

Did you know that you have a great treasure?

This treasure has been given to you by God Himself, and its purpose is to make you happy. We are talking about the Holy Scriptures.

Why should the Bible be considered a treasure?

Because it contains 31,000 promises and valuable advice for the home, young people, and education.

It encourages, comforts, and strengthens us.

It tells us "Fear not" 360 times.

The Bible is also called:

- The Holy Scriptures
- the Word of God,
- the Holy Book,
- the Divine Letter,
- the Book of Books

1. What does God reveal in the Bible?

Amos 3:7.

The word Bible means "a set of books." There are a total of 66 books: 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament.

THE ORIGIN OF THE BIBLE

2. How was the Bible given to men?

2 Timothy 3:16.

The word inspire means blowing into ...

Example: An executive dictates a letter to his secretary, who is the author, the secretary who writes it down or the executive who dictated it? In the same manner, God is the true author.

3. Who inspired the thoughts of these men?

2 Peter 1:21.

4. Therefore, what can the Bible be called?

1 Thessalonians 2:13.

5. What evidences exist that tells us that the Bible was inspired by God?

a) The harmony of its message.

b) Its historical accuracy, proven by archaeology.

c) More than 2,300 prophecies accurately fulfilled.

d) The purity of its message.

e) The people who were transformed by it.

Millions of people found in the Bible the strength and help needed to change their course, of:

- Sadness to joy.
- Hate to love.
- Vice to freedom.
- Guilt to forgiveness.
- Depression to hope.
- Sickness to health.
- Weakness to strength.
- Deceit to veracity.
- Enmity to friendship.
- Illusion to truth.
- Loneliness to protection.
- Damnation to salvation.

6. Who is its central figure?

The Bible's central figure is the wonderful person of: Jesus Christ.

- He is mentioned under more than 200 names to highlight His virtues.
- 333 prophecies pointed to His life and ministry before He was even born.
- The New Testament describes the fulfillment of these prophecies.

THE PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE

7. What do we obtain through the study of the Bible? 2 Timothy 3:15.

8. What can it be used for? 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

9. What does the Bible offer us?

a) *Romans 15: 4. Hope*

b) *Jeremiah 15:16. Joy and rejoicing*

10. To help us understand its virtues, what is the Bible compared to and why?

a) *Light. Psalm 119: 105. It lights our path.*

b) *Sword. Hebrews 4:12. It defends us against error.*

c) *Bread Matthew 4: 4. It nourishes (feeds) our spiritual life.*

d) *Fire and hammer. Jeremiah 23:29.*

Fire purifies and the hammer molds.

e) *Milk. 1 Peter 2: 2. It helps us grow spiritually.*

f) *Mirror. James 1:23. It shows us our defects.*

g) *Letter. He speaks to us about His love.*

FIVE KEYS TO UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE

1. How should it be studied? Acts 17:11.

2. What should we be willing to do? John 7:17.

3. Which method is more effective: just reading or studying topics, comparing one passage with another? Isaiah 28:10.

4. Is it advisable to receive Bible instruction from others? Matthew 28:20.

5. What should we do before we study? James 1:5.

CONCLUSION

12. Was the Bible overcome by the many persecutions it suffered? Isaiah 40:8.

13. What was Jesus' advice? John 5:39.

14. What is said about those who study God's Word? Revelation 1:3.

Reading each day the sacred pages, it will bring you:

- *Happiness in the family.*
- *You will get inner peace.*
- *You will know the picture of a better world.*
- *You will find the way to salvation.*

My decision: *I believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and I intend to study it each day.*

.....

Thank you Lord for your Word!

IS IT POSSIBLE TO KNOW THE FUTURE?

CONDEMNED CITIES

The city of Tyre, located in Asia Minor, was very rich. It traded with many countries, but along with its increase of wealth: sin, vice, pride, idolatry and evil also increased.

Its inhabitants rejoiced when Jerusalem was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, and forgetting the covenant they had made with King David as they delivered a whole nation into captivity. (Amos 1: 9-10).

As a result of this...

1. What prophecy was given concerning this city? Ezekiel 26:3-9; 12-14.
2. What was foretold about Jerusalem? Matthew 23:37-38; 24:1, 2.
3. How would Egypt, a powerful kingdom for thousands of years, be in comparison to other nations? Ezekiel 29:9, 15.
4. What punishment was foretold toward the Jews due to their disobedience to God? Deuteronomy 28:15, 25, 37.

MODERN DISCOVERIES AND INVENTIONS FORETOLD 3,500 YEARS AGO

5. What did the Bible say about the earth, when people thought it was upheld by giant elephants? Job 26:7.

It also mentions that the Earth is round (Isaiah 40:22).

Chugh, in Hebrew translates to circular, it means "sphere."

6. In Job 28:25 we can read about the weight of the air. What is written about wind currents and the water cycle? Ecclesiastes 1:6, 7.

7. What did the Bible say about the number of stars at a time when stars were only counted? Jeremiah 33:22.

8. The Bible and Health.

- a) *Antiseptic methods.* (Numbers 19:13, 7). People were to wash their hands after touching a corpse.
- b) *Circumcision on the 8th day,* (Genesis 17:12). It has been discovered that vitamin K and Prothrombin, two elements that contribute to the coagulation of blood, reach their highest level on the 8th day of life.

Psychosomatic diseases:

9. What is a joyful heart? Proverbs 14:30; 17:22.
10. What modern inventions do these two texts refer to?
 - a) *Isaiah 60: 8. The plane*
 - b) *Nahum 2: 4. The car*

THE 333 PROPHECIES CONCERNING CHRIST, written 600-1600 years before his birth.

11. Where was Christ to be born? Micah 5:2.
 - *His origin is from eternity. Pre-existed. (He was only taking on human nature when he was born in Bethlehem).*
12. What kind of woman would give birth to the Son of God? Isaiah 7:14.
13. Mention four traits of His Character or Ministry. Isaiah 42:1-4, 6, 7.
14. According to prophecy, what price was paid for Christ's betrayal? Zechariah 11:12.
15. What did Isaiah's prophecy, written 700 years earlier, say about Jesus' life, suffering and death? Isaiah 53:1-12.

CONCLUSION

The prophecies regarding Christ are irrefutable evidence that He was God's Son. The many predictions in the Bible, which have been fulfilled, are evidence that it is the WORD OF GOD. God promises prosperity to those who believe in His prophets. 2 Chronicles 20:20.

Thank you God for revealing the future!

My decision: I agree that the prophecies prove that the Bible was inspired by God and that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF SO MUCH SUFFERING?

MAN'S ORIGIN

1. God is Lord and He existed before anything was created. By Him were all things created (Genesis 1:1). But what does the Bible mean, when referring to the plural term "Let us make", in Genesis 1:26?

- a) *The Heavenly Father. (Ephesians 4:6).*
- b) *The Son, Jesus Christ. (John 1:1-4).*
- c) *The Holy Ghost. (John 14:26).*

2. How was man created? Ecclesiastes 7:29.

3. Man received four gifts from his Creator:

- a) **Eternal life.** Man was not condemned to die.
- b) **A righteous character.** There was no sin in him.
- c) **A wonderful home.** Pain and suffering did not exist.
- d) **Dominion over everything.** Adam was the crown jewel of creation. All nature was under his command.

4. What was the only condition given for maintaining on that path? Genesis 2:16-17.

5. Man decided to obey another Lord. Satan, the prince of darkness, who seduced him.

Did God create the "devil"? What was Satan in the beginning? Ezekiel 28:13-17.

6. What did man become when he allowed Satan to defeat him? 2 Peter 2:19. (Romans 6:16).

7. What inheritance have we received and what is man's current state? (Romans 5:12).

8. Is there a perfect or entirely righteous person in this world? What consequences will all human beings confront? Romans 3:10-12, 23; 6:23.

- a) *There is none righteous, no, not one;*
- b) *All come short of the glory of God*
- c) *The wages of sin is death.*

IS THERE A WAY OUT?

What is the saving bridge that is capable in reaching across the existent gap between the path of death and the path of life?

- a) *There are those who believe that by practicing a **religion** they will be saved. However, this bridge cannot save because it does not reach the other side of the abyss.*
- b) *Others believe that this can be done by following a certain **philosophy**, but this is not so.*
- c) *Most believe that the bridge to eternal life is based on **good deeds**. By studying the scriptures, we learn that human works cannot save the sinner.*
- d) *Neither can **self-righteousness**: No perfection or obedience that we can achieve.*

9. What does God want the sinner to do? Ezekiel 33:11.

10. Only through whom can we be saved? Acts 4:11, 12.

11. What solution has God provided? John 10:7, 9.

12. What does Jesus invite us to do? Matthew 11:28-29.

13. What is the only bridge between life and dead? John 14:6.

ENCOURAGING PROMISES

14. What does God give to those who sincerely believe in Jesus? 1 John 5:11, 13.

15. Does Jesus reject anyone who comes to Him seeking salvation? John 6:37.

CONCLUSION

16. What must we do to be called children of God and receive salvation? John 1:12.

Would you like to now accept Jesus as Savior and Lord of your life? If so, this is the time to let God know through a prayer.

My decision: *I believe in Jesus Christ as the only way to eternal life and I wish to give Him my heart.*

.....

FOUR STEPS TO INNER PEACE AND HAPPINESS

WHAT IS THE KEY TO FINDING PEACE AND HAPPINESS?

1. What is the name of this key? Hebrews 11:6.

2. Faith is not: Assuming something or having an uncertain opinion. What is true faith? Hebrews 11:1.

- Unwavering trust in God's promises.
- To believe in God and His word.
- To know, trust, and surrender to someone, but not just anyone.
- We should have genuine faith in Christ, the Author of life and the Bible.

FOUR STEPS TO DEFINE FAITH (HEBREWS 4:16)

3. Step one: TO KNOW JESUS.

What is knowing Jesus related to?
John 17:3.

4. ¿Quién es Jesús?

- a) The eternal Son of God. (Matthew 16:16)
- b) The Creator. (John 1:1-3, 14; Col. 1:16)
- c) The Lawgiver. (Nehemiah 9:13, 1 Cor. 10:4)
- d) The Saviour. (Luke 19:10)
- e) Our Friend. (John 15:14, 15)

f) Mediator. (1 Timothy 2:5)

g) Lord and King. (Revelation 17:14)

h) Judge. (Acts 10:42)

5. What has He done for me?

a) He was Made in the Likeness of Men. (Philippians 2:7)

b) He Lived Without Sin. (Hebrews 4:15)

c) He Took my Guilt. (Isaiah 53:5-6)

d) He Died in my Place for my Sins. (1 Corinthians 15:3)

e) He Rose from the Dead. 1 Corinthians 15:20.

f) He Intercedes for Me. 1 Timothy 2:5.

g) He Promised to Come Back and Take me With Him. John 14:3.

6. Step two: TO TRUST IN JESUS.

What is His greatest virtue? John 3:16.

7. Step three: TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SINS.

What should His love lead us to?
Romans 2:4.

8. What should we do with our sins?

1 John 1:8, 9. (Psalm 32:5) Isaiah 55:6, 7.

9. Step four: TO ACCEPT JESUS AS OUR SAVIOUR AND LORD. Revelation 3:20. What is the difference between accepting Him as our Savior versus accepting Him as our Lord? John 1:12.

GENUINE AND TEMPORARY FAITH

10. What is the difference between genuine and temporary faith?

- a) Genuine faith has to do with our entire being, since we are three-dimensional beings.
- b) Genuine faith means surrendering to Him.
- c) We need not be perfect to come to Christ. Let us go to Him as we are. (John 6:37).
- d) We need to let Him come into our life and overcome our ego. When our ego reigns, all our interests revolve around ourselves. When Christ is in the throne of our heart, our interests will be fixed on God.
- e) We should make an agreement with Him, a covenant of love, just as in marriage.

