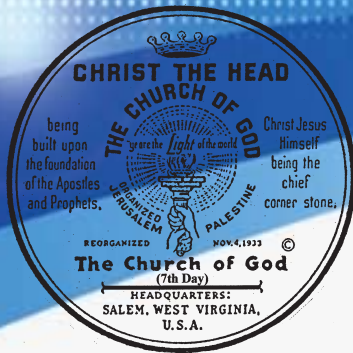




The Advocate of Truth

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Cover Picture of Stuarts Park in Elkins West Virginia

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matthew 7:7).



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A conversation with a friend. Nailed?

By David Royer

My good friend of several years and I were enjoying lunch together and the discussion turned to why I keep the Sabbath. I replied that God gave us a moral code to follow in His Ten Commandments. My friend replied that his church minister (Southern Baptist) said that laws relayed by Moses were “nailed to the cross” and we now observe Sunday as a celebration of Christ’s resurrection.

After several minutes of each sharing our views, I turned my focus to what was “nailed”. I began by saying: “Your minister was correct in that over 600 laws and ordinances given to the Hebrews were done away with as a result of the crucifixion of Jesus. However, some still remain in force today. Those few laws were established and in effect thousands of years prior to the formation of the children of Israel.”

Our conversation on these topics closed with my friend saying “I’ll have to ask my minister about that.”

This conversation reminds me that most professing Christians and churches want to nail anything they do not like to the cross or are unable to tell the difference between the sacrificial law and God’s moral law. All too often they see the word “law” in the Bible and assume it is the Ten Commandments. Another observation is that churches today have become more secular or liberal. As an example, remember my luncheon friend’s Baptist minister? [nailed to the cross] Here is what they once taught:

“The first four commandments set forth man’s obligations directly toward God. The Sabbath was established originally [long before Moses] in no special connection with the Hebrews, but as an institution for all mankind, in commemoration of God’s rest after six days of creation. It was designed for all the descendants of Adam.” Source: Adult Quarterly, Southern Baptist Convention series, Aug. 15, 1937.

“Of course, I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history as a religious day, as we learn from the Christian Fathers and other sources. But what a pity that it comes branded with the mark of paganism, and christened with the name of the sun god, when adopted and sanctioned by the papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism!” Source: Dr. Edward T. Hiscox, author of *The Baptist Manual* (still in print), in a paper read before New York ministers’ conference held Nov.13, 1893.

These Commandments were known to people long before Moses’ time. Genesis 26:4-5 says, “**And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.**” In order for Abraham to obey God’s commandments, statutes and laws, he had to know what they were. This means that Abraham was taught the laws directly from God or from others (or possibly both).

Another reason we know that the law existed before Moses and Mount Sinai is that the Bible refers to sin many times, well before Moses. What is sin? Sin is the transgression of the law. (1 John 3:4)

This line of reasoning used to support belief in The Ten Commandments is appropriate for other legacy issues, such as Tithing; Dietary Laws of clean and unclean food; etc.

Coming In The Clouds



by Charles L. Royer

Editors note: The following article was written by Elder Charles L Royer and published on October 2, 1950 in the Advocate of Truth. Elder Royer was one of the original Twelve Apostles when the Church of God was reorganized in Salem, West Virginia in 1933. He served as Editor of the Advocate of Truth in the early 1950's.

When Jesus finished talking to His disciples, as they stood on the mount of Olives, "...he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9).

As His disciples stood looking up into Heaven, "...behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1: 10,11). This same Jesus was the one they had been with and was so familiar with. The one that said unto them, "...Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19).

During His short ministry here on earth, His disciples became quite familiar with Him. They went through several experiences with Him, but more than once their weakness was manifested. Among the last of the words

to His disciples are recorded in John 14:2,3 "...I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

How will he come? The answer is, He will come as He went. Rev. 1:7, "Behold he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him..." But will it really be the same Jesus that suffered and died on the cross for sinners? Yes, it will be the same Jesus, but instead of being in mortal flesh, He will be immortal and incorruptible. Jesus said in Rev 1:18, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore..." Another text we wish to quote is Romans 6:9, "Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him."

