

History of the Early Church

beginning with the
3rd Missionary Journey



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History of the Early Church

LESSON 1

Introduction: Suppose that you have a friend that lives far away. You have not seen him for a long time and you want to tell him something. You could tell him what you want him to know by writing him a letter or calling him on the telephone.

There were no telephones in Bible times, so the people of that day would write letters to each other. (A letter is also called an *epistle*.) The letters were carried by a messenger and it would take them much more time to receive a letter than it does for us to receive one. The messenger did not have a car, or airplane to carry it. He had to deliver it by walking, riding an animal, or sailing on a boat.

As we begin our study this quarter, Paul begins his third missionary journey. A "missionary journey" is a journey with a mission, or purpose. The purpose of Paul's third journey is to continue to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to those who need to hear it, just as he did in his first two journeys.

On Paul's journey, he writes some letters, (or epistles). Paul's letters were different from letters we might write because the Holy Spirit told Paul what to write. This is the way that God told the people what He wanted them to do to obey Him.

Paul wrote letters to the Christians in Corinth, and in Rome while he was on his third journey. He also may have written a letter to the Galatians during this journey, but no one knows exactly when he wrote this letter.

These letters, that Paul wrote, are the books in our New Testament. They are called I Corinthians, II Corinthians, Romans, and Galatians.

Vocabulary Words:

DISCIPLE - A learner or pupil. A *disciple* of Christ is a learner or pupil of Christ.

JOHN'S BAPTISM (or the baptism of John the Baptist) - John the Baptist came before Jesus Christ, preaching and preparing the way for him. John's baptism was one of repentance. Those who received John's baptism needed to receive the baptism of Jesus Christ, because Christ's baptism is a baptism unto salvation.

BRETHREN - A fellow believer, a brother. Those who are fellow believers of Christ, or Christians, are *brethren* or *brothers* in Christ.

SPEAKING IN TONGUES - When people received the Holy Ghost they could "*speaking in tongues*" or speak different languages. An example of this is in Acts 2. They could be understood if one knew the language they spoke. Only the Holy Ghost gave them the ability to do this, and it was to cause men to believe in Jesus Christ.

Acts 18: 23 - ; 19: 1 - 7

When we begin our study of Paul's third journey, he is in Antioch of Syria. When he left there he retraced the route he took on the second journey. He went to the churches in Galatia and Phrygia that he had been to on the first two journeys, churches in: Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch of Pisidia. While he was there he taught them the gospel to help them to be strong in the faith.

While Paul was teaching in Galatia and Phrygia, a Jew named Apollos came to the city of Ephesus. Apollos was from the city of Alexandria in Egypt.

Apollos was a man that taught God's word as truthfully as he knew how. But, Apollos did not know everything he needed to know about Jesus. He only knew about Jesus being baptized by John, and did not know about Jesus' death, burial and resurrection.

Apollos preached boldly about Jesus in the synagogue in Ephesus. When Aquilla and his wife Priscilla heard Apollos preach,

they came to Apollos privately and taught him what he needed to know about Jesus.

Later, Apollos wanted to go to Achaia, so the Christians in Ephesus wrote letters to the **brethren** in Achaia and told them to receive Apollos.

When Apollos arrived in Achaia he was a great help to the Christians there. He showed them, by using Bible scriptures, that Jesus is the Christ.

While Apollos was in Corinth (*Corinth was a city in Achaia*), Paul arrived in the city of Ephesus.

When Paul found the **disciples** in Ephesus, he asked them if they had received the Holy Spirit when they believed. Then he found out that they had only been baptized with **John the Baptist's baptism**.

Paul told them they would need to believe on the one that came after John the Baptist— on Jesus Christ.

When Paul told them this, they were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Paul laid his hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit; and they could **speak in tongues** and prophesy.

There were twelve men in all that this happened to.

For three months Paul stayed in Ephesus preaching in the synagogue. He tried to persuade the people in Ephesus about the kingdom of God, but some of them would not believe and began to say evil things about the way of Christ.

Paul left the synagogue and took the **disciples** with him. And they went to the school of a man named Tyrannus to teach the gospel.

MAP WORK:

- Find the following places on your map and circle them:

- ANTIOCH OF SYRIA
- GALATIA
- PHRYGIA
- DERBE
- LYSTRA
- ICONIUM
- ANTIOCH OF PISIDIA
- EPHESUS
- ACHAIA
- CORINTH



Answer the questions:

1. A letter can also be called an _____.
2. Who told Paul what he was to write in his letters? _____
3. Name the letters (or books) that Paul wrote on his third journey:
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____
 - (3) _____
 - (4) _____
4. A Jew from Alexandria, Egypt came to Ephesus. Who was he? _____
5. Did Apollos know everything he needed to know about Jesus? _____
6. Who came to Apollos privately and taught him what he needed to know about Jesus? _____ and _____
7. What did Apollos use to show the Christians in Achaia that Jesus is the Christ? _____
8. Paul found out that the disciples in Ephesus had been baptized with whose baptism? _____
9. Did the people in Ephesus receive the Holy Spirit before or after they were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ? _____
10. Did everyone in Ephesus believe the things that Paul taught about the kingdom of God? _____

History of the Early Church

LESSON 2

Vocabulary Words:

REVEAL - To make known something that was previously unknown.

CIRCUMCIZE - God commanded, in the days of Abraham, that boy babies have part of their skin cut off when they were 8 days old. All the descendents of Abraham (or the Jews) were commanded to do this to their boy babies because this was part of Israel's covenant with God. This covenant was under the Old Law (or Law of Moses).

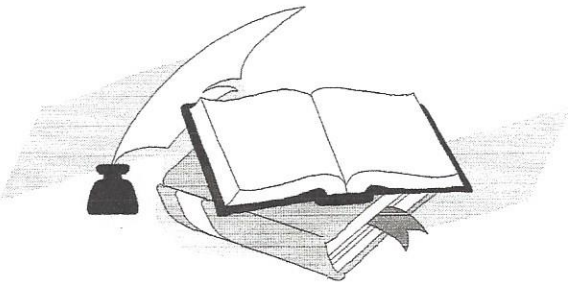
GALATIANS 1 - 6

Some things about Galatia.

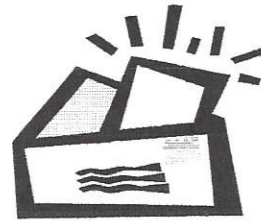
Galatia was a country in Northern Asia Minor. It was a large region that included the Roman cities of : Antioch of Pisidia, Iconium, Apollonia, Derbe, and Lystra. (See if you can find all these places on your map!)

The people in Galatia were called the Galatians. The churches in Galatia were begun when Paul went on his first missionary Journey. (Acts 13 - 14) These churches were in Antioch of Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. Paul went back to see the Christians in these churches on his second and third journey,

We will be studying some of the things that Paul wrote in his letter to the Galatians.



Paul's Letter to the Galatians!



If you should write a letter to one of your friends the first thing you would probably do in your letter is greet your friend. This is what Paul does in his letter to the Christians in Galatia.

Paul had a reason for writing his letter to the Galatians. He had heard that they were teaching things that were not in the gospel of Christ.

Paul explained to the Galatians that he wanted to please God, that God wanted him to preach the gospel, and that when he preached to the **Gentiles** he preached only what God **revealed** to him to preach.

The Jews in Galatia were teaching that to be a Christian one must be **circumcised**. This was not in the gospel of Christ.

Some of the Christians in Galatia had been Jews before they obeyed the gospel and became Christians. When the Jews were under the Old Law they were **circumcised**.

But, under God's New Law (the gospel of Jesus Christ) Christians were not required by God to be **circumcised**.

Even so, some of these Christians wanted other Christians to be **circumcised**. They told them that they must be **circumcised** to obey God. They even

wanted the **Gentiles** who were baptized to be **circumcised**.

Telling them that they must be circumcised to obey God was wrong, and Paul told them it was wrong.

Paul told them that doing the works of the Old Law would not save them. The only thing that would save them was their faith in Jesus Christ.

Paul told them that just as Abraham in the Old Law was saved by faith in God, we will be saved by our faith in God. All Jews and Gentiles, who are baptized into Christ, are children of God and are free.

Paul told the Jews that if they continued to follow the Old law, and if the Gentiles continued to sin with idolatry, they would both be in bondage. A person in bondage is **NOT** free! The Galatians wanted to follow both the Old Law and the New Law. This was a problem because they could not obey both Laws and be pleasing to God!

Then Paul compared the Jews and Gentiles to Hagar and Sarah. Hagar and Sarah were both wives of Abraham. Hagar was a servant wife. She was not free. Sarah was a free woman.

Both of these women had a son. Hagar's son was born in a normal way, but since he was the son of a servant he was not free.

Sarah's son was born in a miraculous way in answer to a promise that God had made to Abraham. Sarah's son was free because he was born to a free woman.

Paul told the Jews and Gentiles that if they continued to follow the Old Law they would be like Hagar's son; they would not be free.

But, if the Jews and Gentiles would follow the New Law they would be like Sarah's son. They would be **FREE** in Christ!

In order to stay free in Christ, the Jews and Gentiles had to follow the New Law (or Gospel of Jesus Christ). True freedom in Christ is doing what God wants.

NOTE: Circumcision is not wrong. Many people circumcise their babies today. The thing that made circumcision wrong for the Galatians was the fact that they told others they **MUST** do it to obey God. They did not have the right to force people to do something that God did not command.

Questions:

1. Name the churches in Galatia:

2. On what missionary journey did Paul begin the churches in Galatia? _____

3. Why did Paul write the letter to the Galatians? _____

TRUE OR FALSE:

- ____ 1. Paul wanted to please God.
____ 2. The Jews in Galatia were teaching that one must be circumcised to be a Christian.
____ 3. God wants people to be circumcised under His New Law (the gospel).
____ 4. Paul told the Galatians that doing the works of the Old Law would save them.
____ 5. The Galatians needed to obey the New Law (the gospel of Jesus Christ) to be pleasing to God.
____ 6. We must obey the gospel to be pleasing to God.
____ 7. People that do not obey the gospel are not free, but are in bondage.

Memory Work

Rom 10:17

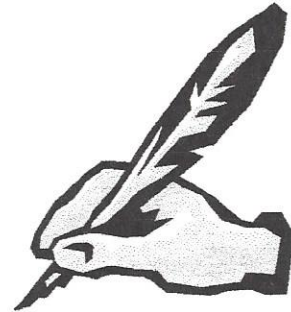
So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

THINGS WE WANT TO REMEMBER

LETTERS that Paul Wrote:

On his second journey:

- I Thessalonians
- II Thessalonians

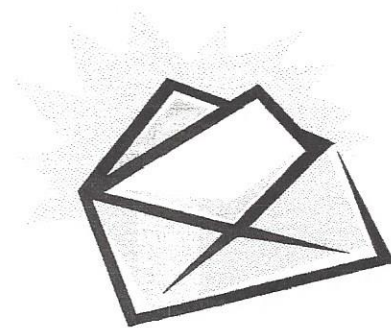


On his third journey:

- Galatians *(no one knows for sure if this letter was written after the 2nd journey or during the 3rd.)*
- I Corinthians
- II Corinthians
- Romans

While he was in prison:

- Ephesians
- Phillipians
- Colosians
- Philemon



After his release from prison:

- I Timothy
- Titus

During his second prison term:

- II Timothy

History of the Early Church

LESSON 3

Vocabulary Words:

EVIL SPIRIT (or demon) - The Bible does not tell us much about demons. they possessed the body of people on earth and were evil, so we know they were under Satan's control. The demons knew who Christ was, and Christ had the power to cast the demons out of people. People are not possessed by demons today. We cannot know anything more about them than what the Bible tells us.

MAGNIFY - To make great. To get glory and praise.

CONFESS - To tell openly what one has done or will do.

EXORCIST- One who would use magic or other means to convince another that they could cast evil spirits out.

Some things about Ephesus.

Ephesus was a Roman city in Asia, located near the mouth of the Cayster river. It was an easy city to get to by land or by sea.

The city worshipped idols and even had a temple for the idol called Diana.

ACTS 19: 10 - 22

All in Asia hear the word of God!

Paul continued to preach in the city of Ephesus for two years and everyone who lived in Asia heard the word of God.

While Paul was there, God performed special miracles by Paul's hands. Handkerchiefs or aprons that Paul had touched were carried to sick people and their illnesses were cured and their **evil spirits** left them.

There were certain Jews, **exorcists**, who wandered about, trying to call **evil spirits** out of people in the name of Jesus Christ. They would say to a person possessed with an **evil spirit**, "We implore you in the name of Jesus whom Paul preaches."

Some of the people who were doing this were the seven sons of Sceva. Sceva was the Jewish chief priest.

One day as they tried to get an **evil spirit** to come out of a man, the **evil spirit** answered them and said, "I recognize Jesus, and I know about Paul, but who are you?"

Then the man who was possessed by the **evil spirit** leaped upon the seven brothers and overpowered them, so that they ran from the house naked and wounded.

When what happened to these seven brothers became known, both Jews and Gentiles living in Ephesus were fearful and the word of the Lord Jesus was **magnified**.

Many people believed the gospel of Christ and **confessed** the wrong things that they had been doing. And many of them who had been practicing magic, brought their magic books and burned them before all the people. They counted up the value of the books and they were worth 50,000 pieces of silver.

The word of the Lord spread and grew in power.

After all these things happened, Paul decided to go to Jerusalem. He would go there by passing through Macedonia and Achaia.

He said, "After I have gone there, I must go to Rome."

So he sent two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus, to Macedonia while he stayed in Asia for a while longer.

Map Work



Be sure you can locate on your map the following places (circle them if they are not circled already):

Asia
Ephesus
Macedonia
Achaia

Think About it :

The church is growing very fast. All of Asia has heard the word of God. But, even though all of Asia has heard, they do not all believe. The seven sons of Sceva were some who did not believe and got in trouble because of the error they were teaching.

The miracles that Paul performs have a purpose. That purpose is to cause men to believe that Jesus Christ sent him with the gospel!

TRUE OR FALSE

1. ____ Paul preached in Ephesus for 10 years.
2. ____ When sick people touched the handkerchiefs and aprons that Paul had touched, they were made well.
3. ____ Certain Jews, who were exorcists, tried to call evil spirits out of people in the name of Jesus.
4. ____ The seven sons of Sceva were good men.
5. ____ When the seven sons of Sceva tried to get an evil spirit out of a man, the evil spirit was kind to them.
6. ____ Because of what happened to the seven sons of Sceva, the Jews and Gentiles in Ephesus were fearful and the word of the Lord was magnified.
7. ____ Many of the people brought their Bibles and burned them before all the people.
8. ____ The books were worth 50,000 pieces of silver.
9. ____ Paul sent Timothy and Erastus to Macedonia.

Memory Work

Rom 10:17
So then faith cometh by
hearing, and hearing by the
word of God.



