

**Bible History Catechism**  
**Old Testament History in Brief**

Juniors  
Level II: Book 1 of 2

*by* **Prof H C Hoeksema**  
*edited by* **J J Lim**  
*with invaluable contributions by* **David Higgs**

2013 edition

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## Author's Preface

This book is intended as a companion-book to that on the New Testament by the Rev G VandenBerg. Moreover, its proper use requires that it be preceded by the beginners' and followed by the seniors' books which are a part of this series.

In order that both parents and teachers may know at what to aim and what to expect in this course, we make the following remarks:

1. The aim of this book is briefly and systematically to acquaint our children with the *facts* of Old Testament history.
2. The success of this history course is dependent not only on the book and the teachers, but upon persistent effort at thorough memory work and study by the children, with the indispensable aid of their parents.
3. The written work for these lessons, prepared and printed in a separate workbook, should not be neglected if the aim of this course is to be achieved in the span of twenty-five lessons. It is purposely designed so that the pupils will be compelled to look up numerous Scripture passages related to the lesson material.
4. The use of map study is also recommended as a valuable aid in this course.
5. The Memory Projects may profitably be followed. A little persistent effort and some encouragement on the part of the teacher will produce surprising results in this respect. We ought not to under-estimate our children's ability to memorise; and these memory projects are not beyond the ability of most children of nine and ten years old.

May our covenant God use this effort in order that the children of His covenant may become founded in the knowledge of His Word.

*- Abstract from original preface by Prof H C Hoeksema*

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## Editor's Preface

The use of the Catechism for the instruction of the young in the Church is an ancient and time-tested method. The present series of booklets is designed to give a firm grounding on Bible facts and history, which will eventually serve as a foundation for the Doctrinal Catechisms such as the WSC. We have edited out some errors from the original version, as well as streamlined some of the answers so as better to fit the way the questions are asked.

Those who have been using the Level I (Beginner) material will find this second set requiring much more effort on the part of the students and their parents. This is in accordance with the expected progress in the learning capability of the students. However, as always, the parents and teachers should carefully gauge the ability of each individual child so that those who are slower are not forced to memorise with the same precision as those who are faster. Also, we would suggest that parents who find it too difficult to get their children to memorise the whole lesson in one go, work out some way of breaking up the lesson. For example, the children may be made to memorise two questions each day during the week, and the Memory Project on Saturday. But let me reiterate Prof Hoeksema's admonition: "We ought not to under-estimate our children's ability to memorise." In fact, experience teaches us that what we (as adults) may deem to be impossible to memorise is often retained with amazing accuracy in the minds of our children. This, of course, does not preclude hardwork on the part of the children and their parents!

May the Lord bless our feeble efforts to instruct our children in the way of the Lord.

*- Ps JJ Lim*

## Lesson 1

# CREATION

1. What took place in the beginning?  
God created the heavens and the earth, and all things in them. [Gen 1:1-27]
2. When did God create all things?  
At least four thousand years before Christ was born.
3. In how many days was creation finished?  
In six days, and on the seventh day God rested. [Gen 1:31 – 2:1]
4. How did God create all things?  
By the Word of His power. [Gen 1:3; cf eg, Heb 11:3]
5. How did God make man?  
God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. [Gen 2:7]
6. What else does the Bible tell us about man?  
God made man in His own image, able to love and serve God perfectly. [Gen 1:26-27]
7. Whom did God give as a help meet for Adam?  
Eve, whom He made from a rib of Adam. [Gen 2:21-23]
8. Where did God place Adam and Eve?  
In Paradise, a beautiful garden in Eden. [Gen 2:8]
9. What was Adam called to do?  
As king of the earthly creation, Adam was called to serve God. [Gen 2:15]
10. Was there sin and death in the beginning?  
No, God saw everything that He had made, and it was very good. [Gen 1:31]

*Memory Project.* Learn the books of the Old Testament in order.

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy,  
Joshua, Judges, Ruth,  
1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles,  
Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther,  
Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon,  
Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel,  
Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum,  
Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi.

## Lesson 2 THE BEGINNING OF SIN

1. Which two special trees did God place in Paradise?  
The Tree of Life and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. [Gen 2:9]
2. Might Adam and Eve eat of the Tree of Life?  
Yes, it's fruit was a sign and seal of the everlasting life they could have. [Gen 2:16; 3:22<sup>1</sup>]
3. Might they eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?  
No, for God commanded them not to eat of it. [Gen 2:17]
4. Who tempted Eve to disobey God and eat of the tree?  
The devil, speaking through the serpent. [Gen 3:1]
5. How did the devil lie to Eve?  
He said, "Ye shall not surely die" (Gen 3:4).
6. Did Eve believe the devil's lie?  
Yes, she ate of the fruit, and also tempted Adam to eat. [Gen 3:6]
7. Did God punish Adam and Eve?  
Yes, they lost God's friendship, and the curse of death came upon them and their children. [Gen 3:8-11, 16-19; Col 1:21; Gal 3:10]
8. What happened to the earth because of their sin?  
The earth was cursed for man's sake. [Gen 3:17-18]
9. Did God let Adam and Eve eat of the Tree of Life after this?  
No, God sent them out of the garden, and away from the Tree of Life. [Gen 3:22-24]
10. But would they ever again be blessed by God?  
Yes, but only because God promised a Saviour to save His people from their sin. [Gen 3:15]

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:1-3.

