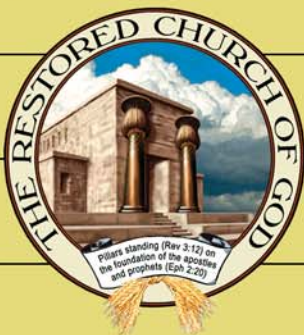


THE RESTORED CHURCH OF GOD

CHILDREN'S BIBLE LESSONS



“A New King Over Israel”



LEVEL 5 LESSON 1

“A New King Over Israel”

In this Level of the *Children’s Bible Lessons*, we will read about prophets and kings, warriors and battles, young men and giants. We will learn about how God blesses and protects those who obey Him. We will also read about God’s Plan for you, your parents—and the entire world!

You may have never thought of this, but there is a reason why you were born. There is a purpose for human life today, and most people, including your teachers and friends at school, do not know what this reason is.

How many times have you opened a new game or electronic gadget, and saw that it contained an instruction book? This book gives important information you need in order to use the item correctly. Well, the Bible is God’s Instruction Book *for people*. It gives guidelines, laws and examples on how to obey God, and how to achieve a happy and successful life. Most importantly, it helps you to understand God’s purpose—and His special calling for *you*!

ABOUT OUR COVER:

David cared for his father’s flock of sheep, which looked to David to feed, guide and protect them.

Illustrations by Paula Rondeau

In this Lesson, we will learn how God also had a special plan for his servant, Samuel the prophet. Samuel was to find a young person, much like yourself, whom God had chosen for a *special* calling: This young man was to be anointed as the new king of Israel!

Samuel—A Man of God

One day, God called for Samuel: “You are to go to the tribe of Judah, and visit Jesse the Bethlehemite. Take your oil for anointing, for I have chosen one of Jesse’s sons to be Israel’s new king.”

But Samuel was worried. “If King Saul hears of this,” Samuel said, “He will have me killed.” Samuel did not say this because he intended to disobey God. Samuel was very obedient. But, as with most people, he allowed his fears to get the best of him for a brief moment.

Samuel remembered the last time he had met with King Saul. Because of Saul’s rebellion and sin, God had rejected Saul as king! Samuel knew that sin is disobeying God’s laws, and that sin hurts the person who commits it. Just as it is a crime to break one of man’s laws, SIN is breaking *God’s* laws!

Because of Saul’s sin, God had rejected him, and was sending Samuel to anoint another king to replace him. This time, God had chosen a young man who would fully obey Him, and not rebel as Saul did.

In I Samuel 16:2-3, God told Samuel what to do. As you read the verses, fill out the missing words to better understand the scripture. Remember to use the New King James Version of the Bible. (If you are unsure which version this is, ask your parents to help you find one.): “And said, ‘How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.’ But the LORD said, ‘Take a heifer [calf] with you, and say, ‘I have come to _____ to to the LORD.’ Then _____ Jesse to the _____, and I will show you what you shall do; you shall _____ for Me the one I _____ to you.’”

Samuel understood that with God protecting him, there wasn’t anything Saul or anyone could do to hurt him. So Samuel did not question God, but did exactly what God told him to do. He took his best calf and his horn of oil, and went to Bethlehem. Once there, he would invite Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice, and meet the young man who would replace Saul.

The Shepherd Boy

Meanwhile, in the town of Bethlehem, a young man was herding a flock of sheep owned by his father, Jesse. This young shepherd boy, named David, was the youngest of eight sons, and often had to do

some of the jobs his older brothers didn’t want. He knew what it meant to be picked on by his older brothers, yet he always respected them, and made sure that he followed through with whatever he was asked to do.

As a young shepherd, David also had many responsibilities to his father and his flock. He protected and cared for the harmless and delicate sheep, who looked to him for guidance. Not only did David care for them, he often had to fight off wild animals who tried to eat them!

