

The
Berean Searchlight

SERIES 1

THE BACKGROUND AND APPLICATION
OF THE GOSPEL

POCKET EDITION

Search the Scriptures Daily

NATIONAL BEREAN SOCIETY
OF THE
CHURCH OF GOD - OREGON, ILL.

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THE BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT

Foreword

With this issue of The Searchlight we are presenting, what we hope to be, the first of a five-year series of studies on the Bible. The first six-months' study has been devised as a foundation series into which later and more detailed studies may be fitted. Not only have we defined an aim for the book, but we have given an aim for each lesson as a yardstick for the leader in definitely taking a forward step in Bible study at each session together.

This book is made in a pocket edition to carry for a guide to a **daily** reference to the Scriptures. For this purpose there are six phases of thought on each lesson. Pursue each phase thoroughly, so as to have a well-rounded foundation for each study.

In classwork use only your Bibles. This book is not to replace your Bible, it is to guide you in using it. Let the leader prepare three questions on each phase of study (eighteen question in all) and use these questions as a basis for class discussions. Make your questions satisfy the aim of the lesson. The only interesting class periods are those in which all come prepared to discuss the lesson.

The only way the Bible can be appreciated is to fix in mind the general make-up of the Bible and to be able to find supporting texts readily. This can be done only by special attention to this side of study. So we have added a special fifteen minutes for getting acquainted with your Bible. Do not neglect this memory work, as it will be most helpful in deriving a rightful pleasure from future study.

James M. Watkins, Publishing Committee Chairman,
Eldorado, Illinois.

LESSON 1

Aim: To establish the nature of the Abrahamic promise.

Guide to Daily Study

The Man Abraham.

His history (Gen. 11:27-32).

His status (Gen. 13:2).

His character (Gen. 15:6).

With Abraham God Began a New Period.

What event ended the previous period? (Gen. 11:1-9.)

Does each period center in a man? (Gen. 1:26-31; 9:1-17; Ex. 3:1-10, etc.)

God Gave Abraham Definite Promises.

(Gen. 12:1-3; 13:14-18.)

The Promise Increased As Faith Increased.

(Gen. 15:1-7; 17:1-8; 15:18; 22:17, 18; Rom. 4:13.)

Abraham Understood He Would First Die.

(Gen. 15:12-18; Heb. 11:39.)

The Promise Renewed to His Posterity.

(Gen. 26:1-5; 35:9-15; Rom. 4:16.)

Class Period. Use only your Bibles in class work. Let the leader prepare three questions as a review on each section of study. Use these questions as a basis for class work. Make your questions satisfy the aim of the lesson.

Fifteen Minutes in Using Your Bible

Memorize the eight divisions of the Bible and note the general contents of each.

Determine one rule that governs the arrangement of the Bible books.

After repeating in unison to memorize the foregoing, let the leader present a series of questions to help fix the points in mind.

LESSON 2

Aim: To show the application of the Abrahamic promises to us.

Guide to Daily Study

The Promises Were to the Seed of Abraham.

(Gen. 13:16; 17:7.)

Successive Promises Were to Future Seed.

(Gen. 26:24; 28:14.)

Natural Descendants Were Not All Reckoned As Seed.

(Rom. 9:6-8, 27; Heb. 11:17, 18; Rom. 4:18-22; 11:20, 21.)

A Seed Provided Through Faith.

(Rom. 9:29-31; 4:13-16.)

Christ Was That Seed.

(Gal. 3:11-16; 1 Cor. 12:13.)

Through Christ We Become Seed.

(Gal. 3:26-29.)

Class Period. Let the leader prepare the usual three questions for each section of study as a basis for class-work. Use your Bibles. Refer to them constantly for verses that determine the results of your discussions.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week.

Memorize the books of the law and how they came to be composed.

Consider the different names by which they have been known.

Repeat these thoughts in unison, then let the leader present a series of questions to help fix these points in mind. Use a full fifteen minutes with this drill.

LESSON 3

Aim: To show the means of our heirship with Christ.

Guide to Daily Study

Through Christ We Are Heirs in the Promises Made to Abraham.