In order that He might die He had to take the nature of mortal flesh. Man in the natural state, when he passes into the death state, "...is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body..." (I Cor. 15:44). The Lord was raised a spiritual body. This will be plain when we notice His movements after His resurrection. When He sat at the table with two of His disciples, their eyes were holden that they didn't know who He was. But when He took bread and broke it and blessed it, their eyes were opened and they saw it was Christ, and He vanished out of their sight. This He could not do while He was in the mortal state. Another event was when He appeared unto the

disciples where they were met. The doors being shut, or barred, for their safety, He stood in their presence. This is the nature He will be in when He comes in the clouds of Heaven. But it will be the same Jesus.

Jesus said that he will come in the clouds of Heaven. To the high priest He said, "...Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." Matthew 26:64. The Apostle John said, "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him..." Rev 1:7. When the Lord with the saints leaves the air and goes forth to fight against those wicked nations who will be gathered together for the last great and final battle of this age, we are told the Lord will "... go forth, and fight against those (wicked) nations, as when he fought in the day of battle." And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives..." (Zech. 14:3,4). Job also believed in this. He said, "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth" (Job 19:25).

When Jesus comes, He will "...come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works" (Matthew 16:27). We will be changed then and be like him; "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." And now "... our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself" (I John 3:2; Phil 3: 20,21).

God said No!

I asked God to take away my habit. God said, No. It is not for Me to take away, but for you to give it up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. God said, No. His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience. God said, No. Patience is a byproduct of tribulations, it isn't granted it is learned.

I asked God to give me happiness. God said, No. I give you blessings; Happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain. God said, No. Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to Me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, No. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life. God said, No. I will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things.

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me. God said...Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.

The best way to teach our children to love God is to love God in front of them.



FEAR THE LORD

By Scott Mills

Having The Fear of the Lord in us is something we are told to do in the Bible many times throughout the Old Testament and also in the New Testament. When I think of things that I am afraid of I think of heights, of certain animals, or even powerful weather such as tornadoes, hurricanes, or earthquakes. The definition I found for Fear is "an unpleasant emotion caused by the belief that someone or something is dangerous, likely to cause pain, or is a threat". I know that if I were to fall from a very great height that gravity would bring me down to the Earth at a high speed causing me extreme bodily harm, potentially leading to my death. The same result could possibly happen around creatures with potent venoms, powerful sharp teeth, and claws. Also the same with powerful weather. These earthly fears are all generally things that I try my best to stay away from because I don't particularly like the emotion of being afraid. By the definition of fear should we consider the Lord dangerous, likely to cause pain, or a threat? So how is it that we are told we should fear the Lord, but also love Him and not shy away from Him and his commandments?

There are several areas in the Bible that tell us that we should have The Fear of the Lord and that it is a good thing. (Psalms 19:9, Job 28:28, Proverbs 1:7, 8:13, 14:27). With these verses we can see that the fear of the Lord is described as "clean, enduring forever, true and righteous judgment, wisdom, the beginning of knowledge, to hate evil, and a fountain of life to escape the snares of death". These qualities do not seem unpleasant, dangerous, or threatening which would evoke a feeling of fear. I want to start with Proverbs 1:7 mentioning the fear of the Lord as the beginning of knowledge. This knowledge is in believing that the Lord is real, that He created all things, that the Bible is non-fiction and the inspired Word of God. Unfortunately those who believe these things are not true or ignore them have no knowledge of God and do not understand anything of the truth of His perfection and

power and possible grace towards us. They are incapable of learning what evil, sin, and judgment that will come upon them that exist in the world. These are actually the people who are at greatest risk and should have something to fear and they don't even know it or care. This is why it is so important for those of us that do believe the truth of the Bible to search it so we can know the Lord and what there is to fear. It is all spelled out very clearly if you are just willing to learn.

When you do start searching the scriptures in belief you will start to see the other parts of the fear of the Lord. (Deuteronomy 6:12; Deuteronomy 31:6; Romans 11:20-23; Philippians 2:12; Revelation 14:7). You will understand His power, His perfection, His love. You will see that the Lord has actually provided us instruction and warning to help us in our lives, warnings of Satan and of evil things, instructions and commandments to help us be able to stay away from sin and evil, to help us prepare for the day in which the Lord will return so that we can partake in the grace of salvation that He has provided to everyone who will listen and believe. In that way you will understand that the fear should actually be of falling away from the Lord. This is why it is so important for us to keep the 10 commandments, to go to church every sabbath, to give our tithes and offerings to the Lord in thanks. We need that repetition and habit because it is so easy for us to fall away from the Lord and into a judgment that is terrible for us. The Lord does not want that for any person on the Earth, but we must work out our own salvation. We have nothing to fear of the Lord Himself when we attempt to live in the righteousness and peace that He has laid out and wishes for the world and everyone to be able to partake in. I hope to be a part of that new life, and I pray to see everyone who is reading this, and as many people as possible, in that righteous, peaceful world and way of life as well.