THE RESULT

11. What will we become through Jesus?
2 Corinthians 5:17.

12. What does God promise us regarding our sins? Micah 7:18, 19. Isaiah 1:18.

13. What does Jesus offer to every soul who accepts Him? John 14:27.

My decision: I accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord of my life and I want to follow in His footsteps through faith.

.....

HOW TO IMPROVE OUR PERSONALITY

We all want to have an attractive personality. Many wonder: Why am I this way? How can I change? Can I be different?

MAN'S CONDITION BEFORE AND AFTER SIN

1. What was man like when he came from the hands of the Creator? Psalm 8:5, 6.
2. Sin destroyed man's happiness. What did the earth produce? Genesis 3:17, 18.
3. What became of the human character? Isaiah 59:9-12.
4. What is human righteousness equated to? Isaiah 64:6.

Righteousness means to match the measure given by God. Man was in perfect harmony with God's law. But sin made it of impossible for him to reach the standard required by the law. An unclean thought is enough to separate us from perfect righteousness.

5. What are the four miracles God wants to fulfill in our lives? 1 Corinthians 1:30.
 - a) **WISDOM**. We are called to be righteous.
 - b) **JUSTIFICATION**. He declares us righteous.
 - c) **SANCTIFICATION**. He makes us righteous.
 - d) **REDEMPTION**. He makes us immortal.

6. What does the first miracle consist of? GOD'S CALL TO RIGHTEOUSNESS.

1. *He Draws us to Himself.* (John 12:32).
2. *He Calls Us.* (Matthew 11:28).
3. *He seeks us like the Shepherd who seeks His lost sheep.* (Matt. 18:12, 13)
4. *He Gives us Thirst for God.* (Psalm 63:1).
5. *He Gives us Faith.* (John 6:29).
6. *He Shows us our Sins.* (John 16:8).

7. What does the second miracle consist of? JUSTIFICATION (BEING DECLARED RIGHTEOUS, ALTHOUGH WE ARE GUILTY).

- a) *Christ imputes His merits in our favor. His incarnation, sinless life, sacrifice and resurrection make our justification possible. Through His sinless, perfect life He met the requirements of the law. Romans 8:34. (Hebrews 2:14-15). With His life, Christ paid the debt that we ourselves would have had to pay for our transgressions. (Isaiah 53:5-6; Romans 5:10).*
- b) *It is our acceptance, by faith, of this act of God in our behalf that makes Him declare us righteous. This is JUSTIFICATION.*

¿What is the result? Romans 5:1.

8. What are the benefits of imputed righteousness? (Granted, given as a gift, granted freely).

- a) We are given Forgiveness. Isaiah 1:18; 43:25.
- b) John 1:12. We are Declared Sons of God. Romans 8:16.
- c) Luke 10:20. Our Name is Written in the Book of Life.
- d) Jesus illustrates this with the parable of the Pharisee and the Publican. Luke 18:9-14.

9. Third miracle: SANCTIFICATION, RESTORATION OF THE LOST CONDITION. Can man change his character through his own efforts? Jeremiah 13:23; Romans 7:24. No

At the same time that Christ declares us righteous, He works another miracle in us by sanctifying us through His IMPARTED RIGHTEOUSNESS. Ephesians 4:24.

10. What does God want to do with our mind and heart through His grace? Ezekiel 36:25-27.

11. What aspects of the human being are sanctified? 1 Thessalonians 5:23.

- a) **SPIRIT** – thoughts.
- b) **SOUL** – feelings.
- c) **BODY** – habits of life.

12. When will the fourth miracle of REDEMPTION or GLORIFICATION take place? 1 John 3:2.

HOW TO IMPROVE OUR PERSONALITY

13. What can I do so that Jesus may work these miracles in my life?

- a) Answer His Call. (Isaiah 45:22).
- b) Believe in Him and Accept Him as Saviour and Lord. (Acts 16:31).
- c) Repent of Sins. (Acts 3:19).
- d) Accept His Holy Law. (Hebrews 5:8, 9).
- e) Renew my Decision Every Day.
- f) Persevere Until the End. (Matthew 24:13).

CONCLUSION

REVIEW:

FIRST MIRACLE: WISDOM (Call)

SECOND MIRACLE: RIGHTEOUSNESS (Forgiveness)

THIRD MIRACLE: SANCTIFICATION (Change of life)

FOURTH MIRACLE: REDEMPTION (Transformed into Immortality)

Summary presented in the diagram.

Explanation of the diagram: In order for the debt we owe God to be payed, from the moment we are born until the moment of our conversion, we are JUSTIFIED through Christ's blood and His justice is IMPUTED on us. From that moment on, sanctification begins through the presence of the

Holy Ghost in our life. This is a process full of ups and downs.

Even if we achieve a high level of human perfection, we will never reach the standard required by God. In spite of this, when we die, we will be justified. Why? Because Christ died for us and He imputes His righteousness in our favor.

Summary: We are justified exclusively by faith in the merits of Christ. Sanctification and obedience to the law of God are accomplished by Christ's presence in our life by the acceptance of Christ as Lord. When we voluntarily fall into sin and transgress the law, we reject His grace and the standard of His righteousness, thus damnation awaits us in the judgment.

14. God's plan for man is illustrated in the parable of the prodigal son. (Luke 15:11-24).

The story of the prodigal son reveals the plan of salvation for man.

- *The son that stays home represents Adam in Eden.*
- *When he abandons the home, he falls.*
- *The prodigal son spent all he had, which is symbolic of moral degradation.*
- *The slavery is the slavery of the devil.*
- *He comes to himself: this is the silent work of the Holy Spirit.*
- *He recognizes his fault when he says "I will arise and go to my father."*

- *His father's hug is justification.*
- *The father's robe is imputed righteousness.*
- *The change of garment is imparted righteousness.*
- *Finally, the feast represents glorification.*

15. What are the three joys that a Christian obtains in Jesus?

Our heart is filled with joy when we receive the good news.

- a) First we obtain the **Joy of Salvation** (Psalms 51:12).
- b) Then the **Joy of Obedience** (Psalm 119: 174).
- c) **Eternal Joy** (Isaiah 25:10).

Decision:

Would you like to receive these gifts offered by Christ in your life?

Would you like to tell it to God in a short prayer?

Thank you Lord for the Miracles and the Joy you Give Me!

My decision: *I believe I am justified solely by faith and that works are just its fruits and the proof of my love.*

.....

THE BEST SOLUTION TO ALL MY CONCERNS AND PROBLEMS

1. How can prayer be defined?

- “Prayer is a necessity; for it is the life of the soul.”
- “Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend.”
- “Prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heavens storehouse where are treasured the boundless resources of omnipotence.” Ellen G. White, *Steps to Christ*, p. 94.
- It is a spiritual vitamin.

2. What means of communication did God provide after men fell into sin?

Our friend Jesus wants to help us and **speaks to us though His Word**. We should study it daily. (John 15:15) (Acts 17:11).
 – We speak with Him through prayer. (Daniel 9:20).

WHEN, WHERE AND HOW SHOULD WE PRAY?

3. What did the disciples ask Jesus to do? Luke 11:1.

4. What are the different types of prayers?

- a) **Public.** one person prays and the congregation listens with reverence. (This prayer should be short).
- b) **Family.** every morning and every evening, the family should read the Word of God and pray.
- c) **Before meals.** We should thank the Lord for the food He provides us and ask Him to bless it.
- d) **In private.** Matthew 6:6. “...It is secret communion with God that sustains the soul life.” Ellen G. White, *Education* p. 254.

5. When can we pray?

- a) We can pray **when we are traveling or working**. We can pray in silence. (1 Corinthians 14:15).
- b) **In moments of danger or need.** (Jonah 2:1).
- c) Ideally we should pray three times a day (Daniel 6:10). We should **constantly be in a spirit of prayer**. (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

6. What should we avoid when we pray? Matthew 6:7, 8.

7. Whom should we pray for?

- a) **For the sick; for individuals.** (James 5:13-16).
- b) **For the messengers of God and the progress of the Gospel.** (Acts 12:5; Habakkuk 3:2).
- c) **For the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.** (Luke 11:13).

Model prayer:

1. Address the Father: Our Father
2. Thank Him: Thank you for...
3. Ask: for our needs, for others, for the forgiveness of sins
4. In the name of Jesus.
5. Conclude: “Amen,” which means “So be it.”

6b THE BEST SOLUTION TO ALL MY CONCERNS AND PROBLEMS

FOR GOD TO LISTEN, WHAT SHOULD OUR ATTITUDE BE?

8. What are we to manifest? Matthew 6:5.

9. How should we ask? James 1:6, 7.

Faith is compared to a seed that must be sowed, watered and taken care of. It should be fed by the daily study of God's Word. (Romans 10:17).

10. We have to be humble. Which parable teaches this? Luke 18:9-14.

11. Which is the best position for reverent prayer? Romans 14:11.

12. What must we always have? Matthew 6:25.

This is shown in the parable of the two debtors. (Matthew 18:23-35).

13. What must we remember to say when we ask God for something? Matthew 26:39.

God knows our needs. (Romans 8:26).

We should let the Lord mold us, as a potter molds clay with his hands. (Jeremiah 18:6).

God can give an answer. If He does not, WAIT.

He knows what is good for us.

14. Let us be persevering. Who was an example of perseverance in Luke 18:1-7?

15. What should we respect in order to be heard by God? 1 John 3: 22. (Proverbs 28: 9).

16. In whose name should we pray? Why? John 16: 23, 24.

RELIEF AND JOY IN PRAYER.

PROVERBS 15:8, 9.

17. When we feel defeated by our problems, who can we call for help? Matthew 11:28.

18. What is God's calling to us? Romans 12:11, 12.

Thank you, Lord, for listening to me!

My decision: *I want to pray every day, for prayer is the life of the soul and the means of communication with God.*

.....

1. Where only can we find true light concerning the future? 2 Peter 1:19.
Only God knows the future (Isaiah 46:9, 10).

AN EXTRAORDINARY REVELATION OF THE FUTURE:

DANIEL CHAPTER 2

Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, who lived about 600 B.C. had a very strange dream, but he forgot it. (Daniel 2:1). He summoned his sorcerers and astrologers to reveal to him the dream and its significance, but they could not do it. (Verses 2-11) The monarch signed a decree which commanded that all the wise men of Babylon, among whom were Daniel and his companions, should be put to death. (Verses 12-14). Daniel asked the king to give him some time, he and his companions prayed to God, and He revealed everything to him in a vision. (Verses 15-19).

2. Who is the only one who can direct and reveal the destiny of nations? Daniel 2:20-22, 27, 28.
3. What did Nebuchadnezzar see in his dream? Daniel 2:31-35.

MEANING OF THE DREAM

4. What empire did the head of gold represent? Daniel 2:37-38.
5. The chest and arms of silver symbolized MEDO-PERSIA (538-331 B.C.). How would the empire compare to the previous one? Verse 39.
6. What did the prophecy say about the kingdom represented by the bronze belly? Verse 39.
7. What would the fourth kingdom, symbolized by the iron legs, be like? Verse 40.
8. What kind of a kingdom was represented by the feet of iron mixed with clay?
Verses 41-43.
9. What are the six words written in the Bible which tell us that all attempts to unite Europe would fail? Verse 43.

10. What will God establish when these nations try to unite? Verses 34, 44, 45.

The words “without hands” mean that it is not a human but rather a divine event.

11. Whom did the stone that smote the image represent? Acts 4:11; 1 Corinthians 10:4.

CONCLUSION

12. Who will be the ruler of the next world empire? Revelation 11:15.

13. Now that this wonderful event is imminent, what appeal does the Lord make? Luke 12:40.

Thank you, Jesus, for giving me hope!

My decision: *I want to prepare myself to be a citizen of Christ’s kingdom.*

.....

THE CAUSE OF THE CURRENT WORLD CRISIS

There are crises in every sector of society.
All this shows that something is happening, but what?

1. Because of these conditions, what do people suffer from? Luke 21:25, 26.

Why is all this happening? What do these events, changes, and crises announce?