(Gal. 3:29; Rom. 8:17.)

An Heir Must Be a Son.

(Rom. 8:14-17; Gal. 4:1-7.)

We Are Sons of God Through Christ.

(Gal. 4:7; 3:26, 27.)

Sons Can Be Disinherited.

(Rom. 11:22; Heb. 10:26, 27; John 15:6.)

The Faithful Shall Receive Heirship.

(Matt. 25:31-34; 1 Peter 3:9.)

The Unfaithful Will Be Cut Off.

(Matt. 25:41; Eph. 5:5; Rev. 21:7, 8.)

Class Period. Let the leader prepare the usual three questions as a basis for classwork on each section of study. Make this review determine that the subject has been studied. Make each question a definite step in attaining the aim of the lesson.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week.

Memorize the eight prominent men of the law books—Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron. Review something of the stories of these men so as to fix them in mind in their proper order. When they have been memorized in proper order, notice how their stories place themselves in the various books. Drill on these until the things connected with each can be easily found.

LESSON 4

Aim: To show the extent of our heirship with Christ.

Guide to Daily Study

Abraham's Promise Was in the World.

(Gen. 13:14-17; Rom. 4:13.)

Christ's Heirship Is in the World.

(Isa. 65:9; Matt. 25:31-34; Rev. 11:15.)

The Church to Rule With Christ.

(Rom. 8:17; Rev. 20:4.)

To Give Universal Peace.

(Isa. 2:1-4; 11:6-9.)

To Exalt Righteousness.

(Isa. 11:1-5.)

To Renew the Earth.

(Isa. 65:17-25; 35:1-8.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions upon the text studied. Give special thought to having the answers to the questions satisfy the aim of the lesson. Refer constantly to the Bible for plenty of supporting Scripture. Secure attention of the class before beginning your lesson. It is just as sensible to try to teach someone not there as to try to teach without attention.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week.

Memorize the books of history. In unison say the books of law and history together.

Let the leader present questions as to where certain things are to be found in the books of law. Associate these items with the men memorized, and notice how easily they are placed in the Bible. Don't try to remember too exactly at first, but merely approximately.

LESSON 5

Aim: To show the time of our inheritance.

Guide to Daily Study

All Are to Receive Inheritance at one time.

(Heb. 11:40; 1 Thess. 4:15.)

The Inheritance Deferred for a Time.

(Luke 13:34, 35; Matt. 25:14-19.)

The Inheritance Is in Christ's Kingdom.

(Rom. 8:17; 2 Peter 1:10, 11.)

The Kingdom Work Was Withdrawn From Israel.

(Matt. 21:43; 8:11, 12.)

It Was Then Given to a New Group.

(Acts 13:46; 1 Peter 2:9.)

The Kingdom to Be Established at His Second Coming.

(2 Tim. 4:1; Matt. 25:31-34.)

. **Class Period.** Prepare the usual questions on each section of study. Make your questions assure you that the lesson has been studied in advance. Daily meditation on Scripture is the only means of encouraging appreciation for the Bible. Use every means of encouraging advance study of the lesson. Take steps to see that everyone is appearing in class with his Bible.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week.

Memorize the leaders in the books of history—Joshua, the judges, Ruth, Saul, David, Solomon, Elijah, kings of the divided Kingdom, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther.

Each of these is found in a different book. Memorize the books in which they are found, and drill until you can call the book when a name is mentioned.

LESSON 6

Aim: To show the necessity of a resurrection.

Guide to Daily Study

Many Have Died Without Their Promised Reward.

(Heb. 11:13; and many since?)

There Is No Reward in Death.

(Eccl. 9:5-10; Psalm 146:4.)

God Deals Only With Living People.

(Matt. 22:32.)

Thus, All Must Come Forth.

(John 5:28, 29; 1 Cor. 15:22.)

The Dead Dealt With After Coming Forth.

(Rev. 20:12, 13; Luke 14:14.)

Our Faith Vain Without a Resurrection.

(1 Cor. 15:12-14.)

Class Period. Prepare your usual questions on the text of study.