The Two Pies

By Ben DeLong



Picture in you mind an apple pie, made from crisp, ripe, juicy apples. The crust is soft and flaky. The flavor the perfect mix of sweet and tart. Baked to a golden brown, this pie is served warm with a dollop of ice cream on the top. You take a bite. It is the perfect apple pie.

Now imagine a second pie. On the left side, it has the same flaky crust, the same crisp apples, and the same balance of flavors. On the right side, the pan is filled with fresh steaming cow manure. The pie is baked and served warm with the same ice cream on top. Do you take a bite? Absolutely Not!

What if I told you that you could take your slice from the left side? Where the flaky crust and the apples and the sweetness are. Would you take a bite then? Why not? Because the juices from the manure have tainted the whole pie. Even the “good” side of the pie has been corrupted.

The second pie is like the holidays of Christmas and Easter. They started with something very good – the birth of Jesus and His resurrection. But then they were mixed with something very evil – pagan solstice and equinox holidays and their unholy practices. When you mix things that are good with things that are evil and “bake” them in the oven of time, the result is wholly corrupted, like the

second pie.

So why not just participate in the good aspects of these holidays and shun the evil ones? The problem is that these aspects are connected and cannot be separated. Like the second pie, the evil has permeated the entirety of the mixture. Any participation in them opens the door to allow the evil to come in. The Apostle Paul described this in his second letter to the Corinthians:

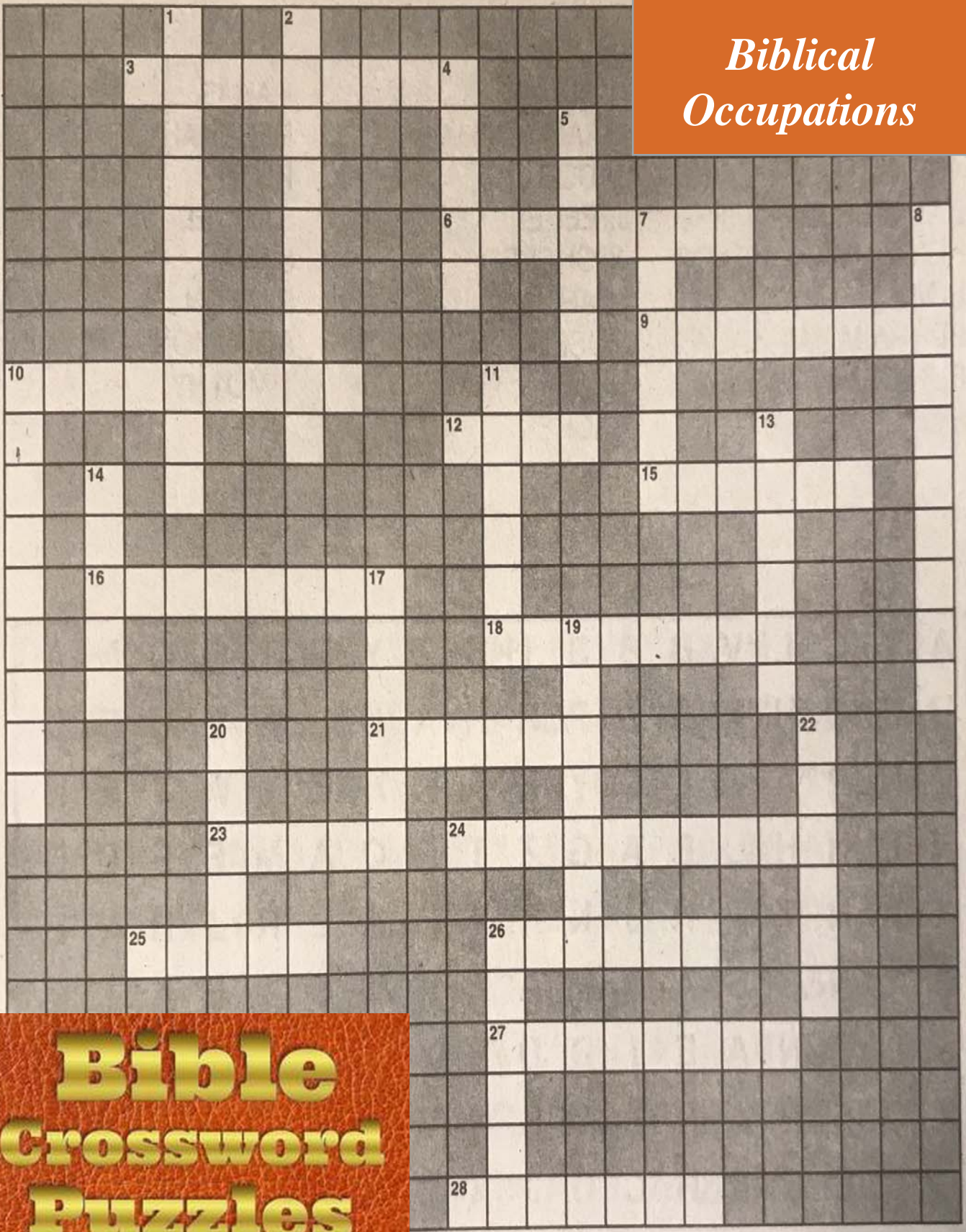
“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,” (II Corinthians 6:14-17).