Don't Forget!
Study your lesson and
Memory verse!

History of the Early Church

LESSON 4

Vocabulary Words:

FORNICATION - Fornication is the sin that two people commit when they live together like they are married, only they are NOT married in the sight of God.

FOOLISH - Silly.

GOSPEL - The good news of Jesus Christ.

FAITH - Belief. Assurance in God.

Some things about Corinth.

The city of Corinth was a great center for trade. The city had three harbors for ships, and the city was a builder of ships.

Corinth was a very idolatrous city. Many people practiced the sin of **fornication** in their worship to the idols.

We can read in Acts 18: 1 - 18 about the beginning of the church in Corinth.

When Paul wrote to the Corinthians, he was in the city of Ephesus.

Paul's first letter to the Corinthians



Map Work:

Find the city of Corinth on your map.



I Corinthians 1 - 16

Paul received a letter from the church in Corinth that asked him questions. (I Cor. 7:1) Paul wrote the Corinthians back and gave them instructions on what to do to please God.

As Paul wrote his letter, he dealt with many of the problems that the people in Corinth were having.

Some of the people in Corinth were following the apostle Paul, some following Apollos, some following the apostle Peter, and some following Christ. Paul told them in his letter that they needed to follow Christ who was crucified for them.

Paul told them that Christ had sent him to preach the **gospel**. He said that many people thought that preaching was a **foolish** thing to do. But preaching is the power of God. God saves people by having His word preached. Even though people may think that preaching is **foolish**, it is not, for it is God's plan.

Paul told the Corinthians that his preaching was not man's wisdom, but God's wisdom. (I Cor. 2:4) He said that our **faith** is to be in God, not man!

The church at Corinth had another problem. One of their members was committing the sin of **fornication**. Paul told them that the church should get rid of the sin that was among them.

He told them how they could avoid the sin of **fornication**. He told them about God's law for marriage. He also told them the things that women should do to obey God.

Paul told Corinth about another sin they were doing. Many of them were not taking the Lord's Supper in the way that God commanded. Paul told them what God expected of them.

He reminded the Corinthians that each one of the members there was important and that no one of them was more important than another.

He told them that a better way to treat each other was to love each other.

Paul reminded them that Christ had died, was buried, and rose again. Because of this we have hope in Christ, and one day we will be resurrected to be with Christ.

At the end of Paul's letter he told the church to give of their money on the first day of the week.

Paul told Corinth that he would stay at Ephesus until the feast of Pentecost. Then he sent greetings from all the people with him, and greetings from the churches in Asia to all the church at Corinth.

In our next lessons we will talk more about some of the problems that the church at Corinth had and God's plan for them.

You may ask, "Why do I have to know these things?" The Holy Ghost inspired Paul to write them so that not only would Corinth be helped by them, but we will also. They apply to us too!

FILL IN THE BLANKS (use the King James Version):

1. I Corinthians 2 : 5 That your _____ should not stand in the wisdom of _____, but in the power of _____.
2. 1 Cor 1:25 Because the _____ of God is wiser than _____; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
3. 1 Cor 4:6 And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of _____ above that which is _____ that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.
4. 1 Cor 12:13 For by _____ Spirit are we all baptized into _____ body, whether we be _____ or _____, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.
5. 1 Cor 13:13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is _____.

TRUE OR FALSE

1. ____ Paul wrote to the Corinthians while he was in the city of Ephesus.
2. ____ Paul wrote the Corinthians about their problems.
3. ____ Paul said that the Corinthians needed to follow Apollos.
4. ____ Preaching the gospel is a foolish thing to do.
5. ____ Paul said that his preaching was his own wisdom.
6. ____ Our faith is to be in God, not man.
7. ____ Paul told the Corinthians that only a few of them were important.
8. ____ Paul told the Corinthians to love each other.
9. ____ The things that Paul wrote to the Corinthians apply to us today.

Memory Work

HEAR

Rom 10:17
So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

BELIEVE

Mark 16:16
He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

(Tune: Mulberry Bush)

What must I do to be saved, to be saved, to be saved?
What must I do to be saved, from all the guilt of sin.

First, I must hear the word of God, the word of God, the
word of God,
First I must hear the word of God, in order to believe.

Then I must believe His word, believe His word, believe His
word,
Then I must believe His word in order to obey.

Next, I must repent of sin, repent of sin, repent of sin;
Next, I must repent of sin, in order to be saved.

And, I must confess my Lord, confess my Lord, confess my
Lord;
And, I must confess my Lord, to glorify His name.

Now I must be baptized, be baptized, be baptized;
Now I must be baptized, to wash away my sins.

When I've obeyed the gospel of Christ, the gospel of Christ,
the gospel of Christ;
When I've obeyed the gospel of Christ, He will add me to
His church.

History of the Early Church

LESSON 5

Vocabulary Words:

CHURCH - A called out group.

GOSPEL - The good news of Jesus Christ. His Word.

LORD'S SUPPER - When Jesus was on earth He told His disciples about a supper they would eat every first day of the week to remember Him by. This was called the Lord's Supper. The bread was to remind them of Christ's body and the juice was to remind them of Christ's blood that He shed for them. Christians partake of this supper today to remember the same things. (Matt. 26: 26 - 29)

Introduction:

In our last lesson we studied about the letter that Paul wrote to the Corinthians. There are many, many lessons for us to learn in the book of I Corinthians, but we will not have time to study them all. We are going to study just a few of them in this lesson and in the next two lessons.

Just remember that the things we learn are not the only things in this letter. As you get older and study your Bible more and more you will learn many more things about the I Corinthian letter.

I COR. 12: 12 - 13

THE ONE BODY.

The "one body" is the one **church** that belongs to Jesus Christ. The **gospel** uses different words for "the **church**". Sometimes the **church** is called "the kingdom of God", "the body", or "the **church**".

When Paul wrote to the **church** at Corinth, he told them that there is ONE body. He said that all people, Jew or

Gentile, are baptized into one body.

What Paul is saying is: *Jews and Gentiles are baptized into ONE **church**. There is only ONE **church** that belongs to Christ!*

How do we know that what Paul told the Corinthians is true? We know this by studying God's word!

I Corinthians 6:20 and Acts 20: 28 tell us that we are bought with a price. The price that Jesus bought us with is the blood of Christ. He gave Himself for the **church**. (Eph. 5:25) The reason why Christ's **church** (or His body) is so important is: Christ died for it!

The word **church** means: A called out group. How are we called out? We are called out by the **gospel** of Jesus Christ. His **gospel** tells us what we need to do to be saved. When we do those things we become part of His **church** (or body).

Sometimes people think that the **church** is the building that they meet in. But, the building is NOT the **church**. Saved people are the **church**.

How do we know if the **church** that we are a part of is the same **church** that Jesus built and died for?

We know this by studying God's Word!

We know it is the **church** that Christ built if Christ is it's builder and foundation (I Cor. 3: 11). If it has a name that Jesus gave it (Romans 16: 16). If it keeps the **Lord's Supper** on the day commanded (Acts 20: 7). If it uses the Bible for it's **ONLY** guide (II Tim. 3:16). And if it began on the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Jesus Christ (Acts 2) .

The Christians at Corinth became part of the **church** (or body) that Christ built, and we can too, if we do the things that God has told us to do in His Word!

I Cor. 11: 20 - 34

THE LORD'S SUPPER

As Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth, he told them that they were eating in

a way that was wrong on the Lord's day (or Sunday). When they came together to worship God on the Lord's day, they were coming to eat their own meal, not to eat the **Lord's Supper**.

Paul told them in his letter that they should eat their own meal at home. The kind of eating and drinking they were doing belonged at home. It did not belong in their worship on the Lord's day.

Paul reminded the Corinthians of what they were to do in worship. They were to remember the Lord's death when they ate the **Lord's Supper**. The unleavened bread was to remind them of Christ's body that died on the cross for them. The cup, or fruit of the vine, was to remind them of the blood that Christ shed for them.

Paul told them that they were to remember the Lord's death every time they ate the **Lord's Supper**. He told them that if they ate it and did not remember those things that they would be sinning against the Lord.

The **Lord's Supper** is a spiritual meal. It is not a meal where people eat to fill their stomachs.

Paul told the Corinthians that if they were hungry they could eat at home.

Christians today are to eat the **Lord's Supper** in the same way that Paul told the Corinthians to eat it! This is the only way to be pleasing to God.

Memory Work

HEAR

Rom 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

BELIEVE

Mark 16:16

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

TRUE OR FALSE

1. ____ Jesus said that He built many churches.
2. ____ The word church means, "The called out".
3. ____ The apostle Paul bled and died for the church.
4. ____ It doesn't matter what things the church does, so long as it has the right name.
5. ____ The church is the building we meet in.

THOUGHT QUESTIONS:

1. The Roman Catholic church began in 606 A.D. by Boniface III. Is this the one body that Paul told the Corinthians about? _____ Why or Why not?



2. Are we remembering the Lord's death if we are talking, writing notes, playing with the baby in front of us, or going to the restroom during the Lord's Supper?

How should we behave when Christians are partaking of the Lord's Supper?

3. Would it be okay for us to substitute coke and hamburgers for the unleavened bread and grape juice in the Lord's Supper? _____ Why or why not?

4. Is having parties, get togethers, eating and having fun, the work of the church? (read I Cor. 11: 22,34 before answering)

History of the Early Church

LESSON 6

Vocabulary Words:

FORNICATION- Fornication is the sin that two people commit when they live together like they are married, only they are NOT married in the sight of God.

SUBJECTION - To obey

REPENT - A change of will, followed by a change of behavior.

In this lesson we will continue to study some lessons from the first Corinthian letter. Keep in mind that we have not studied all the lessons in I Corinthians; there are many, many more!

I COR. 5: 1, 9 - 13; I COR. 6: 9 - 11; I COR. 7: 2, 39

GOD'S PLAN FOR HUSBAND AND WIFE

As Paul wrote to the church at Corinth, he had to point out to them a very terrible sin that one of their members was doing. It was the sin of **fornication**.

Fornication is when someone takes a man or woman to live with like they would a husband or wife; only they are not married in the sight of God.

One of the men in the Corinthian church had taken his father's wife to live with as his own wife. He committed the sin of **fornication**, and the church was allowing this man to continue sinning in this way. This was very wrong!

Paul told the church at Corinth that people who committed this sin, and other sins, would not go to heaven, unless they **repented** and obeyed God. Paul told the church that people who continued to live in sin would have to be put away from them, so that they would not encourage others to sin.

Paul told the church at Corinth some ways to keep from doing this sin. He said:

- *Each man should have his own wife and*

each woman her own husband.

- *To remember that Jesus Christ had died for them. That He had bought them with His blood.*
- *To "flee fornication". This means that if you are tempted to do this sin with another person, you should get away from them — FAST!*

God has a plan for people. His plan is that man and woman should get married and stay married until one or both of them die.

The wife is to be in **subjection** to her husband. This means that she is to do the husband's will and obey him because he is the head of the home. This is God's law, not man's!

Sometimes people do not want to follow God's will, but following His will is the only way we can please Him and be happy. When two people love Christ and each other they will do God's will. They will not want to sin like the man in Corinth did. They will realize that God wants them to love each other and think about what they do. This is a command of God!

I COR. 14: 34 - 35; I COR. 11: 3, 8 - 9

THE ROLE OF WOMAN IN THE CHURCH

When Paul wrote to the church in Corinth he told the women to keep silent in the church.

1 Cor 14:34-35 Let the women keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but let them subject themselves, just as the Law also says. And if they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church.
(NAS)

What did Paul mean when he said this?

What Paul is saying is: A Christian

woman is not to have the role of a preacher or teacher and teach the assembly of the church. She is to learn in a quiet way.

Women are to be in **subjection** to man. This means that women are to be in obedience to man, which is her head. God gave man the role of being woman's head, or being over her in authority.

But, if woman cannot preach or teach over men, what can they do in the church?

Women can do many things that all Christians are commanded to do. They can attend the assemblies of the church, visit the sick, show hospitality to others, help the needy, and encourage others. She can teach children and other women. She can sing, but she cannot lead singing in the church. She can pray, but she cannot lead prayer in the public assembly.

One of the most important works a woman can do is to be the kind of wife and mother God wants her to be.

Some women may not be happy with the commands that God has given them. Some may want to do things that God has not given his authority for, such as preaching and leading singing. But to go against God's authority is to sin!

The role God gives to woman is a different role from man's. She is not less important than man. Galations 3: 28 tells us that man and woman are equal in Jesus Christ.

To be pleasing to God, woman must respect what God has said about women. God is our creator, and He knows what is best for us and how to make us truly happy!

MEMORY WORK

HEAR

Rom 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

BELIEVE

Mark 16:16

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

REPENT

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

USE YOUR BIBLE

Read I Cor. 7: 2 and answer the following question:

How did God say we are to avoid fornication? _____

Read I Cor. 11: 3 and answer the following questions:

Who is the head of man? _____

Who is the head of woman? _____

Who is the Head of Christ? _____

THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. If a wife should say, "*I don't care what my husband says, I will do what I want to do!*", is this wife submitting to her husband and to God? _____

2. What if two teenagers should say to each other, "*To make sure we really love each other, we should live together a while before we get married.*" Are theses teenagers doing God's will? _____

What sin are they committing if they do this? _____

3. Can women do anything they want to in the church? _____
Why or why not? _____

4. Can men give women authority to do things that God has not commanded? _____

5. Are women less important than men? _____

History of the Early Church

LESSON 7

This will be the last lesson we will study from the 1st Corinthian letter. Read the letter if you want to learn more lessons from it!

I COR. 1: 17 - 28; I COR. 2: 4 - 5; I COR. 3:1-3

PREACHING THE WORD.

When Paul wrote his letter to the church at Corinth, he told them that Christ sent him to preach the gospel. The gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ.

Paul told the Corinthians that God would use the power of preaching the gospel to save those who were lost in sin. He told them that some people would think that preaching was foolish or silly.

1 Cor 1:25 says:

Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

Some people may think preaching is a silly or foolish thing to do, but God says that He is wiser than we are. Some people may think that the things God said to do are foolish or silly, but God doesn't think they are, or He wouldn't command us to do them.

Paul told Corinth that he did not preach words of man's wisdom, but he preached words that God wanted him to preach. He told them that their faith should not be in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. (*All preachers should think like this!*)

GROWING IN CHRIST.

Paul told the Corinthians that he spoke to them as "babes in Christ" and that he fed them with milk and not meat because they were not ready for meat. What did Paul mean by this?

We all know that little human babies cannot be talked to like they are adults, because babies do not understand the things that adults do.

Because the Corinthians were "babes in Christ", Paul told them the things that they needed to know in a simple way they could

understand.

Little babies cannot eat meat. They have no teeth and their little stomachs are not ready to digest meat. They can only drink milk at first, and then gradually eat other things later.

Christians are the same way. When they first obey the gospel they understand simple things, or the "milk" of the word of God.

