acts 19:21 – 20:38

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Whenever you serve anyone, and they thank you, pray silently in your heart and thank God because He supported you to complete your service.
- Always be honest and faithful when serving anyone. Remember that nothing is hidden from God.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- In the weekdays of the great lent, to humble ourselves physically, we prostrate ourselves in every matins and liturgy.
- When we do prostrations, we worship God, bowing down on our knees with our heads to the ground.
- This is a reminder for all of us not to be proud.

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

Bible Verse

“I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God” (Acts 20:24)





LESSON 1
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (1)

LESSON 2
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (2)

LESSON 3
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (3)

LESSON 4
Catholic Epistles

ST PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS (3)

Acts 21



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

As a true Christian and son of God, I know that when I depart from this world, I'll be with my God whom I love

LESSON SUMMARY:

- St Paul arrives to Caesarea. There, he meets Philip the evangelist (one of the 7 deacons) and his 4 daughters who prophesy.
- After some time, a prophet named Agabus prophesies about Paul's arrest by the Jews. Agabus takes Paul's belt and ties his hands and feet.
- The people plead with Paul not to go after hearing this, but he insists on going after explaining that he is willing to die for the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- When Paul arrives at Jerusalem, the Christian Jews tell him that they heard he was teaching the Jews living with the gentiles to leave Moses' laws and not circumcise their children. To appease the irritated Jews, the believers tell him to take 4 men who took vows to God to the temple and pay for their purification expenses and be purified with them as well. Since Paul is a Jew, he is expected to keep Jewish laws and customs, however the Gentiles do not need to follow Jewish customs.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Discuss the idea of every Christian longing to go to heaven.





LESSON 1
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (1)

LESSON 2
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (2)

LESSON 3
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (3)

LESSON 4
Catholic Epistles

ST PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS (3)

Acts 21

LIFE APPLICATION:

- As Christians, we believe that anyone who departed to heaven is so close to God. That's why we ask them to pray for us.
- We are always eager to learn everything possible about God and heaven because we are longing for the day when we will arrive there to be with Him.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Our church consists of 2 parts:
 - » The militant/struggling (visible) church on earth, that we still belong to, and
 - » The triumphant/victorious (invisible) church in heaven, that consists of all our forefathers who departed to heaven.
- When you go into any church, you find the members of the triumphant church depicted on the iconostasis. They are looking to us and encouraging us to join them and enjoy heaven with them.

Bible Verse

"What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." (Acts 21:13)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION





LESSON 1
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (1)

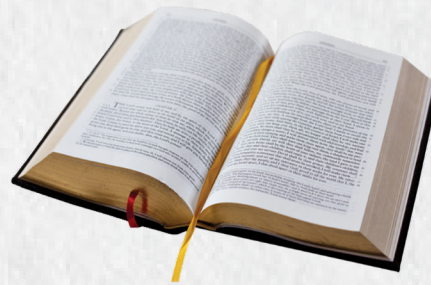
LESSON 2
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (2)

LESSON 3
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (3)

LESSON 4
Catholic Epistles

CATHOLIC EPISTLES

James 3



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

How to sanctify our tongue (speech) and obtain heavenly wisdom.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- St James advises those who would become teachers in the church. They must take their responsibility seriously, because they will receive a stricter judgment. He says that we all stumble, either through our tongue or actions.
- He compares our tongue with the ship's rudder that the pilot uses to control the ship's direction. Also, a little fire may kindle a great forest.
- The animals can be tamed by mankind, yet no one can tame the tongue.
- The tongue is the source of many sins. The tongue can be used to bless our God or spread evil. It is important not to speak in 2 different ways, inside and outside of church.
- St James starts with how teachers should talk and ends with how they should live by having real wisdom and understanding.
- Heavenly wisdom is pure, peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How can someone have 2 tongues?





LESSON 1
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (1)

LESSON 2
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (2)

LESSON 3
St Paul's Missionary
Journeys (3)

LESSON 4
Catholic Epistles

CATHOLIC EPISTLES

James 3

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Be careful: what words and expressions do you use when you are with your friends? Some words are not fitting for Christians.
- Always ask God in your prayers to give you heavenly wisdom and understanding.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Why does the church teach us to pray different psalms in the Agpeya?
- When we pray these psalms frequently, we start memorizing them.
- This helps us keep our minds occupied with holy words and thoughts.
- Also, this is a perfect way to learn heavenly wisdom.

