

# Promise and Deliverance

## Student Workbook

Volume 5

Level 2

Harvey De Groot

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# Preface

When S.G. De Graaf wrote his four-volume series, *Promise and Deliverance*, he showed educators how to teach Bible stories from a redemptive-historical perspective. Rather than turning Bible stories into moralistic tales, De Graaf taught us how all the Bible shows God revealing himself as the God of the covenant, who is working out His redemptive plan for humanity and all of creation.

The 80 workbooks written by Harvey De Groot are meant to supplement De Graaf's work. They are divided by volume and level number: 20 volumes with four levels per volume. Workbook lessons are written at four levels so that families with students in various grades can study the same Bible stories during the week in preparation for their classes on Sunday. Prior to class, the Sunday School teacher should study the lesson in De Graaf's book. The teacher and students can go through the workbook during class.

The levels are divided according to the following grades:

- **Level One:** Grades K-1
- **Level Two:** Grades 2-3
- **Level Three:** Grades 4-6
- **Level Four:** Grades 7-8

Each volume contains 12 or 13 lessons, and each lesson has the following sections:

- **Reference:** The volume and lesson number in De Graaf's series.
- **Scripture:** The passage from Scripture on which the lesson is based.
- **Memory Verse:** A memory verse related to the lesson
- **Lesson Truth:** A short statement to help the class focus on the main point of the lesson.
- **Lesson:** The lesson itself, which the teacher can read in class. For older grades, the teacher may opt to assign it as homework.
- **Questions:** Items to be discussed in class. For older grades, the teacher can assign these questions as homework but should also use them as a basis for class discussion. These are not the only questions that could or should be asked. Teachers should encourage students to come with their own questions as well.

This edition was written by Harvey De Groot and edited by his son Norlan De Groot.



## Lesson 1

# The Head of the People Upheld

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 49

**Scripture:** Numbers 16:1-40

**Memory Verse:** “Then they fell on their faces, and said, ‘O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and You be angry with all the congregation?’” (Numbers 16:22)

**Lesson Truth:** The Lord kept Moses as the leader of Israel even when Korah, Dathan, and Abiram rebelled.

### Lesson

Moses and Aaron led the children of Israel to the border of Canaan. At the border, ten spies came back from Canaan with a bad report. They said, “we are not able to capture Canaan. The city walls are too strong and the giants are too big.” The people did not have faith. God said the people over twenty years old would die in the wilderness. Then three wicked men decided they would no longer obey Moses. They were Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.

Korah, Dathan, and Abiram accused Moses and Aaron of taking too much authority. They told Moses they could lead the people just as well as he and Aaron. They forgot how Moses had saved their lives. Korah wanted to be the high priest instead of Aaron. He wanted Dathan and Abiram to be the political leaders. These wicked men got two hundred fifty other men to follow them.

Moses told Korah and all his followers to take censers and put fire in them. He also told them to put incense in the censers. Moses told them that the next day they would present them to the Lord. Then the Lord would choose who would be the high priest. The Lord would choose if it would be Aaron or Korah. Moses told Korah and his group of followers that they were gathered against the Lord. He asked them, “Who is Aaron that you should complain against him?” Moses knew the people were really rejecting the Lord.

Later Moses sent for Dathan and Abiram. They refused to come when they were called. They said they would no longer obey Moses. They accused Moses of bringing them into the wilderness to die. They said Moses was acting like a prince over them. This was

very wicked of Dathan and Abiram. This made Moses angry. He prayed that the Lord would not respect their offering.

Korah then gathered the entire congregation against Moses and Aaron at the tabernacle. Then the glory of the Lord appeared. The Lord told Moses and Aaron to separate themselves from the people so He could destroy them. Then Moses and Aaron prayed that God would not destroy everyone for the sin of one man. The Lord heard their prayer. But He said Korah, Dathan and Abiram would be destroyed. The Lord told Moses to have the people go away from the tents of these three wicked men.

Then a terrible thing happened. The earth cracked open and swallowed up the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram and all their possessions. These men with the families of Dathan and Abiram went down alive into the pit and the earth closed over them. Then the Lord sent a fire to consume the two hundred fifty men with Korah. Now the people knew that the Lord had chosen Moses and Aaron to lead his people. Moses was upheld as the head of Israel. God also upholds Jesus Christ as our head.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. “They gathered together against \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”  
(Num. 16:3)
2. “So when \_\_\_\_\_ heard it, he fell on his face.” (Num. 16:4)
3. “Speak to the congregation, saying ‘Get away from the tents of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.’” (Num. 16:24)
4. “And \_\_\_\_\_ said: ‘By this you shall know that the Lord has sent me to do all these works.’” (Num. 16:28)
5. “And the \_\_\_\_\_ opened its mouth and swallowed them up.”  
(Num. 16:32)
6. “So they and all those with them went down alive into the \_\_\_\_\_.”  
(Num. 16:33)

## A Thriving Priesthood

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 50

**Scripture:** Numbers 16:41–17:13

**Memory Verse:** “And it shall be that the rod of the man whom I choose will blossom; thus I will rid Myself of the complaints of the children of Israel, which they make against you.” (Numbers 17:5)

**Lesson Truth:** Aaron was ordained by God to be the high priest through the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

### Lesson

Only a day after the ground swallowed up Korah, Dathan, and Abiram the people again spoke against Moses and Aaron. How could they be so sinful? They even said that Moses and Aaron caused the death of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. The people did not see the grace of the Lord in their life. Therefore, they did not understand His judgments.

The children of Israel gathered before the tabernacle to complain against Moses and Aaron. Then an awesome thing happened. The cloud that led the Israelites covered the tabernacle. From this cloud the glory of the Lord appeared. The Lord then spoke to Moses. He told Moses to get away from the people. He said He would consume them in a moment. Just then the Lord sent a plague that began destroying the people.