As a Christian grows and understands more of God's word, he is ready for harder things in God's word, or he is ready for the "meat" of God's word.

God expects us to study God's word and grow. As we study we will understand more and more of God's word.

Paul told the Corinthians that some of them had not grown spiritually, and he had to teach them like they were still "babies" spiritually.

If a little human baby did not grow, we would be very concerned. We should also be concerned when a Christian does not grow spiritually.

God wants us to grow spiritually so that we will not remain "babes in Christ". He wants us to become full grown, mature Christians!

Paul wanted the Corinthians to grow in Christ, and we should grow in Christ also!



MEMORY WORK

HEAR

Rom 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

BELIEVE

Mark 16:16

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

REPENT

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.



FILL - IN- THE - BLANKS

1. 1 Cor 1:18 For the _____ of the cross is to them that perish _____; but unto us which are saved it is the _____ of _____.

(KJV)

2. 1 Cor 2:5 That your _____ should not stand in the wisdom of _____, but in the power of _____.

(KJV)

3. 1 Cor 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto _____, but as unto carnal, even as unto _____ in Christ.

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. What is the gospel? _____
2. Why does God want men to preach? (read I Cor. 1: 21 to find the answer)

3. What did Paul preach to the Corinthians? (read I Cor. 2: 2 to find answer)

4. What is the "milk" of the word?

5. What is the "meat" of the word?

6. Will a person who has not been a Christian very long and has not studied God's word very much understand the "milk" or the "meat" of God's word? _____

History of the Early Church

LESSON 8

Vocabulary Words:

SILVERSMITH - One who would dig the silver metal, refine it, and hammer it into objects.

THEATER - A large place where the Greeks held their games and public assemblies.

DIANA - An idol god the people in Ephesus worshipped. They thought she was the goddess of the moon, hunting, and wild animals. Her main worship was done in a temple in the city of Ephesus. People thought that she fell from the sky and that she was the mother of all living things.

RASH - To do something in a reckless or careless way.

BLASPHEME - To speak evil of.

RIOT - A violent public disturbance.

We have just finished studying some lessons from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. Remember that Paul was in the city of Ephesus when he wrote this letter.

We will now pick up with what Paul is doing in the city of Ephesus.

ACTS 19: 23 - 41 ; ACTS 20 : 1

At this time there was a great disturbance about the things Paul was teaching.

A certain man in Ephesus was named Demetrius. Demetrius was a **silversmith** and he made silver shrines of the idol god **Diana**. Demetrius made much money selling these silver shrines.

One day Demetrius called together all the workmen who made the silver shrines of **Diana**. He said, " Men, you know that we have made our money by making and selling these shrines. All of you know that Paul has been convincing people in Ephesus, and even throughout all Asia, that there are no gods made with hands."

" Because of what Paul is teaching, people may begin to think that the great goddess **Diana** is worthless throughout all of Asia, and her magnificence will be destroyed."

When all of the men who were involved in selling the shrines of **Diana** heard what Demetrius said, they were furious and began to shout, "Great is **Diana** of the Ephesians!"

Soon, the whole city was in an uproar and they all rushed into the **theater**. Some of the people caught some traveling companions of Paul from Macedonia named Gaius and Aristarchus.

Paul wanted to appear before the crowd, but the disciples would not let him. Even some of the officials, who were friends of Paul, sent word to him that he should not go before the crowd of people in the **theater**.

There was much confusion in the theater, and many of the people did not know the reason they were there. Some of the people were shouting one thing and some another.

Then some of the Jews pushed a man named Alexander in front of the crowd of people. Alexander motioned with his hand for the people to be quiet, and would have spoken to the people. But when the crowd realized that Alexander was a Jew all of them began to shout together, " Great is **Diana** of the Ephesians!" The people shouted this for two hours.

When the crowd of people began to quiet down, the town clerk quieted the people and began to speak. He said, " You men of Ephesus, doesn't everyone know that the city of Ephesus has a temple and worships the great goddess **Diana**, who fell down from heaven?"

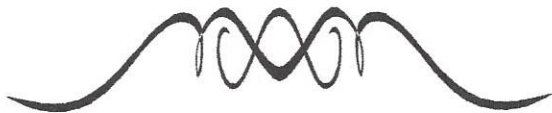
"Since everyone knows this, you need to remain calm and not do anything **rash**. You have brought these men here and they have not robbed temples, or **blasphemed** our goddess **Diana**."

" So if Demetrius and his men have a complaint against any man, let them take it to the courts and let the law decide."

" If there is anything else you want, let it be decided in an assembly that is lawful. For we are in danger of being accused of causing a **riot** that has no cause."

When the town clerk was through speaking, he dismissed the crowd of people.

After the **riot** was over, Paul called the disciples to him and wished them well. Then he left them to go to Macedonia.



MATCH by drawing a line:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Paul | A Jew in the theater |
| 2. Demetrius | An idol goddess |
| 3. Diana | Friends of Paul
from Macedonia |
| 4. Gaius and Aristarchus | An apostle of Christ |
| 5. Alexander | A silversmith in
Ephesus |



MAP WORK

Be sure you can find these places on your map:

EPHESUS
MACEDONIA

MEMORY WORK

HEAR

Rom 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

BELIEVE

Mark 16:16

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

REPENT

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

CONFESS

Rom 10:10

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Thought Questions

1. Paul was teaching that there are no gods made with hands. Why should Paul's teaching upset Demetrius so?

2. When the gospel is taught, it calls for people to change their lives. Do you think that teaching the gospel upsets some people today? _____

Why or why not? _____

History of the Early Church

LESSON 9

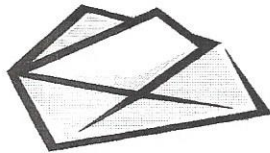
Vocabulary Words:

AFFLICTION - Persecution and distress.

MINISTRY - Service to others. To prepare and and help others. The ministry of the gospel is preparing and helping others serve God. The apostles, and preachers today, do this by preaching the gospel to others.

EARTHEN VESSEL - A clay pot. Clay pots were very fragile and easily broken.

Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.



II CORINTHIANS 1 - 13

Paul was concerned about the Corinthians and about how they reacted to the things that he had written to them in his first letter. Paul had to rebuke many of their sins in his first letter to them, and he was anxious to hear from the Christians in Corinth.

As Paul traveled north from Ephesus to Troas, he looked forward to seeing Titus in Troas. But, Paul could not find Titus in Troas.

Paul then traveled from Troas, across the sea, to Macedonia. It was during the time that he was doing this traveling that Paul wrote his second letter to the Corinthians. (*Acts 20:2*)

When Paul arrived in Macedonia, Titus met him there with good news about the church in Corinth. (*III Cor. 7: 5-8*) Paul was comforted by Titus coming.

Timothy was with Paul (*1:1*) when he wrote his second letter to the Corinthians. Timothy sent greetings to Corinth along with Paul's greetings.

In his second letter, Paul told Corinth why

he had not come directly to Corinth. He had been through much **affliction** and he needed comfort that he knew the Corinthians would not give to him. He knew they would not want to comfort him after he had to rebuke their sins. So, instead of going to Corinth he wrote them a letter. (*II Cor. 1:8-9*)

In Paul's second letter, he told Corinth about his troubles in Asia and how God had saved them. He also told the Corinthians that their prayers to God for them had helped them.

Paul wrote about the great **ministry** of preaching the gospel. Paul and other disciples did not preach themselves, but they preached Jesus Christ.

Paul told the Corinthians that the gospel is a treasure in **earthen vessels**. (*4:7*) What Paul meant by this is: The gospel is so important that it is like a treasure. Earthen vessels are the men that teach the gospel. They may be persecuted or treated badly, but the treasure (or the gospel) that they hold continues to be priceless — no matter what happens the earthen vessel (or the man preaching the gospel).

Paul said that when men preach the gospel they must have a fear of God and a love of Christ. (*5: 11, 14*) This fear of God and love of Christ will help preachers know how urgent obedience to God is, and that "now is the day of salvation". In other words: God doesn't want men to put off obeying Him! (*6:2*)

Paul also told the Corinthians about the churches of Macedonia. These churches were very poor, but they gave even more than they were able to give. (*8:3*) The Macedonians first gave themselves to the Lord. They decided to do God's will before anything else.

Paul knew that some of the Corinthians did not believe the things he said, or the things that he did. So Paul told the Corinthians that it would be

proved to them that he was an apostle of Christ and that the things he told them were true.

At the end of Paul's second letter he tells the Corinthians goodbye and asks God to be with them.

MEMORY WORK

HEAR

Rom 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

BELIEVE

Mark 16:16

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

REPENT

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

CONFESS

Rom 10:10

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

MAP WORK

Find and circle the following places on your map:



TROAS
AEGEAN SEA

Remember that Paul is still on his third preaching journey. He has traveled from Ephesus, to Troas, across the Aegean Sea, to Macedonia.

Answer the Questions:

1. When Paul arrived in Macedonia, _____ met him there with good news about the church in Corinth.
2. _____ was with Paul when he wrote his second letter to the Corinthians.
3. Paul knew that the Corinthians would not want to _____ him after he had to rebuke their sins.
4. Paul wrote to the Corinthians about the great _____ of preaching the gospel.
5. Paul told the Corinthians that the gospel is a _____ in _____ vessels.
6. Paul said that when men preach the gospel they must have a fear of _____ and a love of _____.
7. The churches in Macedonia were very _____.
8. The Macedonians first gave _____ to the Lord.
9. Paul told the Corinthians that it would be proven to them that he was an _____ of Jesus Christ.

USE YOUR BIBLE:

1. 2 Cor 1:11 Ye also helping together by _____ for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.
(KJV)
2. 2 Cor 4:1 Therefore seeing we have this _____, as we have received mercy, we faint not;
(KJV)
3. 2 Cor 8:5 And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own _____ to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.
(KJV)
4. 2 Cor 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, _____ is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of _____.)
(KJV)

History of the Early Church

LESSON 10

In this lesson we will study an important lesson from Paul's first and second letters to the Corinthians.

II COR. 8: 1 - 5; II COR. 9: 7-8; I COR. 16: 1 - 2

When Paul wrote his letters to the church at Corinth, he wanted them to understand about an important act of worship: **GIVING!**

In the first letter that Paul wrote to the Corinthians, he told them that they were to give on the first day of the week. We know that the first day of the week is Sunday. The Corinthians were not to give to God on any other day, because God told them to give on the first day of the week.

Paul told the Corinthians to "lay by in store as God had prospered them". This means: Each person is to think about what they will give and give according to how much money he has. A person who makes a large sum of money would be able to give more than one who does not make very much money.

When Paul wrote the second letter to the Corinthians, he told them about the church in Macedonia. The Macedonian church was very poor, but they gave to God even more than they were able to give. And they gave it willingly! They had a good attitude toward giving to God because they wanted to do God's will more than anything else!

Paul told the Corinthians that they should purpose in their heart before they gave. In other words: They were to think about their attitude when they gave.

Paul said to give "not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver." If we are stingy with what God gives us, and we don't want to give to God with a good attitude, then we will not be pleasing to Him.

God wants us to give to him willingly. If we give to Him in this way, with a cheerful heart, then we will be pleasing to God.

He has given us all we have and we should be willing to give part of it back to Him!



Fill - in - the - blanks:

1. 2 Cor 8:5 And this they did, not as we hoped, but first _____ their _____ to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. (KJV)

2. 2 Cor 9:7 _____ man according as he _____ in his heart, so let him _____; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a _____ giver.(KJV)

3. 1 Cor 16:2 Upon the _____ day of the _____ let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath _____ him, that there be no gatherings when I come. (KJV)



YES OR NO

1. ____ Should we give to God just like the people in Corinth were expected to give?
2. ____ Can we give to God on any day of the week?
3. ____ If we are very poor, does God expect us to give?
4. ____ When we give, it does not matter what our attitude is.
5. ____ God loves a cheerful giver.
6. ____ I need to think about what I give to the Lord.

THOUGHT QUESTIONS:

1. If we give to God, but we really don't want to, are we pleasing to Him? _____

2. Why do we give to God on the first day of the week? _____

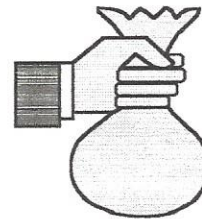
3. Would it be okay for the church to take up a collection on Wednesday night? _____

Why or why not? _____

4. Although we are commanded to give our money on Sunday, can we give God our time and ourselves any day of the week? (*read II Cor. 8:5 to see if the Macedonians did.*) _____

5. What is to be our attitude toward giving? (*read II Cor. 9:7*) _____

6. Should children who earn an allowance give part of it to God? _____



MEMORY WORK

HEAR

Rom 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

BELIEVE

Mark 16:16

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

REPENT

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

CONFESS

Rom 10:10

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Let's review the route that Paul has taken on his 3rd journey:

First Paul left **ANTIOCH OF SYRIA**

and traveled to **GALATIA** then to **PHRYGIA**.

Then Paul left there and went to **EPHESUS**. While he was there he probably wrote the letter to the Galatians and then he wrote I Corinthians.



From Ephesus Paul traveled north to **TROAS**. Then he traveled on to **MACEDONIA**. In Macedonia, Paul wrote II Corinthians.



History of the Early Church

LESSON 11, REVIEW

Multiple Choice: (underline the correct answer)

1. Apollos (did , did not) know everything he needed to know about Jesus Christ.
2. Paul's third journey began in (Phrygia , Antioch of Syria).
3. The Jews in Galatia were teaching that a Christian must be (circumcised, burn incense).
4. Paul compared the Jews and Gentiles to (Leah and Rachel , Hagar and Sarah).
5. Sceva had (2 , 7) sons, who tried to cast out evil spirits.
6. Many people in Ephesus who believed in Jesus Christ, (threw away, burned) their magic books.
7. Paul told the Corinthians that Christ sent him to (heal all the sick, preach the gospel of Jesus Christ).
8. Paul told the Corinthians that the better way to treat each other was to (hate , love) each other.
9. Jesus Christ died for (many , one) church(es).
10. The church (is , is not) the church building.
11. Christians are to eat the Lord's Supper on (any day , the first day) of the week.
12. The Lord's Supper is a (physical , spiritual) meal.
13. The sin of fornication (is , is not) a terrible sin.
14. Women are to (obey , disobey) their husbands.
15. It is (right , not right) for a woman to preach or lead singing.
16. Paul told the Corinthians that he preached (the wisdom of men , the power of God).
17. Babies in Christ can understand the (hard, easy) things in God's word.
18. Demetrius was (glad , angry) that Paul taught that there are no gods made with hands.
19. The city of Ephesus worshipped (the golden calf , the goddess Diana).
20. When Paul arrived in Macedonia, (Luke , Titus) met him there with news about the church in Corinth.
21. Paul said that when men preach the gospel they should have a fear of (Satan, God).
22. The churches of Macedonia were very (rich , poor) .
23. Paul said that the gospel is a (piece of junk , treasure) in earthen vessels.
24. God loves a (grouchy , cheerful) giver.
25. We (are , are not) to think about what we give to God.
26. We are to give to God on (Thursday , the first day of the week) .