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> For by it the elders obtained a good report. <sup>3</sup> Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

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<sup>1</sup> Calvin: "...[God] by depriving him of the symbol, takes also away the thing signified"

## Lesson 3

# THE GROWTH OF SIN

1. How did sin show itself immediately in the family of Adam and Eve?  
Cain hated and killed his brother Abel, who was a believing child of God. [Gen 4:8]
2. Whom did God give in Abel's place?  
God gave Seth, a God-fearing man, whose descendants were called "the sons of God." [Gen 4:25; 5:6-7; 6:2]
3. Did wickedness continue to grow in the world?  
Yes, Cain's children followed him in sin, and the world became more and more wicked. [Gen 6:5]
4. What was one thing that helped the fast growth of wickedness?  
The descendants of Cain were the great and mighty men of the world, who were also great in wickedness. [Gen 6:4]
5. Can you name some of these great men?  
Yes, the Bible mentions especially the murderer Lamech, and his three sons, Jabal, Jubal, and Tubalcain. [Gen 4:18-24]
6. Was there something else that helped this fast growth of sin?  
Yes, before the flood men lived to be more than 900 years old. [eg, Gen 5:5, 11, 14, 20]
7. But were all the descendants of Seth God-fearing?  
By no means; many married Cain's children, while only a few served the Lord. [Gen 6:1-3]
8. Mention one of these God-fearing few.  
Enoch, who walked with God, and who prophesied about the coming of the Lord to judge the world. [Gen 5:22-24; cf Jude 14-15]
9. What happened to Enoch?  
God took him to heaven without death when he was only 365 years old. [Gen 5:23-24; cf Heb 11:5]
10. Did God allow sin to grow unchecked in the earth?  
No, when the world was ripe for judgment in the days of Noah, God announced the flood. [Gen 6:3, 5-8, 11-14, 17]

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:4, 5.

<sup>4</sup> By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. <sup>5</sup> By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

## Lesson 4

# THE FLOOD

1. How did God destroy the first world?  
By a terrible flood, in which the whole world of the ungodly perished. [Gen 7:4, 10, 12]
2. How great was the flood?  
The flood covered the whole earth, and all flesh was destroyed. [Gen 7:18-23]
3. Did this flood come through an ordinary rain?  
No, it was a great wonder; for the windows of heaven were opened, and the fountains of the great deep were broken up. [Gen 7:11]
4. When did God announce this judgment?  
120 years beforehand, in which time Noah built the ark and preached righteousness. [Gen 6:3; cf Heb 11:6-7; 2 Pet 2:5]
5. Whom did God save in the ark?  
Noah and his family and a few of every kind of land animals. [Gen 7:1-3, 7-9, 13-16]
6. Why did God save Noah and his family?  
By God's grace, Noah walked with Him righteously in a world filled with wickedness. [Gen 6:8; 7:1; cf Heb 11:6-7; 2 Pet 2:5]
7. How long did the flood last?  
The water prevailed for 150 days, and Noah had to stay in the ark for a year and ten days. [Gen 7:24; 8:1-19]
8. What did God tell Noah after the flood?  
"And I, behold, I establish My covenant with you, and with your seed after you; And with every living creature that is with you" (Gen 9:9-10).
9. What sign did the Lord give Noah of this covenant?  
The sign of the rainbow in the cloud. [Gen 9:8-17]
10. When did the flood take place?  
About 2350 BC.<sup>2</sup>

*Memory Project:* Hebrews 11:6, 7.

<sup>6</sup> But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a Rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. <sup>7</sup> By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

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<sup>2</sup> James Ussher, *Annals of the Old Testament, Deduced from the First Origins of the World*

## Lesson 5

# FROM NOAH TO ABRAHAM

1. Was sin destroyed by the flood?  
By no means; it showed itself immediately in Noah's family. [Gen 9:21-22]
2. How did this take place?  
Noah became drunk, and Ham mocked his father. [Gen 9:22]
3. What did Noah do afterward?  
He blessed Shem and Japheth, but cursed Canaan, the son of Ham. [Gen 9:24-27]
4. Did sin show itself in any other way?  
Yes, for wicked people gathered together in the land of Shinar to build the tower of Babel and a great city. [Gen 11:2-4]
5. What is wrong with wanting to build a tower?  
It showed the pride of the people, for they wanted to show that they were as great as God by building a tower that reaches to the heaven.
6. What is wrong with wanting to build a great city?  
God had told the people to scatter abroad to replenish the earth, not to stay together to make a name for themselves. [Gen 11:4; cf Gen 9:1]
7. How did God spoil their plan?  
He confused their language, so that they had to scatter over the earth. [Gen 11:5-9]
8. Where did the children of Noah's sons settle?  
Ham's in Canaan and Africa; Shem's in Asia; and Japheth's in Europe.<sup>3</sup>
9. With whose descendants did the Lord continue His covenant after the flood?  
In the Old Testament times God continued His covenant with the descendants of Shem. [1 Chr 1:24-27]
10. With whom out of Shem's descendants did God establish His covenant?  
With Abraham and his seed. [1 Chr 1:24-27; cf Gen 17:1-9]

*Memory Project:* Hebrews 11:8.

By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

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<sup>3</sup> See Henry's commentary on 1 Chron 1:1-27.