Moses and Aaron knew they could not approach the Lord as before. They could not say it was only the sin of one man. Because they had all sinned. They knew there was only one hope to save the people of the Lord. That hope was to have Aaron the high priest offer incense in a censer to the Lord. The incense would rise as a prayer to the Lord and would plead for grace. Only the grace of the Lord would save them.

Aaron did as Moses commanded. He took the censer with incense and ran into the middle of the people. He stood between the living and the dead. Then the plague was stopped. Aaron was a shadow of the Lord Jesus Christ. It was the grace of the Lord Jesus that stopped the plague. The work of the high priest, Aaron, with the censer pointed to the great High Priest Christ Jesus. Before the plague stopped fourteen thousand seven hundred people died

Now the Lord did a wonderful thing. He gave the people an unmistakable sign that Aaron was the high priest. He told Moses to collect a rod from each tribe of Israel. The name of each tribe was to be written on their rod. Aaron's name was written on the rod from the tribe of Levi. The Lord then told Moses to bring the rods to the tabernacle. He then said that the rod would blossom of the man He had chosen to be high priest. Aaron's rod blossomed. Now the people knew God had chosen him to be high priest.

That Aaron's rod blossomed and bore fruit was a miracle. A dead branch had been stirred to life and brought forth fruit. It did this in a single night. This miracle pointed to the great High Priest the Lord Jesus. The Lord Jesus can take people who are dead in sins and make them live and bear fruit. The children of Israel now knew that the Lord chose Aaron as the high priest. Aaron's office of high priest pointed to the office of our great High Priest Jesus Christ. Finally the people believed the sign. When they did they were afraid they would die. They said we perish, we all perish! The Lord set up a thriving priesthood.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. The people complained against Moses and Aaron saying: "You have \_\_\_\_\_ the people of the Lord." (Num. 16:41)
2. "Suddenly the cloud covered it, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord appeared." (Num. 16:42b)
3. "And he stood between the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_; so the plague was stopped." (Num. 16:48)
4. " Now those who died in the plague were \_\_\_\_\_." (Num. 16:49)
5. "And it shall be that the rod of the man whom I choose will \_\_\_\_\_." (Num. 17:5)
6. "Thus did Moses; just as the \_\_\_\_\_ had commanded him, so he did." (Num. 17:11)

Lesson 3  
**The Living God**

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 51

**Scripture:** Numbers 20:1-13

**Memory Verse:** “Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, ‘Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them.’” (Numbers 20:12)

**Lesson Truth:** The Lord insisted that His name be honored, so he would not permit Moses and Aaron to lead the Israelites into Canaan because they smote the rock instead of speaking to it as He commanded.

**Lesson**

The Lord had chosen Aaron as the high priest. He pointed out His choice by having Aaron’s rod blossom and bear fruit. Moses was the chosen leader of God’s people and Aaron was the high priest. Our story today tells how these two servants failed as leaders and mediators.

It happened when the children of Israel came to Kadesh. This was the place where Miriam died and was buried. While the children of Israel were at Kadesh they found they did not have water to drink. They acted the same way they had acted before. They complained against Moses and Aaron. The people even said they wished they had died with their brothers in the plague. What a wicked thing to say. Once again they looked back to Egypt. They asked, why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? They should have remembered how the Lord took care of them for forty years. Instead they complained. They acted as if Moses was the God of the people. They did not think of the Lord. In this way they did not treat the Lord’s name as holy. Their faith was weak!

Moses and Aaron also acted like they did before. They walked away from the people and went to the door of the tabernacle. At the door of the tabernacle they fell on their faces before the Lord. Then a wonderful thing happened. The glory of the Lord appeared. As the glory of the Lord appeared, the Lord spoke to Moses. The Lord told Moses exactly what he was to do.

He told Moses to gather the children of Israel before the rock. Then he was to speak to the rock. As he spoke to the rock he had to plead for the Lord's mercy in His covenant. In this way the Lord's name would be honored before the people. This time Moses failed as a mediator. Instead of speaking to the rock he came to the rock in anger. He said, "Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?" Moses did not do as the Lord commanded. He did not speak to the rock to honor the Lord's name. He struck the rock instead of speaking to it. He acted as if his rod and his strength could supply water for the people.

Even though Moses and Aaron did not do as the Lord commanded, water came from the rock. The people and animals could drink. But the Lord was not pleased. He told Moses and Aaron they did not honor His name by striking the rock. They should have spoken to the rock and given honor to the Lord's name. Because they did not honor the Lord's name, God told Moses and Aaron they could not enter the Promised Land. This may seem like a harsh punishment. But the Lord's name must always be honored. Even His chosen leaders must honor His name.

The children of Israel were also punished. They knew they were responsible for keeping Moses and Aaron out of Canaan. Moses and Aaron had failed as mediators. There is only one who never failed. That is the Mediator Christ Jesus. Because He never failed Moses and Aaron received grace. We too receive His grace if we confess our sins.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "Now there was no \_\_\_\_\_ for the congregation; so they gathered against Moses and Aaron." (Num. 20:2)
2. The people said, "If only we had \_\_\_\_\_ when our brethren died before the Lord." (Num. 20:3b)
3. "And why have you made us come up out of \_\_\_\_\_ to bring us to this evil place?" (Num. 20:5)
4. The Lord spoke to Moses saying, . . . "Speak to the \_\_\_\_\_ before their eyes, and it will yield its water." (Num. 20:8b)

5. Then Moses and Aaron gathered the people before the rock and said, “Hear now, you \_\_\_\_\_ ! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?” (Num. 20:10b)
  
6. The Lord said, “because you did not believe Me, to \_\_\_\_\_ Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them.” (Num. 20:12)

## Lesson 4

# Humiliation

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 52

**Scripture:** Numbers 20:14–21:9

**Memory Verse:** “So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.” (Numbers 21:9)

**Lesson Truth:** The Lord allowed Israel to be humiliated by Edom so they would learn to look to the Lord for their help.