David thought back to one time when he fought and killed a bear, or when he slew a lion that was trying to kill his father’s sheep. David understood that he had not killed these animals because of his physical strength or speed. In fact, David was frightened when the lion and bear attacked the flock. But, he realized that God protected him from these vicious animals. He was able to kill these deadly beasts because he always prayed and relied on God to watch over him.

David remembered the many stories his father taught him about God, and how, in the Garden of Eden, God created all the animals to be kind and gentle.

But this soon changed. In fact, *one* event changed everything—including the nature of the animals. This event changed the life of every human who would ever exist.

The Creation Week

Genesis 1:1-2 reads, “In the _____ God created the

_____ and the _____. The earth was without _____, and _____; and _____ was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was _____ over the face of the _____.” These verses show God, at the beginning of the creation week, looking on the devastated earth, which was once beautiful and lush. God had placed the archangel Lucifer, a powerful angelic being (who was third in command under God), to rule the earth with one-third of the many millions of angels.



The universe, with its many planets and stars, is only one aspect of God's creation and His Plan for mankind.

Lucifer was a very talented spirit being who, unlike David's thankful and humble attitude, began to think that *he* was special. Instead of thanking and obeying God, Lucifer became jealous of God, and sinned against Him. Lucifer then led a rebellion against God, but was quickly defeated by God and His holy angels. In a hateful rage, Lucifer, now called Satan the devil, destroyed God's beautiful physical creation.

This is how the earth became devastated, as we read in Genesis 1:1-2. But God would soon recreate and beautify the face of the earth.

On the first day of the Creation Week, notice what God said in Genesis 1:3: "Let there be _____"; and there was _____." On this day, God, through the power of His Holy Spirit, removed some of the smoke, gases and vapors covering the earth's surface. This allowed sunlight to reach the earth.

On the second day, God removed some of the water that was covering the entire earth, and caused it to form clouds in the atmosphere.

On day three, dry land appeared again. God also formed the rivers, streams, creeks, lakes and oceans.

On the fourth day, God removed the final layer of dusts and gases, revealing the twinkling stars in heaven and the moon.

On the fifth day, God created sea animals, and made the birds of the air.

On day six, God made all land animals and man.

On the seventh day, God stopped working, and rested. God didn't rest because He was tired. After all, God is Spirit, and does not need physical food, drink or rest for energy. God is made of life and energy—perfect in every way! God rested on the Sabbath day, and taught the first man and woman—Adam and Eve—that they must also rest on this day.

Mankind was commanded for all time to observe this weekly reminder that God is our Creator. We are to put aside all forms of work and entertainment (such as television programs, video games, movies, etc.), and use this day to learn about God and His way of life. Through obeying this command, man is intended to remember that God is the Provider and Source of all that we have, and that we should never rebel against Him as Satan did.

Just as Jesse taught many things to David, God taught Adam and Eve important knowledge they needed to correctly live. But soon, man rebelled against God, just as Lucifer had. With this, mankind became cut off from God and His ways, and would remain this way for 6,000 years under Satan's reign.

Under the influence and rule of the devil, the world became filled with violence and hate. Rather than following God's laws, which lead to peace and prosperity, man disobeyed God and learned the ways of unhappiness.

Test Your Memory:

1) Who led the rebellion to overthrow God?

2) What did God create on the sixth day of creation? _____

3) What did God do on the seventh day?

4) What does the Sabbath day mean for us today? _____

The Great Flood

Many years after Creation, God chose a man named Noah to carry out a special purpose. You see, mankind became evil and corrupt. Noah was the *only* person on earth who obeyed and trusted God. Everyone else continuously sinned, ignored God's laws, and lived miserable lives.

Because of this, God decided that He was going to drown mankind with a great flood. Yet, because of God's mercy, He would use Noah to (for about 120 years) warn all people of the coming Flood. During these years, Noah and his sons built a giant ship, called an ark. This ark was about three stories high and 450 feet long. God sent every type of animal to come to the ark. With these animals, God would preserve the different animal species. God would use the ark to save Noah and his family, as well as the animals.