## Lesson 6 ABRAHAM

1. From what place did God call Abraham?  
God first brought him from Ur of Chaldees, and later called him to leave Haran. [Gen 11:29-31; 12:1-4]
2. What did God tell Abraham?  
"Get thee out of thy country... unto a land that I will shew thee" (Gen 12:1).
3. Did Abraham obey?  
Yes, by faith Abraham obeyed, and went to live as a stranger in the land of Canaan. [Gen 12:4-5; Acts 7:2-6; Heb 11:8]
4. When did God call Abraham?  
About the year 2090 B.C.
5. Who went with Abraham?  
His nephew Lot, who later separated from Abraham and chose to live in Sodom. [Gen 13:1, 7-12]
6. Whom did Abraham meet when he delivered Lot from the king of Elam?  
Melchizedek, king of Salem, and priest of the most high God. [Gen 14:9-18]
7. What became of the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah?  
God destroyed them with fire and brimstone, after rescuing Lot and his family. [Gen 19:22-25, 29]
8. What did God promise Abraham?  
He promised to make of Abraham a great nation, and to give to his seed the land of Canaan, which is a picture of heavenly blessings in Christ. [Gen 12:2-3; 15:13-16; 17:7-8; 18:17-18; cf Heb 11:8-10, 13-16]
9. Did Abraham have any children at this time?  
No, but he believed God's promise. [Gen 16:1; cf Heb 11:8-12]
10. What wonderful promise did God give Abraham and Sarah in their old age?  
He promised them a son, Isaac, with whom He would establish His covenant. [Gen 17:15-21; 18:10-15]

*Memory Project:* Hebrews 11:9-10.

<sup>9</sup> By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: <sup>10</sup> For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose Builder and Maker is God.

## Lesson 7

### ISAAC

1. Who were Abraham's first two sons?  
Ishmael, the son of Hagar, and Isaac, the son of Sarah. [Gen 16:15; 21:2-3]
2. Did God also establish His covenant with Ishmael?  
No, only with Isaac, the child of the promise. [Gen 17:16, 19-21]
3. What became of Ishmael?  
When he mocked Isaac, God commanded Abraham to send him away with his mother. [Gen 21:8-12]
4. How did God try Abraham's faith when Isaac was a lad?  
God commanded Abraham to offer up his only son Isaac on Mount Moriah. [Gen 22:2-4]
5. Did Abraham obey?  
Yes, for he believed that God was able to raise Isaac from the dead. [Heb 11:17-19]
6. Whom did Isaac marry?  
Rebekah, a God-fearing wife, brought from Haran by Abraham's chief servant. [Gen 24:2-4, 50-51, 63-67]
7. Why did Abraham send his servant to Haran to get a wife for Isaac?  
Because he did not want Isaac to have a wife from the Canaanites. [Gen 24:3]
8. Did Isaac and Rebekah have any children?  
Not at first, but God heard their prayer and gave them twins, Esau and Jacob. [Gen 25:21-26]
9. Which of these two was a child of the promise?  
The younger son, Jacob, whom God loved. [Gen 25:23; cf Acts 7:32; Rom 9:13]
10. How did Esau show that he was wicked?  
He sold his birthright, married wives from the Canaanites, and sought to kill Jacob. [Gen 25:29-34; 26:34; 27:41-42]

*Memory Project:* Hebrews 11:11-12.

<sup>11</sup> Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged Him faithful Who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

## Lesson 8

### JACOB

1. What did Jacob do when Isaac was about to give Esau the blessing?  
With his mother encouraging him, he tried to get the blessing by deceiving his blind father. [Gen 27:6-27]
2. Was Esau also blessed?  
No, the covenantal blessing was for Jacob only. [Gen 27:32-37; Heb 12:16-17]
3. What did Esau plan to do when he knew that Isaac had blessed Jacob?  
He plotted to kill Jacob, and Jacob had to flee to his uncle Laban in Haran. [Gen 27:41-43]
4. What happened at Bethel while Jacob was on his way to Laban?  
God appeared to him in a dream, and promised him the same blessing that He gave Abraham and Isaac. [Gen 28:11-19]
5. How long did Jacob stay at Laban's house?  
For twenty years, during which time he married Leah and Rachel and became very rich. [Gen 29:16-28; 31:36-41]
6. What took place when Jacob was on his way back to Canaan?  
Jacob wrestled with the Angel of God at Peniel. [Gen 32:24-26]
7. What did Jacob finally learn at Peniel?  
He learned to expect the blessing from the Lord, and received his new name, Israel. [Gen 32:27-30]
8. How many children did God give Jacob?  
One daughter and twelve sons, who were the fathers of the tribes of Israel. [Gen 30:21; 35:22-26]
9. Was there peace in Jacob's family?  
No, there was much jealousy and trouble among his wives and children. [Gen 37:1-11]
10. How did the brothers show their envy against Joseph, Jacob's favoured son?  
They sold him as a slave into Egypt, and made their father think he was killed by a wild beast. [Gen 37:20-32]

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:13-14.

<sup>13</sup> These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. <sup>14</sup> For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

## Lesson 9

# ISRAEL IN BONDAGE

1. Did God care for Joseph in Egypt?  
Yes, first in Potiphar's house, then in prison, and finally as chief ruler of Egypt. [Gen 39:1-6, 20-23; 41:39-46]
2. Did Joseph see his brothers again?  
Yes, when they came to Egypt to buy corn of him during the seven years of famine. [Gen 42:1-8]
3. What happened when Pharaoh heard about Joseph's father and brothers?  
He sent wagons to take them to Egypt, and gave them the land of Goshen in which to dwell. [Gen 45:9-10, 16-28; 46:26-30; 47:1-6]
4. What did Jacob do before he died?  
He blessed his sons and the two sons of Joseph. [Gen 48:8 – 49:28]
5. What did both Jacob and Joseph foretell about Israel?  
That God would deliver them from Egypt and lead them to Canaan. [Gen 48:21; 50:24-25]
6. Which book of the Holy Bible tells of Israel's slavery and deliverance?  
The book of Exodus, which means "going out."
7. What happened to Israel after Joseph's death?  
A new Pharaoh tried to destroy them. [Ex 1:6-10]
8. How did he afflict the Israelites?  
He made them slaves, and commanded the baby boys to be killed. [Ex 1:11-16]
9. What did the Israelites do in their trouble?  
They cried to the Lord for deliverance. [Ex 2:23-25]
10. How did the Lord care for His people in bondage?  
The more they were afflicted, the more they multiplied and grew. [Ex 1:12]

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:15-16.