### Lesson

The children of Israel wandered in the wilderness for forty years. A whole generation of men died because they doubted. They did not believe the Lord could bring them into Canaan. Now they were at Kadesh. They were ready to enter the Promised Land. The route from Kadesh to Canaan would be steep and dangerous. It would be better if they came in from the east. This meant they would have to go through the land of Edom. Moses sent messengers to the king of Edom to ask permission to go through their land. The king refused. He said they could not pass through Edom.

The king’s refusal hurt the children of Israel. It hurt because the people of Edom were sons of Esau. And Esau was a twin brother of Jacob who was named Israel. The king of Edom even said they would fight with swords if Israel tried to pass through. Why did God allow Edom to refuse such a simple request? The reason is the Lord wanted to humble Israel so they would learn to walk by faith. The Lord who was in the cloud that led Israel also humbled himself. He helped Israel understand that His kingdom did not come by force, but by being a servant.

The Israelites then traveled to Mount Hor. This was the long route around Edom. At Mount Hor, God told Moses to bring Aaron and Eleazer up the mountain. Eleazer was Aaron’s son. God told Moses to take the garments of the high priest from Aaron. He told Moses to put them on Eleazer. In this way God showed that the office of high priest would continue after Aaron died. This was God’s grace that continued the office of high priest. This office pointed to the great High Priest Christ Jesus. The great High Priest, Christ Jesus, would atone for Aaron’s sins. He would atone for the sins of all believers.

The children of Israel continued their journey. As they traveled around Edom, the king of Arad came out and fought with Israel. He took some of the Israelites prisoners. Then the Israelites learned a lesson from the Lord. They learned that the wicked people of Canaan had to be completely destroyed. They made a vow to the Lord. They said that if God delivers us we will utterly destroy the cities of Canaan. They learned they would live by what God provided. They would not depend on what they could get from conquered kings. God, in His grace, was teaching them to live by faith. But they had more to learn.

As the Israelites traveled on they came near the Red Sea. In their travels around Edom they became discouraged. There wasn't enough food and water. Just as before, they spoke against God and against Moses. They again looked back to Egypt. They asked Moses why he led them out of Egypt to die in the wilderness. They forgot that God could take care of them. They forgot God's mercies.

The Lord sent a quick punishment for their wickedness. He sent fiery serpents to bite the people and many of them died. This time the Israelites showed they had a different spirit. They came to Moses and confessed that they had sinned. They admitted they had spoken against the Lord and against Moses. They pleaded with Moses to pray for them. Then the Lord told Moses to make a wonderful sign for His people.

This wonderful sign was a bronze serpent Moses made and put on a pole. The Lord told Moses that anyone who was bitten could look at the bronze serpent and be healed. The bronze serpent could not heal people. It pointed to Jesus who would remove the decay of sin by His grace. It pointed to the Son of God mentioned in John 3:14, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up." The Israelites were made humble so they would learn to live by grace.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "Now Moses sent \_\_\_\_\_ from Kadesh to the king of Edom asking: Please let us pass through your country." (Num. 20:14, 17)
2. "Then the king of \_\_\_\_\_ said you shall not pass through my land." (Num. 20:18a)

3. "Take Aaron and \_\_\_\_\_ his son, and bring them up to Mount Hor." (Num. 20:25)
4. "And strip \_\_\_\_\_ of his garments and put them on Eleazer his son." (Num. 20:26)
5. "So the Lord sent \_\_\_\_\_ among the people, and they bit the people and many of the people of Israel died." (Num. 21:6)
6. "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he \_\_\_\_\_ at it shall live." (Num. 21:8)

## Blessed by the Lord

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 53

**Scripture:** Numbers 21:10–24:25

**Memory Verse:** “They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteous.” (2 Peter 2:15)

**Lesson Truth:** The Lord revealed to Balak, king of Moab, that Israel, God’s chosen people, was blessed forever.

### Lesson

It was a humble experience for Israel to journey around Edom. As they traveled toward Canaan, two kings attacked them. They were Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, king of Bashan. God gave Israel the victory against these kings. Then the children of Israel camped in the plains of Moab.

The Israelites totally defeated Sihon and Og. They captured all their cities. All the people from these cities were killed. This made the people of Moab very afraid. The king of Moab knew he could not fight against Israel. Sihon and Og tried that and were destroyed. King Balak of Moab knew Israel had a power bigger than their army. He knew how Israel had been delivered from Egypt. He knew how Israel’s God helped them cross the Red Sea. Israel’s God was greater than the gods of Midian and Moab. What could king Balak do?

He decided to send the elders of Midian and Moab to find a prophet to curse Israel. He thought if Israel wins the battles because God blesses them, then he must find someone to curse them. He remembered a prophet in a far away country where he once lived. This prophet’s name was Balaam. King Balak promised Balaam honor and gifts if he would curse the Israelites. It seemed that Balaam wanted to go with king Balak. He wanted to use what the Lord revealed for his own purposes. But the Lord had some surprising plans for Balaam.

Balaam wanted the rewards of king Balak, but he did not dare to disobey God. He told the elders to wait until morning before he could give answer. That night God told Balaam he should not go with the elders from Moab. He told Balaam he could not curse Israel because they were blessed by God. Balaam sent the elders back to king Balak, but

Balak did not give up. He sent more noble elders with bigger promises back to Balaam. Again Balaam asked them to wait until morning for an answer.