2. What did the disciples once ask Jesus? Matthew 24:3.

SIGNS OF THE END

3. What will happen among the nations? Matthew 24: 6, 7.
4. In spite of all this, what agreements will be signed? 1 Thessalonians 5: 3; (Jeremiah 6:14)
5. What will be the health condition of people, animals and nature? Matthew 24:7.
6. What does the Bible say about environmental pollution? Isaiah 24:4, 5, 7.
7. What will millions of poor people suffer? Matthew 24:7.

8. What other signs are there? Luke 21:11.

9. What will happen in science in the end of time? Daniel 12: 4.

10. What problems will arise in the work world? James 5:1-5

11. To what time will the love of pleasure, sex, violence and corruption be similar to? Luke 17:26-30. (Genesis 6:11).

12. What are the signs in the social world? 2 Timothy 3:1-4.

13. What signs will be evident in the religious world?

2 Timothy 3:5. A form of Godliness.

Timothy 4:3,4. False doctrines.

Matthew 24:5,11,24. False Miracles.

Luke 18:8. Lack of Faith.

2 Peter 3:3,4. Scoffers.

Matthew 24:14. The gospel will be preached all over the world.

CONCLUSION

14. What do all these signs mean? Luke 21:28-31.

15. What does God urge us to do in this most solemn time? Luke 21:34-36.

Thank you Lord, for your signs!

My decision: *I believe the signs of the times announce the end of the world and I want to be ready when Christ returns.*

.....

THE GREATEST EVENT OF THE THIRD MILLENNIUM

A MILLENNIAL HOPE

1. What did Jesus Christ Himself promise? John 14:1-3.

Now the message is, "He will return."

2. How was this message considered by millions of Christians throughout the centuries? Titus 2:13.

a) Enoch, the seventh after Adam, proclaimed it. (Jude 14)

b) The many predicted signals prove that this event is more closer then what we think.

3. Why will Jesus return?

a) Hebrews 9:28. To save us.

b) Isaiah 35:4-6. To end human suffering.

c) Philippians 3:20-21. To make us citizens of a better world.

d) Psalm 96:13. To judge humanity.

e) 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9. To destroy the wicked.

THE GREATEST EVENT OF THE THIRD MILLENNIUM

¿CÓMO VENDRÁ JESÚS?

HOW WILL JESUS COME?

4. How will Jesus come? Acts 1:9-11.
5. Was the resurrected Christ visible and tangible? Luke 24:36-40.
6. How else will He come? Matthew 24:30.
7. How many will see Him? Revelation 1:7 (Matthew 24:26-27).
 - a) *VISIBLE AND TANGIBLE.*
 - b) *IN A UNIVERSAL WAY*
8. Who will escort Jesus? Matthew 25:31.
9. Will we only see Him?
1 Thessalonians 4:15-16.

¿QUÉ OCURRIRÁ EN SU VENIDA?

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT HIS COMING?

10. What will happen to those who have died believing in Christ?
1 Thessalonians 4:15, 16.
11. What will happen to our sickly, mortal bodies? 1 Corinthians 15:51-53.
12. What will the wicked exclaim when Christ comes? Revelation 6:15-16.
13. What will the righteous say and how will they feel? Isaiah 25:9.
14. How will the day of the Lord come?
2 Peter 3:10.
15. What advice does He give us?
Matthew 24:42, 44.

CONCLUSION

After these two studies about our times and the second coming of Christ, do you think His coming is really near, or are you still doubtful?

Thank you Lord, for your promise!

My decision: *I believe that Jesus Christ will return very soon in a visible and audible way.*

.....

**HOW WERE THE PEOPLE OF GOD SAVED
IN OLD TESTAMENT TIMES?**

1. When man sinned he was separated from God and, without God's intervention, was condemned to eternal death. From that moment on, his natural tendency was to do evil. He was weak and corrupted. When God placed man in Eden, He warned him that if he sinned he would die. Did this happen immediately? Who died in his place? Genesis 3:21.
2. When did God prepare an escape route to redeem man? 1 Peter 1:18-20.
3. What was the only way sin could be atoned? Hebrews 9:22.

GOD REVEALS HIMSELF TO MAN

4. God led the Israelites out of Egypt and guided them to the promised land in a miraculous way. He revealed His will and made His law known to them. What did God order Moses to do in a vision? Exodus 25:8, 40.

5. What were the dimensions of the courtyard surrounding the sanctuary? Exodus 27:9-19.

6. What were the characteristics of the sanctuary?

The sanctuary, according to Exodus 26, measured 40.5 feet long, 9 feet wide, and 15 feet high. It was built of acacia wood overlaid with gold. The wood and gold symbolized the union of Christ's human and divine natures. The wood symbolized Christ as a man. The gold symbolized Christ as God.

It was covered by four different layers.

The tabernacle was divided into two parts: the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place.

SEVEN ELEMENTS FOR OUR TIME

7. The gate of the courtyard was 27 feet wide with a beautiful white linen curtain embroidered in blue, purple and scarlet hanging from 4 pillars (Exodus 27:16). Who does it represent? John 10:9.
8. The altar of sacrifice was a symbol of Calvary (Exodus 27:1-8). What did John the Baptist call the Savior? John 1:29.
9. The bronze laver. Exodus 30:17-21 mentions purification by water. What should we do to wash away our sins? Acts 22:16.

10. The seven-branched candlestick was forged out of a piece of gold (Exodus 25:31-39). Whom does the light represent? John 8:12.
11. Who does the table with showbread symbolize (Exodus 25:23-30)? John 6:51.
12. What did the altar of incense symbolize (Exodus 30:1-10)? Psalms 141:2; Revelation 8:3.
13. What was behind the veil in the Most Holy Place? Hebrews 9:2-5; Exodus 25:10-22.

CONCLUSION

14. The utensils in the sanctuary illustrate God's plan for the salvation of man. How can we grow closer to Jesus? Hebrews 4:16.

Thank you, Lord, for revealing your great love!

My decision: *I believe that Jesus Christ is the center of the Scriptures and that each symbol of the sanctuary is a future projection of the gospel.*

.....

A LIFE PLAN THAT OFFERS SECURITY AND PEACE

1. What two causes have brought man to the brink of chaos?

- a) Jeremiah 2:13. They have forsaken God.
- b) Isaiah 24:5, 6. They have forsaken His Law.

A LIFE PLAN FOR HAPPINESS

2. What principles were given to man in Eden? Genesis 2:17, 18, 3.

3. On what did God write the Ten Commandments and what did He write them with? Exodus 31:18.

4. Where were the two tables of the law placed? Deuteronomy 10:5.

GOD IS:

Love (1 John 4:8)

Holy (Isaiah 6:3)

Just (Psalms 129:4)

Good (Psalms 145:9, 17)

True (Psalms 89:14)

Faithful (Deuteronomy 7:9)

Eternal (Psalms 45:6)

HIS LAW IS:

Love (Romans 13:9-10)

Holy (Romans 7:12)

Just (Deuteronomy 4:8)

Good (Romans 7:12)

True (Malachi 2:6)

Faithful (Psalms 111:7)

Eternal (Psalms 111:7-8)

5. What is the true purpose of the law? Romans 3:20, 31; 7:7.

6. By what law will we be judged in the final judgment? James 2:10-12.

WHAT WAS JESUS' ATTITUDE REGARDING THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?

7. Who wrote the law on Mount Sinai, the Father or the Son? Nehemiah 9:12, 13; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4.

8. What did the prophecies say about Christ's attitude toward the law?

- a) Psalms 40:7, 8. His law is within my heart (John 15:10).
- b) Isaiah 42:21. It says that He would magnify the law and make it honorable. When we read the Sermon on the Mount, we can see this prophecy fulfilled (Matthew: 5:21, 22, 27, 28, 33-37, 48).

9. How did Jesus emphasize the eternal nature of the law? What would happen first? Luke 16:17.

10. What do we prove by obeying God? John 14:15, 21.

11. What did Jesus answer the rich young man when he asked what he should do to inherit eternal life? Matthew 19:16-19.

12. Who will be greatly disappointed in the day of judgment? Matthew 7:21-23.

13. Is it possible to keep the law of God?

- a) Romans 8:5-8. *Those who live according to the flesh (carnal people) cannot keep his law.*
- b) 1 John 5:2, 3. *When the love of God fills our heart, we see that His commandments are not grievous.*

14. How can we identify a true Christian? 1 John 2:3-6.

CONCLUSION

15. What promise does God give those who keep His commandments?

- a) Deuteronomy 5:29. They will prosper.
- b) Psalms 119:165. Our hearts will be filled with peace.

Thank you Lord, for your Perfect Program!

My decision: *I accept that the Ten Commandments are the character of God and the foundation of His throne.*

.....

1. What does the Bible say about someone who rejects any of the Ten Commandments? James 2:10-12.
2. What does God say about those who think they are good Christians but do not keep His commandments? 1 John 2:3, 4.

3. What does He say about those who arrange religion as they please and change some of the commandments? Matthew 15:9.

- a) *God does not allow any change in His law. Deuteronomy 4:2; Ecclesiastes 3:14.*
- b) *Not even a tittle can be changed. Matthew 5:17-19.*
- c) *There is no reason to change anything in the law. His law is perfect. Psalms 19:7.*

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, EXACTLY AS WRITTEN BY GOD'S FINGER.

4. What does the first commandment prohibit? Exodus 20:3.

5. What does the second commandment forbid? Exodus 20:4-6.

- a) There is a reason for this. Deuteronomy 4:15, 16. b) John 4:24. God wants us to worship Him in spirit and truth. c) What does the Bible say about idolatry? Isaiah 44:9, 10, 18, 19.

6. What does the third commandment forbid? Exodus 20:7.

7. What does the fourth commandment command us to do? Exodus 20:8-11.

8. Whom should we honor according to the fifth commandment? Exodus 20:12.

9. The sixth commandment states, 'Thou shalt not kill.' Exodus 20:13. What is the meaning of this commandment according to the spiritual teachings of Christ? a) Matthew 5:38, 39, 43-45. b) Matthew 5:21, 22, 1 John 3:15. c) 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17. We should not transgress the laws of health.

10. The seventh commandment states, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." Exodus 20:14.

11. What does the eighth commandment forbid? Exodus 20:15.

12. The ninth commandment states, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." Exodus 20:16. Who will be barred from salvation? Revelation 22:15.

13. What does the tenth commandment forbid? Exodus 20:17.

14. But, how can we obey God when we are so weak? Philipians 2:13; 4:13.

15. Do we earn heaven by our obedient deeds? What is the purpose of God's law? Romans 3:20, 24.

16. If we say with Paul, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6) and we choose to obey the commandments of God, what will we receive? a) *Deuteronomy 28:1, 2, 9, 13.*

- b) *Our prayers will be answered (1 John 3:22). We will have spiritual peace (Isaiah 48:18), wisdom (Psalms 119:104), health (Exodus 15:26), prosperity, and a long life (Deuteronomy 4:40).*

Thank you Lord for your law of love!

My decision: *I want God to grant me power to keep every one of the Ten Commandments, by faith.*

MIRROR AND SHADOW

Are there contradictions in the Bible? No, there ARE NOT, although there may seem to be.

1. How many types of laws are there?

Besides civil laws of Israel, the Bible describes two other laws:

- The Ten Commandments**, which can be compared to a mirror showing us our sinful condition.
- The ceremonial law**, which included the sacrifices, ceremonies and festivals, which were a shadow or symbol of Christ and His work for mankind.

2. What differences are there between these two laws?

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

- They are called the **LAW OF GOD** (Romans 7:22).
- It was given in Eden (Romans 2:15).
- It was written by God's finger (Exodus 31:18).
- It was written on stone (a durable object).
- It was placed inside the Ark of the Covenant, the most sacred place, which is a symbol of the throne of God (Deuteronomy 10:1-5).