Bible Verse

“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy”
(James 3:17)

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION



ERA 12

ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

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REVELATION

Overview

“Revelation” is the last book in the New Testament, written by John the beloved while exiled on the island of Patmos.

This book reveals the heavenly rewards prepared for those who conquer.

Jesus also revealed many things about heaven through the “Parables of the Kingdom of Heaven”.

LESSON 1 Parables of the Kingdom of Heaven (1)

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29-37)

LESSON 2 Parables of the Kingdom of Heaven (2)

Tares among the wheat (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43)

LESSON 3 Parables of the Kingdom of Heaven (3)

The eleventh-hour laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16)

LESSON 4 Heavenly Rewards to Those Who Conquer

Church of Laodicea (Revelation 3:14-22)



LESSON 1
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(1)

LESSON 2
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(2)

LESSON 3
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(3)

LESSON 4
Heavenly Rewards
to Those Who
Conquer

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN (1)

Luke 10:29-37



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

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ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

If I love my brothers and sisters, I am a true son/daughter for my heavenly Father.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Jesus explained in this parable that “my neighbor” is any person who is in need for help.
- However, there is a deeper symbolic meaning for this parable:
 - The traveling man: Adam
 - Went down: fell from his original status
 - Jerusalem & Jericho: Heavenly & Earthly existence
 - Robbers: the devil and his angels
 - Stripped: loss of immortality
 - Beaten: persuaded to sin
 - Half-dead: under the power of sin
 - Priest & Levite: OT priesthood that does not save
 - Samaritan: The Lord Jesus Christ
 - He went to him: was incarnated
 - Poured oil & wine: Baptism & Holy Eucharist
 - Inn: the Church
 - Innkeeper: NT priest
 - 2 Denarii: 2 love commandments or OT & NT
 - I will come again: Jesus’ second coming

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Who is my neighbor?
- What if I am not OK with someone?
- Why are Baptism & Eucharist so important in Christianity?





LESSON 1
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(1)

LESSON 2
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(2)

LESSON 3
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(3)

LESSON 4
Heavenly Rewards
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PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN (1)

Luke 10:29-37

LIFE APPLICATION:

- A true Christian always loves God and all people.
- I will be diligent in my daily prayer and Bible reading because I love God.
- I will also make sure to help at least one person every day.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Did you ever count how many crosses you can find in a Church?
- Why are there so many crosses?
- The cross speaks of God's love to humanity. Jesus died on the cross to restore us to heaven.
- Likewise, we see the cross formed of two parts: vertical & horizontal.
- The vertical part: connects me (who is living on earth) to God or to heaven.
- The horizontal part: connects me to all my brothers and sisters around me, by loving and helping them.

Bible Verse

"Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you." (Luke 10:35)

ERA 1: CREATION

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ERA 9: SILENCE

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ERA 11: CHURCH

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LESSON 1
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(1)

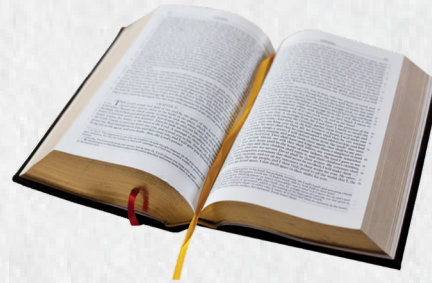
LESSON 2
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(2)

LESSON 3
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(3)

LESSON 4
Heavenly Rewards
to Those Who
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PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN (2)

Matthew 13:24-30 and 36-43



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

ERA 8: RETURN

ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

If I bear spiritual fruit, I am a true son/daughter for my heavenly Father.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- This parable describes why some people will be accepted into and others rejected from heaven.
- The man sowing good seeds: is God who created man and saw that "it was very good" (Genesis 1:31)
- His field: is His church.
- While men slept: people may become lazy or negligent – note that God does not sleep.
- His enemy: the devil.
- Sowed tares: introduced heresies, lusts, sins, doubts..
- Went his way: as if he did nothing.
- Verse 29: tares and wheat are very similar in shape; you only notice the difference when they are ripe .
- Also, God gives every evil person multiple chances to repent. Many respond and their life change like Saul who became St Paul.
- But those who insist on their evils will certainly perish.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Discuss the idea of God's mercy and justice.
- If we know that God created man in His own image and likeness, how should we think of and deal with people who cause us trouble?
- Is every Christian expected to bear clear good fruits throughout their life?