This time God told Balaam he could go with the elders but he could only say what God told him to say. Balaam still hoped he could find a way to curse Israel and get the rewards. This evil hope did not please God. He sent the Angel of the Lord to meet Balaam on the way. Then an amazing thing happened. Balaam could not see the Angel, but his donkey could see Him. Three times the donkey avoided the Angel of the Lord. Each time Balaam beat his donkey to keep him on the path. Then an even more amazing thing happened. The donkey talked to Balaam.

When the donkey talked, Balaam's eyes were opened. He saw the Angel of the Lord with a sword in His hand. The Angel told Balaam he stopped him because his desire to curse Israel was wicked. He told Balaam he would have been killed if the donkey hadn't avoided the Angel. Now Balaam knew he could only speak God's words to Balak.

King Balak took him to three different places to curse Israel. Each time the words God gave Balaam to speak were blessings for Israel. God used Balaam to announce to the world that His chosen people Israel were blessed forever. Balaam then understood when he said: "How shall I curse what God has not cursed?" This made king Balak very angry and he sent Balaam away.

Before he left, Balaam gave one more prophecy. Balaam told of a Star that would come from Jacob. He told of a Scepter that would come from Israel. This Star or Scepter is the Lord Jesus Christ who would defeat all God's enemies. This is the Messiah who would be an everlasting King for God's people.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "Then the Lord said to \_\_\_\_\_, 'Do not fear him for I have delivered him into your hand.'" (Num. 21:34)
2. "Then the children of Israel moved and camped in the plains of \_\_\_\_\_." (Num. 22:1)
3. "And \_\_\_\_\_ was exceedingly afraid of the people because they were many." (Num. 22:3)

4. “Then he sent messengers to \_\_\_\_\_ the son of Beor at Pethor.” (Num. 22:5)
  
5. “Therefore please come at once, \_\_\_\_\_ this people for me for they are too mighty for me.” (Num. 22:6)
  
6. “Then the \_\_\_\_\_ opened the mouth of the donkey, and she said to Balaam, ‘What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?’” (Num. 22:28)

## The Sovereignty of God's Justice

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 54

**Scripture:** Numbers 25–36

**Memory Verse:** “Then Phinehas stood up and intervened, and the plague was stopped. And that was accounted to him for righteousness.” (Psalm 106:30-31a)

**Lesson Truth:** God's chosen people learn that a just God must punish sin.

### Lesson

Do you remember Balaam? He was the prophet who was asked to curse God's people. He learned that he could not curse what the Lord blessed. But he was still an enemy of the Israel. The Lord would not allow him to curse Israel. Now he advised the people of Moab and Midian to tempt Israel. He said the women could tempt Israel by inviting them to eat meals sacrificed to their gods. This was a wicked thing for the men of Israel to do. It meant that they bowed down to the gods of Moab. In this way Israel was joined to the idol, Baal.

The Men of Israel listened to the women of Moab. They even lived with the women of Moab. In this way they forgot the Lord. This made the Lord very angry with Israel. The Lord is always right in asking His people to worship only Him. The Lord told Moses to destroy the people who bowed to Baal. He told Moses to hang them in the hot sun. Then the Lord would turn away His anger.

The Lord sent a plague to kill many people who worshipped Baal. Moses told the judges of the people to kill the ones who bowed to Baal. They hesitated because the people were crying at the tabernacle. One man was so bold that he brought a woman in front of the people. He said he would live with this woman from Midian. He did not respect Israel's God. His disrespect bothered the priest, Phinehas. Phinehas was filled with the zeal of the Lord. He took a spear and drove it through the bodies of this man and this woman. He knew they dishonored the God of Israel.

When Phinehas destroyed this man and woman, the plague stopped. The plague stopped after twenty four thousand died. Now the people knew they must honor the God of Israel. His laws are right and fair. Phinehas understood that the justice of the Lord must be honored. He pointed to Christ Jesus who loved God's justice. He gave His own life to satisfy the Lord's justice.

The sin of Israel with the Midianites was punished. Now they were ready to enter Canaan. Moses was not to enter Canaan. He dishonored God at the waters of Meribah. God told Moses and Eleazer to count the children of Israel. Then they would know how to divide the land of Canaan. The Lord was very faithful. He could not allow the people who bowed to Baal to enter Canaan. They would forget God. Then the promised Redeemer could not come from His people.

Now the Lord had to deal with the wicked people of Moab and Midian. He told Moses to punish these wicked people. Moses sent a thousand men from each tribe to fight them. They defeated them in battle and destroyed all their cities. But they did not destroy all the people. The soldiers kept the women and children alive. This displeased Moses. He reminded them that it was the women who tempted Israel. He told them to destroy all the boys and married women. The Lord allowed Midian and Moab to be destroyed. He did not destroy Israel because of His grace. They were His chosen people. The promised Redeemer would come from His people.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. “They invited the people to the \_\_\_\_\_ of their gods.” (Num. 25:2)
2. “So Israel was joined to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Peor.” (Num. 25:3a)
3. “The anger of the \_\_\_\_\_ was aroused against Israel.” (Num. 25:3b)
4. “Take all the leaders of the people and \_\_\_\_\_ the offenders before the Lord.” (Num. 25:4b)
5. “And those who died in the plague were \_\_\_\_\_.” (Num. 25:9)
6. “Phinehas the son of Eleazer, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned back My \_\_\_\_\_ from the children of Israel.” (Num. 25:11a)

## The Word Is Very Near You

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 55

**Scripture:** Deuteronomy 29–34

**Memory Verse:** “But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.” (Deuteronomy 30:14)

**Lesson Truth:** God’s word is within people who live in a covenant relationship with Him.

### Lesson

Moses had led the children of Israel to the border of Canaan. They were in the land of Moab. The people of Israel knew they were God’s people. Yet they had to learn that God’s people must honor His name. God would not allow Balaam to curse Israel. Neither would God allow Israel to bow to the gods of Midian. It was Moses, God’s servant that led the children of Israel through all these trials. Now Moses was nearing the end of his life. We will learn how God helped him prepare to leave the children of Israel.

