

ACCELERATED BIBLE STUDY LESSONS
Sabbath Day Remnant Church of Namibia (SDRCN)

Dear student,

The purpose of this accelerated Bible Study programme is to enhance the student's understanding of the Bible and prepare them for baptism. It is for students who wish to be baptized under the Sabbath Day Remnant Church of Namibia (SDRCN) or any of the separated movements nationally and internationally.

This accelerated Bible study programme consists of eight lessons and should be completed in two months. After successfully completing the programme, the Programme Director will issue a recommendation letter as proof that the student is ready for baptism.

Answers to questions should be typed although hand-written submissions are also accepted.

Answers to the questions must be submitted weekly at the end of each lesson. Submit your answers to the following mobile or email addresses:

WhatsApp Number: 0811271961

Email: josh@theloudcryherald.com

drfmwilima@gmail.com

The lessons can also be downloaded from www.theloudcryherald.com

I encourage all truth seekers to use the opportunity provided by this programme.

Yours Sincerely

Elder (Dr) Fred J. Mwilima

Programme Director

ACCELERATED BIBLE STUDY LESSONS
Sabbath Day Remnant Church of Namibia (SDRCN)

WEEK 1-LESSON 1

SECTION 1- LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

To every voyager on the storm-tossed sea of life, the Lord has given a compass which, if rightly used, will safely guide him into the eternal haven of rest. It was given to our first parents at the gate of Eden, after they had admitted sin into this beautiful earth as well as into their own lives. The compass consists of the following words, which were spoken by the Lord to Satan: "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed," (Genesis 3:15). In every heart God has planted an enmity to sin, which, if heeded, will lead to righteousness and eternal life. Any man, whatever his station or rank in life, who will absolutely follow the divine compass placed in his heart, will accept Christ as his Saviour and be led out into the sunlight of God's love and approval. (John 1:9). As the result of our first parents' eating of the forbidden fruit, over all the earth hung the gloom of the divine decree, "In the day that thou eatest thereof dying thou shalt die." (Genesis 2:17).

The marks of death and decay were soon seen in the falling leaves and withered flowers. There was no escaping the decree, "The wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23). But a ray of light pierced the darkness when God spoke the following words to Satan: "It (the seed of the woman) shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel." (Genesis 3:15). These words revealed the fact that for those who would cherish the enmity against sin which God had placed in the heart, there was a way of escape from death. They would live, and Satan would die; but before his death he would bruise the heel of the seed of the woman. This was necessary in order that the death of Satan might be made sure, and that mankind might escape eternal death. (Hebrews 2:14).

Before man was placed on trial, the love of the Father and the Son for him was so great that Christ pledged His own life as a ransom if man should be overcome by the temptations of Satan. Christ was "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." (Rev 13:8). This wonderful truth was made known to our first parents in the words spoken by the Lord to Satan, "It (the seed of the woman) shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel. In order that man might realize the enormity of sin, which would take the life of the sinless Son of God, he was required to bring an innocent lamb, confess his sins over its head, then with his own hands take its life, a type of Christ's life.

This sin-offering was burned, typifying that through the death of Christ all sin would finally be destroyed in the fires of the last day. (Malachi 4:1-3). It was difficult for man, surrounded by the darkness of sin, to comprehend these wonderful heavenly truths. The rays of light which shone from the heavenly sanctuary upon the simple sacrifices,

were so obscured by doubt and sin, that God, in His great love and mercy, had an earthly sanctuary built after the divine pattern, and priests were appointed, who “served unto the example and shadow of heavenly things.” (Hebrews 8:5).

This was done that man’s faith might lay hold of the fact that in heaven there is a sanctuary whose services are for the redemption of mankind. The prophet Jeremiah grasped this great truth, and exclaimed, “A glorious high from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary.” (Jeremiah 17:12). David knew of God’s dwelling-place in heaven, and when writing for the generations to come, he said, “He (God) hath looked down from the height of His sanctuary; from heaven did the Lord behold the earth.” (11 Psalms 102:19). The faithful ones have always understood that when they sought God with all the heart, “their prayer came up to His holy dwelling-place, even unto heaven.” (2 Chronicles 30:27). All the worship in the earthly sanctuary was to teach the truth in regard to the heavenly sanctuary.