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Parables of the
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(1)

LESSON 2
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(2)

LESSON 3
Parables of the
Kingdom of Heaven
(3)

LESSON 4
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PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN (2)

Matthew 13:24-30 and 36-43

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Every time I sit with my father of confession, I should ask him for a spiritual discipline that allows me to grow spiritually.
- Plan with your friends to attend a liturgy or midnight praises together.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- What do you find remarkable when you look at the icons of the saints at church?
- You will always find in every icon some of the saint's virtues represented in an artistic way.
- This is because the Bible teaches us "consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith" (Hebrews 13:7)

Bible Verse

"Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father." (Matthew 13:43)

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Parables of the
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(1)

LESSON 2
Parables of the
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Parables of the
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PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN (3)

Matthew 20:1-16



ERA 1: CREATION

ERA 2: PATRIARCH

ERA 3: EXODUS

ERA 4: CONQUEST

ERA 5: JUDGES

ERA 6: KINGDOM

ERA 7: EXILE

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ERA 9: SILENCE

ERA 10: CHRIST

ERA 11: CHURCH

ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

If I believe in Christ and serve faithfully in His vineyard (Church), I am a true son/daughter for my heavenly Father

LESSON SUMMARY:

- This parable explains how the last could be first and the first last.
- The Landowner: is God Lord of heaven and earth.
- The Vineyard: is God's church. So, we understand that everyone is invited to join.
- Went out: God is taking the initiative to search for us
- The day's hours: everyone is invited to heaven, regardless of their age when they knew Christ.
- The denarius: may refer to salvation or eternal life; that's why everyone received the same: 1 denarius.
- However, not everyone will be rewarded equally in heaven, each one according to their toil and love for God and for all their brothers and sisters.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- God wants people not to judge each other. As believers, we should not be proud, or think we are better than new people joining the faith.
- In this parable, God says about Himself "I am good" (verse 15), what does that mean? (God deals with us according to His mercy and not to what we deserve – He sends the sun every morning to shine upon all: the righteous and the wicked)





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PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN (3)

Matthew 20:1-16

LIFE APPLICATION:

- Don't waste your time judging other people. Instead, think how to love and serve everyone around you .
- Believe that God is fair.
- Know your mission on earth: to earn your place in the heavenly mansion.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- Every Christian is called to serve the Lord. Simply because this is how we demonstrate our love to God.
- Services in the Church are of different varieties, and they are all very needed.
- Examples for church services: Sunday School, Bible Study, helping the elderly, feeding the homeless, visiting the sick people, cleaning the church, ...

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ERA 12: REVELATION

Bible Verse

“So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.” (Matthew 20:16)





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HEAVENLY REWARDS TO THOSE WHO CONQUER

Revelation 3:14-22



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ERA 12: REVELATION

LESSON CONCEPT:

Beware of lukewarmness. It displeases the Lord.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- A hot individual: is a person who is filled with the Holy Spirit, loves God fervently, has real spiritual zeal, etc.
- A cold individual: is a person who is away from God and/or doesn't know Him; or maybe they know God but decided to go the other way.
- A lukewarm individual: is someone who was hot but slowly drifted to worldly interests.
- A lukewarm person doesn't feel the need to pray and ask for God's support and blessing (verse 7).
- The Lord still loves this lukewarm person and invites them to repent and to come back (verse 19).
- Imagine what type of glory awaits those who conquer (verse 21).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What is(are) the problem(s) of this church?
- Can anyone experience lukewarmness at some point?
- What is the treatment?
- What is the heavenly reward for those who conquer these problems?





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HEAVENLY REWARDS TO THOSE WHO CONQUER

Revelation 3:14-22

LIFE APPLICATION:

- If I surround myself with good and godly friends, we can always encourage each other to remain hot spiritually.
- If you are practicing any spiritual activity and you have questions or you don't understand some aspects, please have your questions answered. Staying confused, without answers, will result in lukewarmness.

CHURCH CONCEPT:

- The Church year has different seasons / tunes: annual, joyful, kiahk, lenten, hosana.
- Following up, understanding and participating in all the church seasons guards me from the trap of lukewarmness.

Bible Verse

“To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.” (Revelation 3:21)

ERA 1: CREATION

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Thank You!