Before he died, Moses wanted to renew the covenant. This was the covenant God made with Israel on Mount Sinai. Moses knew the children of Israel did not understand the covenant. They did not understand that they could not trust their own strength. They did not understand that the covenant is about grace. Moses told the people that grace was necessary. He told them: “The Lord has not given you a heart to perceive and eyes to see and ears to hear, to this very day.” Only when the Lord would give them a heart to perceive would they understand. Moses wanted them to be aware of God’s grace in their life. That is why he renewed the covenant with them.

Moses told them God would be with them if they kept His covenant. He also told them they would be destroyed if they rejected God’s covenant. They would be destroyed just like the city of Sodom. He encouraged them by telling them the covenant is not too hard for you. He told them they did not have to go up to heaven to find it. Nor did they have to cross the sea to find it. Moses said: “But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.” How very much Moses wanted Israel to know, before he died, that God would care for His people.

Moses also read the law where everyone could hear it. He then wrote the law in a book. He gave this book to the priests. He told them that they should read the law to the

people every seven years. Moses wanted each new generation to know the Lord's covenant. What a wonderful way for Moses to prepare to leave the people! More than anything he wanted them to see the Lord's grace in His covenant.

The last thing Moses did before he died was to write a beautiful song. In this song he reminded the children of Israel of God's care for them. He also blessed each of the tribes of Israel. He blessed each tribe just as Jacob had blessed each of his sons. But this blessing is also true for God's people today. It is true because Moses gave this blessing in the name of the Lord. He could give the blessing because the Lord Jesus came to earth to fulfill the covenant.

Moses then went up to Mount Nebo across from Jericho. There God showed him the land of Canaan which had been promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Moses died on Mount Nebo when he was 120 years old. The Bible says his eyes were not dim and his strength was not diminished. Now Israel had to realize that they could not build on Moses. They had to build on the Word of the Lord, the Word that Moses had spoken. We must also realize that we must build on the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Word of God.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "These are the words of the \_\_\_\_\_ which the Lord commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab." (Deut. 29:1)
2. "Yet the Lord has not given you a \_\_\_\_\_ to perceive and eyes to see and ears to hear, to this very day." (Deut. 29:4)
3. "Therefore keep the words of this \_\_\_\_\_ and do them that you may prosper in all that you do." (Deut. 29:9)
4. "For this \_\_\_\_\_ which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off." (Deut. 30:11)

5. “But the \_\_\_\_\_ is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.” (Deut. 30:14)
  
6. “Moses was \_\_\_\_\_ years old when he died. His eyes were not dim nor his natural vigor diminished.” (Deut. 34:7)

## Brought into Canaan

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 56

**Scripture:** Joshua 1:1–5:12

**Memory Verse:** “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)

**Lesson Truth:** By faith Israel is brought into the land of Canaan by the Lord.

### Lesson

The children of Israel wandered in the wilderness forty years. They were now ready to enter the Promised Land. They were across the Jordan River from Canaan. Joshua was their new leader after the death of Moses. Could Joshua and the children of Israel enter Canaan? The truth is, they could not. The Lord would have to bring them in.

Before Moses died the Lord told him to appoint Joshua to lead Israel. To lead Israel was a difficult task. It was difficult because of Israel’s enemies. It was also difficult because the Israelites wanted to follow their own desires. For that reason God encouraged Joshua to lead His people. God assured Joshua that He would be with him. He told Joshua that no man would be able to stand before him. God said: “I will be with you. I will never leave you nor forsake you” (Josh. 1:15). With the Lord’s encouragement Joshua gave the order to prepare to go into Canaan.

Joshua told the people to make provisions. He said that within three days they would cross the Jordan River. Then they would go in to possess the land of Canaan. God also caused the people to accept Joshua as their leader. They said: “All that you command us we will do” (Josh. 1:16). They promised to obey Joshua just as they obeyed Moses. God has given us the Lord Jesus as our leader. We must accept Him as the Israelites accepted Joshua.

Joshua now prepared to go into Canaan. He sent two spies to Jericho. He wanted them to find out if Jericho was strong or weak. The spies hid at the house of Rahab. Her house was on the wall of Jericho. The spies learned some wonderful things from Rahab. She told the spies that the hearts of the Canaanites melted. She said they were filled

with terror because of the great things God did for Israel. Rahab told the spies: “I know that the Lord has given you the land” (Josh. 2:9).

The spies brought this report back to Joshua. Now Joshua knew that the Lord had gone before them into Canaan. The Lord had caused the Canaanites to lose courage. The land was ready for God’s people. The spies also heard Rahab’s confession. She told them: “The Lord your God, He is the God in heaven above and on the earth beneath” (Josh. 2:11). The spies promised Rahab she would be saved when Jericho was destroyed.

Joshua was now ready to lead Israel into Canaan. But how could his army cross the Jordan River? The Jordan was flooded in the rainy season. The Lord told Joshua to have the priests carry the Ark of the Covenant. He told him to have the people keep their eyes on the ark. When the ark went forward the people would go forward. Then a miracle happened. The feet of the priests carrying the ark touched the water. Then the Lord made the flooded water stop running. The priests carried the ark to the middle of the river. There they stopped. All the people crossed the river on dry ground. They walked past the ark as they crossed the river. Now they knew that the Lord brought them into Canaan.