MEMORY WORK

HEAR

Rom 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

BELIEVE

Mark 16:16

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

REPENT

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

CONFESS

Rom 10:10

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

BE BAPTIZED

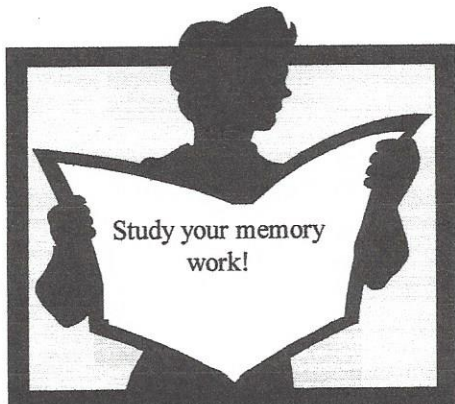
Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.



TRUE OR FALSE:

1. ____ We should use Bible scripture to show others that Jesus is the Christ, just as Apollos did in Achaia.
2. ____ We can tell people to obey things that God did not command.
3. ____ We are saved and become Christians under the Old Law of Moses.
4. ____ The purpose of miracles is to cause men to believe on Jesus Christ.
5. ____ Preaching the gospel is foolish.
6. ____ We are baptized into one body.
7. ____ We can eat anything we want to in the Lord's Supper.
8. ____ As a Christian grows, he should understand the "meat" of God's word.
9. ____ Now is the day of salvation.



History of the Early Church

LESSON 12

Vocabulary Words:

SUPERIOR - Greater, better, higher in position.

JUSTIFY - To make righteous. To clear of blame or guilt.

FAITH - Belief and assurance that something is true. We have "faith" in God and His Word.

REMISSION - To pardon or forgive. When one has "remission of sins", one has been forgiven of his sins.

BAPTIZE , BAPTISM - To bury in water.

Introduction: *We have just finished studying the letters of I and II Corinthians. I Corinthians was written while Paul was in Ephesus. Paul left Ephesus and went to Troas. He then left Troas and traveled across the sea to Macedonia. II Corinthians was written while Paul was traveling from Troas to Macedonia.*

In our lesson today, Paul is continuing his journey.

ROMANS 1 - 16 ; ACTS 20: 1 - 3

When Paul left Macedonia, he went to Greece. In Greece he went to the city of Corinth. Paul spent three months in Corinth.

While Paul was in Corinth he wrote a letter to the Christians in Rome (Romans 1:7). The Roman Christians' **faith** had been spoken of throughout the whole world. (1:8) Paul thanked God for that.

Paul told the Romans that he longed to see them. His plans were to make a journey through Spain and see them, but first he needed to go to Jerusalem. (15: 24 - 25) The Christians in Macedonia and Achaia had made contributions for the Christians in Jerusalem, and he was taking the contributions to them. After he did this, he said that he would come to Rome.

In the beginning of Paul's letter to the Romans, he told them that he is an apostle chosen by God.

Paul wanted to preach the gospel to them, because the gospel is for all people — Jews and Gentiles!

The church in Rome was made up of Jews and Gentiles who had obeyed the gospel of

Paul's Letter to the Romans



Jesus Christ.

The Jewish Christians knew that when Gentiles obeyed the gospel they were saved, just like the Jews were. But, since the Jews had been God's chosen people under the Law of Moses, they felt like they were **superior** to the Gentiles.

Paul had to explain in his letter to the Jews and Gentiles at Rome that God is pleased with those who do His law -- whether one is a Jew or Gentile. It was never God's purpose to **justify** a Jew, just because he is a Jew. God **justifies** all those who believe and obey His word.

Paul told them that **ALL** had sinned against God (3:23; 5:12) and that God had provided a way of salvation through **faith**. (3: 21 - 31) **Faith** comes when one hears and believes God's word. (10:16 - 17)

God saves those who believe Him and love Him, whether they are Jew or Gentile.

Through our obedience to Christ we have **remission** of sins. (3:25; 6: 17 - 18) When we are obedient by being **baptized** in Christ, we decide that we are not going to sin anymore. We decide that we are going to serve God! (6: 1 - 4) When a person is **baptized** his "*old man of sin*" dies, and he is raised from **baptism** to be a "*new man*"! A "*new man*" who serves God! A "*new man*" who is saved!

Jews or Gentiles who are saved must

continue to do God's will. (11: 17 - 25) God will not save those who will not obey Him!

At the end of Paul's letter, he told the Romans about his plans and gave them greetings from himself and his friends.

MEMORY WORK

HEAR

Rom 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

BELIEVE

Mark 16:16

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

REPENT

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

CONFESS

Rom 10:10

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

BE BAPTIZED

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

fill-in-the-blanks

1. Paul was in _____ when he wrote a letter to the Christians in Rome.
2. The gospel is for _____ people - Jews and Gentiles!
3. God justifies all those who believe and _____ His word.
4. When a person is _____ his "old man of sin" dies.

USE YOUR BIBLE

1. Rom 3:23 For _____ have _____, and come short of the glory of God; (KJV)
2. Rom 10:17 So then _____ cometh by _____, and hearing by the _____ of God. (KJV)
3. Rom 3:25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the _____ of _____ that are past, through the forbearance of God; (KJV)
4. Rom 5:8 But _____ commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet _____, Christ died for _____. (KJV)
5. Rom 6:4 Therefore we are _____ with him by _____ into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in _____ of life. (KJV)

MAP WORK

Find the following places on your map:

ROME
CORINTH



History of the Early Church

LESSON 13

Vocabulary Words:

INHERITANCE - Possessions that one receives after another dies. Our "inheritance" we will receive from God is Heaven!

WEEP - To cry.

Paul has been in Corinth for three months. While he was there, he wrote the letter to the Romans.

ACTS 20: 1 - 35

After Paul had stayed in Corinth for three months, he was ready to go to Jerusalem. But when Paul learned that some men were plotting against him, he decided to change his travel plans and go through Macedonia.

The men traveling with Paul were: Sopater from Berea, Aristarchus and Secundus from Thessalonica, Gaius from Derbe, Timothy, Tychicus, and Trophimus from Asia. They went ahead of Paul to Troas. They waited for Paul and Luke, who was traveling with Paul.

Luke and Paul sailed on a boat from Philippi after the feast of Passover, and joined the others in Troas five days later. They all stayed in Troas for seven days, until Sunday.

On Sunday, the first day of the week, the disciples of Christ came together to partake of the Lord's Supper. Paul preached to the people until midnight, for he planned to leave the next day.

The room where Paul was preaching was on the third story of a house. There were many lamps lighted in the room.

Seated in the window was a young man named Eutychus. As Paul continued to preach, Eutychus fell into a deep sleep. He fell out of the window, and those who went to see what had happened to him found him

dead.

Paul went down to see Eutychus, and when he saw him, he put his arms around him. Paul said, "Don't be alarmed, for he is alive!"

Afterward, Paul went back upstairs, and he ate and talked to the disciples for a long time. At daylight, Paul left them.

The people took Eutychus home, and were very comforted that he was alive.

Paul's traveling companions went ahead on a ship, and sailed to Assos. Paul planned to travel to Assos on foot. They met Paul at Assos, and Paul went on the ship and sailed with them to Mitylene.

The next day they sailed to Chios, the third day to Samos, and the fourth day to Miletus. Paul decided to sail past Ephesus, because he was in a hurry to reach Jerusalem by the feast day of Pentecost.

While Paul was in Miletus, he sent word to Ephesus that he wanted to see the elders of the church.

Paul had many things that he wanted to tell the elders, because he knew that he would never see them again.

Paul reminded them of how he had behaved when he was with them. He told them that even though he went through many trials and persecutions he continued to preach the things that they needed to hear. Those who did not know God's will could not blame Paul because he had preached everything to them that the Holy Spirit revealed to him.

Then Paul gave some warnings to the Ephesian elders. He told them that after he left, grievous wolves would come into the church and try to destroy the church. Paul was not talking about actual "wolves", but about cruel, destructive men that would try to destroy the church of God.

He also warned them that there would be some men in the congregation at Ephesus that would teach things that were not in God's Word. These men would get people to follow them. Paul told them to watch for these people.

Before Paul left the Ephesian elders, he told them that he was giving them the teaching of God that would cause them to grow and receive and **inheritance** from God.

When Paul was through speaking to the Ephesian elders, he knelt down and prayed with them.

The elders began to **weep**, embracing Paul and kissing him. They remembered that Paul had said he would not see them again, and this made them very sad.

Then the elders went with Paul to the ship that he would sail on.

MEMORY WORK

LORD'S SUPPER

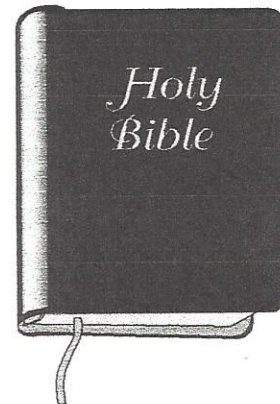
Acts 20 : 7

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

MAP WORK:

Find the following places, and circle them on your map.

PHILIPPI
ASSOS
MITYLENE
SAMOS
MILETUS



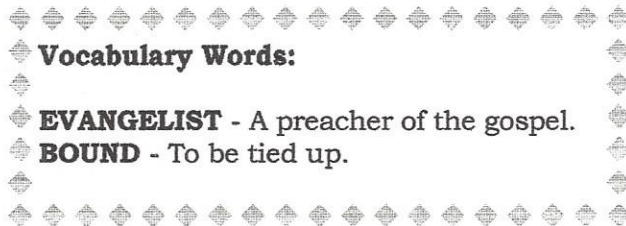
MATCH

Match the words on the left with the sentences on the right, writing the number in the blank.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Corinth | ___ Men who were Paul's traveling companions. |
| 2. Paul | ___ Sailed on a boat with Paul from Philippi to Troas. |
| 3. Eutychus | ___ Paul told them many things because he knew he would never see them again. |
| 4. Lord's Supper | ___ He fell out of a third story window while Paul was preaching. |
| 5. Luke | ___ Paul stayed there three months. |
| 6. Ephesian Elders | ___ Cruel, destructive men that would try to destroy the church. |
| 7. Aristarchus, Secundus, Gaius, Timothy, Tychicus, and Trophimus | ___ He preached to the people at Troas until midnight. |
| 8. Grievous wolves | ___ A spiritual meal taken on the first day of the week. |

History of the Early Church

LESSON 14



Vocabulary Words:

EVANGELIST - A preacher of the gospel.

BOUND - To be tied up.

ACTS 21: 1 - 17

Paul has left the Ephesian elders, and is continuing his journey to Jerusalem.

After Paul left the Ephesian elders, he set sail and sailed straight to Cos. The next day they went to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. At Patara they found a ship sailing to Phoenicia, so they went aboard that ship and sailed on it.

As they sailed, they passed by the island of Cyprus. They sailed past Cyprus and went south to Tyre. At Tyre they landed, and the ship unloaded its cargo.

Paul and his traveling companions found Christians in Tyre, so they decided to stay there seven days. The disciples at Tyre said to Paul, through the Spirit, that he should not go on to Jerusalem.

When the seven days were over, Paul and his companions continued on their way. The disciples at Tyre, along with their wives and children, went with Paul until they were outside the city. When they came to the sea shore, they knelt down on the beach and prayed. Then they said goodbye to each other. Paul and his companions went onto the ship, and the disciples returned home.

From Tyre, Paul and his companions traveled to Ptolemais. They stayed with the brethren at Ptolemais for one day. The next day they left and went to Caesaria. At Caesaria they went to the house of Philip the **evangelist**. (*Philip was one of the seven disciples chosen in Acts 6 to take care of the widows.*)

While Paul and the disciples were at Philip's house, a prophet from Judea, named Agabus, came to see them.

Agabus took Paul's belt and tied his own feet and hands with it. Then he said, "This is what the Holy Spirit says, 'In the same way

that I have tied my feet and hands, the Jews in Jerusalem will tie up the man that owns this belt, and they will hand him over to the Gentiles'."

When Paul's traveling companions heard this, they and the disciples at Caesaria begged Paul not to go the Jerusalem.

Then Paul said to them, "Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready, not only to be **bound**, but to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."

When the disciples saw that they could not persuade Paul not to go, they became silent and said, "The will of the Lord be done."

After this, they got ready and started on their way up to Jerusalem. Some of the disciples from Caesaria went with Paul and his companions. They took them to the house of Mnason. Mnason was an old disciple from the island of Cyprus.

Finally they arrived at Jerusalem, and the brethren were glad to see them.



MEMORY WORK

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

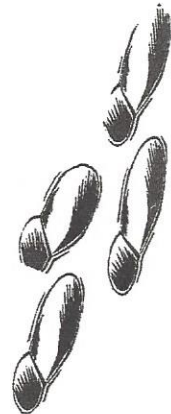
And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

Answer the questions: (use your lesson to find the answers)

1. After Paul left the Ephesian elders at Miletus, where did he sail to? _____
2. The next day Paul left Cos and sailed where? _____
3. Paul left Rhodes and sailed where? _____
4. In Patara, Paul and his companions got on a ship and sailed past the island of Cyprus to what city? _____
5. How many days did Paul stay at Tyre? _____
6. When they left Tyre and went to the sea shore, what did Paul and the disciples do on the beach? _____
7. From Tyre, Paul and his companions sailed where? _____
8. How many days did they stay at Ptolemais? _____
9. They left Ptolemais and went where? _____
10. At Caesaria they went to whose house? _____
11. What prophet came to see Paul at Philip's house? _____
12. What did Agabus say that the Jews in Jerusalem would do to Paul? _____
13. Did Paul's companions and the disciples at Caesaria want Paul to go to Jerusalem? _____
14. Were the disciples at Jerusalem glad to see Paul? _____

Paul's Third Journey

Antioch of Syria
Galatia and Phrygia
Ephesus
Troas
Macedonia
Corinth
Back through Macedonia
Troas
Miletus
Tyre
Ptolemais
Caesaria
Jerusalem



This is the end of Paul's third preaching journey. In the next lesson we will learn about some things that happened to Paul as he continued to defend the gospel of Jesus Christ.

History of the Early Church

LESSON 15

Vocabulary Words:

GLORIFY - To praise and honor.

VOW - A solemn promise. Sometimes the Jews would make a vow to God about something. One of the vows that could be taken was called a "Nazarite" vow. Samson, in the Old Testament, took a vow like this. In a Nazarite vow, the man could not cut his hair until the vow was over. (Numbers 6) This is probably the type vow taken in Acts 21 by the four Jews.