6. The law is compared to a mirror; it shows our sinful condition (Romans 7:7).

7. It is a way of life that we should abide by (1 Timothy 1:8-10).

8. It is eternal, it was not abolished by Christ (Psalms 111:7, 8; Matthew 5:17).

9. The prophecy said that Jesus would magnify the law (Isaiah 42:21).

10. He who observes the law of God is called blessed (James 1:25).

11. We will be judged by to the law (James 2:10-12).

12. It is possible to keep the Ten Commandments with the help of God (1 John 5:3).

THE CEREMONIAL LAW

- It is called Moses' law (Acts 15:5).
- It was given after Eden (Galatians 3:19).
- It was written by Moses (Deuteronomy 31:24).
- It is a book.
- It was placed next to the Ark of the Covenant (Deuteronomy 31:25, 26).
- The ceremonial law was for the remission or atonement of sins (Hebrews 9:22).

7. It was just a symbol that pointed to Christ (Hebrews 9:9).

8. It was abolished by Christ (Colossians 2:14).

9. Paul declares that Jesus abolished the ceremonial law (Ephesians 2:15).

10. He who keeps the things written in the book of the law is called cursed. After Christ's death, there is no need for those rituals (Galatians 3:10-13).

11. We should not be judged for what we eat, drink, feast days (ceremonial Sabbaths, etc.) which were a shadow of what was to come (Galatians 2:16, 17).

12. The law of Moses was impossible to keep (Acts 15:10).

CONCLUSION

- Why were the Ten Commandments not abolished after Christ's death?
- What does Paul say about circumcision? Was it a part of the ceremonial law? 1 Corinthians 7:19.

My decision: I accept that the Ten Commandments, the law of God; and the law of Moses, the ceremonial law, are two different laws. The first is eternal and the latter is temporal.

.....

LET'S HONOR THE CREATOR!

- 1. What does God deserve for what He has created? Revelation 4:11.**
- 2. Did God need thousands of years to create the world? How long did it take Him? Genesis 1:31.**
 - **On the first day**, He made light (Genesis 1:1-5). The earth was without form and void.
 - **On the second day**, He made the atmosphere and the firmament (verses 6-8).
 - **On the third day**, He made land and plants (verses 9-13).
 - **On the fourth day**, He organized the solar system: the sun, moon, and stars (verses 14-19).
 - **On the fifth day**, He made the fish and birds (verses 20-23).
 - **On the sixth day**, He made the animals of the land and man (verses 24-28,31).

- 3. What did He do on the seventh day? Genesis 2:1-3.**
 - a) God did not rest because He was tired but to give us an example.
 - b) God does not void what He has blessed and sanctified. Numbers 23:19, 20.
- 4. What monument was established in the fourth commandment of God's Holy Law to honor Him as Creator? Exodus 20:8-11.**

THE KEEPING OF THE SABBATH DAY OVER TIME

5. What does God consider the Sabbath? Ezekiel 20:12, 20.

*A seal has three main features: 1. Name, 2. Title, 3. Jurisdiction. In the fourth commandment (Exodus 20:8-11) we find the following features: 1. **Name:** The Lord thy God 2. **Title:** Creator (He made...) 3. **Jurisdiction:** Heaven and earth.*

6. Was the Sabbath day observed before the law was given at Mount Sinai? Exodus 16:15, 21-30.

7. How did Isaiah describe the Sabbath day? Isaiah 58:13, 14.

8. Was the Sabbath also for non-Jewish believers of the Old Testament and all Christians today? Isaiah 56:2-7.

DID JESUS AND HIS APOSTLES KEEP THE SABBATH?

9. What is Jesus' relationship to the Sabbath?

a) Christ Himself created it. John 1:1-14; Colossians 1:15-17.

b) He promulgated the law at Mount Sinai. Nehemiah 9:12, 13; 1 Corinthians 10:4.

10. What was Jesus' custom when He lived on this earth? Luke 4:16, 31.

11. Was the Sabbath established for all men? Mark 2:27, 28.

a) He is the Lord, Owner and Author of the Sabbath, so it is the day of the Lord.

b) He taught how to keep it by doing good and preaching on that day. Matthew 12:11-12.

12. What day did Mary (the mother of Jesus) and the other faithful women who had been taught by Jesus keep, after His crucifixion? Luke 23:56.

13. Would the Sabbath continue to be holy after Christ's death? What advice did He give His disciples when He foretold the destruction of Jerusalem, which came more than 40 years later (70 A.D.)? Matthew 24:20.

14. Did the apostles keep the Sabbath?

a) In Corinth. Acts 18:3, 4.

b) In Thessalonica. Acts 17:2, 3.

c) In Antioch. Acts 13:14, 42, 44.

d) In Philippi, by the river. Acts 16:13.

15. Where will the Sabbath be kept for eternity? Isaiah 6:22, 23.

CONCLUSION

- Jesus explained that the Sabbath was created for man's benefit. Mark 2:27.
- It is the best way to conquer stress and fatigue. It offers us rest for the body, soul and spirit.
- It is a day of communion with Jesus as we gather together, as He did. Thus, we strengthen our relationship with Him and are relieved of psychological stress by receiving rest and peace for the soul. Matthew 11:28-30.
- We honor the Author of life when we enjoy nature and give Him honor, glory and power for creating everything.
- It is a day to dedicate to the family and to teach our children the ways of God.

16. How is it possible to keep that day holy in a world that is upside down? Philippians 4:13 (Psalms 37:3-5).

iThank you Lord, for being able to worship in Your Day!

My decision: *I believe that the Sabbath is the true day of rest and I am willing to keep it.*

.....

THE WORST FALSIFICATION IN HISTORY

DISGUISED SUN WORSHIP

1. What abomination did the prophet Ezekiel see in vision? Ezekiel 8:15-18.

2. Who tried to introduce pagan customs into Christianity? Why?

Emperor Constantine (280-337 A.D.)

3. Constantine was just an emperor, so how was the observance of Sunday introduced into the church?

The change of the rest day was accepted by the Church of Rome.

DOES GOD ALLOW HIS LAW TO BE CHANGED?

4. What will happen to anyone who attempts to change God's law? Revelation 22:19.

5. What is not permitted to be done with God's Holy Law? Ecclesiastes 3:14.

a) God cannot change His law. Malachi 3:6; James 1:17.

b) God's law is valid for a thousand generations. Deuteronomy 7:9.

c) The fact that the Ten Commandments were written by God's own finger on two tables of stone (Exodus 20:2-17) reveals its importance and its immutability.

d) The commandment that tells us to keep the Sabbath as the day of rest is the fourth commandment of the Holy Law. Exodus 20:8-11.

6. Did Jesus change the law of God or the day of rest? Matthew 5:17, 18.

7. According to Daniel's prophecies, what would a human power try to do with the law of God? Daniel 7:25.

8. Do the five texts regarding the resurrection, which took place on the first day of the week, mention any change of the day of rest? Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1, 2; 16:9; Luke 24:1; John 20:1.

9. Why did the disciples gather on the first day of the week? John 20:19.

10. Why did Paul extend a service at Troas, on the night of the first day of the week? What did he do the next day at dawn? Acts 20:7, 11.

11. In advising to set aside an offering for the poor in Jerusalem, did Paul tell the brethren to gather or simply to set the money aside? 1 Corinthians 16:2.

THERE IS NOT ONE SINGLE BIBLE TEXT THAT SHOWS THAT THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK SHOULD BE OBSERVED

SOME QUESTIONS REGARDING THE SABBATH

12. How do we know that today's Sabbath is the same that God sanctified in creation? Haven't there been changes to the calendar?

13. What kind of Sabbaths did Paul refer to in Colossians 2:16, 17: the ceremonial rest days, which were a shadow of Christ, or the seventh day?

14. Is this issue so important? Is it not the same to keep another day? Can we trust our opinion? Proverbs 16:25.

15. Most people observe Sunday; can so many people be wrong? Who will be lost? Matthew 7:13, 14.

16. What does the Bible call those who restored the Sabbath as the day of rest? Isaiah 58:12, 13.

17. What does the Lord call the Sabbath and what blessings do we receive on that day? Isaiah 58:13, 14.

Thank you, Lord, for giving me clarity!

My decision: I accept that the Sabbath of God has been falsified by Sunday, a day both of pagan worship and origin.

.....

LOVE WRITTEN IN BLOOD

1. Did God abandon the beings He created, in spite of their ingratitude? Luke 19:10.
2. What was the greatest example of God's love for man? 1 John 4:9-11.
3. How can we be Jesus' friends and show Him our love? John 15:14, 10; 14:15.
4. If we want to follow Jesus' example, what should we do to receive eternal salvation? Hebrews 5:8, 9.
5. What is the essence of the commandments? Matthew 22:37-40.

LOVE IN THE FIRST DIMENSION

6. How do we show our love to God in reference to the first three commandments? Exodus 20:3-7.
7. How do we show our love to God when we keep the Sabbath? Exodus 20:8-11.
8. When does the Sabbath begin and end? What does the Bible call the sixth day?
 - a) According to the Bible, a day starts the moment the sun sets. Leviticus 23:32; Nehemiah 13:19.

b) Friday, the sixth day, is called the day of preparation. Mark 15:19.

9. How does the Lord want us to keep what He calls "My Holy Day?" Isaiah 58:13, 14.
10. If we love God, what answers will we give to the following objections?
 - a) ***Aren't all days the same?*** Exodus 20:11; Proverbs 16:25. God rested, sanctified and blessed a specific day.
 - b) ***Most people keep Sunday. Can millions of people be wrong?*** Matthew 7:13, 14.
The point is not whether we are on the side of the majority or the minority, but whether we are on Jesus' side.
 - c) ***My parents and grandparents kept Sunday,*** and I don't want to be different. Acts 17:30. God forgives all sins committed because of ignorance (James 4:17).
11. If we love Jesus, what will we do on His day? Luke 4:16.
 - a) *We should attend religious services to worship Him and hear His word.*
 - b) *We can visit the sick and relieve their pain (Matthew 12:11, 12).*
 - c) *We can talk to others about the good news of salvation.*

HOW CAN WE LOVE IN THE SECOND DIMENSION?

12. The last six commandments refer to our neighbors. How do we express our love for them?
 - a) The fifth commandment refers to the relationship between parents and their children (Ephesians 6:1-4).
 - b) If I love my neighbor, can I kill him? Can I take up arms in a war and kill the masses? Can I be unfaithful to my partner? Can I say bad things about my neighbor, lie, steal, or covet what is his (Romans 13:9)?
13. If love is the foundation of our life, will it be difficult to keep God's law in these two dimensions? 1 John 4:20, 21; 5:2, 3.
14. What can we not forget if we are guided by love? James 1:27.
15. What can we not neglect if we truly love our neighbors? Mark 5:19; Psalms 116:12-14.

Thank you Lord, for showing me how to love!

My decision: I accept that my love for God and my neighbor are revealed by keeping the commandments of the Holy Law.

.....

IS THERE LIFE AFTER DEATH?

Some say that all has come to an end; others say that a dead person knows nothing until the day of resurrection. Who is right? What does God say? What answer does the Bible give? Job 14:14.

THE PROCESS OF LIFE AND DEATH

1. To understand the process of death, we must first consider: how life began? Genesis 2:7.

*If we expressed this with a mathematical equation we could say: **matter** (earth) + **breath of life** = **living being** (living soul).*

2. Since the process of death is the opposite of life, what happens when somebody dies? Ecclesiastes 12:7; Psalms 104:29.

***Matter** (body) - **breath of life** = **death**. As in the case of the lamp, the matter becomes inactive when God withdraws the breath of life.*

IS DEATH A CONSCIOUS STATE?

3. Do the dead know anything? Ecclesiastes 9:5.
4. What happens to their feelings? Ecclesiastes 9:6, 10.
5. Are the dead in a conscious state? Psalms 146:4.

6. Do the dead know anything about their relatives? Job 14:21.

7. Are they in heaven praising God? Psalms 115:17; Isaiah 38:18, 19.

WHAT IS DEATH COMPARED TO?