While the earthly tabernacle was standing, the way into the heavenly tabernacle was not made manifest; (Hebrews 9:8) but when Christ entered heaven to present His own blood in man’s behalf, God revealed through His prophets much light in regard to the sanctuary in heaven. To John, the beloved disciple, were given many views of that glorious temple. He beheld the golden altar, on which, mingled with fragrant incense, the prayers of earthly saints are offered up before God. In vision he saw the candlestick with its seven lamps of fire burning before the throne of God. The veil into the most holy was lifted, and he writes, “The temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in His temple the ark of His testament.” (Revelation 11:19).

It is in this “true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man,” that Christ pleads His blood before the Father in behalf of sinful men. (Hebrews 8:2). There is the throne of God, surrounded by myriads of the angelic hosts, all waiting to obey His commands; (Psalms 103:19,20) and from there they are sent to answer the prayers of God’s children here on earth. (Daniel 9:21-23). The heavenly sanctuary is the great power-house of Jehovah, whence all the help necessary to overcome every temptation of Satan is sent to each one who is connected with it by faith.

The heavily laden electric car, with its slender arm reaching up to the wire above, through which it receives strength from the power-house miles away, is a fitting illustration of the Christian. As long as the connection is unbroken, through the darkest night, the car runs smoothly up and down hill alike, not only shedding light on the immediate track ahead, but casting its bright rays of light into the darkness far and near. But the instant the connection is broken, how great is the change!

The car remains in darkness, unable to go forward. So it is that Christ, our great High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary, reaches His hand down over the battlements of heaven to clasp the hand of every one who will reach up by faith and take hold of the proffered help. The one whose faith lays hold of that help, can pass securely over the steepest hills of difficulty, his own soul filled with light while diffusing light and blessing to others.

As long as he by faith keeps a firm hold of God, he has light and power from the sanctuary above; but if he allows doubt and unbelief to break the connection, he is in darkness, not only unable to go forward himself, but a stumbling-block in the way of others. The one who allows nothing to break his connection with heaven becomes an earthly dwelling place for the Most High; “for thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit.” (Isaiah 57:15). He who separates from sin and puts it far from him, becomes a temple of the Holy Ghost. (Corinthians 6;19,20). God loves to dwell in the hearts of His people, (Ephesian 3:17-20) but sin cherished in the heart prevents His Spirit from abiding there. (10 1 John 3:15). Christ knocks at the door of every heart, inviting all to exchange sin for righteousness, that He may come in and abide with them. (Revelation 3:20). There are three temples brought to view in the Bible, – the heavenly temple, the (dwelling-place of the Most High, where Christ intercedes in our behalf; the temple of the human body, where God’s Spirit rules and reigns; and the earthly temple, with its typical services, designed to teach mankind how to receive divine help from the great storehouse above, so that God can honor them by abiding with them continually.

SECTION 2-THE HISTORY OF THE SANCTUARY

The tabernacle as pitched in the wilderness was a beautiful structure. Around it was a court enclosed with linen curtains, which were suspended by silver hooks from pillars of brass trimmed with silver. Viewed from any side, the tabernacle was beautiful. The north, south, and west sides were formed of upright boards, ten cubits high, covered gold within and without, and kept in position by silver sockets underneath, and by bars overlaid with gold, which passed through golden rings, and extended around the building.(Exodus 26:15-30). The front, or east end, was enclosed by a curtain of “blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, the work of an embroiderer.” (Exodus 36:37). It was hung upon five pillars of acacia wood overlaid with gold, and added much to the beauty of the entrance. The rich rainbow tints of the curtain, inwrought with cherubim, which formed the door of the building where God promised to dwell, was a beautiful “shadow” of the entrance to the heavenly sanctuary. Here, with a rainbow of glory encircling His throne, the Father sits, while ten thousand times ten thousand angels pass to and fro at His command. (Revelation 4:2-4; 5:11).

The roof, or covering, of the tabernacle consisted of four curtains of cloth and skins. The inside curtain, like that at the entrance of the tabernacle, was of blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen, with golden cherubim wrought in it by a cunning embroiderer. (Exodus 26:1). This formed the ceiling, which was a faint representation of the canopy of glory above the throne of God, with the myriads of angels ready to fulfil His commands. (Ezekiel 1:28). Over this was a curtain of goats’ hair, above that a covering of rams’ skins dyed red, and over all a covering of badgers’ skins, all forming a perfect protection from the weather.(Exodus 26:1-14). The different colors in the coverings, blending with the golden wall and the gorgeous entrance curtain, or veil, as it was called, combined to make a structure of surpassing glory.