CASTLE - The castle in this lesson is the tower of Antonia. It was next to the court of the temple and the Roman soldiers kept between 600 - 1,000 soldiers there, to keep peace among the Jews.

ACTS 21: 17 - 36

The day after Paul and his companions arrived in Jerusalem, they went to see James. All the elders of the church were there to see Paul.

After Paul greeted them, he began to tell them about the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his preaching of the word.

When they heard about these things, they began to **glorify** God. Then they said to Paul, "You see, brother, that there are many thousands of Jews who have believed the gospel, and they all defend, uphold, and keep the law of Moses. These Jews have been told that you want all the Jews, that live among Gentiles, to stop following Moses. They say that you want them to stop circumcising their children and stop practicing the customs of the Jewish people."

"What is to be done about this? They will surely hear that you have come to Jerusalem."

"Therefore, please do this. There are

four men who have taken a **vow**. Go with these men, and purify yourself with them. Pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads and keep their **vow**. If you do this, the people will know that you yourself keep the customs of the law of Moses."

"As for the Gentiles who are Christians, we have concluded, and have written to them that they should not eat meat sacrificed to idols, they should not eat blood, or animals that have been strangled, and that they should not commit fornication."

The next day, Paul took the four men and went to the temple. They did the things that were needed to complete their vow.

When some Jews from Asia saw Paul in the temple, they began to stir up the people against Paul. They took hold of Paul and shouted, "Men of Israel, help us! This man preaches everywhere against our people and our law, and this place. He has even brought Gentiles into the temple and polluted this holy place!" (*The Jews from Asia had seen Trophimus, an Ephesian, in the city with Paul. They assumed that Paul had taken him into the temple.*)

Then the whole city became aroused. The people came running from all directions. They took hold of Paul and dragged him out of the temple, and immediately the doors of the temple were shut.

While the people were trying to kill Paul, news came to the commander of the Roman troops that the whole city of Jerusalem was in an uproar.

The commander immediately took some soldiers and centurions and ran down into the crowd. When the Jews saw the commander and his soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.

The commander came up and took hold of Paul. He ordered that Paul be bound with two chains. Then he began to ask Paul who he was and what he had

done.

While the commander was talking to Paul, people in the crowd were shouting different things and the commander could not find out the truth because of the uproar. So he ordered Paul to be brought into the **castle**.

When Paul reached the steps of the **castle**, he had to be carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the people.

All the people following behind Paul were shouting, "Away with him!"

THINK!

It was never Paul's purpose that the Jews quit observing their customs. A custom is something that a person, or group of persons does over and over until it becomes a tradition.

The Jews had many customs under the Old Law. Some of their customs had even been God's law, under the Old Law. It was okay for the Jews to observe these customs, so long as they did not come the think of them as the laws of God under His New Law - the gospel of Jesus Christ.

That is why it was okay for Paul to go to the temple with the four men who had taken a vow. He wanted to show the Jews that it was okay to observe their Jewish customs.

MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

PRAYER

Mark 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.



True or False:

1. ____ After Paul arrived in Jerusalem, He began to tell the Jerusalem elders about the things God had done among the Jews.
2. ____ Some of the Jews had been told that Paul wanted the Jews to stop following Moses (or the Old Law).
3. ____ Paul took the four men, who had taken a vow, and went to Peter's house.
4. ____ The Jews from Asia saw Paul in the temple, and began to stir up the people.
5. ____ The people in Jerusalem wanted to kill Paul.
6. ____ The Roman troops came because the whole city was in an uproar.
7. ____ The commander commanded that Paul be given great treasures.
8. ____ Paul had to be carried into the castle because of the violence of the people.
9. ____ The people following behind Paul shouted, "We love you, Paul!"

History of the Early Church

LESSON 16

◆ Vocabulary Words:

◆ **ZEALOUS** - To eagerly defend and uphold a thing.

◆ **TESTIMONY** - Evidence that a witness gives.

◆ **SCOURGE** - To scourge one would be to whip one. The whips used to do this would have a handle. Leather strips were attached to the handle and on the end of each leather strip was a piece of metal or bone. Someone whipped in this manner would have his flesh ripped open by the whip. It was a very cruel way to punish someone.

◆ ACTS 21: 37 - 22: 1 - 29

◆ In our last lesson:

Paul is in the city of Jerusalem. He has gone to the temple with four men who made a vow. When the Jews from Asia see Paul, they stir up the people to the point that they want to kill him.

The commander of the Roman army in Jerusalem comes to Paul's rescue, and leads him in chains to the castle.

The people following behind Paul are shouting, "Away with him!"

As Paul was led into the castle, he said to the commander, "May I say something to you?"

The commander said, "Can you speak the Greek language? Aren't you the Egyptian that started trouble in our city some time ago, and led four thousand murderers into the desert?"

Paul said, "I am a Jew from the city of Tarsus; a citizen of no ordinary city. Please let me speak to the people."

The commander gave Paul permission to speak, so Paul stood on the stairs of the castle and motioned the crowd of people with his hand to be quiet. When everyone was quiet, he spoke to them in the Hebrew language. He said, "Fathers and brethren,

listen to my defense!"

When the Jews heard that Paul was speaking to them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet.

*Paul said, "I am a Jew born in the city of Tarsus. I was educated by the teacher Gamaliel and was trained to keep the law of Moses. I was very **zealous** for God, just as you all are today."*

"I even persecuted those who followed the Way of Jesus Christ by putting them to death, and by putting men and women into prison."

"The high priest can be my witness, as well as all the Council of Jews, and tell you that I received letters telling me to go to Damascus, and bring all those who followed Christ back to Jerusalem and put them into prison to be punished."

"It happened that while I was on my way to Damascus to do this, about noon, a great light from heaven shined about me. I fell to the ground and I heard a voice say to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?'"

"I answered, 'Who are you Lord?' And He said, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, who you are persecuting.'"

"Those with me saw the light and were afraid, but they did not understand the voice of the one speaking to me."

"I said, 'What shall I do Lord?'"

"The Lord said, 'Get up and go into Damascus, and there you will be told everything that you need to do.'"

"Because of the brightness of the light, I could not see, so the men with me led me to Damascus."

"In Damascus was a good man who followed God's law. His name was Ananias. He came and stood beside me, and told me to receive my sight. At that moment, I was able to see him."

"Ananias told me that God had chosen me to know His will, and to see the Righteous One, Jesus Christ, and to hear words from His mouth."

"Ananias told me that I would be a

witness of Jesus Christ, and would tell them what I had seen and heard."

"Then Ananias asked me, 'What are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'"

"When I returned to Jerusalem, I went to the temple to pray and fell into a trance. And I saw the Lord speaking to me. He told me to hurry and get out of Jerusalem because the people there would not accept my **testimony** about Jesus."

"Lord", I said, "These people in Jerusalem know me. They know how I have been persecuting those who believe in You. They know that when Stephen was killed, I stood by and gave them approval, and even held the coats of those who killed him."

"Then the Lord said to me, 'Go! For I will send you far away to the Gentiles.'"

Now, all the Jews had been listening to Paul while he told them these things. But when he said this about the Gentiles, they raised their voices and said, "Rid the earth of this fellow! He should not be allowed to live!"

As the people shouted this, they were throwing off their clothes and flinging dust into the air.

The Roman commander ordered that Paul be brought into the castle. He gave his men orders to **scourge** Paul, so that he could find out why the people were so upset and shouting at him like this.

As the soldiers were tying Paul down so that they could **scourge** him, Paul asked the centurion, who was standing by him, "Is it lawful for you to **scourge** a Roman citizen, who has not been found guilty?"

When the centurion heard this, he went to his commander and said, "What are you going to do to this man? He is a Roman citizen."

Then the commander came to Paul and asked, "Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?"

Paul said, "Yes."

The commander said, "I paid a big price to be a citizen of Rome."

Paul said, "But I was born a citizen."

When they heard this, immediately those who were going to question him left. And the commander was afraid because he had put Paul, a Roman citizen, in chains.

Think About It:

Did you notice that the people listened to Paul, until he told them that the Lord had sent him to the Gentiles? When he told them this, they became very upset. WHY? Why should they be upset that the Lord wanted Paul to go to the Gentiles?

Remember that the Jews had been God's chosen people for many years under the Law of Moses. The Jews had a hard time learning that under God's New Law, Jews and Gentiles could be God's chosen people. This is the reason why many of the Jews did not believe Jesus or the apostles. They wanted to continue to be God's chosen people and follow the Old Law.

Paul taught that God wants ALL people to obey him. ALL people who obey the gospel of Christ can be God's chosen people!

MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

PRAYER

Mark 11:24

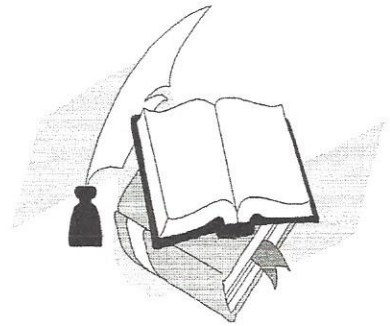
Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

USE YOUR BIBLE

1. Acts 21:37 The commander asked Paul if he could speak what language? _____
2. Acts 21: 38 Who did the commander think Paul was at first? _____
3. Acts 21: 39 Where did Paul say he was from? _____
4. Acts 22 : 4 What had Paul done to Christians, before he became one himself? _____
5. Acts 22 : 7 What did Paul hear on the road to Damascus? _____
6. Acts 22 : 16 What did Ananias tell Paul to do? _____
7. Acts 22: 21 Who did the Lord send Paul to? _____

TRUE OR FALSE

1. ____ Paul was an Egyptian who led 4,000 murderers into the desert.
2. ____ Paul spoke to the people in the Greek language.
3. ____ Paul was educated by the teacher Gamaliel.
4. ____ Paul had persecuted many Christians.
5. ____ Paul was saved on the road to Damascus.
6. ____ Paul held the coats of those who killed Stephen.
7. ____ The Jews were happy that Paul was sent to the Gentiles.
8. ____ Paul was a Roman citizen.
9. ____ The commander was afraid because he had put Paul in chains.



History of the Early Church

LESSON 17

Vocabulary Words:

SANHEDRIN - A council that was the highest ruling body among the Jewish people. The Roman government gave the Jewish Sanhedrin the power to settle certain religious and criminal problems among the Jews. The word "**Sanhedrin**" is not used in the Bible, but the word "council" or "rulers" is used. This council (or **Sanhedrin**) was made up of the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes from among the Jewish people.

(Do you remember that the **Sanhedrin** charged Jesus with the crime of blasphemy and sent him to Pilate, a Roman official?)

❖ **WHITEWASHED** - This term applies to someone who tries to be something that he is not; a hypocrite.

BEAR WITNESS - To give a report on what one has seen, heard, or experienced.

PHARISEE - A group, or sect, of Jews who observed the Law of God outwardly, but their hearts were far from God. They wanted the praise of men. They had many traditions and wanted men to observe them, and made their traditions as important as God's law.

SADDUCEE - A group, or sect, of Jews who did not believe the resurrection from the dead. They did not believe in angels or spirits. Many of them were wealthy, and they were powerful people from leading families, and the priesthood. They believed that they should follow only the first five books of the Old Testament.

ACTS 22:30 - 23: 1-11

In our last lesson:

Paul had been taken prisoner by the Roman army. When the Roman commander gave Paul permission to speak to the people, he told them how he had persecuted Christians, how the Lord came to him on the road to

Damascus, how he became a Christian, and how the Lord told him to go teach to the Gentiles.

When the people heard this, they became enraged and wanted to kill Paul.

The commander commanded that Paul be scourged, but right before he was scourged, he found out that Paul is a Roman citizen.

The next day, the commander wanted to find out why the Jews wanted to kill Paul, so he released him. Then he ordered all the chief priests and the **Sanhedrin** to assemble together. They brought Paul before the **Sanhedrin**, and had him to stand before them.

Paul looked straight at the **Sanhedrin** and said, “Brethren, I have done my duty to God and lived with a good conscience to this day.”

When Paul said this, Ananias, the high priest, commanded those who stood near to Paul to strike him on the mouth.

Then Paul said to him, “ God will strike you, you **whitewashed** wall! You sit there and try to judge me by the law, but you have violated the law by commanding that I be struck!”

Those standing near Paul said, “How dare you insult God’s high priest?”

Paul said, "I did not know that he was the high priest; for it is written: 'Do not speak evil of the rulers of your people.'"

Then Paul realized that some of the people were **Sadducees** and the others **Pharisees**. So he called out to the **Sanhedrin**, "Brethren, I am a **Pharisee**, the son of a **Pharisee**! I am on trial because of the hope and resurrection of the dead."

When Paul said this, a disagreement arose between the **Pharisees** and the **Sadducees**. The **Sadducees** believed that there is no resurrection, or angels, or spirits. But the **Pharisees** said that there are all of them. And there was a great uproar among the people.

Some of the **Pharisee** scribes stood up

and began to argue, saying, "We can find nothing wrong with this man. What if an angel or spirit has spoken to him? Let us not fight against God."

The uproar then became so violent that the commander became afraid that Paul would be pulled into pieces by the people. So, he ordered his army to go down and take Paul by force and bring him into the castle.

The next night, the Lord stood by Paul and said, "Take courage! You have testified of Me in Jerusalem, and you will bear witness of Me in Rome also."

MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

PRAYER

Mark 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

GIVING

1 Cor 16:2

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Fill in the Blanks

using the following words:

PAUL
SANHEDRIN
WHITEWASHED
PHARISEES
SADDUCEES

COMMANDER
RESURRECTION
ANANIAS

1. The _____ of the Roman army wanted to find out why the Jews wanted to kill _____.
2. Paul was brought before the _____.
3. _____, the high priest, ordered those who stood near Paul to strike him on the mouth.
4. Paul said to Ananias, "God will strike you, you _____ wall!"
5. Paul realized that some of the people were _____ and the others Pharisees.
6. Sadducees believed that there is no _____ of the dead.
7. _____ believed in the resurrection, and in angels and spirits.



History of the Early Church

LESSON 18

◆ Vocabulary Words: ◆

◆ **CONSPIRACY** - Secretly planning to do something wrong. ◆

ACTS 23: 12 - 35

In our last lesson:

The Roman commander brought Paul before the Jewish Sanhedrin to find out why the Jews wanted to kill him. When Paul began to talk about the resurrection of the dead, there became a big uproar between the Pharisees and Sadducees.

The crowd became so violent that the Roman commander ordered Paul to be taken back into the castle.

The next night, the Lord came to Paul and told him that he would bear witness of Him in Rome.

The next day, more than forty Jews formed a **conspiracy** and said that they would not eat or drink until they had killed Paul.

After they made this vow, they told the chief priests and elders about it. They said, "We have taken a solemn oath not to eat anything until we have killed Paul. Now, we would like you and the Sanhedrin to bring Paul before you, as if you wanted to know more about his case. We will be ready to kill him before he gets here."