8. What did Jesus compare death to? John 11:11-14.

Job also compared death to sleep. The dead sleep; they are unconscious until they wake up at the resurrection. Job 14:10-12.

9. What other example do the Scriptures give? Job 14:1, 2.

WILL WE SEE AGAIN THOSE WHO HAVE DIED?

10. What is the glorious hope of those who died believing in God? Isaiah 26:19; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17.
 11. Are the faithful of old who have died already enjoying eternal life? Hebrews 11:39, 40; Daniel 12:13.
- There is a contradiction among those who preach immediate punishment or reward and at the same time believe in the resurrection and the judgment. If a person receives his re-*

ward when he dies, why will Jesus come to judge the dead and the living? What will He judge? What has already been received?

THE GREATEST, OLDEST LIE THAT DECEIVED MILLIONS

12. God told Adam and Eve that if they disobeyed they would die (Genesis 2:16, 17). However, what was Satan's great lie? Genesis 3:4.

13. Who alone possesses immortality? 1 Timothy 6:15, 16.

Jesus wants to give immortality to His children, at His second coming. 1 Corinthians 15:51-55.

14. Do we already have immortality, or do we seek it? Romans 2:7.

15. What will Jesus finally do with death? Revelation 21:4.

Thank you, Lord, for having conquered Death!

***My decision:** I believe the dead know nothing and are asleep until the final resurrection.*

.....

DIVINE ADVICE AGAINST MYSTERIOUS FORCES

WHO ARE THOSE MYSTERIOUS FORCES?

1. Can they be the spirits of the dead? What does the Bible say about those who have died? Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6.
2. Can God be the one who guides them? What command did He give? Leviticus 20:27; Deuteronomy 18:10-12.
3. If these revelations come from neither God nor the dead, who influence politicians? Revelation 16:14.
 - a) These spirits of demons are the fallen angels who rebelled against God (Ezekiel 28:13-18).
 - b) One-third of the angels were excluded from heaven (Revelation 12:9, 12).
4. In the biblical examples about people possessed by spirits, what did those spirits declare? Acts 16:16-18.
5. What happened to King Saul when he consulted a fortune teller after God rejected him? 1 Samuel 28:3, 6-8, 11-15; 1 Chronicles 10:13, 14.

THE DEVIL'S COLLECTION

6. What is a sign of the last days? 1 Timothy 4:1.
7. How can we tell truth from error? Isaiah 8:19, 20.
8. What does the Bible say of those who look for a solution to their problems in those mysterious forces? Jeremiah 2:13.
 - a) In modern terms, we talk about Parapsychology. There are people who pass through the fire without being burned and they say that they can do that by the power of the mind. This was prohibited by God (Deuteronomy 18:9-14).
 - b) Reading cards is divination.
 - c) Hypnotism, the pendulum, and the magic wand, as well as healing by magic words, even if done with good intentions, are not approved by God.
9. What does the Bible say about those who practice astrology and consult astrologers? Isaiah 47:13-15.
10. In the last days, false miracles will be so subtle that they will be a threat even to elect. Matthew 24:24.

In 2 Cor. 11:14-15, we are informed that Satan is transfigured into an angel of light or minister of justice. To whom does God manifest Himself?

To those who keep His commandments. (John 14:15-16, 21, Acts 5:32).

11. Does Satan work for free, or does he charge for his "favors"? Romans 6:16; John 8:44.
12. What should be done with books about magic or anything similar? Acts 19:19.
13. What divine advice will set us free from satanic influence? James 4:7.
14. What should we trust in to obtain complete victory? Revelation 12:10, 11.

CONCLUSION

15. After setting the possessed Gadarene free (Luke 8:26-28), what advice did Jesus give him? Luke 8:38, 39.

iThank you, Lord, for unmasking this deceitfulness!

***My decision:** I believe that we should only seek help in Jesus; not in seers, healers, astrologers, or spiritualists.*

.....

THE BOOK OF REVELATION AND OUR PLANET'S DESTINY

THE DEVELOPMENT OF EVENTS

1. Today it is still possible to be saved. We are living in the time of grace. With what petition, does God address humanity? Revelation 14:6, 7.
2. Soon the door of grace will close. All opportunity to choose God's way will come to an end, and Christ will stop interceding for men. What will then be heard in heaven? Revelation 22:11.
3. What will come after the time of grace is over? Daniel 12:1; Revelation 15:1.
4. What is the name of the terrible war that will break out during the sixth plague? Revelation 16:16.

EVENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MILLENNIUM

5. What event will mark the end of the world and the beginning of the one-thousand-year period? Revelation 14:14-16.
6. After a great earthquake, what will happen to those who have died in Christ? Revelation 16:18; 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

7. What will happen to those who are resurrected and the righteous who are alive at Jesus' coming? 1 Thessalonians 4:17.

8. What will happen to the wicked who are still alive when Jesus comes? 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9.

EVENTS DURING THE MILLENNIUM

9. What will happen to Satan? Revelation 20:1-3.

10. What will the earth be like during those one thousand years? Jeremiah 4:23-27.

What makes the earth desolate?

- The seven plagues will have destroyed much.
- Armageddon will leave many dead. Jeremiah 25:33; Isaiah 24:22.
- The terrible earthquake of the seventh plague will destroy all the cities of the world.
- The coming of Christ amid the flames of fire will complete the destruction. 2 Thessalonians 1:7, 8.

11. What will the saints (redeemed ones) do in heaven? Revelation 20:4.

EVENTS AT THE END OF THE MILLENNIUM

12. Jesus will come to this earth after the thousand years. Who will accompany Him? Zechariah 14:4-6.

13. What did the Apostle John see coming down from heaven? Revelation 21:2.

14. What will happen to the others that are dead (the wicked)? Revelation 20:5.

15. What will happen to Satan? Revelation 20:7.

16. What will fall from heaven as Satan and the wicked try to attack the city? Revelation 20:9.

- a) The punishment will be according to what each one deserves. Revelation 20:13.
- b) That second death will be final. Revelation 20:14, 15.
- c) There will be neither root nor branch left. There will be just ashes, which means that at a certain point the fire will be quenched. Malachi 4:1-3.

17. What will God do with the earth after it has been purified with fire? 2 Peter 3:11-13.

Thank you Lord, for this Hopeful Panorama!

My decision: *I believe in eternal life and that God will create a new earth after the millennium.*

.....

1. God has promised a home without shadows. When will we receive it? John 14:1-3.

2. What was the purpose of Christ's death? 1 John 2:25.

WHAT WILL THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH BE LIKE?

3. How many heavens exist now, according to the Bible? 2 Corinthians 12:2-4.

- The first heaven is the atmosphere around the earth - the air.
- The second heaven is the firmament - the starry sky (Psalms 19:1).
- The third heaven is the throne of God (1 Kings 8:30).

4. What has God prepared for us? 1 Corinthians 2:9.

5. As they contemplated the heavenly home with eyes of faith, what did the believers of the past say as they considered their earthly life? Hebrews 11:13-16.

6. What will the new earth be like? Isaiah 35:1, 2, 6 (second part), 7.

7. How does prophecy describe the harmony of the animal kingdom? Isaiah 11:6-9; 32:17, 18.

8. What will there not be? Isaiah 33:24; 35:3-6.

9. What will there be in place of sadness? Isaiah 35:9, 10; 65:17-25.

10. Will we work or live in idleness? Isaiah 65:21-23.

11. What will the capital city, the New Jerusalem, be like? Revelation 21:1-5, 10-12.

- a) It will measure 12,000 furlongs (verse 16) or 2,200 km. (550 km. on each side).
- b) It is made of pure gold, similar to clear glass (verse 18).
- c) The wall has 12 foundations made of precious stones (verses 19, 20).
- d) The 12 doors are made of giant pearls (verse 21).
- e) There will be no night because Christ will be their light (verse 23).
- f) From the throne of God a pure river of crystal clear waters flows and on either side of the river is the tree of life (Revelation 22:1, 2).
- g) We will be with Jesus forever (verses 3, 4).

12. On what day will we gather to worship God? Isaiah 66:22, 23.

13. How do we know that all these promises are true?

- You can trust God's promises. We are not talking about fantasy or fiction but about the promises of a God of love.

a) The 2,300 prophecies that are fulfilled before our eyes are the guarantee that God does not lie.

b) The sacrifice on Calvary would be meaningless if this were not true.

c) When Christ comes; we will be changed into immortal beings (1 Corinthians 15:51-58).

HOW CAN I SECURE A PLACE IN HEAVEN?

14. What should I do in the first place? Acts 16:31.

15. What should I do to have eternal life? What did Jesus teach? Matthew 19:17 (last part).

a) He that overcomes inherits all things (Revelation 21:7).

b) There will be no room for transgressors there; only the people whose names are written in the book of life will have access to that place. (Revelation 21:8, 27).

Thank you, Lord, for preparing a wonderful place for me!

My decision: I long to take part in that better world.

.....

DOES THE ANTICHRIST ALREADY EXIST?

THE ANTICHRIST

1. Were there antichrists at the time of the apostles? 1 John 2:18, 19; Galatians 1:6, 7.

2. Was the antichrist an atheistic power, or did it claim to be Christian? Titus 1:16.

- a) They attribute to themselves virtues that apply only to God: sanctity, infallibility, unchangeableness (2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4).
- b) It opposes and persecutes the disciples of Christ (Revelation 13:7).
- c) It attacks the law of God and establishes human laws and tradition (Matthew 15:8, 9).
 - On the contrary, Christ established, taught, and kept the commandments. (John 15:10).
- d) The antichrist preaches salvation through human works (2 Thessalonians 2:10).

THE SEVEN KEYS OF THE PROPHECY

3. What do winds and waters symbolize in prophecy?

- Winds represent wars (Jeremiah 49:36, 37).
- Waters represent people (Revelation 17:15).

4. What do beasts, heads, wings and horns represent?

Beasts represent kingdoms (Daniel 7:23). Heads and horns represent division of kingdoms (Daniel 7:24). Wings represent speed (Habakkuk 1:8). Many nations are still represented by similar symbols: the USA, by an eagle; Great Britain, by a lion; Russia, by a bear; China, by a dragon; France, by a cock.

In prophecy, a day equals one year (Ezekiel 4:6; Numbers 14:34).

FOUR NATIONS IN PROPHECY

6. What did Daniel see in vision? Daniel 7:2, 3.

- The four winds strove upon the sea, which means there would be wars among multitudes of people.
- Four beasts came up from the sea.

7. What do the four beasts represent? Daniel 7:16, 17, 23.

- They are the same kingdoms represented in the statue of Daniel chapter 2.

8. What were the characteristics of the first beast? Daniel 7:4.

- a) Represents Babylon (606 - 538 B.C.).
- b) Just as gold is the most precious metal, the lion is the king of the jungle.
- c) The two wings represent Nebuchadnezzar's speedy conquests.

9. What did the second beast look like? Daniel 7:5.

- a) Represent Medo-Persia (538 - 331 B.C.).
- b) It leans on one side, representing the superiority of the Persians over the Medes.
- c) It held three ribs in its mouth, depicting its conquest of three provinces - Babylon, Lydia and Egypt.
- d) It devours much meat, meaning they were very vicious in their conquests.

10. What characterized the leopard depicted in verse 6?

- a) The four wings represent the speed of conquest - twice that of Nebuchadnezzar. It took Alexander the Great only 8 years to conquer an area of 5 million square kilometers.
- b) Four heads: When Alexander the Great died (323 B.C.), his empire was divided among his four generals: Lysimachus ruled over Thrace; Cassander over Greece; Seleucus over Syria and Babylon, and Ptolemy over Egypt.

11. What was the fourth beast like? Verses 7, 19, 20, 23.

- a) The fourth beast represents Rome (169 B.C. - A.D. 176). Its cruelty is represented by its bronze nails and iron teeth.
- b) The ten horns are equivalent to the ten toes in Daniel 2, and they represent the ten nations of Western Europe, which remained at the end of the Roman Empire (Verse 24).