<sup>15</sup> And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. <sup>16</sup> But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city.

## Lesson 10

# DELIVERED THROUGH MOSES

1. Did the Lord leave Israel in the bondage of Egypt?  
No, He sent His servant Moses to deliver them. [Ex 3:4 – 4:9]
2. When did Moses begin his work?  
When God called him from the burning bush, in the land of Midian. [Ex 3:1-3]
3. Who did God give to help Moses?  
His brother Aaron, to be his spokesman. [Ex 4:10-17]
4. Was Pharaoh willing to let Israel go when Moses told him?  
No, God hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not obey God's command. [Ex 4:21; 5:1-2]
5. When did he finally let Israel go?  
After God showed His power by sending ten terrible plagues upon Egypt. [Ex 9:31-34]
6. Which was the last of the ten plagues?  
All the firstborn of Egypt were killed, while the children of Israel were spared. [Ex 12:12-13, 22-23, 29]
7. How did Israel remember this deliverance afterwards?  
They celebrated the Passover feast every year. [Ex 12:1-17, 24, 27]
8. Did God take Israel to Canaan by the shortest way?  
No, they had to pass through the wilderness by way of the Red Sea. [Ex 14:13-21]
9. What happened at the Red Sea?  
God made a path through the sea for Israel, but Pharaoh and his army were drowned. [Ex 14:22-30]
10. How long was Israel in Egypt?  
About 400 years. [Ex 12:40-41; cf Acts 7:6]

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:17-19.

<sup>17</sup> By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, <sup>18</sup> Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: <sup>19</sup> Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

## Lesson 11

# FORTY YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS

1. How did the LORD lead Israel in the desert?  
By a pillar of fire by night and a pillar of cloud by day. [Ex 13:21-22]
2. How did the LORD feed Israel?  
With manna from heaven, and with water from the rock. [Ex 16:13-15; 17:2-6]
3. Was Israel satisfied in the wilderness?  
No, most of them were rebellious, and time and again murmured against Moses and against the Lord. [Ex 16:1-3; 17:3; Num 20:1-5; 21:5]
4. Where did the LORD take them first?  
To Mount Sinai, where God gave the Ten Commandments, the plan for the Tabernacle and many other laws. [Ex 19:20; 20:1-17; 25 – 28:43; 21 – 23:33]
5. What grievous sin did Israel commit while Moses was on Mount Sinai?  
Israel made and worshipped the golden calf. [Ex 32:19-25]
6. Where did the LORD bring Israel from Sinai?  
To Kadesh, where twelve men were sent to spy out the land of Canaan. [Num 13:1-30]
7. What report did the spies bring?  
They all brought an evil report, except Joshua and Caleb, who believed that the Lord would give them the land. [Num 13:30-33; 14:6-9]
8. To whose report did the people listen?  
They listened to the evil report of the ten: that Canaan was much too strong for them to take. [Num 14:1-4, 10]
9. What was the punishment for this unbelief?  
God made them wander in the wilderness forty years, till all above twenty, except Joshua and Caleb, had died. [Num 19-39]
10. How did the LORD save Israel from the fiery serpents sent to punish them for murmuring?  
He told Moses to make a brazen serpent, and all who looked on it were saved. [Num 21:4-9]

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:20-21.

<sup>20</sup> By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. <sup>21</sup> By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.

## Lesson 12

### ISRAEL ENTERS CANAAN

1. Who led Israel into the land of Canaan?  
Joshua, the son of Nun, whom God appointed in Moses' place. [Jos 1:1-2]
2. Which part of Canaan was taken first?  
The part east of the Jordan River, which was given to Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh. [Jos 12:1-6; cf Num 32]
3. How did Israel cross the Jordan River?  
God made a dry path through the river for them. [Jos 3:5-17]
4. How was Israel able to take the land?  
The LORD fought for them, and gave them the victory over their enemies. [Jos 10:25]
5. Was it plain during the conquest of Canaan that the LORD fought for Israel?  
Yes, this was made plain many times to Israel, and was also a cause of fear to the enemy. [eg, Jos10:28-43]
6. Mention two instances which prove that the LORD gave them the victory.  
The walls of Jericho fell, and the sun stood still. [Jos 6:1-21; 10:12-14]
7. Did Israel obey God's command to destroy the Canaanites completely?  
No, they let some of them remain; and these people were the cause of much trouble for Israel later. [Jos 9:24; 17:12-13; Num 33:51-56; Jdg 3:1; 4:1-3]
8. How was the land divided?  
Every tribe except Levi received part of the land by lot. [Jos 13:6, 14]
9. Of what did Joshua warn the people before he died?  
Of the terrible sin of serving strange gods. [Jos 24:14-29]
10. What is the date of Israel's entrance into Canaan?  
About 1405 B.C.

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:22-23.