We cannot mix what is pagan with the things of Christ. The evil corrupts the good. As Paul tells us, “...come out from them, and be separate...”. And so, with respect to these holidays, we must separate ourselves from them.

Answers from Puzzle page 8

<i>Across</i>	<i>Down</i>
<i>3 - Fisherman</i>	<i>1 - Highpriest</i>
<i>6 - Soldiers</i>	<i>2 - Tentmaker</i>
<i>9 - Nobleman</i>	<i>4 - Nurse</i>
<i>10- Carpenter</i>	<i>5 - Judge</i>
<i>12 - King</i>	<i>7 - Eunuch</i>
<i>15 - Harlot</i>	<i>8 - Handmaiden</i>
<i>16 - Shepherd</i>	<i>10 - Cupbearer</i>
<i>18 - Disciple</i>	<i>11 - Wizard</i>
<i>21 - Tiller</i>	<i>13 - Slaves</i>
<i>23 - Baker</i>	<i>14 - Mason</i>
<i>24 - Ambassador</i>	<i>17 - Doctor</i>
<i>25 - Thief</i>	<i>19 - Servant</i>
<i>28 - Butler</i>	<i>20 - Rabbi</i>
<i>27 - Governor</i>	<i>22 - Scribe</i>
<i>28 - Prophet</i>	<i>26 - Beggar</i>

*Biblical
Occupations*



**Bible
Crossword
Puzzles**

TEST YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEGE ON BIBLICAL OCCUPATIONS

Who says puzzles are just for kids?

Directions: Fill in the crossword puzzle with the words missing from the sentences above. Match the number of the sentence to the boxes placed across or down the grid. If filled out correctly, the words will fit neatly into the puzzle.


ACROSS

- 3 Casts nets from boats (Luke 5:2)
- 6 Divided clothing of Jesus (John 19:23)
- 9 Property owner (Luke 19:12)
- 10 Measurers with a ruler (Isaiah 44:13)
- 12 Israel asked for one (I Samuel 8:5)
- 15 Rahab was known as _____ (Hebrews 11:31)
- 16 David as a boy (I Samuel 17:40)
- 18 Followers of Christ (Matthew 27:57)
- 21 Cain was this (Genesis 4:2)
- 23 Was hanged as Joseph said _____ (Genesis 40:22)
- 24 Spoke for another person (II Chronicles 32:31)
- 25 Comes to steal and kill (John 10:10)
- 26 Head servant of Pharaoh (Genesis 40:2)
- 27 Joseph was in Egypt (Genesis 42:6)
- 28 Dreamer of dreams (Deuteronomy 13:3)