Over the tabernacle rested the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night, which guided the Israelites in all their wanderings. (Exodus 40:38). In the midst of the desert

heat there was a cool, refreshing shelter beneath the shade of the cloudy pillar for those who served in the tabernacle or worshiped in its court, while without was the scorching heat of the desert. (Isaiah 32:2) What a beautiful type of the covering God spreads over His people in the midst of this wicked world, so that it is possible to dwell in the secret place of the Most High and abide under the shadow of the Almighty One (Psalms 91:1) while in the midst of the turmoil and strife of this wicked world.

At night, when the intense heat abated and darkness covered the desert, then above the holy tabernacle hung the cloud, now a great pillar of fire, "in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys." (Exodus 40:38). God's immediate, visible presence lighted up the entire encampment, so that all could walk safely through the darkness. What an expressive type was thus given of the Christian's walk! There may be no visible light, but when the light of God's presence surrounds him, his pathway is light. David knew this when he wrote, "Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of Thy countenance." (Psalms 89:15). The weakest trusting child of God can have the blessed privilege of being guided by the light of God's countenance, safe from the pitfalls of Satan, if he will surrender his heart to God.

Within the golden walls of the tabernacle, priests of divine appointment performed a work representing in types and symbols the plan of redemption. The work of Christ has two distinct phases, one performed in the first apartment of the heavenly sanctuary, the other in the second apartment. He offers salvation free to every one. Many accept and start out on the Christian pathway. Christ reaches down His infinite arm to encircle and support every one who calls upon His name, and no power of earth or Satan can force a child of God out of His protecting care. (1 John 10:28, 29). The only way any can be lost is by letting go their hold upon that infinite hand.

Like Peter, if they take their gaze from Christ and fix it upon the sea of life, they sink, unless, like him, they cry out, "Lord, save me," and are rescued by the Saviour. (Matthew 14:28-31). The work of Christ is illustrated by the parable of the marriage of the king's son. All the guests, both bad and good are gathered at the marriage; but when the king comes in to examine the guests, all are ejected except those who are clothed with the wedding garment of Christ's righteousness. "Many are called, but few are chosen." (Matthew 22:1-14). There were two apartments in the sanctuary, or tabernacle. In the first apartment a service was performed daily throughout the year which typified the work of inviting the guests and gathering them to His marriage. On one day at the end of the year a service was performed in the second apartment which typified the work of choosing out from among the many that have accepted the call, those who are worthy of eternal life, as illustrated in the parable by the king examining the guests.

WEEK 1-LESSON 1 QUESTIONS

Sabbath Day Remnant Church of Namibia (SDRCN)

Student Full names: _____

Student Identification ID. _____

Country of Origin. _____

Date of submission. _____

Instructions. Answer all questions within one week of the commencement of your study. Some questions will require detailed explanation. Your answers should exceed two typed pages or four hand written pages. Send your answers through WhatsApp to 0811271961. OR to the following email: drfmwilima@gmail.com

Question 1. The sinful human race is in a death row for the wages of sin is death, but those who truly accepts the compass implanted in their hearts by God, can escape death. What is this compass?

Answer. _____

Question 2. Why was man was required to bring an innocent lamb, confess his sins over its head, then with his own hands take its life?

Answer. _____

Question 3. For what purpose did God allow Moses to erect an earthly tabernacle?

Answer. _____

Question 4. While the earthly tabernacle was standing, the way into the heavenly tabernacle was not made manifest. Explain the meaning of this statement.

Answer. _____

Question 5. The heavenly sanctuary is the great power-house and a hub of activities related to the salvation of man. What does this mean?

Answer. _____

Question 6. Explain the meaning of the rainbow that encircles God's throne.

Answer. _____

Question 7. There were two apartments in the sanctuary or tabernacle. Explain their significance in the salvation of man.

Answer. _____

Question 8. Throughout the exodus from Egypt, there hang the cloud, a great pillar of fire over the tabernacle. What lessons can we derive from this symbol?

Answer. _____

Question 9. The roof, or covering, of the tabernacle consisted of four curtains of cloth and skins. What lesson can we derive from these coverings?

Answer. _____

END OF LESSON 1 QUESTIONS