<sup>22</sup> By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones. <sup>23</sup> By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

## Lesson 13

### THE JUDGES

1. Did Israel remember Joshua's warning against idol-worship?  
While Joshua lived, they did; but soon afterward they forsook God and served idols. [Jdg 2:8-13]
2. How did this idol-worship come about?  
All the heathen nations of Canaan and their idols had not been destroyed. [Jdg 2:1-2]
3. How did the LORD punish Israel for this disobedience?  
He gave Israel over to their enemies, to be oppressed. [Jdg 2:3, 14]
4. How long did Israel's trouble last each time?  
Until Israel repented and turned to the Lord. [Eg, Jdg 3:9]
5. How did the Lord deliver His people?  
By men called "judges," whom He sent to deliver them. [Jdg 2:16-18]
6. How long did this period of the judges last?  
About 400 years, from Joshua to Saul. [Acts 13:20]
7. How many judges does the Bible mention?  
Fourteen, namely:

Othniel	Tola	Abdon
Ehud	Jair	Samson
Shamgar	Jephthah	Eli
Barak (with Deborah)	Ibzan	Samuel
Gideon	Elon	
8. Name a famous ancestor of the Lord Jesus Christ who lived during this period of time.  
Ruth the Moabitess, one of the mothers of Christ. [Ruth 1:1-5; cf Mt 1:5]

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:24-26.

<sup>24</sup> By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; <sup>25</sup> Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; <sup>26</sup> Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.



## Lesson 14

### THE JUDGES (CONTINUED)

1. What did Gideon do as judge?  
With only 300 men he gained a great victory over the Midianites. [Jdg 7:7-9, 12, 16-25]
2. For what is Jephthah especially known?  
Jephthah, through faith, overcame the Ammonites. [Jdg 11:30-33]
3. Which judge is known because he fought alone against the Philistines?  
Samson, who was a Nazarite from birth, though he was not always faithful. [Jdg 13:1-5; 14:1-4; 16:30]
4. Mention some of Samson's outstanding acts.  
He carried away the gates of Gaza, killed a thousand Philistines with a jawbone, and at his death pulled down a Philistine temple upon thousands of people. [Jdg 15:13-20; 16:1-3, 23-30]
5. What especially shows how far Israel had departed from the LORD during this period?  
The sad history of Micah's image and false priest, which the Danites stole from him. [Jdg 17:5 – 18:31]
6. Who was the last of the judges?  
Samuel, whose name means "asked of God," and who was also a prophet. [1 Sam 1:20; 3:20]
7. How did the Lord save Israel in Samuel's time when they repented?  
By a great thunderstorm, so that the Philistines fled before them. [1 Sam 7:9-13]
8. What wicked thing did the Israelites ask when Samuel was old?  
They wanted to be like the other nations, and have a king. [1 Sam 8:4-21]
9. What did the Lord tell Samuel about this request for a king?  
That Israel had not rejected Samuel, but the Lord. [1 Sam 8:7]
10. Did God give Israel a king?  
Yes, the Lord told Samuel to give them what they wanted. [1 Sam 8:22 – 9:2, 27 – 10:1]

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:27-29.

<sup>27</sup> By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing Him Who is invisible. <sup>28</sup> Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest He that destroyed the firstborn should touch them. <sup>29</sup> By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

## Lesson 15

### KING SAUL

1. Who was the first king God gave to Israel?  
Saul, the son of Kish; of the tribe of Benjamin. [1 Sam 9:1-2, 27 – 10:1]
2. When did Saul become king?  
About 1043 BC.
3. Was Saul a God-fearing king?  
No, he soon showed that he did not care for God's commandments. [eg, 1 Sam 15:10-11]
4. How did Saul show his disobedience before a battle with the Philistines?  
By offering a sacrifice himself instead of waiting for Samuel to come. [1 Sam 13:7-14]
5. What was Saul's second great sin at the time of the battle against the Amalekites?  
He disobeyed God's command by sparing king Agag and the best of the sheep and oxen. [1 Sam 15:2-11]
6. What did Samuel tell Saul after this second sin?  
That the Lord had rejected Saul as king, and would give the kingdom to his neighbour. [1 Sam 15:16-30]
7. Who was anointed king in Saul's place?  
David, the son of Jesse, of the tribe of Judah, a man after God's heart. [1 Sam 13:14; 16:11-13; cf Acts 13:22]
8. Did David become king immediately?  
No, he had to wait until after Saul's death for God to give him the kingdom. [2 Sam 2:1-5]
9. Did Saul love David?  
No, although David was careful not to harm Saul, Saul tried to kill David many times. [eg, 1 Sam 20:30-33; 23:6-8; 24:1-6]
10. How did Saul die?  
He ended his 40 years as king by killing himself when he saw that the battle with the Philistines was lost. [1 Sam 31:1-6]

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:30-31.

<sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

## Lesson 16

### KING DAVID

1. How long did David reign?  
Seven years over Judah alone, and thirty-three years more over all Israel. [2 Sam 5:4-5]
2. Show that the Lord blessed David as king.  
Through David's victories God gave to Israel all the land from the river Euphrates to Egypt. [2 Sam 8:1-14; 1 Chr 13:5-6]
3. What did David bring to Jerusalem with great joy?  
The ark of the Lord, which since Eli's time had been in the house of Abinadab. [2 Sam 6:1-17]
4. Was David satisfied only to bring the ark to Jerusalem?  
No, he very much wanted to build the temple of the Lord at Jerusalem also. [2 Sam 7:1-5; 1 Kgs 8:17]
5. What did the Lord tell David about this?  
Through the prophet Nathan, God told David that his son should build the temple. [2 Sam 7:11-17; 1 Kgs 8:18-19]
6. What wonderful promise did God give David?  
He promised to establish David's kingdom forever. [2 Sam 7:16]
7. To whom did this promise point?  
To the Lord Jesus Christ, Whose kingdom is everlasting. [Mt 1:1; 22:41-46; Lk 1:31-33; Is 9:6-7; 2 Pet 1:11; Rev 11:15]
8. Did David ever prophesy of Christ?  
Yes, in many if not all of the Psalms which he wrote. [eg, Pss 2; 22; 45; 72; 110 etc]
9. Mention a grievous sin which David committed as king.  
He committed adultery with Bathsheba and killed her husband Uriah. [2 Sam 11:2-17]
10. What brought David great trouble and sorrow during his reign?  
The rebellion and death of his son Absalom. [2 Sam 15:1-17; 18:9-17, 32-33]

*Memory Project:* Hebrews 11:32-33.