DOWN

- 1 Caiaphas held this position (Matthew 26:57)
- 2 Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:2-3)
- 4 Moses' real mother's occupation (Exodus 2:7)
- 5 Deborah was one (Judges 4:4)
- 7 In charge of Queen's treasure (Acts 8:27)
- 8 Ruth was seen as one (Ruth 2:13)
- 10 Nehemiah's position to king (Nehemiah 1:11)
- 11 Consulting one is evil (Leviticus 20:6)
- 13 Israelites were these in Egypt (Exodus 1:13).
- 14 Stone worker (II Chronicles 24:12)
- 17 Very learned man; teacher (Luke 2:46)
- 19 Paul considered himself one (Romans 1:1)
- 20 Another word for teacher (John 3:2)
- 22 Wrote and copied text (Jeremiah 36:26)
- 26 Laid at city gates (Luke 16:20)

Answers found on page 7



Enoch and Elijah Who went to heaven?

By Apostle Jerry Womble (Deasced)

This is a question that has been asked to ministers and in Sabbath lessons for a long time. Perhaps we need to start in the NT with a verse that sums up the question before we look at each of these individuals. It is John 3:13 where John plainly tells us that Jesus is the only one who has “ascended up to heaven”. This then leaves us with the question of what really did happen to Enoch and Elijah and where did they go?

As for Enoch we find in Gen. 5:24 that Enoch walked with God during his ministry and was not or that was not seen again of those that he was ministering to. Where did he go? To heaven or to some other place on earth for a time? We see Enoch mentioned again in the chapter of faith in Heb. 11:5 where we are told that he was translated. Translated does not mean gone to heaven but the word means taken from one place and put in another place. In Enoch’s situation he would have been taken to a different place to continue his ministry. Eventually he had to die. We know this because the Scriptures tell us that it is appointed to men once to die and then the judgement, (Heb. 9:27). It also teaches us that, “...so death passed upon all men”, Romans 5:12. We will see another example of a translation in the NT.

As for Elijah there is much more to his story than to Enoch’s. The first thing we see is in 2 Kings 2:1 and that is that he was taken into heaven by a whirlwind. This is not the heaven of God’s dwelling place as we will see but the

heaven the birds fly in and the clouds we see are located. This is the heavenly area where one can breath and live. It is the area surrounding the earth between the earth and the stary heavens. In vs. 4,5 we find that the prophets that lived in Jericho also knew of this prophecy because they talked with Elisha and asked him if he was aware that Elijah would be taken from his presence that very day and he acknowledged them but said “hold your peace” or that is keep it to yourself. Then in 2 Kings 2:11 the whirlwind with chariots of fire caught Elijah up into heaven. This again is the atmospheric heaven. We know this because we will see Elijah eight years later here on earth. To follow this, we must follow the time line from the death of Ahaziah forward. In 2 Kings 1:17-18 we see the death of Ahaziah and the start of the reign of Jehoram as Jehoram will become the central figure in discovering the location of Elisha. We must be sure and note that in vs. 17 that this time period and that of Elijah's catching up by the whirlwind is two years into Jehoram’s reign. Then vs. 18 gives us the hint that if we want to know more look in the book of Chronicles.

We will start in 2 Chron. 21: 6, 9,12-15. We use vs. 9 only to show that Jehoram is still the king and vs. 6 to show that he reigned eight years; therefore, it has been six years since Elisha was caught up in the whirlwind. Starting with vs. 12 we find Elijah writing a letter to Jehoram. In the letter he tells Jehoram that since he did not walk in the ways of his Father Jehoshaphat but walked contrary

to God's way following the sinful ways of the kings of Israel that a terrible plague would fall upon him. That plague or punishment is found in vs. 15 where he would have a disease of his bowels to where they would fall out. Now vs. 18 tells us that the plague did come on him and that he lived with that punishment two years and that he did reign a total of eight years in Jerusalem. Seeing the timeline, we can now see that two years into Jehoram's reign the whirlwind caught up Elijah; four more years passed and Elijah wrote the letter in 2 Chron, making six years then two more years before Jehoram died. By this we understand that the letter written by Elijah was four years after the whirlwind caught him away from Elisha.

