

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V. Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

THE CHURCH OF GOD SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS

**SECOND QUARTER
2009**

The Church of God Sabbath School Lessons (USPS No. 560-980) is published quarterly, one month before the beginning of each new quarter: March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1, by the Church of God Publishing House, P O Box 328, Salem, WV 26426-0328. Periodicals postage will be paid at Salem, WV 26426-0328.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Church of God Sabbath School Lessons, PO Box 328, Salem, WV 26426-0328.

Your subscription is free. If you wish to contribute an offering, your contribution will be tax deductible.

IN THIS QUARTERLY

The Lord has "set" in the church various positions and gifted persons as He has sovereignly determined. These include apostles and prophets, as well as teachers and others gifted by the Lord for the benefit of the Body of Christ.

In fact, every disciple of the Lord has at least one gift or talent that he or she is expected to serve the Lord and others with. The more ability a person has been given, the more will be required of her or him by the Lord.

This set of lessons especially emphasizes the ministry of the apostles in the early church, but it also hopefully challenges us to greater service for the Lord. May God's people rise to these challenges together, and faithfully do His work through their God-given assignments!

Lesson For Sabbath, April 4, 2009

LEADERSHIP IN THE CHURCH

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:4-16.

Golden Text: Ephesians 2:20.

1. Why did Jesus choose the twelve apostles? Matthew 10:1-6; Exodus 15:27 (first part); Numbers 1:44; Matthew 19:27,28; Revelation 21:14.
 2. Why did He choose the seventy? Luke 10:1; Exodus 15:27 (last part); Exodus 24:9,10.
 3. What was "the mystery of Christ," and to whom was it first revealed? Ephesians 3:1-6.
 4. How did Jesus call and mentor the twelve apostles? Mark 3:13-15.
 5. After Judas Iscariot hung himself, what method was used to replace him? Acts 1:15-17, 20-26.
 6. What is meant by "signs" of an apostle? II Corinthians 12:12; Acts 2:43. What is the "seal" of an apostle? I Corinthians 9:1,2.
 7. What are some responsibilities of an apostle? Luke 9:1,2; Titus 1:1,4,5; Acts 14:19-23; 15:36,41; 16:4,5; 2:42.
- NOTE: Our apostles and other church leaders have a heavy responsibility. Let's support them in every way, including through prayer.*
8. Upon what is the Church of God built? Ephesians 2:19-22.
 9. What is the governmental order that God has set in the church? I Corinthians 12:27-30.
 10. What is the five-fold ministry of the church? Ephesians 4:11. For what purpose is this ministry? vss. 12-16.

Lesson For Sabbath, April 11, 2009

PETER (Part 1)

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16:13-28.

Golden Text: John 13:8,9.

1. What was Peter's occupation? Matthew 4:18-20. Was he married? I Corinthians 9:5; Matthew 8:14. What was his city of residence? John 1:44.
2. How did Peter come to Jesus? John 1:40-42.
3. What incident caused Peter to follow Jesus? Luke 5:3-8,11.
4. After being called to apostleship (Matthew 10:1,2), what special privilege was Peter given? Matthew 17:1,2; Mark 5:37-39,41,42; Matthew 26:36-38.
5. What special revelation was given to Peter by the Father in heaven? Matthew 16:13-17; John 6:65-69.
6. Did Peter always have great faith? Matthew 14:25-31.
7. What question did Peter ask Jesus about forgiveness? What was Jesus' answer? Matthew 18:21,22.
8. What was Peter's attitude toward the Lord Jesus? John 13:6-10.
9. Was Peter always true to this conviction? Luke 22:54-62. How had Jesus warned Peter of this event? vs. 31-34.
10. What commission was given to Peter by Jesus? John 21:15-17.

Lesson For Sabbath, April 18, 2009

PETER (Part 2)

Scripture Reading: Acts 10:9-28.

Golden Text: Acts 3:6.

1. After he was filled with the Holy Spirit, along with the other disciples on the day of Pentecost, what was part of Peter's message? Acts 2:32-36.
2. What was the result of Peter's preaching? Acts 2:37-41.
3. What do you think was most significant about Peter's involvement with the healing of the lame man? Acts 3:6-9.
4. What was the Source of Peter's boldness? Acts 4:8-13.
5. To what extent was Peter filled with the Holy Spirit? Acts 5:12-16.
6. When told not to teach in Jesus' name, what was Peter's reply? Acts 5:25-29.
7. Compare the raising of Tabitha (Dorcas) with that of Jairus' daughter, Acts 9:36-42; Mark 5:35-42. Who had been Peter's teacher?
8. What was Peter's vision, and what did it mean? Acts 10:9-17,28.
9. What happened to Peter after Herod had put him in prison? Acts 12:5-11. Who had been praying? vs. 12.
10. For all of his faith and boldness, was Peter a perfect person? Galatians 2:11-14.