<sup>32</sup> And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: <sup>33</sup> Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions.

## Lesson 17

### KING SOLOMON

1. Who became king at David's death?  
His son Solomon, who reigned about 971 BC. [1 Kgs 1:32-35, 38-40; 2:1-4, 11-12]
2. Was Solomon a God-fearing king?  
Yes, he loved the Lord, and walked in the statutes of David. [eg, 1 Kgs 2:23-24; 3:3; 8:22-54]
3. What did he ask of the Lord?  
When the Lord appeared to him in a dream, Solomon asked for wisdom to rule God's people. [1 Kgs 3:5-10]
4. What did the Lord give Solomon?  
Great wisdom, and riches and honour besides. [1 Kgs 3:11-14; 4:29-31]
5. Who came to visit Solomon?  
The Queen of Sheba, who came to hear his wisdom, and to see his glory. [1 Kgs 10:1-9]
6. In what books of the Bible do we find much of the wisdom God gave Solomon?  
In the books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.
7. Did Solomon fight many wars, as David did?  
No, in his days there was peace and prosperity. [1 Kgs 4:21-25]
8. Did Solomon build the temple, as God had told David?  
Yes, Solomon built a beautiful and rich temple at Jerusalem. [1 Kgs 6:1-10]
9. Who turned Solomon's heart away from the Lord?  
His many heathen wives, for whose idols he even built temples. [1 Kgs 11:1-8]
10. What did the Lord tell Solomon because of his sin?  
That all the tribes except Judah and Benjamin would be taken away from the house of David, and given to someone else. [1 Kgs 11:9-13 cf 12:21, 23]

*Memory Project.* Hebrews 11:34-35.

<sup>34</sup> Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection.

## Lesson 18

# THE DIVISION OF THE KINGDOM

1. How was the kingdom divided after Solomon's death?  
Most of the tribes fell away from the house of David and followed Jeroboam. [1 Kgs 12:12-20]
2. Which tribes remained faithful to Rehoboam, Solomon's son?  
Judah, with parts of Benjamin and Simeon, known as the Kingdom of Judah. [1 Kgs 12:21, 23]
3. What was the kingdom of the ten tribes called?  
The Kingdom of Israel, whose capital was later the city of Samaria. [1 Kgs 12:19-20; 16:20-29]
4. Was it right of these ten tribes to separate?  
No, it was a very great sin, because they forsook the royal house of David and the temple of the Lord. [1 Kgs 12:16, 19, 25-29]
5. Did Rehoboam want to bring the ten tribes back?  
Yes, he wanted to fight against Jeroboam, but God forbade him. [1 Kgs 12:21-24]
6. Why did the Lord not allow Rehoboam to fight?  
He wanted to punish Solomon's sin through Israel's separation. [1 Kgs 11:9-13; 12:24a]
7. But did the Lord entirely forsake the kingdom of the ten tribes?  
No, God often sent prophets to warn them of their sins and to comfort His elect among them. [cf, eg, 1 Kgs 13:1-3; 16:1-7]
8. What was true of Judah in distinction from Israel?  
They remained God's chosen people, to whom God kept the promise given to David. [cf, eg, 1 Kgs 15:9-15; 2 Kgs 8:16-19; 22]
9. What became of Israel?  
They steadily departed from the Lord, and after 250 years were taken captive by Assyria, and scattered. [2 Kgs 15:29; 17:5-6; 1 Chr 5:26; Acts 2:5-11]
10. What became of Judah?  
Judah also departed from the LORD, and after 400 years was taken captive to Babylon. [2 Kgs 25:20-21]

*Memory Project:* Hebrews 11:36-37

<sup>36</sup> And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: <sup>37</sup> They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented.

## Lesson 19

# ISRAEL—FROM JEROBOAM TO AHAB

1. From what sin did Israel never depart in its history?  
From "the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat," who taught them to worship God using golden calves. [1 Kgs 12:26-30; 2 Kgs 3:1-3 ;10:28-31; etc]
2. Did any of Israel's kings serve the LORD faithfully?  
No, they were all as wicked, and even worse than Jeroboam. [eg, 1 Kgs 15:25-26, 33-34; 16:7, 25]
3. Were all Israel's kings from the house of Jeroboam?  
No, time and again the LORD took the kingdom from one king and gave it to another.
4. What does the Bible say of Omri, the sixth king?  
That he was worse than all that were before him. [1 Kgs 16:25-26]
5. Who became king after Omri?  
His son Ahab, who was even more wicked. [1 Kgs 16:29-30]
6. What was Ahab's wickedness?  
With his heathen wife Jezebel, he taught Israel to worship Baal. [1 Kgs 16:31-33]
7. What else did Ahab and Jezebel do?  
They persecuted and killed the prophets of the Lord. [1 Kgs 18:3-4, 13]
8. Through what prophet did the LORD show that He, not Baal, is God?  
Through Elijah, who announced to Ahab that it would not rain until Elijah prayed for it. [1 Kgs 17:1]
9. When did it rain again?  
After three and a half years, when Israel confessed at Mount Carmel that the LORD is God. [Jas 5:17-18]
10. Did the LORD have His people in Israel even in Ahab's time?  
Yes, God told Elijah that there were 7,000 who had not bowed the knee to Baal. [1 Kgs 19:18; Rom 11:4]

*Memory Project:* Hebrews 11:38-40.