The action of translation should not be too surprising as it happened in the NT also. In Acts 8:36-40 Philip was witnessing to the eunuch about Jesus and the eunuch wanted

to be baptized. They went down into the water and as they came up out of the water "...the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more..." (vs. 39). He was not taken to heaven but was translated to a different place to carry out his ministry. According to vs. 40 that place was Azotus; here he preached in many cities even down to Caesarea.

When we understand the word translated and that Elijah wrote a letter four years after the whirlwind caught him away from Elisha then we can understand the truth of what happened to these two men. In Heb. 11:39-40 we find these two men along with us and the faithful men of the OT will be made perfect at the same time. It is always good to know and accept the truth that God has for us than to follow the teaching of the world, that is the commandments of men.



From left to right, Gonzalo Hernandez, Miguel Perez, Ricky Herrera and Pascacio Tavizon. This is a property that the church owns and plans are to build a place of worship.



LESSON I

PAUL JOURNEYS TO JERUSALEM

Scripture Reading: Acts 21:1-17.

Golden Text: Acts 21:13 (last part).

“I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”

NOTE: Paul is now traveling to Jerusalem and makes several stops on his way. Let us study about these different places.

1. Name one of the places that Paul stopped at on his journey to Jerusalem. Acts 21:1-2.
2. Paul arrived at Tyre. How long was Paul at Tyre, and did the brethren want Paul to go to Jerusalem? Acts 21:3-4.
3. Who went with Paul to see him depart, and what did they do before he got on his ship? Acts 21:5-6.
4. After stopping at Ptolemais, where did Paul go next, and what house did he visit? Acts 21:7-8.
5. Who came down from Judea to see Paul? Acts 21:10.
6. What did Agabus say and do? Acts 21:11.
7. Did the brethren try to persuade Paul not to go to Jerusalem, and what was his answer? Acts 21:12-13.
8. What did the brethren say when they could not persuade Paul to stay out of Jerusalem? Acts 21:14.
9. Who went to Jerusalem with Paul, and were the brethren happy to see them? Acts 21:15-17.

LESSON II

PAUL IN THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM

Scripture Reading: Acts 21:26-40.

Golden Text: Acts 21:26 (first part).

“Then Paul took the men, and the next day purifying himself with them entered into the temple.”

1. Where did Paul go while in Jerusalem? Acts 21:26.
2. What did the Jews from Asia do and say when they saw Paul in the temple? Acts 21:27-28.
3. What did the people of the city do in Acts 21:30?
4. The people were ready to kill Paul. What did the chief captain of the city do? Acts 21:31-33.
5. Why did the chief captain want to take Paul into the castle? Acts 21:37.
6. What did Paul say to the chief captain as he was being led into the castle? Acts 21:37.
7. What question did the chief captain ask Paul in Acts 21:38?
8. Paul told the captain who he is. Did the chief captain let Paul speak to the people? Acts 21:39-40.

NOTE: We will learn in our next lesson what Paul said to the people.

LESSON III

PAUL'S DEFENSE

Scripture Reading: Acts 22:1-30.

Golden Text: Acts 22:16.

“And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

1. In what language did Paul speak to the people, and did they listen to what he said? Acts 22:1-2.
2. Name three things you learned about Paul in Acts 22:3.

3. Of what incident did Paul first tell about? Acts 22:4-5.
4. What was the second incident that Paul talked about? Acts 22:6-16.
5. Did God want Paul to stay in Jerusalem when he was first converted? Acts 22:17-21.
6. What was the reaction of the men toward Paul? Acts 22:22-23.
7. What did Paul say as they bound him? Acts 22:25.
8. What did the centurion and chief captain do when they heard that Paul was a Roman? Acts 22:26-28.
9. What was the reaction after it was known that Paul was a Roman, and what happened to him next? Acts 22:29-30.

5. What happened between these two groups after Paul had told them he was a Pharisee? Acts 23:9-10.
6. What did the Lord tell Paul that night? Acts 23:11.
7. What was the plan that a group of Jews had for Paul? Acts 23:12-15.
8. Who entered the castle to help Paul, and how did he help? Acts 23:16-21.
9. What did the chief captain tell this young man? Acts 23:22.

LESSON IV

PAUL BEFORE THE SANHEDRIN

Scripture Reading: Acts 23:1-22.

Golden Text: Acts 23:1 (last part).

“I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.”