The Canaanites had no spirit left when the Lord stopped the waters of the Jordan. They did not dare to attack the children of Israel. The Lord then told Joshua to renew the covenant. He told him to celebrate two sacraments. Joshua was to celebrate the Passover and circumcision. As the people celebrated these sacraments the covenant was renewed. These sacraments were signs of the covenant. What a joy it must have been for Joshua and the people to enjoy these sacraments. In all the years in the wilderness the sacraments had not been used. Now the manna stopped falling. The children of Israel had been brought into the Promised Land.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. “It came to pass that the Lord spoke to \_\_\_\_\_ the son of Nun. (Josh. 1:1b)
2. “Only be \_\_\_\_\_ and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you.” (Josh. 1:7)
3. “Then the woman took the two \_\_\_\_\_ and hid them.” (Josh. 2:4)

4. “For we heard how the \_\_\_\_\_ dried up the waters of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt.” (Josh. 2:10)
  
5. “And Joshua said to the people, \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.” (Josh. 3:5)
  
6. “Then you shall let your children know, saying, Israel crossed over this \_\_\_\_\_ on dry land.” (Josh. 4:22)

## Set Apart to the Lord by the Ban

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 57

**Scripture:** Joshua 5:13–8:35

**Memory Verse:** “By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days.” (Hebrews 11:30)

**Lesson Truth:** The land of Canaan is devoted to the Lord for destruction, while the treasures of Canaan were devoted to the service of the Lord for Christ’s sake.

### Lesson

The Lord brought the children of Israel into Canaan. They crossed the Jordan River on dry ground. They made a pile of stones to remember this miracle. Joshua was now ready to conquer Jericho. Jericho was a walled city that no one could enter. Joshua needed to know that God would conquer Canaan for His people. As Joshua looked toward Jericho he saw a man with a sword in his hand. He asked this man if he was a friend or an enemy. The man answered: “I have come as the Commander of the Army of the Lord.”

Joshua fell on his face in worship. Who was this Commander of the Lord’s Army? The Commander told Joshua to take off his sandals. He told him he was standing on holy ground. This was the same Angel of the Lord who talked to Moses at the burning bush. This was Christ Jesus the Lord. He gave Joshua some very special orders to conquer Jericho. Joshua and the people would know that the Lord had come to strike the Canaanites.

Joshua was told to have the men of war go around the city once each day for six days. He told him to have the priests carry the Ark of the Covenant in the middle of the soldiers. Seven priests were also to carry trumpets before the ark. The ark was a sign that the Lord was with His people. On the seventh day they had to march around the city seven times. Then the Lord would deliver the city into the hands of the Israelites.

Each day the men of war and the priests carrying the ark walked around Jericho. They did this for six days. All this time they were very quiet. The people in Jericho must have been very frightened. On the seventh day it happened! The soldiers and priests marched around the city seven times. Then the priests blew the trumpets. The people shouted as Joshua commanded them. The walls fell down all around the city. Each soldier marched straight ahead and destroyed the city. All the people in the city were put to death except Rahab and her family. She was saved because she believed in the God of

Israel and hid the spies. The walls of Jericho fell because the Lord had set them apart for destruction.

Now the soldiers were ready to conquer the next city. This was the city of Ai. Some of Joshua's spies told him to only send two or three thousand soldiers to Ai. They said the city was not strong. How sad that the soldiers of Ai beat them. The soldiers of Israel had to run for their lives. Joshua knew there was something wrong. He asked the Lord why they had to run before their enemies. The Lord told Joshua it was because they sinned. Joshua then cast lots by tribes and by families to see who sinned. The lot fell on Achan from the tribe of Judah. What had Achan done? He told Joshua he had taken a robe and some silver and gold from Jericho. This was a terrible sin because God had told them not to take anything from Jericho.

Joshua and the people took Achan and his family and all his things to the valley of Achor. There they stoned his whole family to death. The evil had to be put out of Israel. After the evil had been put away the Israelites conquered Ai. They destroyed all the people. The king of Ai was hung on a tree. The people of Ai were also devoted to the Lord for destruction.

Joshua then gathered the people on Mount Ebal and on Mount Gerizim. There he offered burnt offerings and peace offerings to the Lord. Then Joshua did what Moses had commanded him to do. He wrote the Law of Moses on stones. Then he read the law so all the people could hear it. He read about the blessings if they obeyed the law. He also read about the curses if they disobeyed the law. One group of people shouted "Amen" when he read the blessings. The other group shouted "Amen" when he read the curses. Israel knew that they had to live in obedience to the law in the Promised Land.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "So He said, 'No, but as \_\_\_\_\_ of the army of the Lord I have now come.'" (Josh. 5:14)
2. "And the Lord said to \_\_\_\_\_: See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and mighty men of valor." (Josh. 6:2)

3. “And the seventh time it happened, when the priests blew the trumpets, that \_\_\_\_\_ said ‘Shout for the Lord has given you the city!’” (Josh. 6:16)
4. “And you, by all means abstain from the \_\_\_\_\_ things, lest you become accursed when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse.” (Josh. 6:18)
5. “And \_\_\_\_\_ answered Joshua and said, ‘Indeed I have sinned against the Lord God of Israel, and this is what I have done.’” (Josh. 7:20)
6. “And afterward he read all the \_\_\_\_\_ of the law, the blessings and the cursings, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law.” (Josh. 8:34)

## The Righteousness of God

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 58

**Scripture:** Joshua 9–12

**Memory Verse:** “Is this not written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day.” (Joshua 10: 13b)

**Lesson Truth:** It is right for a righteous God to destroy His enemies.

### Lesson

Because God is a righteous God He can not tolerate sin. Sin must be punished. It is punished in the destruction of unbelievers. Christ the Savior bore the punishment for believers. Today we will learn how God used Israel to destroy the unbelievers in Canaan. Only the people of Gibeon were spared because of a cunning trick.