<sup>38</sup> (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. <sup>39</sup> And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: <sup>40</sup> God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

## Lesson 20

# ISRAEL—FROM AHAB TO CAPTIVITY

1. Through whom was the entire house of Ahab destroyed?  
Through Jehu, whom God appointed for this work. [2 Kgs 9:30 – 10:11, 17]
2. Was Jehu a God-fearing king?  
No, for even though he destroyed the wicked house of Ahab, he did it only for his own gain. [2 Kgs 10:27-31]
3. What makes this very plain?  
Jehu did not depart from "the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat." [2 Kgs 10:29, 31]
4. Who prophesied during the time of Jehu?  
The prophet Elisha, who did many miracles. [eg, 2 Kgs 4:1-8, 31-37; 6:15-20]
5. Who was Israel's chief enemy at this time?  
The kingdom of Syria, over whom Israel had many victories. [eg, 2 Kgs 6:15-20; 7:1-7]
6. How long did the house of Jehu reign over Israel?  
To the fourth generation, but none of them departed from the sin of worshipping the golden calves. [2 Kgs 15:12]
7. Who were two of the mightiest kings of Israel from Jehu's house?  
Jehoash and Jeroboam II, who won great victories over the Syrians. [2 Kgs 13:24-25; 14:23-27]
8. Who prophesied especially during the time of the last kings of Israel?  
Hosea, who warned of the coming judgment over Israel. [Hos 1:1ff]
9. What mighty empire finally took Israel captive?  
Assyria, which replaced the Israelites with people displaced from other lands, known later as Samaritans. [2 Kgs 17:1-6, 24]
10. What is the date of Israel's captivity?  
722 B.C.

### *Memory Project:*

Memorise the names of the kings of Israel as follows:

Jeroboam	Tibni	Jehu	Shallum
Nadab	Omri	Jehoahaz	Menahem
Baasha	Ahab	Jehoash	Pekahiah
Elah	Ahaziah	Jeroboam II	Pekah
Zimri	Jehoram	Zachariah	Hoshea

## Lesson 21

### JUDAH—FROM REHOBOAM TO AHAZ

1. Were the kings of Judah from different houses, as in Israel?  
No, they were all from the royal house of David.
2. What was the reason for this?  
The reason was not that these kings were all God-fearing, but that God was keeping His promise to David. [2 Sam 7:16; cf Isa 9:6-7; Lk 1:31-33]
3. What! were not all the kings from David's house God-fearing?  
No, the kings who faithfully served the LORD were but very few.
4. What was their chief sin?  
They either served idols themselves, or they allowed the people to forsake the LORD and serve idols. [eg, 1 Kgs 14:21-24; 2 Kgs 8:26-27]
5. Apart from idolatry, what else did they do wrong?  
Often they did not trust in the LORD, but sought help from other nations against their enemies. [eg, 2 Kgs 3:7; 8:28]
6. Can you mention examples of kings who did not serve the LORD?  
Yes: Jehoram, Ahaziah, Queen Athaliah; and the wicked Ahaz. [2 Kgs 8:18-19, 27; 11:1-3; 16:2-4]
7. Can you mention some of the better kings?  
Yes: Asa and Jehoshaphat, who tried to end the idol-worship. [1 Kgs 15:9-15; 22:42, 46; 2 Chr 17:7-9]
8. What marred the reign of Jehoshaphat?  
He made a league with wicked Ahab which eventually led to his son Jehoram marrying Athaliah, the wicked daughter of Ahab. [2 Chr 18:1-3; 21:6 ]
9. What did the wicked Queen Athaliah do?  
She tried to kill all the house of David, but the wife of the God-fearing priest Jehoiada saved the life of the baby Joash. [2 Kgs 11:1-3]
10. Who was one of the most wicked kings?  
Ahaz, who sacrificed to idols, closed the temple, and built altars to idols in every corner of Jerusalem. [2 Kgs 16:1-18]

#### *Memory Project:*

Memorise the names of the kings of Judah from Rehoboam to Ahaz, as follows:

Rehoboam	Jehoram	Amaziah
Abijah	Ahaziah	Uzziah
Asa	Queen Athaliah	Jotham
Jehoshaphat	Joash	Ahaz



## Lesson 22

# JUDAH—FROM HEZEKIAH TO CAPTIVITY

1. What king brought a great reformation in Judah?  
The God-fearing Hezekiah. [2 Kgs 18:1-7]
2. What did he do?  
He opened the temple, broke down the idols, destroyed the high places which the people used to worship Jehovah; and called the people to keep the Passover. [2 Chr 29:2-11; 30:1-8; 2 Kgs 18:4]
3. What great deliverance did the LORD give from the Assyrians?  
When they besieged Jerusalem, the Lord sent His angel to destroy 185,000 of them. [Isa 37:33-37]
4. What great prophet was in Judah in Hezekiah's time?  
Isaiah, who was sent to warn the wicked and to comfort God's people. [Isa 1:1-2, 9, 16-27; 2:1-5; 3:1-8; 4]
5. What did Isaiah foretell?  
He told Hezekiah of the captivity of Judah in Babylon. [Isa 39]
6. Who followed Hezekiah as king?  
Manasseh, who was very wicked, but who repented in captivity. [2 Kgs 20:21 – 21:2]
7. What did king Josiah do while still young?  
He sought the Lord, took away the idols, and taught Judah God's law. [2 Kgs 23:1-3, 4-6, 24; 2 Chr 34:3-7]
8. What prophet lived from the time of Josiah to the captivity?  
Jeremiah, who warned against Judah's sins, and called for repentance. [Jer 1:1-2; 3:23 – 4:6; etc]
9. Did the kings and people of Judah listen to Jeremiah?  
No, and because of their sins they were finally taken captive to Babylon. [Jer 25:1-10; 2 Chr 36:1-7]
10. What is the date when Jerusalem was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar?  
586 B.C.