1. What was Paul able to say before the men? Acts 23:1.
2. Who was the high priest, and what did he command? Acts 23:2.
3. How did Paul respond to the high priest’s order? Acts 23:3-5.
4. What were the two different groups of people present, and what were their differences? Acts 23:6-8.

NOTE: The Pharisees and the Sadducees were two different Jewish parties that disagreed with each other on Jewish law.

The Best Lunch



"Tell us a story, Grandma," begged the twins. They loved to visit their grandparents, especially on a Sabbath afternoon, because they had so much fun together.

"What kind of story would you like today?" she asked, as they settled down on the floor at her feet with the well-worn wooden blocks.

"Well," said Tim, as she started sorting out blocks for a garage, "I was wondering if you could tell us a new one, we have never heard before."

"Oh yes, that was a good idea. There, Tim, want some more of this kind?" said Janet, and Tim nodded.

"Let me see," began their grandmother petting their cat who had jumped up beside her on the couch. "Once upon a time, in fact, over 2,000 years ago - there was a young boy. I do not know his name."

"But he must have had a name. Everybody has a name," said Janet. "Even cats have names, don't they. Blackie?" she asked fondly. He purred contentedly as she paused to stroke the white spot under his chin.

"All right then. We will call him Jonathan," Grandmother continued. "Now Jonathan lived near the Sea of

Galilee and liked to go fishing with his father."

"What kind of bait did he use?" wondered Tim.

Oh, what difference does it make?" Janet asked, "Let us get on with the story."

"Well, did he catch any fish? That is what matters, I guess," decided Tim.

"Yes," agreed Granma, "In fact, one morning he got up extra early and caught two nice fish. He cleaned them and gave them to his mother to bake. He asked her if he could have some of the bread, she was baking to take for his lunch the next day. You see, he wanted to find where the crowd was gathering to listen to the new teacher. He had heard that some of the followers had even been called. His mother had finally consented to let him and knew he would probably get quite hungry after his long walk."

"I figured you were going to tell a story about Jesus," remarked Janet, "when you said this happened almost 2000 years ago."

"Yes, our calendar is based on when people think Jesus was born," agreed Grandma. "But to go on, Jonathan did start out the next day carrying his lunch and found a group of people who were on their way to find Jesus, too; soon a large crowd came together, and they watched a boat coming across the lake. Sure enough, Jesus and some of his closest friends were getting out and coming up on the shore. There were so many people it was hard at first for Jonathan to see, but he managed to walk his way through the crowd so that he could watch Jesus' face and hear what he was saying."

"He listened so hard that he lost track of the time. And so did the others. When the afternoon sun was fading, some of the disciples began to realize the people would be getting hungry and some were quite far from their homes. 'How can we feed all those people?' They thought, Jonathan could see the worried look on Phillip's face as he said to Jesus, 'It would cost a lot of money to buy food for all these folks.'

"Jonathan had been so busy he had forgotten to eat any of his lunch. So, when Andrew looked around, Jonathan said to him, 'I have some food here in my bag. Would this help?'

"Andrew was very polite and he replied. 'That is very generous of you, young man. Let us show it to Jesus and see what He says.' So, Jonathan pulled out his lunch and

gave Him all he had - the two fish and the five pieces of bread. It seemed like enough for a growing boy like him, but for all these men and woman and children it did not seem like very much."

"But Jesus told the disciples to have the people all sit down on the grassy slope. Then he took what Jonathan had offered to Andrew and said a very special prayer, broke the bread and fish apart and had the disciples pass the pieces to the whole crowd. When they all had enough to eat, he told his helpers to gather the uneaten food and not to waste any. Jonathan could not see how there could be any left, but he decided to help too. Imagine their surprise when they collected twelve baskets full of leftovers! Jonathan could hardly believe his eyes. He had heard that Jesus could make miracles happen, but never anything like this. And to think that Jesus had used his very own lunch! What joy he had shared with his mother when he came home that night and told her all about that wonderful day!"

"How is that for a story you never heard before?" Grandmother asked.

"I still do not know if it could really happen," sighed Tim.

"Neither do I," agreed Janet, "but I know the Bible does say that thousands of people were fed that day. We have heard that story at Sabbath School, but you made it seem like we were right there too."