Encourage discussion on the questions so that points may be fixed in mind. Well-rounded discussion is the life of Berean work. However, do not permit some to monopolize the discussion at the expense of others. Constantly strive to encourage the more backward to enter the discussions.

Inject a scripture occasionally that seems to be contradictory, being sure, however, to have a logical answer yourself.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week.

Memorize the books of poetry.

Take your fifteen minutes in drilling on these subjects.

LESSON 7

Aim: To show that there are degrees of reward in the resurrection.

Guide to Daily Study

The Resurrection Will Determine Our Rewards.

(2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 22:12.)

Our Resurrection Status Can Be Influenced.

(2 Cor. 5:10; Heb. 11:35.)

Our Status Will Determine Our Order of Resurrection.

(1 Cor. 15:23.)

Christ the First Fruits.

(1 Cor. 15:20; Col. 1:18.)

The Church to Be Raised at His Coming.

(1 Thess. 4:16; 1 Cor. 15:52; Rev. 20:6.)

And the Resurrection for Judgment.

(Rev. 20:12, 13.)

Class Period. Prepare your usual questions on the text of the study.

Encourage an open discussion of the questions involved in the text.

Leave no question unanswered in the minds of the class at the close of the period.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week.

Memorize the authorship of the various books of poetry, and notice the order of their placement in the Bible.

Memorize the names of the men whose stories are involved in the books of poetry. Where do they fit into previous books?

LESSON 8

Aim. To show the resurrection nature.

Guide to Daily Study

Christ Was the First Fruits of the Dead.

(1 Cor. 15:20; Col. 1:18.)

The Church to Be Conformed to His Likeness.

(Phil. 3:20, 21.)

Jesus Denied He Was a Spirit.

(Luke 24:39; Matt. 28:9.)

He Could Be Handled and Felt.

(John 20:20, 27; Luke 24:39.)

He Talked, Ate, and Drank.

(Luke 24:42; Acts 10:41.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual three questions on each section of study as a basis for classwork.

Make use of your Bibles constantly in class, so as to become accustomed to using them.

In finding various texts make use of the memory work you have been doing by asking where certain stories may be found.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week. Do not neglect the elements of review. Any amount of learning is beneficial only to the extent it is remembered. When an item is recalled at a later date its possibility of being fixed in mind is increased immeasurably. Constant review in all things is the only means of successful teaching.

Review the books and contents of law, history, and poetry.

LESSON 9

Aim: To fix in mind the essentials of the foregoing lessons.

Daily Study: Make a complete general review of the previous eight lessons.

Class Period

Questions for Class Review

1. In what way did God propose to reward Abraham for his faithfulness?
2. Has Abraham yet received his reward?
3. Who are to receive their reward with him?
4. Through whom is Abraham's seed reckoned?
5. What three great benefits are to come to the earth through the inheritance of Abraham and his seed?
6. Can our inheritance be cut off before receiving it?
7. What event caused the deferment of the inheritance?
8. What important event is necessary before the dead, who have not yet received their reward, can be rewarded?
9. Are all to be resurrected at one time?
10. What is our important proof of the literalness of the resurrection?
11. What Bible book and chapters are the foundation for these lessons?
12. If, as many suggest, the Old Testament were eliminated or forgotten, would there be any background to explain our studies of the Abrahamic covenant so important in the fulfillment of the New Testament?
13. Is it necessary to have a general ability to find supporting texts quickly if we are to be convincing before others?

LESSON 10

Aim: To show God's plan in restitution.

Guide to Daily Study

The Covenant of Abraham—Christ Presupposes a Time of Restitution.

(Acts 3:19-21.)

Restitution Was a Part of God's First Laws.

(Ex. 22:1-12; Luke 19:8.)

We Can Only Restore Something We Have Already had.

(Gen. 20:7; Isa. 1:26, etc.)

Restitution Was the Message of All the Prophets.

(Acts 3:21-24; Isa. 49:5-8.)

Restitution Is Christ's Work at His Coming.

(Acts 3:20, 21; Job 20:15-19.)

These Labors Have Not Yet Begun.