The children of Israel were camped at Gilgal. They had been at Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim. The covenant with the God of heaven was renewed on the mountains. The Israelites were in the middle of Canaan. There were Canaanite kings to the south and to the north. The kings and the people of Canaan were afraid of the Israelites. They heard what the Lord did to Jericho and to Ai.

A strange patrol came to Joshua at Gilgal. They looked like they had been on a long journey. Their clothes were old and patched. Their shoes had holes in them. Their water bottles were old and their bread was moldy. Joshua didn't trust these strange people. He thought they might live among us in spite of the way they look. But Joshua and the leaders of Israel did not ask the Lord to guide them. So they made peace with them. They swore on oath before the Lord that they would not kill them.

Three days later the men of Israel were very surprised. They learned that the strange patrol was from Gibeon. The people of Gibeon were Israel's neighbors. Some of the men of Israel wanted to destroy the Gibeonites. Joshua and the rulers said no one should harm them. They could not harm them because of the oath they made before the Lord. Joshua and the rulers let them live, but they made them slaves. The people of Gibeon had to cut the wood and carry the water for Israel. Because of this experience

the men of Israel were made humble. Now they knew they were no better than the people of Canaan. Their favor with the Lord came from God's grace in His covenant.

The kings from the south did not like it that Gibeon made an agreement with Israel. Five kings made an agreement to go together to attack Gibeon. They did not expect Israel to help Gibeon. Joshua and his army attacked the five kings. Then the Spirit of the Lord fought for Israel. He filled the kings of the south with fear so they fled before Israel. They tried to get through a mountain pass at Beth-Horon to escape. Here too the Spirit of the Lord fought for Israel. As the kings were going through the pass the Lord rained large hailstones on them. The hailstones killed more enemy soldiers than were killed by the swords of Israel. But the battle wasn't finished.

Joshua then spoke to the Lord. He then said in the sight of Israel: "Sun stand still over Gibeon; and Moon in the Valley of Aijalon" (Josh. 10:12). Do you know what happened when Joshua asked the sun to stand still? The Lord made the sun listen to Joshua. The sun did stand still for almost a full day. God sent a miracle so His judgment could be visited on the kings of the south. Because God is righteous His enemies must be destroyed. The five kings tried to hide in the cave at Makkedah. Joshua brought them out of the cave and had his soldiers put their feet on the king's necks. He told the soldiers to have the courage to put the kings to death in the name of the Lord.

The kings from the north heard the reports of Israel's victories. They were very much afraid of Israel and Israel's God. So Jabin the king of Hazor called all the kings of the north to help him fight Israel. Joshua saw all these kings and their armies camped at the waters of Merom. Could Israel be victorious against this great army? The Lord came to Joshua and told him not to be afraid. The Lord said: "Tomorrow about this time I will deliver them slain before Israel. Joshua and the armies of Israel destroyed this whole great army with their horses and chariots. They were destroyed in the name of the Lord. By the armies of Israel God fulfilled His righteousness upon the Canaanites.

Canaan now belonged to Israel. The promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob was fulfilled. Joshua learned that he could not rely on anything outside of God to defeat the enemy. We too must rely only on God through the finished work of Christ Jesus our Lord.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. The men of Gibeon said: "We have come from a far country; now therefore, make a \_\_\_\_\_ with us." (Josh. 9:6b)

2. “The men of Israel took some of their provisions; but they did not ask council of the \_\_\_\_\_.” (Josh. 9:14)
3. “We will let them live, lest wrath be upon us because of the \_\_\_\_\_ which we swore to them.” (Josh. 9:20b)
4. “And that day Joshua made them \_\_\_\_\_ and water carriers for the congregation and for the altar of the Lord.” (Josh. 9:27)
5. “So the \_\_\_\_\_ stood still and the moon stopped, till the people had revenge upon their enemies.” (Josh. 10:13a)
6. “But the Lord said to \_\_\_\_\_, ‘Do not be afraid because of them, for tomorrow about this time I will deliver them before Israel.’” (Josh. 11:6a)

## The Heritage of the Saints

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 59

**Scripture:** Joshua 13–22

**Memory Verse:** “Only to the tribe of Levi he had given no inheritance; the sacrifices of the Lord God of Israel made by fire are their inheritance, as he said to them.” (Joshua 13:14)

**Lesson Truth:** The Angel of the Lord directed lots cast for the inheritance of each tribe in Canaan.

### Lesson

The Lord brought the children of Israel into Canaan. They crossed the Jordan River on dry ground. The Lord delivered the land of Canaan into Israel’s hands. What a joy it must have been! After years of waiting they were in the Promised Land. They were in the land they were to inherit. The Lord now told Joshua to divide the land. He was to give each tribe their inheritance. After they received their inheritance they had to drive out the Canaanites.

How could Joshua divide the land fairly? The Lord told him to cast lots to divide the land. Each time he cast a lot the Lord directed what each tribe received. The tribe of Judah was chosen first on the West Side of the Jordan. Then the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh were chosen. The two sons of Joseph each received a parcel of land. This was because Jacob promised that Joseph would get a double portion. Jacob blessed his sons in the name of the Lord. You and I should be happy that blessings in the Lord’s name always come true.