In Genesis 7:2-3, God said, "You shall take with you _____ each of every clean animal, a male and his female; _____ each of animals that are unclean, a male and his female; also _____ each of birds of the air, male and female, to

keep the species alive on the _____ of all the earth.”

Noah understood and obeyed God’s law of clean and unclean animals. These laws are explained in Leviticus 11:1-23. On a separate sheet of paper, write out these verses. This will help you remember which animals are clean, and which are unclean to eat.

Noah fully trusted in God, and was going to completely obey His commands. He collected all the animals as God commanded him. He built the ark exactly as God told him. He warned the people of the impending flood for 120 years. Noah even put up with people laughing at him and teasing him and his sons for building this ark in the middle of dry land.

Seven days after Noah, his family and all the animals went into the ark, the first few

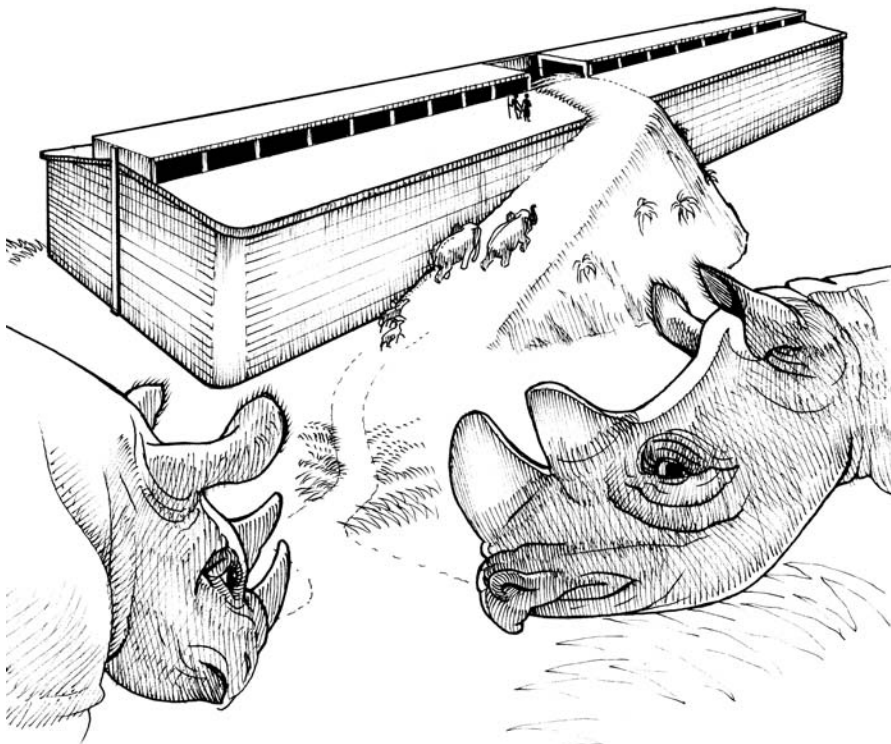
drops of rain began to fall, and the laughter soon stopped. As the rain continued, people began beating on the ark’s doors, pleading for Noah to save them. But the doors remained closed. The rain continued for forty days and forty nights. Only Noah and his family survived the Flood.

How difficult it must have been for Noah to ignore the cries of the people. While some may think that the Flood was a cruel way to deal with people, God was merciful to them. Since they were living a way against God, they had completely lost sight of His laws—and were living lives full of violence, hate and sin. They were living miserable and unhappy lives!

Nimrod—and the Tower of Babel

After the rain stopped and the flood waters disappeared, Noah freed all the animals, and his family left the ark. Noah was thankful for God’s protection, and that God kept every single promise He had made to Noah.