(Acts 3:21; 1 Thess. 4:16; 2 Thess. 1:6-9.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual three questions on each section of study as a basis for classwork. Prepare questions that encourage discussion rather than "yes" or "no" type of answers.

In all of the lessons preface your study with remarks upon a known factor. Teaching proceeds from the known to the unknown. Tie each lesson into the general plan by associating it with something covered in previous studies.

Knowing Your Bible. Take this full fifteen-minute period to drill completely upon the memory work of the preceding lessons. Drill first in what is in the books of law, history, and poetry, then let the leader mention facts associated with different people studied, and let the class, through remembering the people, tell approximately where the story may be found.

LESSON 11

Aim: To show the application of restitution to Kingdom plans.

Guide to Daily Study

The Church With Abraham Subject to a Covenant of Restitution.

(Acts 3:25, 26.)

Priestly Rulership Over the World Was First Offered to the Natural Seed of Abraham.

(Ex. 19:5, 6.)

Because of the Failures of the Natural Seed These Kingdom Plans Were Withdrawn.

(Ezek. 21:25-27; Matt. 21:42, 43.)

The Apostles Looked for a Restoration of These Kingdom Plans.

(Acts 1:6; Dan. 7:27.)

The Plans Will Be Vested in a Restored Israel.

(Ezek. 37:11-28; Isa. 2:2, 3.)

With the Faithful Grafted in the Place of the Unfaithful That Are Cut Off.

(Rom. 11:17; 1 Peter 2:9.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on each section of study as a basis for classwork.

Remember, man is motivated by the desire to accomplish something. Satisfaction of mind that will return members to class is only complete when the complete aim of the lesson is established before the close of class. Make everyone feel that he has accomplished something by being there.

Knowing Your Bible. Memorize the books of the major prophets.

LESSON 12

Aim: To show the application of restitution to the ruling power of Israel.

Guide to Daily Study

The Ruling Power of Abraham's Seed Was Vested in the Throne of David.

(2 Sam. 7:16; 1 Kings 2:4.)

Their Rule Subject to Their Faithfulness Before God.

(1 Kings 2:4; 8:25, see margin.)

The Throne of David Was Overturned Until the Rightful Heir Should Come.

(Jer. 22:30; Ezek. 21:27.)

Christ Is Heir to This Very Literal Throne.

(Isa. 9:6, 7; Luke 1:32, 33.)

Christ Will Assume Power From the Earthly Throne of David.

(Matt. 25:31; Acts 2:29, 30.)

The Faithful Will Assist in Returning God's Power to Earth Through Israel's Throne.

(Matt. 19:28; Rev. 3:21; 20:4.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on each section of study as a basis for classwork.

Do not neglect your Bibles in classwork. Refer to them constantly. It is the only way you will develop the enjoyment of finding things for yourself. Put your memory work in operation. Our purpose in this basic study is to build appreciation of Scripture study that will lead to daily private study.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week. Make a brief review of the stories of the major prophets. Note where these stories are found.

LESSON 13

Aim: To show application of restitution to the nation of Israel.

Guide to Daily Study

Israel to Be Restored As a Nation.

(Ezek. 37:15-18.)

Restored After the Pattern of the David-Solomon Kingdom.

(Amos 9:11; Acts 15:16.)

That Kingdom Served God Through a Levitical Group and a National Group.

(1 Chron. 23:1-6.)

(Restored? Rev. 14:4; 21:24.)

They Had a High Priest and a King.

(1 Chron. 23:1, 13.)

(Restored? Heb. 7:24; Rev. 11:15.)

They Had Twenty-four Leaders for Each Twenty-four Courses of Priests.

(1 Chron. 24:7-19.)

(Restored? Rev. 4:4.)

They Had Twenty-four Courses of Priests Under Aaron.

(1 Chron. 24:13; 24:1-5.)

(Restored? Rev. 14:1-4.)

Class Period. Give this period over to a thorough analysis of these thoughts. Do not neglect the proper use of a blackboard. With this lesson, use it to set the old and the restored thoughts side by side for comparison.