Lesson For Sabbath, April 25, 2009

ANDREW

Scripture Reading: Mark 13:1-13.

Golden Text: John 1:40,41.

1. Who was Andrew? Matthew 4:18-20; Mark 1:16-18.
2. With whom did Andrew live? Mark 1:29-31.
3. At first, who had Andrew been a disciple of? John 1:35-40. Who did Andrew bring to Jesus? vss. 41,42.

NOTE: Some have called this event "the Andrew principle" of evangelism in which one family member witnesses of Jesus to another family member. Discuss how effective you believe this approach is.
4. What did Jesus tell His disciples in Matthew 9:37,38? How did Andrew and the other apostles become part of the answer to this prayer? Matthew 10:1, 5-8.
5. Is the work of the Lord only for apostles? Romans 16:1-5; I Corinthians 16:15; Revelation 2:1-3.
6. What questions did Andrew and some of the other apostles ask Jesus? Mark 13:1-4.
7. What answer did Jesus give them? Mark 13:5-13.
8. What part did Andrew play in the feeding of the five thousand? John 6:8-14. How might the Lord multiply our service for Him?
9. After Jesus' ascension, where did Andrew and other disciples congregate? Acts 1:12-14.

Lesson For Sabbath, May 2, 2009

JAMES

Scripture Reading: Luke 22:24-27,39-46.

Golden Text: Luke 22:25,26.

1. Who was James? Matthew 4:21,22.

NOTE: James (and John) were sons of Zebedee and Salome (see Matthew 27:55,56; Mark 15:40).
2. Who was James a business partner with? Luke 5:9,10.
3. After being called to apostleship (Matthew 10:2), what special privilege was James, along with his brother John, and Peter given? Matthew 17:1,2; Mark 5:35-42; Matthew 26:36-38.
4. What sur-name was given to James and John? Mark 3:17. This sur-name may give us a clue into these two brothers' characters.
5. What special favor did James and John's mother ask Jesus for? Matthew 20:20,21; Mark 10:35-37.
6. What was Jesus' reply? Matthew 20:22-24; Mark 10:38-45.
7. What vengeful request did James and John ask of Jesus? What was His reply? Luke 9:51-56. See II Kings 1:9-12.
8. James, as well as John and Peter, were with Jesus during His agony in Gethsemane (see Mark 14:32-34). However, what did they probably miss observing? Why? Luke 22:41-46.
9. How did James give his life for the Lord? Acts 12:1,2.

Lesson For Sabbath, May 9, 2009

JOHN

Scripture Reading: John 20:1-10.

Golden Text: John 13:23.

1. What incident do we find recorded in John 1:35-37?

NOTE: We have already learned in a previous lesson that one of these disciples was Andrew (vs. 40). It is speculated that the other disciple was John.

2. What special relationship did John have with the Lord Jesus? John 13:21-26; John 21:7,20. Can we have this same relationship with Jesus? What would it take?

3. Who was with Peter during part of the trial of Jesus, and why did he possibly have access to the high priest's palace? John 18:15,16.

4. To whom did Jesus entrust the care of His mother during the crucifixion? John 19:25-27. It has been thought that "the elect lady" of II John 1 may have been Mary. Do you agree?

5. Discuss some of the events surrounding Jesus' resurrection. John 20:1-8.

6. What was it that the disciples didn't know about Jesus? John 20:9,10.

7. What part did John have with the Samaritan converts? Acts 8:14-17.

8. How solid was John in the Church of God, and what mission did he have? Galatians 2:9.

9. John wrote his Gospel as well as I, II, III John, and Revelation. What was prophesied of him in Revelation? Revelation 10:8-11.

Lesson For Sabbath, May 16, 2009

PHILIP, BARTHOLOMEW (NATHANAEL), THOMAS, AND MATTHEW

Scripture Reading: John 6:1-7; 14:1-6.

Golden Text: Mark 2:14.

1. How did Philip come to Jesus, and who did he bring to the Lord? John 1:43-46.

2. How did the Lord prove Philip about His feeding of a great multitude? John 6:3-7.

3. What did Philip do when certain Greeks came to him asking about Jesus? John 12:20-22. How did Jesus respond? vss. 23-26.