Paul's sister's son was heard of how the Jews were going to lie in wait for Paul. So he went to the castle and told Paul what he had heard.

When Paul heard what his nephew had to say, he called one of the centurions to him. He said, "Take this young man to the commander, for he has something to tell him."

The centurion took the young man to the commander and said, "Paul the prisoner asked me to bring this young man to you because he has something to tell you."

The commander took the young man aside privately and asked him, "What is it that

you have to tell me?"

The young man said, "The Jews have agreed to ask you to bring Paul down tomorrow before the Sanhedrin, as if they want to ask him more questions."

"Do not listen to them, because more than forty men are waiting for Paul. They have taken an oath not to eat or drink until they have killed him. They are ready and waiting for you to do what they want."

When the young man was through telling the commander this, the commander let him go instructing him, "Don't tell anyone what you have reported to me."

Then the commander called two of his centurions. He commanded them, "Get two hundred soldiers ready by nine o'clock tonight and go to Caesarea with seventy horsemen and two hundred spearmen. Provide an animal for Paul to ride so that he may be taken safely to Felix the governor."

While the men were getting ready, the commander wrote a letter to Felix the governor.

The letter said:

Claudias Lysias, to the most excellent governor, Felix.

Greetings.

This man was taken by the Jews, and would have been killed by them. But I came with my army and rescued him, having learned that he is a Roman citizen.

I wanted to know why they were accusing him, so I brought him before their Sanhedrin.

I found that he was being accused over questions about their Law. But he has done nothing deserving death or imprisonment.

When I was informed that there is a plot against his life, and that the Jews are lying in wait for him, I sent him to you at once. I also ordered those who were accusing him, to tell you what their charges are against him.

Farewell.

So the soldiers carried out their



orders and took Paul by night. They brought him as far as Antipatris.

The next day, the soldiers returned to Jerusalem, and the horsemen went on with Paul.

When the horsemen came to Caesarea, they delivered the letter to the governor, and presented Paul to him.

When the governor had read the letter, he asked Paul what province he was from. Paul told him that he was from Cilicia.

The governor told Paul that he would hear his case when his accusers arrived. Then he ordered that Paul be kept under guard in Herod's palace.

MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

PRAYER

Mark 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

GIVING

1 Cor 16:2

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Multiple Choice (underline the correct answer) :

1. More than (50 , 40) Jews formed a conspiracy to kill Paul.
2. The Jews said that they would not (take a bath , eat or drink) until Paul was killed.
3. Paul's (cousin , nephew) heard the Jew's plan to kill Paul.
4. The (chief priest , centurion) took Paul's nephew to the Roman commander.
5. The commander told his commander to get (400 , 200, 10) soldiers ready by 9:00 to go to Caesarea.
6. The commander wrote a letter to (the Jews , the governor Felix).
7. Felix, the governor, told Paul that he would hear his case when his (family, accusers) arrived.

USE YOUR BIBLE

1. Acts 23:14 And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said, We have bound ourselves under a great curse, that we will eat _____ until we have slain _____.
(KJV)

2. Acts 23:16 And when _____ sister's _____ heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told _____.
(KJV)

3. Acts 23:29 Whom I perceived to be accused of questions of their law, but to have nothing laid to his charge worthy of _____ or of bonds.
(KJV)

History of the Early Church

LESSON 19

Vocabulary Words:

RINGLEADER - The one who stands in front; a leader, chief, or captain.

NAZARENES - A name given to the Christians by the Jews.

SECT - A group of people having the same beliefs or opinions.

PROFANE - To treat holy things in a wrong or irreverent way.

DEFENSE - To defend or speak for oneself.

ACTS 24: 1 - 23

In our last lesson:

More than 40 Jews conspired that they would not eat or drink until they had killed Paul. Paul's nephew heard about their conspiracy, and went to Paul with the news.

Paul sent his nephew to the Roman commander to tell him about the conspiracy.

That night, the commander sent Paul with 200 soldiers to Caesarea. He sent a letter, about Paul, to Felix the governor.

The governor told Paul that he would hear his case when those who accused him came. In the meantime, he kept Paul guarded in Herod's palace.

Five days later, the high priest, Ananias, went down to Caesarea with some of the elders and a lawyer named Tertullus. These men brought their charges against Paul to Felix the governor.

When Paul was called in before them, Tertullus began to accuse Paul. Tertullus said to Felix, "We have enjoyed much peace since you have been governor, and you have solved many problems in our nation. In every way, most excellent Felix, we are thankful for this."

"But in order not to bother you any longer than necessary, we would like for you to hear a few things we have to say."

"We have found this man Paul to be a troublemaker, a man who stirs up trouble among the Jews all over the world. He is a **ringleader** of the **sect** of the **Nazarenes**. He even tried to **profane** the temple. So we arrested him and wanted to judge him according to our Law."

"But Lysias, the Roman commander, came along and with much violence took Paul out of our hands. He commanded that Paul's accusers come before you. And when you examine all these matters yourself, you will know what things we accuse him of."

When Tertullus was through speaking, the Jews began to tell Felix that these things were so.

When Felix, the governor, motioned for Paul to speak, Paul answered, "I know that you have been judge over this nation for many years, so I am glad to make my **defense**."

"You can easily find out that I went up to Jerusalem to worship no more than twelve days ago."

"These men did not find me in the temple or the synagogues arguing or stirring up trouble. Or anywhere else in the city."

"They cannot prove the charges that they are making against me."

"However, I do admit this one thing. I worship the God of our fathers in the Way they call a **sect**. I believe everything that agrees with the Law and that is written in the prophets. And I have hope in God, a hope that is shared by these men, that there will be a resurrection of the righteous and the wicked."

"Because of this resurrection, I try to keep my conscience clear before God and man."

"Now, after being away for several years, I came to bring a gift to my nation. I brought my gift to the temple, and that is where certain Jews from Asia found me. There was no crowd with me, and I was not causing any trouble. But there are certain Jews from Asia that ought to be here to

accuse me if they have any thing to accuse me of. Or, let the men who are here tell what crime I have done. If I have done a crime, it is this one thing: I shouted, while in their presence, 'It is concerning the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you today.'"

After Paul was through speaking, Felix told Paul and the Jews, "When Lysias, the commander, comes, I will decide your case."

Felix knew about Christianity. He ordered a centurion to keep Paul under guard, but gave him some freedom, and permitted Paul's friends to come and take care of his needs.

MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

PRAYER

Mark 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

GIVING

1 Cor 16:2

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

SINGING

Col 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

MULTIPLE CHOICE:

1. Ananias the high priest, some of the Jewish elders, and a lawyer named (Timothy , Tertullus) brought charges against Paul to Felix.
2. Ananias, the elders and Tertullus said that Paul was a ringleader of the sect of the (Pharisees , Nazarenes).
3. Paul told Felix that these men (did, did not) find him in the temple stirring up trouble.
4. Paul had gone to the temple to take a (sacrifice , gift) to his nation.
5. Paul told Felix that it was concerning the (resurrection , burial) of the dead that he was on trial.
6. Felix put Paul under guard, but he gave him some (food , freedom).

USE YOUR BIBLE

1. Acts 24:5 For we have found this man a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a _____ of the sect of the _____: (KJV)
2. Acts 24:12-13 12 And they neither found me in the _____disputing with any man, neither raising up the people, neither in the synagogues, nor in the city:
13 Neither can they _____ the things whereof they now accuse me. (KJV)
3. Acts 24:21 Except it be for this one voice, that I cried standing among them, Touching the _____ of the _____ I am called in question by you this day. (KJV)

History of the Early Church

LESSON 20, REVIEW

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The gospel is for (some, all) people.
2. When a person is baptized, his (new man of sin , old man of sin) dies.
3. God (will , will not) save those who will not obey Him.
4. While Paul was preaching in Troas, a young man fell asleep and fell out of (a church pew , a window).
5. Paul preached (some things , everything) that the Holy Spirit revealed to him.
6. Paul told the elders at Ephesus that (ferocious lions , grievous wolves) would come into the church and try to destroy it.
7. A "grievous wolf" in the church is a (sick animal , false teacher).
8. Paul told the disciples at Caesarea that he was willing to (die , go to prison) in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.
9. While Paul was in Jerusalem, he went with four men to the temple who had made a (sacrifice , vow) .
10. Some Jews from Asia saw Paul in the temple, and they (brought some men to meet him , stirred up the people against him) .
11. The Jews in Jerusalem wanted to (meet , kill) Paul.
12. The Roman commander (did , did not) scourge Paul because he was a Roman citizen.
13. The Roman commander brought Paul before the chief priests and the (Pharisees, Sanhedrin) to find out why the Jews wanted to kill him.
14. Paul told the Sanhedrin that he was on trial because of the hope and (resurrection , burial) of the dead.
15. The (Pharisees , Sadducees) did not believe in the resurrection from the dead.
16. Paul's sisters (son , daughter) heard the Jew's conspiracy to kill Paul.
17. The Roman commander had Paul taken to (Ananias, Felix) the governor.
18. While Paul was in prison in Caesarea, a lawyer named Tertullus came before Felix and (praised , accused) Paul.
19. Paul told Felix that he had hope in God and hope of a (burial , resurrection) of the dead.
20. Paul was kept guarded in Caesarea and Felix gave him (a scourging , some freedom) .



MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

And upon the first day of the week,
when the disciples came together to
break bread, Paul preached unto them,
ready to depart on the morrow; and
continued his speech until midnight.

PRAYER

Mark 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What
things soever ye desire, when ye pray,
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GIVING

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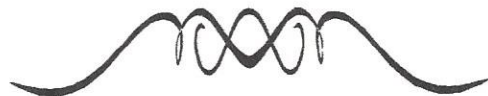
SINGING

Col 3:16

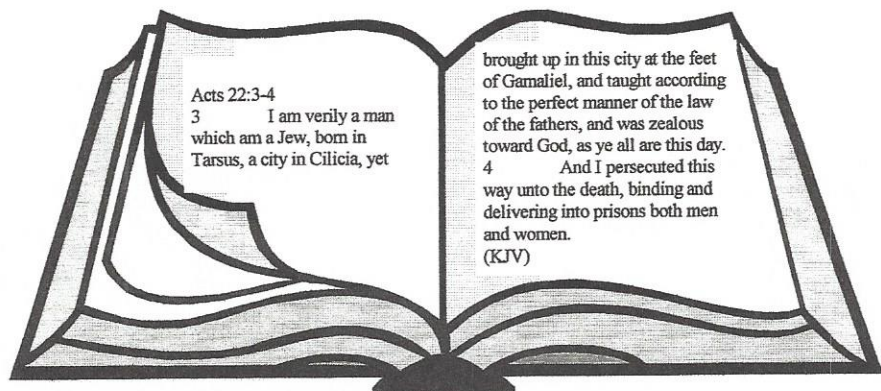
Let the word of Christ dwell in you
richly in all wisdom; teaching and
admonishing one another in psalms and
hymns and spiritual songs, singing with
grace in your hearts to the Lord.

YES or NO

1. God justifies all those who believe and obey His word. ____
2. When a person is baptized, his "old man of sin" dies. ____
3. While Paul preached, Eutychus went to sleep and fell down the stairs. ____
4. Paul was ready to die for the name of Jesus. ____
5. Many Jews in Jerusalem wanted to kill Paul. ____
6. Paul was saved on the road to Damascus. ____
7. Many Jews wanted to continue to follow the Old Law. ____
8. Paul was a Pharisee. ____
9. Paul was a troublemaker. ____



Who are these
verses talking
about? _____



History of the Early Church

LESSON 21

Vocabulary Words:

JUDGMENT SEAT- The official seat of a judge.

CAESAR - The title of the Roman emperor. **Caesar** was the highest government official in the Roman nation.

APPEAL - To call upon one as a judge.

In our last lesson:

Paul was in Caesarea. While he was there, Ananias the high priest, some Jewish elders, and a lawyer named Tertullus came and brought charges against him. They all came before Felix the governor.

Paul told Felix that he had done no crime. Felix told Paul that when the Roman commander comes he will decide his case.

In the meantime, Paul is put under guard but is also given some freedom and his friends are permitted to come to him.

ACTS 24: 24 - 27; 25: 1 - 12

Some time later, Felix and his wife Drusilla arrived. Drusilla was a Jew. Felix sent for Paul and listened to him as he spoke about faith in Jesus Christ.

As Paul was speaking about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix became afraid. Felix said to Paul, "Go away for now! When I find a convenient time I will call for you."

At the same time, he hoped that Paul would give him some money. For this reason, he sent for Paul quite often so that he could talk with him.

Felix kept Paul in prison for two years. After the two years, Felix was replaced by a man named Porcius Festus. Since Felix wanted to do the Jews a favor, he left Paul in prison.

Three days after Festus took over, he went up from Caesarea to Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem, the chief priest and leaders of the Jews appeared before Festus and brought charges against Paul. They urgently requested that Paul be brought to Jerusalem as a favor to them, for they planned to lay in wait and kill Paul on the way to Jerusalem.

But Festus answered the Jews that he himself would be going to Caesarea in a short time, and that Paul should be kept in the prison there.

Festus said to them, "Let some of your leaders come with me and accuse Paul if he has done anything wrong."

After eight or ten days, Festus went down to Caesarea. The next day after he arrived there, he sat on the **judgment seat** and commanded that Paul be brought before him.

When Paul arrived, the Jews from Jerusalem stood around him and accused Paul of many serious things that they could not prove.

Paul defended himself and said, "I have done nothing wrong against the law of the Jews, against the temple, or against **Caesar**."

Then Festus, because he wanted to do a favor for the Jews, answered Paul, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and be judged on the charges that these men have made against you?"

Paul said, "I am now standing before **Caesar's** court where I ought to be judged. I have done nothing wrong to the Jews, as you know yourself."

"If I have done anything that deserves death then I will not refuse to die. But, if none of the things that these men accuse me of are true, then no man has the right to hand me over to them. I **appeal** unto **Caesar**!"

Then, after Festus talked to his council about Paul, he answered, "You have **appealed** to **Caesar**, and to **Caesar** you shall go."

Think About It:

When Paul spake to Felix about righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became afraid. He wanted Paul to go away. He did not want to hear anymore, because the gospel calls upon people to change their lives.

Although Felix talked to Paul quite often after this, the Bible does not tell us if Felix ever decided to obey God.

How sad if he had the opportunity, but did not obey the gospel.

Many people are the same way today. When people hear the gospel, they must either obey it or turn away from it.

To live pleasing to God, we must obey it!

MULTIPLE CHOICE:

1. Felix sent for Paul and listened to him as he spoke about (his life in prison, faith in Jesus Christ).
2. Felix kept Paul in prison for (5 , 2) years.
3. Felix was replaced by a man named (Ananias, Festus).
4. The Jews requested that Paul be brought to (Troas, Jerusalem) as a favor to them.
5. The Jews planned to lay in wait and (kidnap , kill) Paul.
6. The Jews from Jerusalem stood around Paul and accused him of many serious things that they (could, could not) prove.
7. Paul said, " I (have , have not) done wrong to the Jews.
8. Paul told Festus that he appealed unto (Felix, Caesar).

MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

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PRAYER

Mark 11:24

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GIVING

1 Cor 16:2

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

SINGING

Col 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

MAP WORK



Find Caesarea and Jerusalem on your map.

History of the Early Church

LESSON 22

In our last lesson:

Felix kept Paul in prison in Caesarea for two years. When Felix was replaced by Festus, he left Paul in prison.

The Jews wanted Festus to bring Paul to Jerusalem so that they could kill him on the way. But Festus left Paul in Caesarea.

When the Jews came before Paul and accused him, Paul defended himself and told Festus that he had done no wrong.

But, because Festus wanted to please the Jews, he wanted to send Paul to Jerusalem.

Paul told Festus that he would appeal to Caesar. Festus told him that to Caesar he would go.

ACTS 25: 13 - 22

After several days had passed, King Agrippa and Bernice came to Caesarea to pay their respects to Festus.

When King Agrippa and Bernice had been in Caesarea for many days, Festus discussed Paul's case with the king. He said, "There is a certain man here whom Felix left as a prisoner."

"When I went to Jerusalem, the chief priests and leaders of the Jews brought charges against Paul and asked me to bring judgment against him."

"I told them that it is not the Roman custom to hand over any man to die before he has faced those who have accused him and defended himself against them."

"So, when the Jews came here, I did not wait and the next day I commanded Paul to be brought before me."

"When Paul's accusers got up to speak, they did not charge him with any crimes that I expected. Instead, they disagreed with Paul about their own religion and about a certain dead man named Jesus, whom Paul claimed was alive."

"I did not know how to deal with this matter, so I asked Paul if he would be willing

to go to Jerusalem and be judged there about these matters."

"But when Paul appealed to Caesar, I ordered him to be kept here until I could send him to Caesar."

Then King Agrippa said to Festus, "I would like to hear the man myself."

Festus replied, "Tomorrow you will hear him."

Think!

How would you have been feeling if you had been the apostle Paul? He was in prison for two years, and had been falsely accused of things he had not done.

Paul did not want to go to Jerusalem, as Festus and the Jews wanted him to do. Paul knew that if he went to Jerusalem and let the Jews judge him, the Jews would most certainly kill him. This is why Paul appealed unto Caesar. He knew that he would receive a more fair trial in Rome, than in Jerusalem.

We have good reason to believe that through all of these troubles, Paul continued to trust and believe that God would take care of him. All of the letters that he has written express how fervently he trusted in God.



FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS

1. Acts 25:13 And after certain days king _____ and Bernice came unto _____ to salute Festus. (KJV)
2. Acts 25:14 And when they had been there many days, Festus declared _____ cause unto the king, saying, There is a certain man left in bonds by _____. (KJV)
3. Acts 25:16 To whom I answered, It is not the manner of the _____ to deliver any man to die, before that he which is _____ have the accusers face to face, and have licence to answer for himself concerning the _____ laid against him. (KJV)
4. Acts 25:18 Against whom when the _____ stood up, they brought _____ accusation of such things as I supposed: (KJV)
5. Acts 25:21 But when _____ had appealed to be reserved unto the hearing of Augustus, I commanded him to be kept till I might send him to _____. (KJV)

questions

1. Who came to pay their respects to Festus? _____ and _____
2. Who was a prisoner of Festus? _____
3. Did the Jews charge Paul of any crime? _____
4. Who did Paul appeal to? _____

MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

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GIVING

1 Cor 16:2

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

SINGING

Col 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

TEACHING

2 Tim 4:2

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

History of the Early Church

LESSON 23

Vocabulary Words:

POMP - To make a showy appearance.

King Agrippa was probably wearing his royal robes and had his royal court with him.

INCREDIBLE - Something not to be believed or trusted.

OPPOSE - To be against.

BLASPHEME - To speak evil of.

GOAD - A piece of iron used to urge oxen, horses, or beasts carrying a burden.

MINISTER - One who serves. A servant.

WITNESS - A person who saw something happen.

In our last lesson:

Paul was still in prison in Caesarea.

King Agrippa and Bernice came to Caesarea to pay their respects to the new governor, Festus.

Festus told King Agrippa about Paul, and that Paul had appealed to Caesar.

King Agrippa decided that he wanted to hear Paul himself.

ACTS 25: 23 - 27 ; 26: 1-32

The next day, King Agrippa and Bernice came with great **pomp** and entered the place where they would hear Paul. They entered the room with chief officers and leading men of the city.

When Festus commanded, Paul was brought in before them. Then Festus said, "King Agrippa and all who are here with us, see this man whom all the Jews have accused here and in Jerusalem, crying that Paul should not live any longer."

"But when I found out that he had done nothing that deserved death, and that he had appealed to Caesar, I decided to send him to Rome."

"But, I have nothing to write about him

to Caesar. For this reason I have brought him before all of you, especially before you, King Agrippa, so that after you have heard him I will have something to write."

"For it seems unreasonable to send a prisoner to Caesar and not tell him what crimes he has done."

Then King Agrippa said unto Paul, "You are permitted to speak for yourself."

Paul stretched forth his hand and began his defense. He said, "I consider myself fortunate to stand before you and make my defense against all the things that the Jews have accused me of. I am especially fortunate because I know that you know about Jewish customs. Please listen to me patiently."

"The Jews know how I have lived since I was a child. I was a Pharisee which was the strictest sect of our Jewish religion."

"And now I am being judged for my faith in the promise that God made to our fathers. This promise was made to the twelve tribes of Israel, and they have been looking for it to be fulfilled. It is because of this promise that I am accused by the Jews, O King!"

"Why should it be **incredible** to you if God can raise the dead?"

"I used to think that I needed to **oppose** the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And I did **oppose** Jesus in Jerusalem. I received authority from the chief priests to put many Christians in prison. And when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them. I punished them in the synagogue and tried to force them to **blaspheme** against Jesus. I was very angry at them and even followed them to other cities."

"On one of these journeys, as I was on my way to Damascus to persecute Christians, I saw a great light from heaven. It was afternoon and the light was brighter than the sun, shining around me and those traveling with me."

"We all fell to the ground and I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew

language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goad.'

"Then I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. Now get up upon your feet. I have appeared unto you for a purpose. The purpose is to make you a **minister** and a **witness** of the things that you have seen and that I will show you. I will deliver you from the Jews and from the Gentiles whom I am sending you to.'

"You are to open their eyes so that they will turn from Satan unto God, and so that they will receive forgiveness of sins and be saved."

"So, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. But I began to preach, first in Damascus, at Jerusalem, throughout all Judea, and then to the Gentiles that they should all repent and turn to God. And they should prove their repentance by their works."

"For this reason, the Jews caught me in the temple and tried to kill me. But I have had God's help, and I stand here this day as a witness to the small and the great. I am saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would happen: that Christ would suffer death and rise from the dead to be a light to his own people and to the Gentiles."

While Paul was saying this, Festus said in a loud voice, "Paul, you are out of your mind! Much learning is making you insane!"

But Paul said, "I am not insane, most excellent Festus. I am telling you the truth. King Agrippa knows about these things. I am certain that he knows because these things were not done in a corner."

Then Paul said, "King Agrippa, do you believe the Prophets? I know that you do!"

King Agrippa said unto Paul, "You have almost persuaded me to become a Christian."

Paul said, "I pray to God that all of you who are listening to me might become a christian, just as I am, except for the chains that I am wearing."

When Paul was through speaking, King Agrippa, Festus, Bernice, and those with them rose up. And they went aside and talked among themselves. They said, "This man has done nothing to deserve death or imprisonment."

Then King Agrippa said to Festus, "This man might have been set free if he had not appealed unto Caesar."

MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

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GIVING

1 Cor 16:2

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SINGING

Col 3:16

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TEACHING

2 Tim 4:2

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

match

Paul

Came to Paul on the road to Damascus.

King Agrippa

Jesus said that he would make him a minister and a witness of the things he had seen and of things he would show him.

Festus

He said, "You have almost persuaded me to become a Christian."

Jesus Christ

He said, " Paul, you are out of your mind! Much learning has made you insane."

True or False:

1. ____ Festus said that Paul had done nothing deserving death.
2. ____ Paul had been a Sadducee.
3. ____ Paul persecuted Christians before he became one himself.
4. ____ Agrippa was persuaded to become a Christian.
5. ____ King Agrippa, Festus, and Bernice said that Paul deserved to die.
6. ____ King Agrippa said that Paul might have been set free if he had not appealed unto Caesar.



History of the Early Church

LESSON 24

Vocabulary Words:

TEMPESTUOUS - Stormy. A whirlwind.

EUROCLYDON - A wind that causes mighty waves.

UNDERGIRD - To bind a ship with ropes or cables to keep it from coming apart.

In our last lesson:

Festus wanted King Agrippa to hear Paul's case, because he had nothing to tell Caesar about Paul.

Agrippa listened to Paul as he made his defense. At the end of Paul's defense, Agrippa told Paul, "You have almost persuaded me to become a Christian."

Festus, Agrippa and Benice agreed that Paul had done nothing to deserve death or imprisonment. But since Paul had appealed unto Caesar, he would be sent to Caesar.

ACTS 27: 1 - 27

It was finally decided that Paul and some other prisoners should be sent to Rome, Italy, and so they were all put under the authority of a Roman centurion named Julius.

Paul, along with his friends Aristarchus and Luke, got on board the ship and sailed north. The next day the ship landed at Sidon and the centurion Julius was kind enough to let Paul go to his friends while there.

When they left Sidon, they sailed close to the island of Cyprus, but the winds were against the ship they were sailing on.

They continued to sail along the coast, until they came to a city called Myra in Lycia. While they were in Myra, the centurion found a ship that was sailing to Italy with a load of grain. This ship was large enough to carry a cargo of grain and 276 people. So the centurion put his passengers on this ship.

At first this ship sailed very slowly because the winds were blowing in the wrong direction. They came to a place called Fair Havens near the city of Lasea.

Much of their valuable time had been lost because they had traveled so slowly. Now it was becoming dangerous to sail because the time was already into the month of October. Winter was a dangerous time to be out on the sea.

Paul began to warn those in charge saying, "Sirs, I can see that our voyage is going to be disastrous, and there will be much damage to the ship, it's cargo, and to our lives also."

But the centurion did not listen to Paul. He listened instead to the captain and the owner of the ship.

Since the place they were in was not a good place to spend the winter, the majority of them wanted to sail on, just going to Phoenix to spend the winter.

When they left, a south wind was blowing softly. So they thought that they would be able to sail the few miles to Phoenix. But, before long there arose against the ship a **tempestuous** wind called a **Euroclydon**. This wind was so violent that the men could not guide the ship and had to let the wind blow it along.

As they came to a small island called Clauda, they **undergird** the ship to hold it together. They were afraid that the wind would blow the ship onto the sand bars, so they lowered the anchor of the ship and let the ship be driven by the storm.

The next day the storm tossed them violently to and fro, so they began to throw the cargo overboard. On the third day they began to cast overboard the furniture and equipment of the ship.

Days went by and the storm was so violent that they could not see the sun or the stars. They began to give up hope of being saved out of the storm. They had been a long time without eating.

Then Paul stood before them and said,

"Men, you should have listened to me when I told you not to sail from Crete. You would not have had all this damage and loss."

"But now I urge you to keep up your courage, for none of you will lose your life. Only the ship will be destroyed. This night the God, that I belong to and serve, sent an angel to me. The angel said, 'Do not be afraid Paul. You must stand before Caesar, and God has given you the lives of all those who are sailing with you.'"

"So keep up your courage men, for I believe God, and things will happen just as He told me they would. But, we will be shipwrecked on some island."

Questions:

1. Paul and other prisoners were sent to what city? _____.
2. They were put under the authority of a centurion named _____.
3. Did Paul warn the centurion and captain of the ship about their voyage? _____
4. When they left, how was the south wind blowing? _____
5. Before long there arose a tempestuous wind called a _____.
6. What did they throw out of the ship on the third day? _____
7. Did the men think that they would be saved? _____
8. Who came to see Paul and told him that no man on the ship would lose his life? _____
9. What was going to happen to their ship?



MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

PRAYER

Mark 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

GIVING

1 Cor 16:2

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

SINGING

Col 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

TEACHING

2 Tim 4:2

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

History of the Early Church

LESSON 25

In our last lesson:

Paul and some other prisoners were sent to Rome, Italy. Two of Paul's friends were on the ship: Luke and Aristarchus. A Roman centurion named Julius was in authority over them.

Winter was a dangerous time to be on the sea. It was already October and they had decided to sail to Phoenix.

When they left the wind was blowing softly, but before long there arose a tempestuous wind called a Euroclydon. The storm tossed the ship to and fro on the sea. They began to throw furniture and cargo overboard. They began to lose hope of being saved out of the storm.

Then Paul told them that an angel from God had been to him and that they would not lose their lives. Only the ship would be destroyed and shipwrecked.

ACTS 27 : 27 - 44

On the fourteenth day of their voyage, the ship was driven up and down in the Adriatic Sea. About midnight that night, the sailors began to suspect that they were drawing near to land. When they checked the water to see how deep it was, it was 120 feet deep. A short time later they checked again and the water was 90 feet deep.

They became afraid that the boat would be dashed against the rocks close to the shore, so they dropped four anchors out of the ship and prayed for daylight.

Some of the sailors decided to escape from the ship. They let down the lifeboat, pretending that they were letting down anchors instead. Paul noticed what these men were doing and he told the centurion. He said, "Unless these men remain in the ship, you cannot be saved."

So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat, and let it fall away.

As it began to get daylight, Paul encouraged them all to eat some food. He said, "For fourteen days you have had to watch constantly, and you haven't eaten anything. Now take something to eat for your health, for

not one hair on the head of any of you will be lost."

After Paul said this, he took some bread and gave thanks for it, and broke it and began to eat. This encouraged the rest of them and they began to eat also. There were 276 people on the ship.

When they had all eaten enough, they began to lighten the ship by throwing over the grain that the ship was carrying into the sea.

When daylight came, they did not recognize the land, but they saw a bay with a beach and decided to run the ship onto it if they could. So they took up the anchors and sailed for the shore.

The ship went aground and could not move. The waves of water pounding the ship began to break the ship into pieces.

The soldiers on the ship planned to kill the prisoners to keep them from swimming away and escaping, but the centurion wanted to save Paul and kept them from doing this. The centurion commanded that those who could swim should jump into the sea and swim to land. The rest of the people got to land on planks or pieces of the ship.

Everyone reached the land safely.

THINK!

How would you feel if you had been on the ship with Paul? They had been in a terrible storm for 14 days. They had to watch and work constantly, so there had not been time to eat. The sky was so dark that they could not see the sun in the daytime or the stars at night. They were fearful that they would lose their lives in this storm.