Knowing Your Bible. Review the major prophets and drill where their prophecies may be found.

Memorize the first six of the minor prophets. Repeat them in unison to help fix them in mind.

LESSON 14

Aim: To show further application of restitution to the nation of Israel.

Guide to Daily Study

Israel Had a Servant Group to Serve the Sons of Aaron.

(1 Chron. 23:13, 14, 27, 28. Restored? Rev. 7:9-15.)

They Also Had Twenty-four Courses of Singers to Serve With the Priesthood.

(1 Chron. 25:1-31. Restored? Rev. 5:9.)

Also Porters to Serve the Gates.

(1 Chron. 26:1-19. Restored? Rev. 21:12.)

Treasurers Over Dedicated Things.

(1 Chron. 26:20-26. Does Revelation 21:24-26 make a return of these officers seem logical?)

Israel Also Had Judges.

(1 Chron. 26:29. Restored? Matt. 19:28; Rev. 21:14.)

Also Under the King Were Many National Officers, not of the Levites.

(1 Chron. 27:1, 22, 25. Is their restoration logical of the nations of Revelation 21:24?)

Class Period. Continue the use of the blackboard with this lesson, comparing the old order side by side with the restored. In discussing the restored officers, consider their possible duties and the circumstances that make them logical. You will find the constitution of a restored Israel a very interesting subject. Above we have considered only the Levitical officers. You may continue through the national officers if desired.

Knowing Your Bible. Review last week's memory work. Drill on the stories and placing of the first six minor prophets.

LESSON 15

Aim: To show application of further thoughts on restitution.

Guide to Daily Study

God Has Promised to Bring the Earth to a State of Perfection.

(Isa. 35:1, 2; 65:17.)

Not New, But Merely a Restoration of the Edenic Condition of the Earth Prior to the Transgression.

(Gen. 2:8; 3:17, 18.)

Peace Is to Be So Universal As to Include Even the Animal World.

(Isa. 11:6-9; 65:24, 25.)

Enmity Did Not Exist Prior to the Flood, So This Is Merely a Restoration.

(Gen. 9:1-7.)

A Pure Language to Be Restored As It Existed Before Babel.

(Zeph. 3:8, 9; Gen. 11:1-7.)

Every Degree of Health Will Be Restored.

(Isa. 35:3-6; John 9:13-21.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on the text of study.

Do not neglect to enlarge upon the thoughts presented. These outlines include only a few **beginning** thoughts. Search out every marginal reference given on all the texts studied. Encourage a short discussion on the use of marginal references.

Knowing Your Bible. Review last week's memory work. Memorize the last six minor prophets. Drill thoroughly; these are the hardest to remember.

LESSON 16

Aim: To show the application of thoughts on restitution to life itself.

Guide to Daily Study

Man Was Created Subject to Death.

(Gen. 2:15-17; 3:19.)

In God's Justice, the Life We Lose Through Adam Must Be Returned.

(1 Cor. 15:21, 22; John 5:28, 29.)

Then Are We Judged of the Works Done in This Life.

(John 5:29; Rev. 20:12, 13.)

Thus, We and Not Adam Shall Decide Whether We Shall Die the Second Death Which Is Eternal.

(Rev. 21:8.)

God Deals Only With the Living.

(Luke 20:36-38; Rev. 20:4.)

Life Taken Away Through Adam Must Be Restored Until God Finishes His Dealings With Man.

(1 Cor. 15:12-19.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on the text of the study.

Notice the justice of a restoration of life to the individual. All preceding things entered in as a result of sin. If sin and its results are taken out of the world, would not restitution be a natural result? Did weeds enter the world as a result of sin?

Knowing Your Bible. Review last week's memory work. Memorize a brief outline of the stories of the last six minor prophets, and notice the books where their prophecies are found. Drill upon these thoughts. Notice how the names of the books denote the contents.

LESSON 17

Aim: To show the application of restitution to the tree of life.

Guide to Daily Study

Adam Was Given a Tree of Life That He Might Live Forever.

(Gen. 2:9.)

Had He Continued to Have Access to That Tree He Would Have Continued to Live.