Notice what God then promised Noah, in Genesis 9:8-11: “Then _____ spoke to _____ and to his sons with him, saying: ‘And as for Me, behold, I _____ My covenant with _____ and with your _____ after you, and with every living



In Genesis 7, God directed Noah to gather a certain number of clean and unclean animals. Soon after the animals entered the ark, the Flood began.



For forty days and forty nights, heavy rains poured and covered the earth's surface. Inside the ark were the only animals and humans to survive. God planned for them to repopulate the entire world after the Flood.

_____ that is with you: the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you, of all that go out of the _____, every beast of the earth. Thus I _____ My covenant with you: Never again shall all _____ be cut off by the _____ of the flood; never again shall there be a _____ to _____ the earth.”

After God said this to Noah, a rainbow appeared. This was the sign of God’s promise that He would never again destroy the world with a flood. Noah fully trusted in God’s promise. With that, Noah’s three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, and their wives continued to prosper and have children.

As time passed, children became families; families became generations; generations became villages; villages became towns. Eventually, even cities came into existence. The cities of those days were different than cities today. They did not have the many luxuries provided by technology. But, many people still moved to these cities because they provided protection from the wild animals that had quickly filled the countryside. Through protective walls built around the cities, and because of the large numbers of hunters and archers on guard, cities were seen as the safest locations to live in.

One such hunter was named Nimrod. This man was a mighty warrior, and was very wicked. Nimrod was so evil, he even married his own mother, Semiramis! Together, they began the Babylonian Mystery Religion—which is the origin of most religions today.

This Babylonish religious system started the pagan holidays of Christmas and Easter, which were days for worshipping Nimrod. Those who kept these days disobeyed God, and instead chose to worship Nimrod as their god. They followed the counterfeit doctrines made by Nimrod and Semiramis, and replaced God’s true teachings.

You have probably heard of *counterfeit money*, haven’t you? Well, this simply means that criminals artificially make paper look like real money. But it’s still *fake money*! Nimrod and Semiramis did the same thing with the truth of the Bible. Since they did not want to obey God, and instead wanted to do whatever they wanted, they replaced God’s truth with false beliefs.

In Genesis 11:1-4, we read about Nimrod’s Tower of Babel project: “Now the whole earth had one _____ and one _____. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. Then they said to one another, ‘Come, let us make _____ and _____ them thoroughly.’ They had _____ for _____, and they had _____ for _____. And they said, ‘Come, let us build ourselves a _____, and a _____ whose top is in the _____; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be _____ abroad over the face of the whole earth.’”

Led by Nimrod, many people gathered together to build a giant tower. But this was not just any tower. This was Nimrod and Semiramis’ plan to try to defeat God,

and to prevent Him from destroying the earth again with a flood. Just like Satan, they tried to overthrow God from heaven, and crush His Plan for mankind. If they would have only obeyed God, they would have learned that God would never again destroy the world with a flood. They would have also learned God’s way of life—the only way that brings true happiness and joy.

Just like Satan, they soon learned that God is not someone you disobey. Seeing the great evil that the people did in the tower of Babel, God confused their languages. Up to that point, all people spoke the same language. Since there were no language differences, it was easy for everyone to communicate their thoughts and beliefs.

Great confusion followed! While working on the tower, people could not understand what others were telling them, and everyone began yelling at once! Since people could no longer communicate, and some began fist-fighting, the project quickly ended. People found others who spoke the same language they did, and left together to inhabit other areas of the world.

Because of this, the tower became known as “Babel,” which means “confusion” (Gen. 11:9).

While not all of the different languages of today originated at the tower of Babel, many did originate from these ancient languages. Take a moment to write down some of the many different languages spoken by people of the world today:

(For example, “English.”) _____

_____.

Test Your Memory:

1) How long did Noah warn the people of earth about the coming Flood? _____

2) Did anyone listen to him? _____

3) Who was saved in the ark? _____

4) After the Flood, who began the Babylonian Mystery Religion and built the tower of Babel? _____

5) How did God stop this project from being completed? _____

The Obedience of One Man

David also remembered the inspiring story of Abraham, who obeyed God through many difficult trials. David enjoyed thinking back to these many stories his father had taught him.