20b **DOES THE ANTICHRIST ALREADY EXIST?**

THE SMALL HORN

12. What characterized the small horn that came up? Verses 8, 20-25.

- a) It was different from the other horns, which means that it was not a political power but a religious one. Which power assumed the place of Imperial Rome? The papacy.
- b) It was bigger than the other beasts, apart from its religious power it also had political power. Its influence is still powerful today.
- c) The three horns that fell when this one came up represent the three Aryan kings who were defeated and destroyed before the establishment of the papacy. In the year 493, the Heruli were defeated; in 534, the Vandals; and in 538, the Ostrogoths were conquered by Justinian.
- d) It would speak against the Most High. The Pope calls himself infallible, gives indulgences, and calls himself the Holy Father, attributes that belong only to God (Matthew 23:9).

13. What would the little horn do to the saints, the true believers? Daniel 7:21.

This reminds us of the dark ages mentioned in history, when millions of Christians who were

called heretics were put to death by various horrible means during the "Inquisition."

14. What did that power think to change according to the prophecy? Verse 25.

The Ten Commandments were changed. In the catechism, the second commandment is omitted and the tenth is divided into two. The fourth commandment, which commands the observance of the Sabbath (Saturday) as the true day of rest, has been substituted by "keep holy the Lord's day." God has not authorized anyone to change His holy law (Matthew 5:16, 17; Ecclesiastes 3:14).

15. How long was the persecution to last? Daniel 7:25, last part.

A time is equal to a year; times is equal to two years; and the dividing of times is equal to half a year, totaling three and a half years. If we calculate a biblical year as having 360 days, it's 1,260 days. This is the same calculation that is mentioned in Revelation 12:6, 14 and 13:5. These 1,260 prophetic days are 1,260 literal years. This is the period starting in 538, when the papacy's supremacy began, to 1798. During the French Revolution, Napoleon sent General Berthier to take Pope Pius VI captive. This Pope died in exile.

So who is the Antichrist? It is a religious power that arose from Imperial Rome. It is a pow-

er that claims the prerogatives of God. It is a power that carried on the Persecution for 1260 years and changed the holy law of God. Have you recognized which power this is? It is the papacy]

God is the author of History, and all the events that take place have been foreseen by the great Omniscient One. At the same time that the prophecy spoke of a power that would oppose the plan of redemption, it also told about the incarnation of Christ to fulfill the plan of salvation. (Galatians 4:4).

CONCLUSION

- God Himself guides the destiny of nations.
- Prophecy outlines the development of history and the war between light and darkness, but Christ is the victor, and all who believe in Him will share in this great victory.
- This prophecy clearly shows that Christ does not change His law, but the antichrist attempted to do so. Let not men change God's truth.
- Let us acknowledge the eternal validity of the Ten Commandments because Jesus Christ wants us to keep them and He wishes to bless those who accept Him as their Savior and Lord.

My decision: *I acknowledge that Christ did not change the Holy Law but was the work of the antichrist.*

.....

THE PROPHECY OF DANIEL 8

1. What did Daniel see in vision on the banks of the Ulai river? Daniel 8:3-9.

- A ram with two horns, one higher than the other, and the ram pushed forward towards the north and south, wounding its opponent. No other animal could resist him.
- A goat came from the west, so fast that it did not touch the ground. It had a single horn between its eyes. It cast the ram down to the ground and broke its two horns. Then, in its greatest strength its own horn was broken and four horns came up in its place.
- Out of one came a little horn, which grew exceedingly great toward the south, the east and the glorious land (Palestine).

2. Whom did the ram symbolize? Verses 15, 16, 20.

It charged with its horns toward the east (Greece), the north and the south (Egypt). This prophecy was fulfilled in 550 B.C. when Babylon was still in power.

3. What did the goat symbolize? Verses 21, 22.

- *Its first king was Alexander the Great.*
- *The statement "it did not touch the ground" depicts Alexander's speed as a conqueror. In only 8 years he conquered the then known world, and his dominion reached as far as India.*
- *He died at the height of his glory.*
- *4 horns - four generals succeeded Alexander and divided the kingdom into 4 parts: Macedonia, Thrace, Syria-Babylon and Egypt.*

4. What came out of one of the horns? Verses 9, 23, 25.

Compare these verses with the little horn in Daniel 7.

- *That horn that grew referred to Rome in its dual facets: pagan Rome and papal Rome.*
- *It grew, and its conquests spread out to the east towards Greece, Asia, and towards the south to Africa, Carthage and Egypt.*
- *The pleasant land referred to is Palestine.*
- *"The place of his sanctuary was overthrown" (verse 11). Rome opposed Christ. In A.D. 70, the Roman army destroyed Jerusalem. Papal Rome was the continuation of the pagan Rome of the Caesars and it would "destroy... the holy people" (verse 24). This referred to the Inquisition.*

- *"... and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away" (Verse 11). We are justified by Christ; He intercedes for us. But the church created a series of human mediators. With the institution of the mass, in which the priest becomes a mediator, and the teaching of justification by works, Christ was displaced.*

The church substituted Christ by:

- 1. series of human mediators (saints),*
- 2. the institution of the mass,*
- 3. the doctrine of justification by works.*

- *It cast down the truth, acted according to its own will and prospered. It attempted to change the law of God by substituting Sunday for the Bible Sabbath and introducing human commandments.*

- What is truth? There are three things that we can define as true:

- 1. Christ is the truth. (John 14:6).*
- 2. His Word is truth. (John 17:17).*
- 3. His law is truth. (Psalms 119:142).*

The truth was attacked, in three ways: Jesus Christ was replaced by human intercessors. The Bible was prohibited and written only in Latin. 'Changes were made in God's law.

21b THE FASCINATING PROPHECY OF THE 2,300 YEARS

5. The question arises: "How long shall... the transgression of desolation be?" (Verse 13).
6. What period of time did these 2,300 days refer to? Verses 17, 19, 26.

KEY REVELATIONS TO THE PROPHECY OF DANIEL 9

7. How many prophetic weeks were determined or cut off from the 2,300 days for the people of Israel? (Verse 24).

How many literal years are there in 70 prophetic weeks? If we use the prophetic key of 1 day = 1 year (Ezekiel 4:6; Numbers 14:34), we conclude that 70 weeks times the seven days of the week = 490 prophetic days or 490 literal years.

8. What would happen during those 490 years of grace for the Jewish people? Verse 24.
9. What was the starting point for the 2,300 years and the 70 weeks that are a part of prophecy? Daniel 9:25.

The starting point in these mathematical calculations is the year 457 B.C. (the third quarter), when Artaxerxes, king of Persia, signed the decree to rebuild the city of Jerusalem (Ezra 7:7; 6:14). Jerusalem was deserted because the Jews were exiled in Babylon.

10. In what year would the 2,300 days end?

There are 456 years and one quarter in the B.C. era. To complete the 2,300 years, we need 1,843 years and a quarter, and that takes us to the third quarter of the year A.D. 1844, which is exactly 2,300 years. The year 1844 is the end of this long prophetic period.

THE 70 WEEKS PROPHECY

11. How many weeks were there to the coming of the Messiah? Daniel 9:25.

- a) Seven weeks are 49 days or 49 years. This was the time it took to rebuild the temple and the walls of Jerusalem. What year does that bring us to? 408 B.C. (407 and a quarter).
- b) To reach the year of Christ's baptism we calculate 62 weeks x 7 = 434 literal years. We subtract those years from our diagram starting at the year 407 and a quarter, and we are left with 26 years and three-quarters. This places us in the year A.D. 27, the year in which Christ was baptized. Galatians 4:4.; Matthew 3:13-17.

12. What year would Christ be crucified? Daniel 9:26, 27.

After the sixty-two weeks. To complete the 70 weeks, we need one week (7 years). What would happen in this last week, or seven years? The 62 weeks ended in the year A.D. 27; if we add 7 years we reach the year A.D. 34.

At mid-week, the sacrifice and offering would cease. This is the year A.D. 31, in the month of Nisan in the Hebrew calendar, which corresponds to our month of April, the eve of the Jewish Easter. Jesus was crucified on that date, in the spring of the year A.D. 31, by order of Pilate.

Bible prophecy is very accurate! The sacrifices would cease because they symbolized Christ. When He died for our sins, there was no more need to shed the blood of animals. At the very moment Jesus died, the veil of the temple was torn in two (Matthew 27:51).

13. When did the time given to Israel as God's people end? What happened to Jerusalem? Verses 24, 26.

This period ended in the year A.D. 34. Three and a half years after Jesus' death, the gospel was preached only to the Jews.

CONCLUSION

- The prophecy of the 70 weeks is clear proof that Christ was the promised Messiah.
- The end of the 2,300 years in 1844 mark the time for the restoration of the truth and the purification of the sanctuary. What does this mean? We will see this in our next topic.

My decision: *I believe the 2,300 days ended in 1844 and that from this point the restoration of the truth began.*

.....

THE INVESTIGATIVE JUDGMENT

1. What will God take into account in the judgment? Ecclesiastes 12:14; 2 Corinthians 5:10.

2. Daniel saw the investigative judgment in vision. Who takes part in it? Daniel 7:9, 10, 13, 14.

- The judge is God.
- We are the accused.
- The witnesses are the angels. How many angels are there? (verse 10).
- The proof is what is written in the books (Rev. 20:12).
- The accuser is the devil (Rev. 12:10).
- The law by which we are judged is The Holy Law of God (James 2:12).
- Our defense attorney is Jesus Christ (verse 13; 1 John 2:1).

3. Our sins are registered in the sanctuary of God. An investigative judgment and a work of cleansing are necessary. When would this begin, according to the prophecy of Daniel 8:14?

- a) The 2300 days or years ended in 1844, which is when the investigative judgment began.

b) It is the beginning of the time of the end and the restoration of the truth that was trampled underfoot by the antichrist. These solemn truths began to be preached.

c) It was also the beginning of the seventh and final church period-Laodicea. It was the beginning of the investigative judgment in heaven-the cleansing of the sanctuary to determine who will be saved and who will be lost before the coming of Jesus. To clearly understand what "cleansing of the sanctuary" means, we have to look into the Old Testament and study the antitype.

THE CLEANSING OF THE EARTHLY SANCTUARY

4. What did God command Israel to do? Exodus 25:8.

5. What had to be shed so man could be forgiven? Hebrews 9:22, 12.

6. In the sanctuary built in the wilderness there were two compartments separated by a veil, the Holy Place and the Most Holy. How often did the priests enter the Holy Place, and for what purpose? Hebrews 9:6.

7. Who was the only one who entered the Most Holy Place, and how often? Hebrews 9:7.

THE HEAVENLY SANCTUARY

8. Where is the real sanctuary? Hebrews 8:1, 2.

9. Who is the High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary? Hebrews 9:24.

10. Whose blood did He offer? Hebrews 9:11, 12.

11. When would the heavenly sanctuary be cleansed? Daniel 8:14.

CONCLUSION

12. What will Jesus exclaim when he ceases to intercede for us and the investigative judgment comes to an end? Revelation 22:11.

13. Our words, works and motives will all be judged. Is there a second opportunity for those who do not repent today? Jeremiah 2:22.

Thank you, Lord, for your intercession!

My decision: I believe the investigative judgment began in 1844 and that Christ went into the Most Holy in the heavenly sanctuary.

.....

WHY ARE THERE SO MANY RELIGIONS?

SYMBOLS REPRESENTING THE CHURCH

1. What is the true church compared to, in both the Old and the New Testament? Isaiah 5:1, 2, 7; Matthew 21:33.
2. Throughout the Bible the church is compared to a woman (2 Corinthians 11:2). According to Song of Solomon 6: 8, 9; 4:7, how many churches does the Lord acknowledge as His?
3. What does prophecy say about the women (churches) of our times? Isaiah 4:1.