(Gen. 3:22-24.)

Its Return Is Necessary for Those Who Do Not Attain the Immortality of Christ.

(Rev. 22:2.)

This Is for the National Class After the Order of Adam Not Raised in the First Resurrection.

(Rev. 21:24; 20:12.)

The Church, or Ruling Class, Shall Have Life Within Themselves After the Order of Christ.

(Rev. 20:6; Phil. 3:21; Luke 20:34-36.)

With No One Longer Subject to Death, It Will Cease to Exist.

(1 Cor. 15:21-54.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on the text of the study.

Use your Bibles constantly in classwork. The Bible habit can be developed only by creating a desire to use it. Members will bring Bibles only if you use them constantly in class.

Knowing Your Bible. Repeat from memory the books of the Old Testament. Go over them until they are firmly placed in mind. Drill on their contents.

LESSON 18

Aim: To fix in mind the essentials of the foregoing lessons.

Daily Study: Make a complete general review of the previous eight lessons.

Class Period

Questions for Class Review

1. What is the Scripture theme of the prophets concerning the labors of Christ?
2. Are God's literal Kingdom plans to be restored?
3. Whose ruling power is to be established over this Kingdom?
4. To what extent is Israel, as a nation, to be restored?
5. Give at least five degrees of service in that Kingdom, and apply them to a restoration.
6. What is to replace many of the natural branches unfit for service?
7. Give five additional conditions to be restored by Christ.
8. Will God restore everyone to life?
9. Will we die eternally for Adam's wrongs?
10. Why is a return of the "tree of life" necessary?
11. What important event is to mark the beginning of this work?
12. Who will assist Christ in these labors?
13. How long will it take to complete this work? Will it be momentary, or take a period of time?
14. Is an understanding of the prophets necessary to know the story of the restitution plans?
15. Why will death cease to exist?
16. If death is a blessing, would it be eliminated?

LESSON 19

Aim: To show the steps in partaking of the Abrahamic-Christian promises.

Guide to Daily Study

The Foregoing Promises Were Made to the Faithful After the Order of Abraham.

(Gen. 13:14-17; Rom. 4:13; Gal. 3:14-16.)

First, We Must Understand the Plans Through Hearing.

(Rom. 10:13-17; John 5:24; Matt. 13:1-9.)

We Must Believe in the Certainty of Their Fulfillment.

(Rom. 4:3; Acts 19:4; 8:12.)

We Must Repent, That Is, Have a New Mind.

(Acts 8:22; 19:4; Mark 1:15.)

We Must Be Baptized.

(Acts 2:38; 10:48; Mark 16:16.)

We Must Continue Faithful to Our Belief.

(Matt. 10:22; John 8:51; Rom. 11:20, 21.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on the text of the study.

How much or how little is implied in the thought of continuing faithful? Consider some of the details necessary to put this in practice.

Capacities for religious study are based upon certain basic desires. One of these is self-expression. Encourage each member of the class to express himself in class, and you will have no trouble in getting lessons studied before class.

Knowing Your Bible. Memorize the books of New Testament history—Matthew through Acts. Drill upon them in unison in class. Repeat the books of the Old Testament, and recall some of their contents.

LESSON 20

Aim: To show the necessity of baptism.

Guide to Daily Study

Conversion Implies the Action, As Repentance Implies the Thought. We are Converted Only When We Have Acted Upon the Six Foregoing Thoughts.

(Acts 3:19; Matt. 18:3; Luke 22:32.)

Without Acting on Baptism With Understanding Belief and Repentance, We Are Not Abraham's Seed, Nor Have We a Part in the Promises.

(Gal. 3:27-29.)

The Reason Is That the World Was Sold in Sin, the Wages of Which Was Death.

(Gen. 3:19; Rom. 6:23; Rev. 21:8; Rom. 5:21.)

Only When Christ Comes and Frees Us From Sin Can We Have Our Rightful Heritage of Life and Health.

(Acts 3:19; 1 Cor. 15:26.)

We Can Be Freed From Sin Only Through Christ.

(Acts 2:38, 39; John 20:30, 31; Acts 4:12.)