Abraham was actually one of David’s forefathers, and was born about 350 years after the Flood. Abraham, then called Abram, was a wealthy man who lived with his family in the land of Mesopotamia. Abram lived like a prince, and was very comfortable. But one day, God spoke to Abram.

Fill in what God said to Abram in Genesis 12:1-3: ““Get out of your _____, from your _____ and from your father’s house, to a land that I

will show you. I will make you a _____; I will _____ you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will _____ those who _____ you, and I will _____ him who _____ you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be _____.”

What did Abram do? Did he complain or argue? Did he disobey God—or unhappily obey? Did he reason, “But God, do I really need to leave the area of Babylon?”

No! In verse 4, we read, “So Abram *departed*.” He simply did as God commanded.

This obedience meant much to God, and He continued to work with and protect Abram, who would fill a very special role in God’s Plan for mankind.

Later in his life, God changed his name to Abraham. God tested Abraham’s faith and loyalty by telling him to sacrifice his only son, Isaac! Abraham obeyed God, but right before he was going to kill Isaac, God stopped him. God then knew for sure that Abraham fully trusted in Him, and would obey His every word.

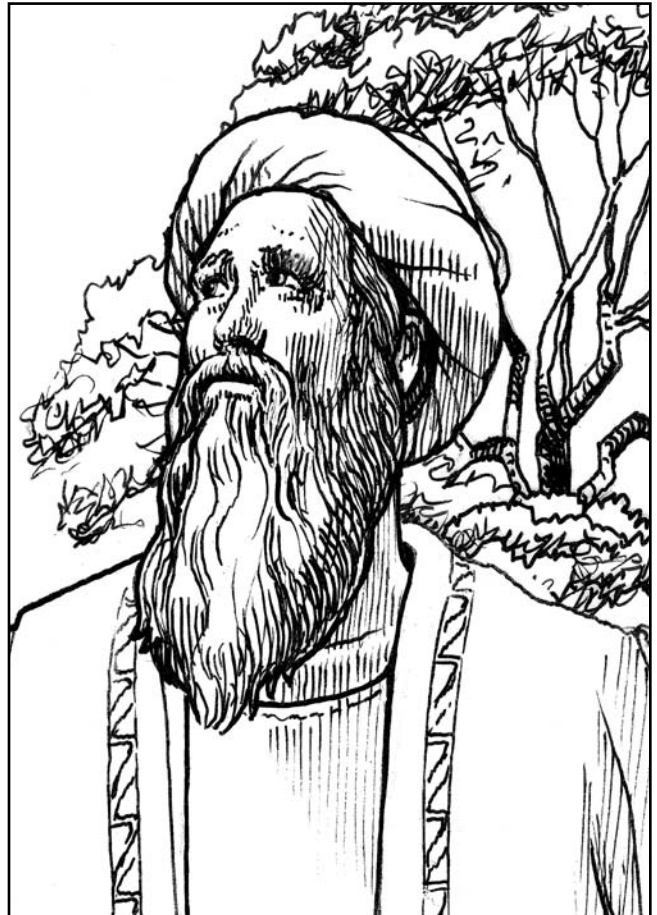
Some may say that God was cruel for asking Abraham to sacrifice his son. But God never asks anything from us that He would not do Himself. After all, a few thousand years later, God Himself sent His Son—Jesus Christ—to die for the sins of all mankind! God sacrificed His only Son, just as He had asked Abraham to do!

