



Today's Lesson

1. Worship in Song
2. Study of the Election of Israel
 - Observation
 - Interpretation
 - Application
3. Review Reading/Next Lesson



God Grows His Church

God grows His church, God grows His children.
God's Word is life, It flows by day and night.

Plant me by the streams of Living Water
Take root below, bear fruit above,
Love one another, reach out to others,

That's how God grows His church
God grows His children.



Assignment 4

Question: What is the promised blessing given to Israel and its ultimate purpose?

- Observation
- Interpretation
- Application



Deuteronomy 28:1-10

Observation

Deuteronomy 28:1-2: If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. 2 All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God:



Deuteronomy 28:1-10

Observation

Deuteronomy 28:3-5: You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country. 4 The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock — the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks. 5 Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed. 6 You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out.



Deuteronomy 28:1-10

Observation

Deuteronomy 28:7-8: The LORD will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven.

8 The LORD will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The LORD your God will bless you in the land he is giving you.



Deuteronomy 28:1-10

Observation

Deuteronomy 28:9-10: The LORD will establish you as his holy people, as he promised you on oath, if you keep the commands of the LORD your God and walk in his ways.

10 Then all the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will fear you.



The Conditions

Interpretation

The Conditions of the Promise

- Fully obey
- Carefully obey
- Keep the commandments
- Walk in His ways



True Obedience

Application

Desire of Ages, 668 All true obedience comes from the heart. It was heart work with Christ. And if we consent, He will so identify Himself with our thoughts and aims, so blend our hearts and minds into conformity to His will, that when obeying Him we shall be but carrying out our own impulses. The will, refined and sanctified, will find its highest delight in doing His service. When we know God as it is our privilege to know Him, our life will be a life of continual obedience. Through an appreciation of the character of Christ, through communion with God, sin will become hateful to us.



The Conditions **Interpretation**

The Fulfillment of the Promise
Set you high above the nations

Blessings of place, production,
property, protection and prosperity

Establish as holy people and all the
nations will see it and fear you.



God's Purpose **Interpretation**

Through the Jewish nation it was God's purpose to impart rich blessings to all peoples. Through Israel the way was to be prepared for the diffusion of His light to the whole world. The nations of the world, through following corrupt practices, had lost the knowledge of God. Yet in His mercy God did not blot them out of existence. He purposed to give them opportunity for becoming acquainted with Him through His church. He designed that the principles revealed through His people should be the means of restoring the moral image of God in man. {COL 286.1}



God's Purpose **Interpretation**

The children of Israel were to occupy all the territory which God appointed them. Those nations that rejected the worship and service of the true God were to be dispossessed. But it was God's purpose that by the revelation of His character through Israel men should be drawn unto Him.



God's Purpose **Interpretation**

To all the world the gospel invitation was to be given. Through the teaching of the sacrificial service Christ was to be uplifted before the nations, and all who would look unto Him should live. All who, like Rahab the Canaanite, and Ruth the Moabitess, turned from idolatry to the worship of the true God, were to unite themselves with His chosen people. As the numbers of Israel increased they were to enlarge their borders, until their kingdom should embrace the world. {COL 290.1}



God's Purpose **Interpretation**

Had Israel been true to God, He could have accomplished His purpose through their honor and exaltation. If they had walked in the ways of obedience, He would have made them "high above all nations which He hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honor."



God's Purpose **Interpretation**

"All people of the earth," said Moses, "shall see that thou art called by the name of the Lord; and they shall be afraid of thee." "The nations which shall hear all these statutes" shall say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." Deut. 26:19; 28:10; 4:6. But because of their unfaithfulness, God's purpose could be wrought out only through continued adversity and humiliation. {DA 28.2}



God's Purpose

Interpretation

Had this counsel been heeded through the centuries that followed, how different would have been Israel's history! Only as a reverence for God's Holy Word was cherished in the hearts of the people, could they hope to fulfill the divine purpose (PK 465-466).



Psalm 1:2-4

Interpretation

But their delight is the law of the Lord and on His law they meditate day and night.

They shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water, which bears its fruit in due season and its leaf does not prosper. Whatever they do, they prosper.

Not so those who are not by the water, they are like the chaff that the wind blows away.



Our Churches

Application

How central
is the Word of God
to our hearts and
the hearts of our
members?



Terms for Election

Observation

The primary term for election in the Old Testament is *bachar* "to choose." Contrary to English usage of "to elect," *bachar* has common currency in non-theological contexts. For example, men *chose* wives (Gen. 6:2), Lot *chose* the valley of the Jordan (Gen. 13:11), Joshua *chose* men to fight (Exod. 17:9), and David *chose* five smooth stones for his slingshot (1 Sam. 17:40). Nonetheless, *bachar* denotes a discriminating selection from among the available options regardless of its context.



Objects of Election

Observation

The objects of divine election fall into three categories: things/events, individuals, and corporate entities.



Grounds of Election

Observation

The basis for God's choice is frequently unmentioned in the OT, however, those grounds of divine election that are revealed fall into two categories: merited and unmerited election. . . .

The clearest examples of unmerited election involve Abraham, Jacob, and Israel.



Purposes of Election **Observation**

The OT reveals four purposes for which God elects individuals or groups: service, salvation, blessing, and reflection of God's character.



Consequences of Election **Observation**

The consequences of election may be summarized in terms of privilege and responsibility. To be chosen by God, whether merited or not, is to receive one of the highest conceivable honors.



New Testament Election **Observation**

Isaiah's statement that the Servant of Yahweh would see his "seed" suggests that the Servant is himself the elect head of a genetic-corporate entity (Isa. 53:10). If this is true, Paul's repeated "in Christ" phraseology would find its parallel in the genetic-corporate election of the OT: Christ is the chosen head, and all His offspring are elect.



Our Churches

Application

Do we and our members realize the blessings that come with being "in Christ?"



Our Churches

Application

Christ has promised the gift of the Holy Spirit to His church, and the promise belongs to us as much as to the first disciples. But like every other promise, it is given on conditions. There are many who believe and profess to claim the Lord's promise; they talk about Christ and about the Holy Spirit, yet receive no benefit. They do not surrender the soul to be guided and controlled by the divine agencies. We cannot use the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is to use us.



Our Churches

Application

Through the Spirit God works in His people "to will and to do of His good pleasure." But many will not submit to this. They want to manage themselves. This is why they do not receive the heavenly gift. Only to those who wait humbly upon God, who watch for His guidance and grace, is the Spirit given.



Our Churches

Application

The power of God awaits their demand and reception. This promised blessing, claimed by faith, brings all other blessings in its train. It is given according to the riches of the grace of Christ, and He is ready to supply every soul according to the capacity to receive.--The Desire of Ages, p. 672



Next Lesson

1. Study Gen. Deut. 30:1-8
Observation
Interpretation
Application
2. Read God's Purpose for Israel