Through Baptism We Come Under the Atoning Blood of Christ.

(Heb. 9:22-28; 10:20-22; Rom. 6:3-7.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on the text of the study.

Refer to previous lessons constantly. The only way that each lesson can be fitted into the complete picture made by all the lessons is by constantly comparing, and fitting them together.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week. Place the beginnings of the four Gospels in relation to Christ, and give five events in order in Acts.

LESSON 21

Aim: To show the significance of baptism.

Guide to Daily Study

Baptism Is a Complete Burial.

(Rom. 6:4; Acts 8:38.)

There Must Be a Death Before There Can Be a Legal Burial.

(Rom. 6:3, 4, 11.)

There Must Be a New Life or We Are Still Dead.

(Rom. 6:4-11; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15.)

In the Manner of Christ We Can Be Given New Life Only by the Spirit of God.

(1 Cor. 15:45; 1 John 4:13-16; 3:24; 1 Thess. 4:8.)

We Can Partake of That Life-Giving Spirit Only Through Christ.

(1 Cor. 15:45; John 5:21-23; 1 John 4:15.)

Through His Spirit We Are Given a Testimony of Our Complete New Life in a Resurrection Nature.

(Eph. 2:13-18; 1:10-14; Phil. 3:20, 21; 1 Cor. 15:45-54.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on the text of the study.

An aim has been given to each lesson to be used as a yardstick in establishing the thoughts to be presented in each lesson. Before closing each lesson, look at the aim again. Have you satisfied it completely? It is very necessary to satisfy every question pertaining to the lesson, otherwise the aim is not accomplished.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week.

Memorize the first seven Pauline Epistles—Romans through Colossians. Drill upon them thoroughly.

LESSON 22

Aim: To show our attitudes toward one another after baptism.

Guide to Daily Study

Our Attitude Should Be One of Love.

(John 15:12-17; 1 Peter 2:17; 1 John 4:7-21.)

Without Love We Are Still of the World.

(1 John 2:15, 16; 4:7, 8.)

Attitude Should Prompt Prayers for Each Other.

(1 John 5:16; James 5:14-16; John 17:9.)

We Should Have a Desire to Help Bear each Other's Burdens.

(Gal. 6:2. What burdens? and how?)

We Should Strive to Eliminate the Things That Might Cause Burdens on Others.

(Rom. 13:8-10. Will obeying these things?)

We Should Devote a Loving Watch-care Over Destitute and Afflicted.

(James 1:27; 1 Tim. 5:8.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on the text of the study.

In considering these thoughts enlarge upon them. Consider the practical ways of putting them into operation. Have we fulfilled the law of Christ (Gal. 6:2) without the knowledge and operation of these things? If we fulfilled them entirely, what would be the results to Christianity? If there are no present results, does it mean we are not fulfilling them?

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week. Memorize the outstanding theme of each of these first seven Pauline Epistles.

LESSON 23

Aim: To show our attitude toward the church after baptism.

Guide to Daily Study

We Must Be Subject to God and Christ.

(Prov. 3:5, 6; Eph. 5:24.)

We Must Study to Know God's Desires.

(2 Tim. 2:15; Heb. 10:25.)

We Must Follow Our Faith With Works.

(James 2:20-26.)

We Must Support As We Are Able Financially.

(1 Cor. 16:2; Mal. 3:10; 2 Cor. 9:6, 7.)

We Must Sow Seed to Build the Church.

(Matt. 13:1-3; Luke 19:13; 2 Cor. 9:6.)

We Must Do Nothing to Offend.

(James 1:26; 3:2-15; 1 Tim. 1:5, 6.)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on the text of the study. Be sure to meditate sufficiently upon the details of the things involved in a well-rounded Christian life. How may we neglect and still receive the reward of the faithful?

If you have difficulty in finding sufficient thoughts to enlarge upon the study, remember that it requires three things to completely explain any single verse: The background, the incident itself, and its application. No verse is completely taught without understanding the thoughts behind it and the application to us.

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week.

Memorize the order and central theme of each of the last seven Pauline Epistles.