4. What was Jesus' reply to Philip when he wanted Jesus to show them the Father? John 14:8-12.

5. When Nathanael (Bartholomew) came to Jesus, what statements did the Lord make about him? John 1:47-51.

6. Just before Jesus went to raise Lazarus from the dead, what declaration did Thomas make? John 11:16. (Didymus means "twin". We can only speculate that Thomas had a twin.)

7. What question did Thomas ask Jesus, and what was the Lord's reply? John 14:1-6.

8. Why is Thomas called "Doubting Thomas"? John 20:24-29.

9. Where was Thomas and some others when Jesus showed Himself to them after His resurrection? John 21:1-6.

10. What was Matthew's occupation when Jesus called him? Matthew 9:9. See also Luke 5:27-32.

Lesson For Sabbath, May 23, 2009

JAMES THE SON OF ALPHAEUS, AND JAMES THE LORD'S BROTHER

Scripture Reading: Mark 3:16-19; Acts 15:1-21.

Golden Text: Acts 15:19,20.

1. Who was James the son of Alphaeus? Mark 3:14,18; 15:40; 16:1.

NOTE: It is believed that this James is called "the less" in Mark 15:40, suggesting that he was shorter than James the son of Zebedee and Salome. He is possibly the son of Mary, the sister of Mary the mother of Jesus, and Alphaeus (or Clopas). See John 19:25; Matthew 27:55,56. James would therefore be a cousin of Jesus.

2. Who may have been James' brother? Mark 2:14.

3. What do we read about Jesus' personal family? Matthew 13:54-56; Mark 6:2,3; John 2:11,12.

4. Though His brethren followed Jesus, what sad fact do we find about them? John 7:1-5. After Jesus' resurrection, at least two of His brothers apparently became His disciples: James--Galatians 1:19; and Jude--Jude 1. See also I Corinthians 9:5.

5. What may have been James' conversion experience? I Corinthians 15: 5-7.

6. How did James and other disciples receive Paul and Barnabas? Galatians 2:9. What happened in vss. 11,12?

7. At the Jerusalem Council, what was James' "sentence" which he declared concerning converted Gentiles? Acts 15:13-21.

8. Whom did Paul report to when he came to Jerusalem for the last time? Acts 21:17-19.

9. To whom is James' epistle addressed in James 1:1? What were some problems he had to point out? James 2:1-4; 3:1,2; 4:1-4; 5:1-3.

Lesson For Sabbath, May 30, 2009

LEBBAEUS, SIMON THE CANAANITE, JU- DAS ISCARIOT, AND MATTHIAS

Scripture Reading: John 13:1-38.

Golden Text: John 13:34,35.

1. We know that Lebbaeus was sur-named Thaddaeus (see Matthew 10:3). What other name may he have been known as? John 14:22; Luke 6:16.

2. What other name did Simon the Canaanite (Matthew 10:4) go by? Luke 6:15.

NOTE: Simon apparently had belonged to the radical political group known as the Zealots. This group was in opposition to Herod. Therefore, he was called "Zeletes."

3. What was Judas Iscariot's position among the twelve apostles? John 13:29. As the group's treasurer, was he honest? John 12:4-6.

4. How covetous was Judas? Matthew 26:14-16; Luke 22:3-6.

5. What caused Judas to betray the Lord? John 13:2,26,27.

6. After Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss (Luke 22:48), what did he do? Matthew 27:3,4.

7. Even though Judas "repented himself," was he lost? Matthew 27:5; Acts 1:18; John 17:12.

8. What are some prophecies concerning Judas? Acts 1:16,20; Psalm 69:25; 109:8; 41:9; Zechariah 11:12,13.

9. Who replaced Judas as one of the twelve? Acts 1:23-26.

Lesson For Sabbath, June 6, 2009

PAUL AND BARNABAS

Scripture Reading: Acts 9:1-20.

Golden Text: Acts 9:20.