"Well, it was fun trying to image how that he might have felt. The story is told in all the Gospels, but I discovered once that only John mentions the boy, and I supposed they all did," concluded Grandmother.

Just then the door opened, and the twins saw Gramps coming in after delivering some of Grandma's custard to a sick neighbor. They ran to greet him and showed him the village they had been making with the blocks while they listened. Then they asked him if he would come out in the yard and give them a few pushes in the swing before supper.

Why do you think the twins like to visit their grandparents?

You will find the Bible story in:

Matthew 14:13-21

Mark 6:30-44

Luke 9:10-17

John 6:1-14



14	20	20	21	22	14	21
23	14	24	25	26	27	20
22	14	24	28	25	25	16

God sent a flood that covered the land and mountain-tops. The only survivors were Noah, his family and all the animals aboard the ark. Over a year after the flood began, the water level dropped and Noah touched down on dry land. His family and the animals were the only creatures on earth! What was Noah's message?

18	25	24	21	35	19	34	25	18
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Use this chart to decode Noah's message.

10	19	18	22	14	24
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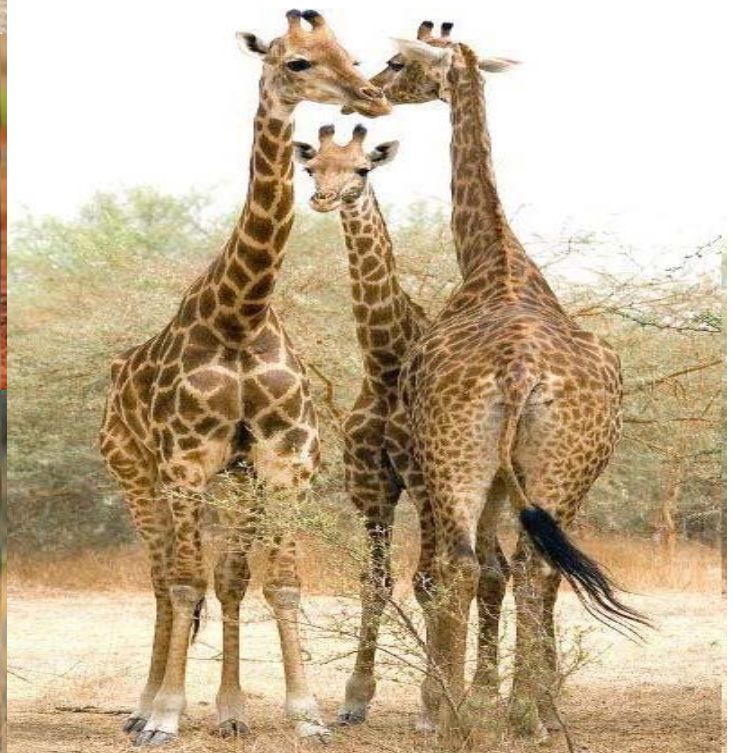
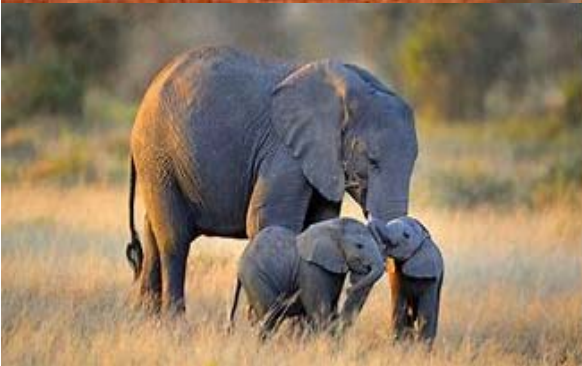
10	27	36	25	16
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- A=14
- B=28
- C=31
- D=18
- E=25
- F=32
- G=10
- H=22
- I=27
- J=33
- K=12
- L=20
- M=15
- N=16
- O=19
- P=11
- Q=30
- R=35
- S=24
- T=21
- U=13
- V=26
- W=23
- X=17
- Y=34
- Z=29



15	14	16	12	27	16	18	14
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16	25	23	24	21	14	35	21
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Feeling Alone

By David DeLong

When you are feeling alone,
And your life is dry as a bone;
Then, your voice should upraise, to sing the Lord's praise,
And your life will be changing its tone.