One son of the tribe of Judah got a special inheritance. That son was the faithful spy, Caleb. Caleb brought a faithful report back to Moses. Moses promised that he would get the city where the Anakim lived. The sons of Anak were giants. They lived in Hebron. Caleb believed the Lord would defeat the giants. Now he got Hebron as his inheritance. Caleb went to drive out the giants at Hebron. He went in faith and the Lord did drive out these enemies. Men from the other tribes were not as faithful. They feared the people in the land. They feared because they did not rely on God alone.

Joshua wanted to strengthen their faith. He brought all the people to Shiloh. Shiloh was the place where the tabernacle was set up. At Shiloh the people had to believe that God was with them in Canaan. Because God was with them He would keep them safe from

their enemies. The Angel of the Lord was at Shiloh. The Angel of the Lord is Jesus, the Redeemer. Jacob talked about Shiloh when he blessed his son Judah.

There was only one tribe that did not inherit a parcel of land. That tribe was Levi. The Levites were the priests. The priests lived in the cities of the other tribes. They had to remind all Israel that they received an inheritance in order to serve the Lord. The Lord brought His people into the Promised Land. One day in His grace He would send His Promised Son.

Joshua finished casting lots for dividing the land. Now he told the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh that they could go home. They could go back to the East Side of the Jordan River. They obeyed the commands Moses gave them. They helped their brothers conquer the land of Canaan. When they crossed the Jordan River they set up an altar. Their brothers did not like this. They were afraid they would offer sacrifices on a strange altar. They were afraid God would strike them. The tribes east of Jordan said they would not offer sacrifices. They said they would name their altar: "Witness." They said this altar is a witness that the Lord is God. God's people received their inheritance. Now they also live in unity. The Spirit of the Lord had been with them even when they sinned. That same Spirit will be with God's people today because of the obedience of Christ Jesus.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "Now \_\_\_\_\_ was old and advanced in years." (Josh. 13:1)
2. "Now therefore divide this land as an \_\_\_\_\_ to the nine tribes . . ." (Josh.13:7)
3. "But to the tribe of \_\_\_\_\_ Moses had given no inheritance." (Josh. 13:33a)
4. "The \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel was their inheritance, as He had said to them." (Josh 13:33b)

5. “The children of Israel gave an inheritance among them to \_\_\_\_\_  
the son of Nun.” (Josh. 19:49b)
  
6. “For it is a \_\_\_\_\_ between us that the Lord is  
God.” (Josh. 22:34b)

## Confirmed in the Inheritance

**Reference:** De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 1, Lesson 60

**Scripture:** Joshua 23–24

**Memory Verse:** “One man of you shall chase a thousand, for the Lord your God is He who fights for you, as He promised.” (Joshua 23:10)

**Lesson Truth:** Joshua stood as a mediator between God and men and assured Israel that the land of Canaan was their inheritance.

### Lesson

Joshua led Israel as they conquered Canaan. He divided the land by lot to give each tribe an inheritance. Now he was old and ready to die. He called the leaders of Israel together. He wanted to urge them to remember they were God’s people. He did this by reminding them of the way God directed their lives. He reminded them of God’s promises. But he also reminded them that God said He would leave them if they served other gods. They saw how God kept His promises. They knew he would also leave them if they followed other gods.

Joshua was a man of God. He knew that only God could keep His people faithful. God promised, in His covenant, He would be a God to Israel. So, Joshua wanted to renew the covenant between God and His people. To do this he had to present the people to God. He called the elders, the judges and the officers of the people to Shechem. He had them present themselves before God.

Then Joshua spoke in the name of the Lord. He reminded them how God called Abraham. He told them about the promise God gave to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God promised that in their children all the nations of the earth would be blessed. This was a promise that the Redeemer would come. He reminded them that God brought them out of Egypt. God cared for them in the wilderness. God fought for them and gave them the land of Canaan. He reminded them that they lived in a land for which they did not work. They lived in cities they did not build. And they ate from vineyards they did not plant.

Joshua now demanded a response in the name of the Lord. He told the people they must choose. They had to choose if they would serve God or idols. He told them that

he had made his choice. He said, "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua was filled with the Spirit of Christ Jesus. It is only through the grace of God that he could serve the Lord. Through His grace we too can promise to serve the Lord.

The people answered Joshua; "We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God." But Joshua urged them to think about what they were saying. He reminded them the God is a holy God and a jealous God. He reminded the people that it is not possible to serve God and idols. He told them they must serve God in everything or they could not serve Him in anything. Joshua warned the people they must serve God alone or He would destroy them. The people said again that they would serve the Lord. In this way the covenant was renewed at Shechem. Do you think the people of Israel would keep this covenant? No, they didn't. Many of them served idols. But we know there were always faithful people who did keep the covenant. The Redeemer did come. When He came faithful people were waiting for Him.

Joshua's work was now finished. He died when he was 110 years old. Eleazer, the son of Aaron, also died. Joshua, Eleazer, and Joseph were all buried in the land of Canaan. The burial of these leaders in Canaan showed that this was Israel's inheritance. God's promise was fulfilled. He gave the children of Israel an inheritance. Now God's people could believe that these leaders would one day be raised from the dead. At the appearance of the Redeemer they will enjoy their inheritance in heaven.

## Questions

*Fill in the blanks.*

1. "See I have divided to you by \_\_\_\_\_ these nations that remain."  
(Josh. 23:4)
2. "And the Lord your God will \_\_\_\_\_ them from before you and drive them out of your sight." (Josh. 23:5)
3. "Behold this day I am going the \_\_\_\_\_ of all the earth." (Josh. 23:14)
4. "Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to \_\_\_\_\_."  
(Josh. 24:1)

5. “Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in \_\_\_\_\_ and in truth.” (Josh. 24:14)
  
6. “But as for me and my house we will serve the \_\_\_\_\_” (Josh. 24:15b)