It looked like a hopeless situation, but God saved all 276 from being killed. Although the scriptures do not tell us, there were probably people on this ship that believed in Christ after this voyage.

Paul still has much work to do in spreading the gospel, as we will learn later.

Thought Questions:

1. Paul told the centurion that unless all the men remained on the ship they would not be saved. What do you think would have happened if the men had left the ship anyway? _____

2. Do you think it was important that the men do what Paul told them to do?

Why? _____

3. Paul told those on the ship earlier that an angel had spoken to him and that no lives would be lost, only the ship would be wrecked. Did God keep this promise? _____

Fill in the Blanks:

1. Acts 27:31 Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, Except these abide _____ the ship, ye cannot be _____.
(KJV)

2. Acts 27:34 Wherefore I pray you to take some _____: for this is for your health: for there shall not an _____ fall from the _____ of any of you.
(KJV)

3. Acts 27:44 And the rest, some on _____, and some on broken pieces of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped _____ safe to _____.
(KJV)

MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

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TEACHING

2 Tim 4:2

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History of the Early Church

LESSON 26

◆ Vocabulary Words:

◆ **VIPER** - A poisonous snake.

In our last lesson:

Paul and many others have been in a terrible storm on a ship.

Paul warned those on the ship that they must stay on it to be saved. As they neared land, Paul told all those on the ship to eat.

The ship wrecked as it ran aground, and all those on the ship either swam to shore, or got to the land by floating on pieces of the ship. Everyone reached the land safely.

ACTS 28 : 1 - 16

When everyone reached the shore, they learned that they were on the island of Melita. The people on the island were not Greek, but they showed the people from the ship much kindness. The weather was cold and it was raining so the islanders built them a fire to get warm by.

Paul had been gathering sticks for the fire. As Paul laid the sticks on the fire a **viper** came out of the fire and bit him on the hand.

When the islanders saw the viper hanging from Paul's hand, they began to say to each other, "This man must be a murderer, and even though he has been saved from the sea, justice has not allowed him to live."

But as they watched him, Paul just shook the **viper** off into the fire, and he did not get sick because of the **viper's** bite. The people expected him to swell, or to suddenly fall down dead, but after waiting for a long time they did not see anything unusual happen to Paul.

When nothing happened to Paul, they began to say that Paul was a god.

Now nearby was the home of Publius. Publius was the leading official of the island, and he gave those on the ship a place to stay for

three days.

At this time, the father of Publius was lying in the bed sick with a fever. Paul went in to see him and prayed for him. Then he laid his hands on him and healed him. After Paul did this, others on the island who were sick began to come to him to be cured, and Paul healed them.

The people on the island were very grateful and helped them in many ways, such as supplying them with what they needed before they sailed again.

After staying on the island of Melita for three months, they set sail on a ship that had been at the island over the winter. They sailed to Syracuse, and stayed there for three days. From there they sailed to Rhegium and after a south wind began to blow they traveled to Puteoli.

At Puteoli they found some Christians, who invited them to stay for seven days. Then they came to Rome.

When the brethren in Rome heard that Paul had arrived, they came to meet Paul. When Paul saw them, he thanked God and was encouraged.

The Roman centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard, except for Paul who was allowed to live by himself with a soldier guarding him.

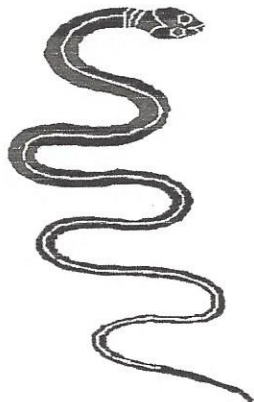
MAP WORK



Syracuse
Rhegium
Puteoli
Rome
Island of Melita

True or False

1. ____ When everyone reached the shore, they learned that they were on the island of Cyprus.
2. ____ The people on the island were Greek.
3. ____ The people of the island built a fire for them to get warm by.
4. ____ Paul was bitten by a bear when he laid some sticks on the fire.
5. ____ The people expected Paul to fall down dead after he was bitten.
6. ____ Paul swelled up and got sick after he was bitten.
7. ____ The people began to say that Paul was a god.
8. ____ Paul laid his hands on Publius' father and healed him.
9. ____ The people on the island were not grateful to Paul and did not help him before he left.
10. ____ When Paul came to Rome no one came to meet him.
11. ____ Paul was allowed to live by himself with a soldier guarding him.



MEMORY WORK

ACTS OF WORSHIP

LORD'S SUPPER

Acts 20 : 7

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SINGING

Col 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

TEACHING

2 Tim 4:2

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History of the Early Church

LESSON 27

Vocabulary Words:

SECT - A group of people having the same beliefs or opinions. The Jews called the church a **sect**.

KINGDOM OF GOD - Another name for the church. The church is a kingdom and Christ is it's king.

PERCEIVE - To pay attention, to observe, to get knowledge of something and understand it.

CONVERT - To return, to come back. Those **converted** to Christ come back to Him and worship Him.

CONVERT - To return, to come back. Those **converted** to Christ come back to Him and worship Him.

Philippians, Colossians, and a personal letter to a man named Philemon. All of these letters are in our New Testament.

Paul was busy while he lived as a prisoner in his house for two years. He preached the Kingdom of God. The letter that he wrote to the Philippians tells us that Paul even preached to those in Caesar's household. (Phil. 1: 13; 4:22) In all of the letters that Paul wrote during his imprisonment, he says that he expects to be released soon.

**Be able to say Acts 20:7;
Mark 11:24; I Cor. 16:2;
Col. 3:16; and II Tim 4:2
from memory!**

QUESTIONS

1. How long had Paul been in Rome when he called the Jewish leaders together? Acts 28: 17 _____

2. Who spoke against Paul being released? Acts 28:19 _____

3. Where did the Jews go to hear Paul speak? Acts 28: 23 _____

4. What did Paul use to teach the Jews about the kingdom of God and Jesus Christ? Acts 28 : 23 _____

5. Paul told the Jews that since they would not listen, the salvation of God would be sent to who? Acts 28:28 _____

6. How long did Paul live in his own rented (hired) house? Acts 28: 30 _____

7. What did Paul preach while he was living in his own rented house? Acts 28: 31 _____

While Paul was living in his own
hired house he was imprisoned.
Even though the Roman
commander gave Paul some
freedom, he was still guarded. He
wrote 4 epistles while he was
imprisoned in his house. These
are called his prison epistles. Use
the letters below to fill in the
blanks and find out the names of
the epistles (*HINT: these are also*
4 books in our New Testament) :
P - I - M - C - O - I - N - H - L - P - A
E - H - I - N

P _ E S _ A _ S

P _ I _ I _ P I _ N S

_ O L _ S S _ A _ S

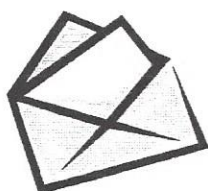
_ H _ L E _ O N

History of the Early Church

LESSON 28

Vocabulary Words:

- ◆ **REDEMPTION** - To buy, to rescue from loss, to pay the price.
- ◆ **AUTHORITY** - The right of one to tell another what to do.
- ◆ **ETERNITY** - Forever, without end.



P A U L ' S LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS

We can read about the first time that Paul came to Ephesus in Acts 18. He went into the synagogue and taught the Jews. He did not stay there long, but went on to Jerusalem to keep a Jewish feast day. He left Priscilla and Aquilla in Ephesus.

Later in Acts 19 we read about Paul coming to Ephesus again. When he came this time, he found disciples in Ephesus. These disciples needed to be taught about the resurrection of Christ and of the kingdom of God. Paul taught them and they were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

For three years Paul taught in Ephesus, working miracles to cause men to believe on Jesus Christ. (Acts 20:31) He taught that there are no gods made with hands and this made some of the business men in Ephesus angry. They were angry because they had been making idols of the goddess Diana. If people believed what Paul taught, they would not be able to sell their idols. After a great disturbance in the city of Ephesus about this, Paul left Ephesus.

Later, during the third journey of Paul, he came to Miletus. While Paul was in Miletus, he

called the elders from the church in Ephesus to come and see him. He told them things that they needed to know about the gospel, then he left them. Leaving them was very sad because he told them that he would not see them again.

In our lesson today, Paul is in prison in Rome. While he is imprisoned in his own hired house he writes a letter to the Ephesian church. Picture in your mind how Paul wrote this letter to people he knew and loved. People that he had taught the gospel to.

We will study some things that Paul wrote to the Ephesians.

In Paul's letter to the Ephesians he wanted them to understand about all the wonderful spiritual blessings that God has given us through Jesus Christ.

One of the wonderful blessings of Christ is that we can have **redemption** and forgiveness of our sins. Jesus paid the price for our sins through the shedding of His blood on the cross.

Paul told the Ephesians that Christ is to be our **authority**. Everything is under Christ's **authority**. He is the head (or authority) over His church. The church is the one body of Christ. (1:22-23)

In Christ's body (or church), Jews and Gentiles can be saved. Paul said that God had been planning this from **eternity**. (3:11)

In Christ's church, Christ gave gifts to men. These gifts are: the apostles, prophets, evangelists (or preachers), elders, and teachers. All of these men (or gifts) help the church to understand what God wants them to do.

Paul said that Christians are not to live in sin, but they are to understand what God wants them to do and then do it! (5:17)

Christ died for the church because He loved it so much! Christ wants all men to obey Him! This is what Paul wanted the church at Ephesus to understand, and it is what we need to understand too!

Paul told the Ephesians that Christ gave 5 gifts to men in His church. (Ephesians 4:11) These gifts are:

APOSTLES (They revealed the will of God for the church. There are no living apostles in the church today. We have the things that God revealed to them, and their examples in the New Testament.)

PROPHETS (They foretold future events and taught what God revealed to them. There are no inspired prophets in the church today. We read of their revelation in the Bible.)

EVANGELISTS (These are men who preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. These men are not elders or pastors unless the local church has appointed them as such.)

ELDERS (These are men in the local church who shepherd and watch Christians to help them go to heaven. They are also called bishops or pastors. God has given them requirements and duties to do in the church.)

TEACHERS (These are people in the church who teach classes and certain groups of people the gospel.)

Why did Christ give these gifts to the church? (Read Eph. 4:12) _____

Which two of these gifts (or men) do we read about in our Bible, but they are not alive today?

Do these two gifts help us today? _____

How? _____

What three gifts do we have alive in the church today?

God has another duty for men in his church that is not listed in Ephesians 4. This is the office of a **deacon**. We can read about it in I Tim. 3: 8-13.

Write down the names of the elders and deacons in the congregation where you attend (you may get your parents to help you):

Elders: _____

Deacons: _____

Write down the name (names) of the evangelist (or preacher) in the congregation where you attend _____

Who is the HEAD of the church? (read Eph. 5: 23) _____

Can a man be the head of the church? _____

Why or why not? _____

History of the Early Church

LESSON 29

There are many lessons to be learned in the book of Ephesians. We learned a few things in our last lesson from that letter. We are going to study another lesson from Ephesians today. This lesson will help you to understand why the Christian is in a battle.

There are many more lessons to be learned in Ephesians. As you study the book more you will learn them.

EPHESIANS 6: 10 - 17

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God,..."

When Paul wrote his letter to the Ephesians, he told them that they should be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Paul wanted the Ephesians to be ready for a battle. The battle that the Ephesians would be in was not a physical battle, but a spiritual one.

Paul used the armor of a Roman soldier to illustrate how the Christian must have armor too.

Armor is the protective covering that a soldier wears to prevent him from being hurt or killed. Paul told the Christian that he must put on the whole armor of God to resist the devil. (Eph. 6: 11) A Roman soldier would need to put on all of his armor when he went into a fight because he would have no way of knowing what piece of armor he would need. The Christian is the same way. He must put on all of his armor when he fights Satan. (v.13)

A Roman soldier wore a wide belt (or girdle) around his waist to hold his armor and support his body.

The Christian is to wear a belt of truth. (v.14) In other words, he is to have the truth of the gospel for his belt. This truth of the gospel supports the Christian as he teaches others.

A Roman soldier wore a breastplate. A breastplate covered him from the neck to the hips. It protected his heart and other vital organs while he was in battle.

The Christian is to wear the breastplate of righteousness. (v.14) A Christian is righteous when he obeys God's commandments. If a Christian is obeying God and is righteous, he has the strength he needs to resist the temptations of the devil.

A Roman soldier wore sandals. He would have them on so that he would be prepared to go into battle.

A Christian is to have his feet fitted with the preparation of the gospel of peace. (v.15) He is to be prepared to take the gospel to the world.

A Roman soldier would carry a shield to protect himself from the swords and spears of others.

A Christian is to take up the shield of faith to extinguish the fiery darts of the devil. (v. 16) A Christian has faith by hearing the word of God (Rom. 10:17). When he has a strong faith, he will not do wrong when the devil tempts him.

The Roman soldier wore a helmet of metal or thick leather to protect his head while he was in battle.

The Christian is to take the helmet of salvation. (v.17) A Christian can stand up to any persecution because he knows that he will go to heaven when he dies, if he is faithful. His helmet of salvation (or hope of heaven) helps the Christian to keep on fighting in the battles of life.

The Roman soldier carried a sword. He used this sword to defeat his enemy.

The Christian is to take the sword of the spirit. The sword of the spirit is the word of God. (v. 17) The Christian uses the word of God to teach sinners. This word is used by the Christian to tell others that they are in sin and leads them to salvation. This word also is used to keep a Christian saved.

God gives the Christian these pieces of armor and His word to use everyday!

TRUE OR FALSE

1. ____ Christians are in a physical war.
2. ____ The armor of a Christian is compared to the armor of an American soldier.
3. ____ A Christian will not be successful against Satan if he does not put on the armor of God.
4. ____ A Christian is to wear the belt of truth.
5. ____ A Christian will have to fight a spiritual fight everyday.
6. ____ The word of God will not help us in our spiritual fight.

DECIDE WHAT ARMOR TO USE: (you can use more than one)

Belt of truth
Shield of Faith
Preparation of the Gospel of Peace
Breastplate of Righteousness
Sword of the Spirit
Helmet of Salvation

1. Mary and her friends went shopping in the mall. Mary's friends decided that they would shoplift a blouse. Mary knows that it is wrong to steal. What part of the armor should Mary use? _____
 2. Tim was doing his homework. He read in his Science book that there is no God. What part of the armor does Tim need to use? _____
 3. Kevin went to his friend's house. His friend found some beer in the refrigerator. What part of the armor should Kevin use when his friend tries to get him to drink the beer? _____
 4. Kim has a friend who believes that a person does not have to be baptized to be saved. What part of the armor should she use? _____
 5. Sam's mother told him to clean his room. He did not do it. When his mother asked him if he had cleaned his room, he was tempted to lie. What part of the armor should he use? _____
- _____