GOD'S CHURCH IN REVELATION 12

4. What did the woman described in Revelation 12:1 look like, and what did she represent?
 - a) The woman symbolized the true church.
 - b) She was clothed with the sun. The sun represents Christ, the Sun of Righteousness (Malachi 4:2).
 - c) The moon under her feet. This is a symbol of the Old Testament, the foundation of the Christian church. Just as the moon receives its light from the sun, the Old Testament received its light from Christ.
 - d) The 12 stars represented the twelve apostles.

5. The church was promised a seed, a Savior (Genesis 3:15). Who does the child represent? Revelation 12:2, 5.
6. There was another sign, a dragon. Who does it represent? Revelation 12:3, 4, 9.
7. Where did the woman, the church, flee as a result of persecution? Verses 6, 13-16.
8. How long was the persecuting power against the faithful last? Verses 6, 14.
9. How else were persecutions described, and how was the church helped? Verses 15, 16.
10. At the end of the prophecy we see the woman again; this represents the people of God at the end of time. What characteristics will mark the true church? Revelation 12:17.
 - a) It was to be a persecuted church. "The dragon.. went to make war with..."
 - b) It would be a remnant, a few people (Zephaniah 3:12). c) THEY WOULD KEEP GOD'S COMMANDMENTS.
 - d) They would have the testimony of Jesus, which is the spirit of prophecy (Revelation 19:10).
11. What other type of woman does the book of Revelation describe? Revelation 17:1-6.

A PURE CHURCH

12. How can the doctrine of the church, whose head is Christ be described? Ephesians 5:23, 26, 27.
13. What should the church of God be like? 1 Timothy 3:15.

CONCLUSION

14. What call does God still address to the faithful in Babylon, all those who are in the wrong religious system? Revelation 18:4.
 - Jesus invites us to come into the fold, to be a part of the body which is His church.
 - The true people of God are characterized by their obedience to His commandments. Let us be faithful to Jesus, thus showing our love to Him. Let us remain in the vineyard that is surrounded by a protecting wall, and let us remain attached to the vine which is Jesus Christ Himself so we can bear much fruit.

Thank you, Lord, for showing me your people on earth!

My decision: I believe the true church distinguishes itself because it keeps the commandments of God.

.....

THE FIRST BEAST OF REVELATION 13

1. Where did this beast come from, and what details show the geographical location of its headquarters? Revelation 13:1, 2.
2. What did the beast of Revelation 13 receive from the dragon mentioned, as mentioned in Revelation 12 (Satan and Rome of the Caesars)? Revelation 13:2.
3. What correlation is there between the beast of Revelation 13 and the little horn of Daniel 7?

THE BEAST OF REVELATION 13

1. It had a mouth that spoke great things and blasphemies (Revelation 13:5).
2. It blasphemed against God (verse 6).
3. It was permitted to make war with the saints and to overcome them (verse 7).
4. It would play its part for 42 months, which corresponds to the 1,260 days or “for a time, and times, and half a time” (Revelation 12:6, 14).
5. It was given power over kindreds, tongues, and nations (Revelation 13:7).
6. It would be led into captivity and killed with the sword (verse 10).

THE HORN OF DANIEL 7

1. It had a mouth that spoke great things (Daniel 7:8).
2. It spoke great words against the Most High (verse 25).

3. It made war with the saints and prevailed against them (verse 21).
4. They were given into its hands until “a time, and times, and a half time” (Daniel 7:25).
5. It was more stout than its fellows (verse 20).
6. The judge would take away its dominion and destroy it in the end (verse 26).
4. How else can the beast be identified? Revelation 13:18.
5. What would happen to one of its heads? Revelation 13:3.
6. What happened to the deadly wound? Revelation 13:3, 4, 8.

THE OTHER BEAST

7. Where did the other beast come from and what was it like? Revelation 13:11.
8. How did the prophecy describe the uniting of the United States (Protestantism) with the papacy (Catholicism)? Revelation 13:12.
9. What kind of miracles would Protestantism and spiritualism perform in the United States? Revelation 13:13, 14.
10. In what way does Protestantism in the United States worship the papacy, and why is it called the image of the beast? Verse 14.
11. What will Protestantism, via its alliance with the United States government, try to

do with the faithful remnant? Revelation 13:15-17.

12. What is the mark of the beast mentioned in Revelation 13:16?

THE THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES OF REVELATION

13. What did the first angel, having the eternal gospel, call all nations, tribes and people to do? Revelation 14: 6, 7.
14. What did the second angel announce? Revelation 14:8.
15. What urgent and dreadful warning did the third angel give? Revelation 14:9-11.

GOD WILL SAVE HIS CHILDREN

16. With what words did the apostle present the characteristics of God's remnant church, who carries the solemn message for our time? Revelation 14:12.

Thank you, Lord, for the clarity of the prophecies!

My decision: *I accept that the three angels' messages is the final call of love that the church of God will give to a world perishing in wickedness.*

.....

THE MOST IMPORTANT DAY OF ONE'S LIFE

THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING BORN AGAIN

1. What condition did Jesus tell Nicodemus, a leader of Israel, was necessary to enter the Kingdom of God? John 3:1-4.

2. What characteristics are we born with? Job 15:14-16.

- a) We live in the lusts of our flesh (Ephesians 2:3), and our fruits are sad (Galatians 5:19-21).
- b) Those who live according to the flesh, without being born again, cannot please God (Romans 8:7, 8).
- c) We deserve to die (Romans 3:23; 6:23).

3. How can we be born again? John 3:5.

a) To be born of the spirit means:

- To accept Jesus into our life, and to change our thoughts and feelings (Ezekiel 36:26, 27).
- The word of God works in us through the Holy Spirit (1 Peter 1:23).
- Paul had that experience (Galatians 2:20).

b) To be born of water means baptism, a covenant with God, the public testimony of a new life (1 Peter 3:21).

4. What example did Jesus give at the Jordan River? Matthew 3:13-17.

5. What did He command His disciples to do? Matthew 28:19, 20.

WHAT METHOD IS BIBLICAL: SPRINKLING OR IMMERSION?

6. What does baptism symbolize and commemorate? Romans 6:3-6.

- a) It commemorates the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.
- b) It symbolizes the death and burial of the "old man" of sin.
- c) It represents resurrection to a "new life."
- d) It symbolizes divine cleansing from sin (Acts 22:16).

7. What does the word baptism mean?

The Greek words baptize means "immersion" not sprinkling. Archaeology proves that all the baptisteries of the first centuries were built to baptize the believer by immersion. A traveler can still see these baptisteries in the Negev region, Thessalonica, Ephesus, Rome, Pisa, and more.

8. What evidences is there that baptism was done by immersion? Acts 8:36-39.

WHAT SHOULD PRECEDE BAPTISM?

9. The candidate should be thoroughly instructed. What did Jesus specifically recommend be taught? Matthew 28:19-20.

10. What does the person who is baptized need to be saved? Mark 16:16.

11. What attitude should we have regarding our sins? Acts 2:38.

12. Through what door do we enter His church, which is the body of Christ? 1 Corinthians 12:13, 27.

THE LORD'S SUPPER, AN ORDINANCE GIVEN BY JESUS

13. What do the wine and bread represent? 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.

14. What should be done before one takes part in the Lord's Supper? Verse 28, 29.

15. What did Jesus command to be done on occasion of the Last Supper? John 13:4-15.

Thank you, Lord, for telling me how to enter in Your Kingdom!

My decision: I wish to prepare to make a covenant with God through biblical baptism.

.....

HOW IDENTIFY A TRUE PROPHET

GOD COMMUNICATES WITH MAN

1. In the beginning, God communicated with man face to face, but sin separated him from God (Isaiah 59:2). Christ bridged the gap between man and God. **What means did God provide to reveal His mysteries to men?** Amos 3:7.
2. **Is being a prophet by human designation, by inheritance, or does it come directly from God?** Ephesians 4:8, 11.
3. **What is a prophet?**
The word prophet comes from two Hebrew words: roeh, which means to see; that is why a prophet is also called a seer (1 Samuel 9:9), and the word nabi, which means to declare. Therefore, a prophet sees and declares what God shows him and then he writes down the message (Daniel 7:1).
4. **How does God transmit His messages to the prophets?** Numbers 12:6-8.
5. **What type of prophets are to arise at the end of time?** Matthew 24:24.
6. **What is God's purpose in giving the prophetic gift to His people?** Ephesians 4:11, 12.

7. **According to the book of Revelation, would the last church have the gift of prophecy?** Revelation 12:17; 19:10.

8. **How can we distinguish a true prophet from a false one?**

TEN CHARACTERISTICS OF A TRUE PROPHET:

1. **His life should be an example** (Matthew 7:15, 16). "Ye shall know them by their fruits." The results of his work will testify of their divine origin.

2. **"To the law and to the testimony"** (Isaiah 8:20). His teachings will be in harmony with the law of God and with the message of previous prophets.

3. **All the prophecies he proclaims come true** (Deuteronomy 18:22).

4. **He does not incite apostasy** or separation from the will of God (Deuteronomy 13:1-4).

5. **He acknowledges Christ's incarnation** (1 John 4:1-3).

6. **His messages are straightforward.** He does not flatter; on the contrary, he points out the people's sins (Isaiah 58:1), and God's imminent judgment (Revelation 14:6, 7).

7. **His messages are important, not trivial.** He contributes to the spiritual growth of the church and gives advice on religious matters (2 Corinthians 13:2, 3).

8. **His teachings and his life will have Christ at their core** (2 Corinthians 10:5).

9. **He will prophesy in the Lord's name** and he

will never give his own interpretation (2 Peter 1:20, 21).

10. **We should look at how he receives the visions** and his relationship to the people of his time (Daniel 10:8).

THE PROPHETIC GIFT AND THE WOMAN

9. **Can a woman have a prophetic gift? The Bible mentions:**

Miriam (Exodus 15:20); Deborah (Judges 4:4); Hilkiah (2 Kings 22:14); Anna (Luke 2:36); Phillip's four daughters (Acts 21:9).

10. **Was this gift manifested in the church of God in the times of the end?**

11. **Thanks to this divine help, we have a deeper understanding of God's ways. What happens to God's people without the prophetic word?** Proverbs 29:18.

12. **What advice does God give us?** 1 Thessalonians 5:20, 21.

13. **How long will this gift be necessary?** Ephesians 4:13.

14. **What does God promise to those who believe in the prophets?** 2 Chronicles 20:20

Thank you, Lord, for telling me how to enter in Your Kingdom!

My decision: I believe that God revealed Himself to the last church through the spirit of prophecy.

.....

SEVEN KEYS TO A HEALTHY LIFE

1. The Bible says that our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. What will God do to those who deliberately defile it? 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17.

Seven Keys to a Healthy Life:

- **One:** Use water internally and externally. Doctors recommend six to eight glasses of water a day, drunk between meals, to detoxify the system. Showering daily is also very advantageous, as it stimulates the elimination of toxins through the pores, thus contributing to excellent physical health.
- **Two:** Rest sufficiently. We should sleep at least 8 hours a day (though children need more) because it strengthens the nervous system. Furthermore, a weekly rest day, such as the Sabbath, is a blessing both for the body and the soul.
- **Three:** Implement regular habits. Keep a fixed eating schedule. Eating between meals overloads the stomach. When we finish eating, we should rest the stomach for about four to six hours, without ingesting anything else but liquids.
- **Four:** Practice temperance. One should be temperate when eating, at work and in all

activities: sexual, intellectual, etc. Even the healthiest food, if taken in excess can be detrimental to our health. We should leave the table feeling that we could have eaten more. Digestion starts in the mouth, so chew your food well. Temperance means balance. We should not to eat just because we like something but also because it is good for us.

- **Five:** Consume natural foods. We will expand below:

(CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE)

7. What advantages did Daniel and his friends have by avoiding the consumption of meat and alcoholic beverages? Daniel 1:8-20.