Through Abraham’s obedience, God did follow through with His promise, and

blessed Abraham’s seed—his children—causing them to become a truly great nation! Abraham was to be the patriarch of the nation of Israel. In the following lines, write out the dictionary’s definition of the word “patriarch.” _____

Isaac, Jacob and the 12 Tribes of Israel

As time passed, Isaac grew up to fully obey God, just as his father Abraham. Isaac then went on to teach his son Jacob the importance of obeying God. Through Jacob, God



Because of Abraham’s obedience, God promised that his descendants would become powerful nations.

was to fulfill His promise to Abraham of making his children a “great nation.”

God later changed Jacob’s name to Israel and, through his twelve sons, began the twelve tribes of Israel. These tribes would form a powerful nation, which would be God’s model nation of obedience to a world cut off from Him.

Found in Genesis 49, write out the names of Israel’s (Jacob’s) sons—the twelve tribes of Israel: _____

As time passed, Israel’s twelve sons settled in Egypt, and their children and grandchildren quickly became a budding nation. This did not go well with the Egyptians, who thought that these people, called Israelites, were trying to take over their land.

Fearful and suspicious, the Egyptians soon forced the Israelites to become their slaves. Yet the Israelites, under bondage, continued to multiply because God was blessing them.

Although the Israelites were enslaved, God did not forget His promise to Abraham. God decided to use a man named Moses for a very special purpose. Moses was to free Israel from slavery, and lead them to the land promised to their patriarch Abraham. In this land, they were to become the great physical nation promised to Abraham many years earlier!

Test Your Memory:

- 1) What land did God command Abram to leave? _____
- 2) What did Abram do? _____
- 3) What did God change Abraham’s grand son’s, Jacob, name to? _____
- 4) How many sons did Jacob have? _____
- 5) In what land did the Israelites settle? _____

Men of a Special Calling

Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob (Israel), Moses—these were all men David admired and constantly wanted to copy. In difficult times, they learned to place their trust in God, while other men doubted and did not believe what God said.

These men all carried out their special purpose. In the next Lesson, we will learn more about how God would use Moses to lead Israel out of Egypt, and how God protected the Israelites through the wilderness.

We will also learn more about Samuel, King Saul and David, and about the special calling God had in store for this young shepherd boy.

BIBLE MEMORY: The Twelve Tribes of Israel

The *Lost* Twelve Tribes of Israel

In Genesis 49, God records prophecies about each of Israel's twelve sons—who were each to become powerful nations in the world today. Compare Genesis 49 with Chapter Nine of the book *AMERICA AND BRITAIN IN BIBLE PROPHECY*, pages 116-125, and write out the verses that apply to each tribe on a separate piece of paper. After this, number each tribe in the order in which they were born, and write down what modern nation each one is today. (Some tribes may be in more than one country, and some may be scattered throughout the world. If this is the case for a certain tribe, simply mark them as “scattered.”) If your parents do not have a copy of the book, one can be found on our website www.TheRCG.org.

- ___ **Asher** (Gen. 49:20) What modern country is Asher today? _____ .
- ___ **Benjamin** (Gen. 49:27) What modern nation is Benjamin today? _____ .
- ___ **Dan** (Gen. 49:16-17) What modern nation descended from Dan? _____ .
- ___ **Gad** (Gen. 49:19) What modern country is Gad today? _____ .
- ___ **Issachar** (Gen. 49:14) What modern nation came from Issachar ? _____ .
- ___ **Joseph's two sons—Ephraim and Manasseh** (Gen. 49:22-24) What modern nations do Ephraim and Manasseh make up? _____ .
- ___ **Judah** (Gen. 49:9) What modern nation is Judah today? _____ .
- ___ **Levi** (Gen. 49:5-7) What modern nation is Levi today? _____ .
- ___ **Naphtali** (Gen. 49:21) What modern nation descended from Naphtali? _____ .
- ___ **Reuben** (Gen. 49:3-4) What modern country is Reuben today? _____ .
- ___ **Simeon** (Gen. 49:5-7) What modern nation does Simeon make up? _____ .
- ___ **Zebulun** (Gen. 49:13) What modern nation descended from Zebulun? _____ .