### *Memory Project:*

Memorise the names of the kings of Judah from Hezekiah to Zedekiah, as follows:

Hezekiah	Josiah	Jehoiakim
Manasseh	Jehoahaz	Jehoiachin
Amon		Zedekiah

## Lesson 23

### JUDAH TO CAPTIVITY

1. How long was Judah in captivity?  
For 70 years, as Jeremiah had foretold. [Jer 25:11-12]
2. Did God's people repent in captivity?  
Yes, the elect remnant repented and mourned over the sad condition of Judah.  
[eg, Ezk 18:19-23; Dan 9:1-19]
3. What did they miss most of all in captivity?  
They longed for Jerusalem and the temple, which symbolized the presence of the LORD on earth. [eg, Dan 1:1-7; 6:10; 9:1-3, 12, 16; 2 Chr 5:13-14]
4. Did God care for His people in captivity?  
Yes, the Lord preserved His people, and kept the line of David alive.
5. Can you give an example of this care of God?  
Yes, God kept the faithful Daniel and his three friends safe.
6. How was this shown?  
Daniel and his friends were exalted to be chief men in the kingdom of Babylon.  
[Dan 2:47-49; 3:30; 6:1-3]
7. Were they ever in danger because they feared the Lord?  
Yes, once the three friends were cast in the fiery furnace; and once Daniel was cast in the lion's den; but the Lord delivered them. [Dan 3:19-23; 6:10-24]
8. What other prophet, besides Daniel, is of the time of the captivity?  
The prophet Ezekiel. [Ezk 1:1-3]
9. How did Ezekiel comfort God's people?  
By telling them that God does not delight in the death of the wicked. [Ezk 18:23, 32; 33:10-11]
10. When did the captivity end?  
When Cyrus became king of Persia. [Ezr 1:1-4]

*Memory Project.* Ezekiel 33:11.

Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

## Lesson 24

# RETURN FROM CAPTIVITY

1. Why did Cyrus let the people return to Canaan?  
The Lord had called Cyrus for that very purpose, even though Cyrus did not know Him. [2 Chr 36:22-23]
2. Did all the captives return to Canaan?  
No, only about 50,000 cared to return. [Ezr 2:64-65]
3. Who led the returning captives?  
Zerubbabel, the prince. [Ezr 2:1-2a; cf Hag 1:1]
4. What did the people do after they returned?  
They rebuilt the temple and the city of Jerusalem. [Ezr 3:7-10]
5. Which two men helped the people much?  
Ezra, the scribe, and Nehemiah, the king's cupbearer. [eg, Ezr 10:6-12; Neh 7:1-10]
6. Was the work of rebuilding easy?  
No, the people had many enemies, who tried to stop the work of rebuilding. [eg, Ezr 4:1-10]
7. Which prophets urgently encouraged the people in the work?  
The prophets Haggai and Zechariah. [eg, Hag 1:1-8; Zech 4:1-10]
8. Against which sins were the people warned especially?  
Against mixed marriages and against sabbath-breaking. [eg, Ezr 9:1-5; 10:1-5; Neh 13:15-22]
9. What kind of temple was built?  
A temple that was not nearly as beautiful as Solomon's; and the Ark of the Covenant was missing. [Ezr 3:10-13; Hag 2:3]
10. Did Israel as a nation have a king again?  
No; though the line of David was kept alive, there was not again a king from David's house to rule the nation. [Ezr 8:2]

*Memory Project:* Haggai 2:6-7.

<sup>6</sup> For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; <sup>7</sup> And I will shake all nations, and the Desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

## **Lesson 25**

### **AFTER THE RETURN**

1. Whose history belongs to the period after the return?  
The history of Esther, who became queen to the king of Persia. [Esth 2:5-7, 15-17]
2. For what did the Lord use Esther?  
To keep alive the seed of David when the wicked Haman sought to destroy the Jews. [Esth 3:13 – 4:10; 6:14 – 7:7; 8:5-12]
3. Who was the last of the prophets?  
Malachi, who lived about 400 years before Christ.
4. According to Malachi, did Judah serve God faithfully after the captivity?  
No, the people sinned against the Lord greatly. [eg, Mal 1:1, 7-9]
5. Were the Jews ever again a free nation?  
No, different world-powers ruled over them. [eg Lk 3:1; Jn 19:12]
6. Did these nations treat the Jews well?  
No, it was a time of fierce persecution and suffering for God's people. [Jer 24:7-10; 25:34]
7. Were there also faithful people of God at this time?  
Yes, and these more and more longed for the coming of Christ. [eg, Isa 60:1-3; Jer 24:1-7]
8. How did the Lord begin to prepare for the coming of Christ?  
By causing the Greek language, in which the New Testament was later written, to be commonly used throughout the world.
9. What wicked party arose in Israel during this period?  
The party of the Pharisees, who believed in salvation by works. [Mt 5:20; 12:1-8; etc]
10. What nation gained in power toward the end of this period?  
The Romans, who ruled the world when Christ was born. [Lk 2:1]

#### *Memory Project:* Malachi 3:1.

Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before Me: and the Lord, Whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, Whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.