LESSON 24

Aim: To show our attitude toward the outside world after our baptism.

Guide to Daily Study

We Should Have a Ready Gospel Message.

(1 Peter 3:15; 2 Tim. 2:15, 23, 24.)

We Should Speak Evil of No Man.

(Titus 3:2, 3; Eph. 4:31.)

We Should Do Good to All We Can.

(Luke 10:30-37; 6:27.)

We Should Withdraw From Some.

(2 Cor. 6:16, 17; 1 Tim. 6:5; 2 Thess. 3:6.)

Avoid Entangling Alliances to Take Us Away From Our Belief.

(1 Tim. 5:22; 2 Tim. 2:4; 2 Cor. 6:14.)

Owe No Man Anything.

(Rom. 13:7, 8. Smiles and kind words, also?)

Class Period. Prepare the usual questions on the text of the study.

Is our own standing before men improved when we refuse to speak evil of anyone? Can we withhold ourselves from some, and not create the idea that we would not welcome them if they changed? Do we withdraw ourselves enough from our own church members who transgress God's laws? Should you refuse to marry a person who might cause you to renounce your belief? When is the proper time to consider this, when first going together, just before marriage, or after?

Knowing Your Bible. Review your memory work of last week. Memorize the books and central theme of the remainder of the New Testament.

LESSON 25

Aim: To fix in mind the essentials of the foregoing lesson.

Daily Study: Make a complete general review of the previous five lessons.

Class Period

Questions for Class Review

1. What are five essentials of partaking of the Abrahamic promises?
2. What is repentance?
3. What is conversion?
4. What are the wages of sin?
5. How are we to be freed from the results of sin?
6. Can we put on Christ without baptism?
7. How must we live to show forth a new life?
8. What five ways should we evidence our new life toward our fellow Christians?
9. What six ways should we evidence our new life toward our church?
10. What six ways should we evidence our new life toward the world?
11. Repeat the books of the New Testament.
12. What is the central theme of each book of the New Testament?
13. What is an Epistle?
14. Are the directions contained in them equally worth while for us in this day?
15. Should such things as financial support be included in our Christian education?
16. Should we support a church for ourselves or for others?

LESSON 26

Aim: To give proper recognition to those who have satisfactorily completed the preceding course of basic Bible work.

Class Period

It is the desire of the National Berean Society to officially recognize all members who satisfactorily complete this five-year course of study. For this period, any minister of the Church of God may receive free, upon request to the National secretary, a list of questions upon these lessons, together with grading instructions. After grading the results of this examination, he may submit the names and grades of all those making seventy-five points or over to the National secretary and a special certificate of recognition will be sent showing the grade by which they have completed the study. A list will be maintained at National headquarters for special recognition from time to time.

If you have no regular minister, any elder of your group or older Berean leader may secure a copy of the questions and conduct the examination, after which the papers may be submitted to any minister you desire for grading. In which case, however, be sure to put your full name and address upon your paper.

Ministers will please secure and send in the full name of the member, the grade received, and state that it is for the first six months of study and Bible work. A full list of those receiving grades of ninety-five or more will be published as a roster of honor-roll students.

Whether or not you make the honor roll, you will find much pleasure in submitting to this examination.

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Plans are already going forward for the second series of Berean Searchlight lessons in an effort to shed a true light upon a systematized search of the Scriptures.

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AN INVITATION

Have your studies of the Scripture left you with some tantalizing question unanswered? If you have such a question, or if you simply would like to get acquainted with the work of the National Berean Society and the young people who are sincerely expressing themselves in service to God in this way, we cordially invite you to drop a letter to us in care of the National headquarters at Oregon, Illinois.

The National Berean Society maintains both a senior and a junior correspondence committee who will be glad to get acquainted with young people anywhere. Our committees are composed of young people scattered throughout the United States, and we are sure you will find a pleasant, Christian exchange of views most helpful in these very tempting times. Drop a line to the National Berean Society, Oregon, Illinois, letting us know something about you—age, occupation, etc.—and your letter will be referred to the proper committee at once.

We stand for
Unity, Truth and Righteousness