8. What advantages are there to a lacto-ovo vegetarian diet?

There are seven advantages, physical, moral and spiritual

- **Six:** *Avoid stimulants and drugs.* Tobacco is a merciless murderer of millions of people.

9. What does the Bible say about the consumption of alcoholic beverages? Proverbs 20:1; 23:29-33.

10. What kind of diet was John the Baptist, who prepared the way for the first coming of Jesus, to have from his mother's womb? Luke 1:15.

11. What other stimulants are detrimental to our health?

- Coffee, tea, mate, and soft drinks all contain caffeine. Drugs such as LSD, morphine, marijuana, cocaine, and certain medicines.

➤ **Seven:** *Use natural medicines, and ask God for help.*

12. Why were plants created? Psalm 104:14.

13. What should we do when we are sick? James 5:14, 15.

14. What can I do in response to His love? Romans 12:1, 2.

15. How can we lead a temperate life, according to God's precepts? Philippians 4:13.

Thank you, Lord, for teaching me to take care of my body!

My decision: *I intend to nourish myself naturally, according to the indications God gave to man in the beginning.*

.....

SEVEN KEYS TO A HEALTHY LIFE

2. What kind of food was man given when he was created in Eden? Genesis 1:29.

Fruits, plant yielding seeds, and cereals were foods given to man in the beginning.

When God created man, He did not give him meat as food. In paradise God gave man only fruit, nuts and cereals (Genesis 1:29). When he fell into sin he was told "and thou shalt eat the herb of the field," so then he ate fruit, vegetables and cereals.

Is there scientific proof that man was created to be vegetarian? YES, THERE IS A GREAT RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN THE INTESTINES AND TEETH OF HERBIVOROUS ANIMALS AND MAN. If we compare carnivorous to herbivorous animals, we see that carnivorous animals, such as the lion, tiger, hyena, etc., have short intestine while herbivorous animals, such as cows, horses and sheep, have long intestines. The human being has a very long intestine.

Carnivorous animals have incisors (sharp teeth) while herbivorous do not. The teeth and intestines of human beings are more similar to herbivorous animals than they are to carnivorous ones.

LONGEVITY OF OUR FOREFATHERS:

During the time when man did not eat meat, he lived about 900 years. Adam lived 930; Seth,

912; Enoch, 905; Mahalaleel, 895; Jared, 365; Enoch, 365 (and God took him); Methuselah, 969; Lamech, 767; and Noah, 950 years.

After the flood, the life of man was reduced to about 200 years, no doubt partly due to the fact that he started to eat meat.

3. When was man allowed to eat certain kinds of meat, called clean meats? Genesis 7:2; 9:3, 4.

Before the flood, about 1,500 years after creation, God's people did not eat meat. There were people who lived up to 500 years; but when meat was permitted in man's diet, longevity immediately diminished.

Although man was allowed to eat meat after the flood, he was never allowed to eat blood, fat or unclean animals. He could only eat the kinds of animals mentioned in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14.

The animals that are considered clean have two main characteristics: "a cloven foot and chew the cud" like sheep, cows and goats. Among the so-called unclean animals are the pig, hare, rabbit, camel, etc.

Eating blood was always prohibited, because life is in the blood. (Genesis 9:4, 5; Leviticus 7:26 - 27; Acts 15:20). Animals had to be killed in a special way; and their blood, carefully drained.

4. When the people of Israel were in the wilderness on the way to Canaan, the

Promised Land, God wanted to give them a special diet without meat. What punishment did they suffer for not wanting to obey God's rules? Numbers 11:4, 19, 20, 33, 34.

5. Who should learn from the above example, and what command did the Lord give the people living at the end of time? 1 Corinthians 10:5, 6, 11.

God's purpose is that His people return to the healthful food given to man at the beginning of the world: fruits, nuts, vegetables and cereals; a natural diet without meat.

The people of Israel left Egypt to go to Canaan. We have left the world (Egypt) to go to the heavenly Canaan. Just as God wanted to give His people at that time a diet without meat, so He wishes to prepare us today to go back to the diet that was given to man at the beginning of the world.

6. Will meat be eaten in heaven and for eternity? Revelation 21:4; Isaiah 25:8.

The delicious fruits that grow each month will be eaten (Revelation 22:2). The diet man received in paradise, which was altered by sin, will be restored at Jesus' coming.

(RETURN TO THE PREVIOUS SHEET, POINT 7)

HOW TO SOLVE MY FINANCIAL PROBLEMS

THE RIGHTFUL OWNER OF ALL THINGS

1. Man usually claims property ownership however, who is the rightful owner of all things? Psalms 24:1, 2; 50:7, 10-12.
2. What does God say about the silver and gold that man claims? Haggai 2:8.
3. What should we never say if we have prospered financially and what should we recognize? Deuteronomy 8:11-14, 17, 18.
4. On what basis does God claim everything as His?
 - a) Because He created us. (Psalms 100:3).
 - b) Because we were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:18, 19).
 - c) For in him we live, and move, and have our being... (Acts 17:28).
5. What should I ask myself when I see what Jesus has done and continues to do for me every day? Psalms 116:12-14.

STEWARDS OF GOD'S PROPERTY

6. What should we do with our bodies, property, time and money? What title was given to us? 1 Peter 4:10.

- a) **My body:** we are God's property (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20; 10:31). Let us glorify God in our body by keeping it in good health. Let us not weaken or destroy our vital energy by consuming things that are detrimental to our health. Let us use our body and strength to collaborate in God's plan for the salvation of the world.
- b) **My time:** God gives us six days to work and devote ourselves to our own interests, but He claims the seventh day, the Sabbath, as His (Exodus 20:9, 10). That day was set aside by God and sanctified; if we dedicate it to our own interests and do not observe it properly, we are stealing from the time that belongs to the Lord. It was instituted for our own good. Let us dedicate this time to speaking with others about the plan of salvation (Acts 4:32).
- c) **My talents:** What do we do with the talents God has given us? Do we use them for Him? Talking, singing, caring for the sick, teaching children, etc., are all talents that God may have given us to be used to proclaim the kingdom of Christ (Matthew 28:18-20).

The parable of the talents is solemn and very important (Matthew 25:14, 19-30). We should work every day for God by speaking to others about the love of Jesus and teaching the great truths that we learn

from His word. We will feel very happy and our talents will develop!

- d) **My money:** we will also have to give an account to God for the money that He has entrusted to us.

Do we use money in a selfish way, or are we ready to support the preaching of the message with the means the Creator has given us?

6. How do we answer the question in Psalm 116:12: "What shall I render unto to the Lord for all His benefits towards me?" What we respond? Proverbs 3:9-10.

This is the secret of material prosperity. We should give a part of our income to help spread God's message.

THE DIVINE PLAN

7. What portion of the property God has entrusted to us does He claim for Himself? Leviticus 27:30-32.

HOW TO SOLVE MY FINANCIAL PROBLEMS

THE DIVINE PLAN

8. What is the tithe used for? Numbers 18:20-24.
9. What was the tithe used for in the New Testament? 1 Corinthians 9:13, 14.
10. Long before the days of Moses, Abraham and Jacob gave their tithes to God. What means are we taught to give from? Genesis 14:20; 28:20-22.

PRINCIPLES REGULATING POVERTY AND PROSPERITY

11. What is one of the great secrets of material prosperity? Proverbs 11:24, 25.
12. What does the Bible say about the results of generosity? 2 Corinthians 9:6, 7, 10.
13. What blessings does God promise the believers? Malachi 3:10-12.
14. What else should we give? Malachi 3:8.

CONCLUSION

15. How can we save in the bank of heaven?
Luke 6:38.

God loves those who give with a cheerful heart, but we should remember that we are not really giving anything, because everything belongs to Him. When we return what is His, we are simply saying, "*I acknowledge You as my Lord, I love you. Here is the interest of what You gave to me to manage.*" And He will say, "*Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.*" Matthew 25:21.

Thank you Lord, because you make me your collaborator!

My decision: *I am willing to be a faithful steward of God and to cooperate in His work.*

.....

ADORNMENT OF THE SOUL

1. What is true beauty called, which shines from the inside out, with the help of the Holy Spirit? 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 7; Romans 6:22.
2. What part of our being is sanctified by the Holy Spirit's work in us? 1 Thessalonians 5:23.
3. What advice is given regarding our clothing and personal appearance? 1 Timothy 2:9, 10.
4. What does the true adornment of the Christian woman consist of? 1 Peter 3:2-5.
5. What truly enhances a person's appearance? Proverbs 15:13.
6. What type of clothing displeases the Lord? Deuteronomy 22:5.
7. Does the Bible say anything about the length of ladies' hair? 1 Corinthians 11:14, 15.

AMUSEMENTS

8. What principles in the Bible can we apply to amusements and entertainment? Philippians 4:8.
9. Can our spiritual life be affected by watching scenes of violence, crime and adultery, even if they are not true? Isaiah 33:15-17.
10. What advice is given to the person who wants to look for things that are good and uplifting? 1 John 2:15-17.
11. What does God instruct those who wish to show gratitude to Jesus for having saved them? 1 Peter 1:13-19.
12. What alone should motivate us to obey God? 1 Peter 2:21-25.

When Saul was a persecutor and Jesus appeared to him and invited him to follow Him, he asked, "What wilt Thou have me do (Acts 9:6)?" This should be our attitude. We will receive the answer if we ask ourselves: "What would Jesus do in my place?" Let us tell Him: "Lord, I want to act as you would if you were in my place," and He will show us what we should do.

CONCLUSION

13. Where can we gain strength to change our habits and customs? Philippians 2:13; 4:13.
14. What reward awaits overcomers? Mark 10:28-30; 1 Corinthians 9:23-27.

Thank you, Lord, for teaching me how to please you!

My decision: *I want to glorify God through my clothing and entertain myself according to His will.*

.....

TWELVE SECRETS TO SUCCESS

- 1. Give your heart to Jesus and accept His salvation and justification (Romans 5:1). What words does He address to you? Proverbs 23:26.**
- 2. Put God in first place. What were Jesus' words regarding this? Matthew 6:33.**
- 3. We should accept our human weakness and unite our heart with Christ's, trusting in His grace every day. What is this connection compared to? John 15:4, 5.**
- 4. Carefully search God's word daily (Acts 17:11). What should be our purpose? Deuteronomy 17:19.**
- 5. Always pray. How many times a day did Daniel pray? Daniel 6:10.**
- 6. Have faith. What can we not do without faith? Hebrews 11:6.**

7. Attend church meetings (Hebrews 10:25).
What was Jesus' custom? Luke 4:16.
8. Forgive and love. What example should
constantly inspire us? Colossians 3:13, 14.
9. Follow Jesus' example in the obedience
to His commandments. Who is salvation
promised to? Hebrews 5:8, 9.
10. Be a light to others. What does the Lord
want us to be? Acts 13:47.
11. Be steadfast. What promise can we cling
to? Hebrews 10:23.
12. Trust and allow God to work in us. What
promise does the Lord give to those who
surrender themselves wholly before Jesus?
Philippians 2:12, 13.

IS SUCCESS THE RESULT OF FATE?

13. What opportunity does God give every
human being? Deuteronomy 30:14-16, 19.
14. What advice does Jesus give us? John
12:35, 36.

SEVEN WONDERFUL PROMISES OF GOD

To him that overcometh...

1. "Will I give to eat of the tree of life (Revelation 2:7)."
2. "He shall not be hurt of the second death (Revelation 2:11)."
3. "I will give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone and in the stone, a new name written (Revelation 2:17)."
4. "To him will I give power over the nations (Revelation 2:26)."
5. "He shall be clothed in white garments and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life (Revelation 3:5)."
6. "I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God and he shall go no more out (Revelation 3:12)."
7. "I will grant him to sit with me in my throne (Revelation 3:21)."

Thank you, Lord, for making me a Winner!

My decision: *I wish to be numbered among the overcomers and to live a victorious life with Jesus.*

.....