1. What do we first learn about Saul, who was also called Paul? Acts 7:57-60; 8:1-3; I Corinthians 15:9.
2. How was he converted? Acts 9:3-6,17,18.
3. What are some facts about his life? Romans 11:1; Philippians 3:5; Acts 21:39; 22:25-28; II Corinthians 10:10.
4. How did Paul support himself? Acts 18:3; 20:33-35.
5. How did Paul and Barnabas first team up? Acts 11:25,26.
6. Where and how did the Lord call Paul and Barnabas to the mission field, and to whom were they sent? Acts 13:1-3,44-47; Galatians 2:7-9.
7. What took place at Athens? Acts 17:16-23.
8. What happened at Troas? Acts 20:6-12.
9. Discuss the "visions and revelations of the Lord" that Paul experienced. II Corinthians 12:1-5.
10. Because of such revelations, what was Paul given? II Corinthians 12:7-10; Galatians 4:13,14.

Lesson for Sabbath, June 13, 2009

PAUL'S SUFFERINGS

Scripture Reading: II Corinthians 11:23-33.

Golden Text: II Timothy 3:12.

1. What did the Lord prophesy about Paul? Acts 9:15,16; 20:22,23.
2. Where do we first read of Paul being persecuted? Acts 9:22-25.
3. What happened to Paul at Lystra? Acts 14:19-22; II Timothy 3:10-12.
4. Why was Paul and Silas beaten and put into prison? Acts 16:16-19,22-24.
NOTE: We can see that even though Paul and Silas were put into prison, God used this incident to cause the Philippian jailor and his family to be saved (vss. 25-34.)
5. How did the Lord spare Paul in Achaia? Acts 18:12-17.
6. What took place in the Temple in Jerusalem concerning Paul? Acts 21:26-32.
7. What conspiracy was made by some Jews to kill Paul? Acts 23:9-15.
8. How does Paul sum up some of his sufferings? II Corinthians 11:24-28.
9. Why did Paul say he experienced sufferings? II Corinthians 1:8-10; 4:8-11.
10. Can sufferings separate us from the love of Christ and of God? Romans 8:35-39.

Lesson For Sabbath, June 20, 2009

JESUS, OUR APOSTLE AND HIGH PRIEST

Scripture Reading: Matthew 21:33-46.

Golden Text: Hebrews 3:1,2.

1. Why was Jesus sent to earth? Luke 4:16-21.
2. To whom was Jesus sent? Matthew 15:24; Luke 4:42-44.
3. To whom did Jesus send His disciples? John 17:18-20; Matthew 28:19,20.
4. What is the Father's witness that He had sent Jesus? John 5:36,37; Matthew 11:20-26.
5. What is the Father's will in sending His Son? John 6:38-40.
6. How can one know true doctrine? John 7:14-17.
7. What did Jesus purchase with His blood? Acts 20:28; Matthew 20:28; John 10:11.
8. Because of Jesus' sacrifice, what is the position of a child of God? Hebrews 12:22-24.
9. Through Jesus, what are Jews and Gentiles considered to be? Ephesians 2:18-22; I Corinthians 10:32.
10. What is Christ's role in heaven for His people? Hebrews 7:24-28.
11. Discuss the meaning of the parable of the householder. Matthew 21:33-41.

Lesson For Sabbath, June 27, 2009

SERVICE FOR THE LORD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:1-30.

Golden Text: I Corinthians 12:7.

1. Why is the work of an evangelist so important? II Timothy 4:1-5.
2. What are the qualifications for a bishop (elder)? I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9.
NOTE: According to Titus, an elder ("presbuteros") and a bishop ("episcopos"), meaning "overseer," refer to the same position. Also, compare Acts 20:17 with vs. 28. Furthermore, an elder/bishop is also a pastor/shepherd. See I Peter 5:1-4.
3. What is the duty of a congregation to their pastor? Hebrews 13:17 (first part); I Timothy 5:1,17-19. Of a pastor to his congregation? Hebrews 13:17 (second part); John 21:16; Jeremiah 3:15.
4. What are the qualifications for a deacon? I Timothy 3:8-13.
5. Why were seven men chosen in Acts? Acts 6:1-7.
6. What did Paul write to Timothy which applies to teachers? I Timothy 1:1-4; II Timothy 2:1,2,24-26.
7. What are disciples of the Lord to teach? Matthew 5:19; 28:19,20; Colossians 3:16.
8. Let's encourage our women in their roles and contributions to the church. Romans 16:1,2; Titus 2:3-5; I Corinthians 11:5 (first part); Acts 21:8,9. In Romans 16:1, the word "servant" means "deaconess."
9. Discuss some of the gifts that the Lord has given to His people and how they can be used for His service. Romans 12:4-8; I Corinthians 12:27-30.
10. How serious is the Lord about the gifts or talents He has given His people? Matthew 25:20-30.