

Promise and Deliverance

Student Workbook

Volume 7

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

Crisis

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 14

Scripture: I Samuel 18:14–20:42

Memory Verse: “And David behaved wisely in all his ways, and the Lord was with him.” (I Sam. 18:14)

Lesson Truth: Our covenant-keeping God brought a crisis in the life of Saul.

Lesson

Do you know what a crisis is? A crisis is a deciding event in history. God brought such a deciding event in the life of Saul. In this event God rejected Saul. This is a sad and also a blessed event. It helps us understand how God keeps His covenant.

Samuel had anointed David as the king of Israel. Yet Saul still sat on the throne. David fought battles against Saul’s enemies. Saul could see that the Lord was with David. He should have believed that God anointed David as king. But Saul was proud, so he rejected David. He also rejected the grace of Christ. Because it was the grace of Christ that anointed David as king. Saul saw that David was blessed. This made him afraid of David. Because of his fear he planned ways to harm David.

Saul promised that whoever killed Goliath would marry his daughter. He had not yet kept that promise. Now he added another condition to his promise. He said whoever killed one hundred Philistines would marry his daughter. Saul thought the Philistines might kill David if he went into battle. This was a wicked plan. David did not fight the Philistines for Saul’s daughter Merab. But he did fight them for Saul’s daughter Michal. David fought the Philistines and killed two hundred. Instead of one hundred David brought proof to Saul of killing two hundred Philistines. Then Michal became David’s wife. Saul saw that the Lord continued to bless David. He saw that Michal loved David. Then he became more afraid of David. He told Jonathan he wanted to kill David. In rejecting David, he rejected God’s grace toward His people.

God still wanted Saul to submit to His grace. God had Jonathan, Saul’s son, speak on behalf of David. He told Saul that David had been good to him. He asked Saul why he wanted to harm David. Saul was touched by these words. For a short time, he brought David back to the king’s court. Saul was very close to the kingdom of God. Yet he

turned away as he did before. In a fit of anger and jealousy he threw his spear at David. Saul was determined to kill David. But Michal helped David escape.

David went to Ramah to find Samuel. He asked him what he should do. Samuel took David to Naioth to the school of the prophets. David thought he would be safe. Would Saul come after him when he was with the prophets? Now it was time for Saul to make a decision. Would he rebel against the Spirit of the Lord? Didn't Saul realize that the Spirit of the Lord was protecting David? Saul first sent messengers to take David. These messengers began to prophesy. He sent a second and a third group. They too began to prophesy. Then Saul went to Naioth to get David. He too began to prophesy. It was very sad. Saul spoke of heavenly things. At the same time his heart was filled with hatred of the Lord's Spirit. This was the end for Saul. The Lord rejected him.

Saul became even more evil. He was determined to kill David. David found courage and comfort from Jonathan, Saul's son. Jonathan believed that David was God's chosen king. He worked to protect David from Saul. Jonathan made a covenant with David. They promised that the Lord would always be between them. The Lord would be between their children after them. Jonathan had a heart of faith. He was willing to submit to God's grace in Christ Jesus. Are we ready to submit to that grace?

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "And _____ behaved wisely in all his ways, and the Lord was with him." (I Sam. 18:14)
2. "Thus Saul saw and knew that the Lord was with _____, and that Michal, Saul's daughter loved him." (I Sam. 18:28)
3. "Now Saul spoke to _____ his son and to all his servants that they should kill David, but Jonathan, Saul's son delighted greatly in David." (I Sam. 19:1)
4. "So _____ let David down through a window. And he went and fled and escaped." (I Sam. 19:12)

5. “Now Jonathan again caused _____ to vow, because he loved him; for he loved him as he loved his own soul.” (I Sam. 20:17)

6. “For as long as the son of _____ lives on the earth, you shall not be established in your kingdom.” (I Sam. 20:31a)

Lesson 2

No Place To Lay His Head

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 15

Scripture: I Samuel 21–23

Memory Verse: “You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance.” (Psalm 32:7)

Lesson Truth: David, God’s anointed, had no place to lay his head when Saul pursued him.

Lesson

Our story today is about Saul searching for David. The Spirit of the Lord had left Saul. He was filled with anger and jealousy toward David. He wanted to kill David. David tried to hide from Saul. But David did not have a good place to hide. He was treated a lot like Jesus was treated. He did not have a place to lay his head.

Jonathan told David his father wanted to kill him. David knew he would have to hide. But where could he hide? He decided to ask Ahimelech the high priest. Ahimelech was at Nob at the tabernacle. David told Ahimelech that Saul sent him. Ahimelech would find out later that this was not true. David asked for some bread for his men. Ahimelech only had some holy bread. The holy bread had been on the table of showbread. He told David he could have the showbread so his men would not go hungry. David also asked for a sword or a spear. Ahimelech told him the only sword in the tabernacle was the sword of Goliath. He gave the sword of Goliath to David. One of Saul’s soldiers heard David talk to Ahimelech. This soldier was Doeg a man from Edom. Would Doeg tell Saul where David was?

David decided to go to the Philistine town of Gath. He hoped they would not know him, then he could hide there. But the people of Gath asked the king, “Isn’t this David? Isn’t he the one the Israelites sang about?” They sang, “Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands.” David was afraid because the people of Gath knew who he was. He decided to act like he was insane. He scratched on the doors and on the gates. He even let saliva run down his beard. The people of Gath thought he was crazy. The king did not want anything to do with him. In this way David escaped. He should have known that he could not hide with the Lord’s enemies.

David went to hide in the cave of Adullam. His parents and all his family hid with him at Adullam. Many people that were in trouble in Israel went to be with David at Adullam. David could not hide all the people. He decided to go to Moab. It was safe for his father and mother in Moab. But Moab was the Lord's enemy. David could not stay there. The prophet Gad told David to go back to Judah. David would be tested in Judah. David obeyed and went to the forest of Hereth in Judah.

Saul became very angry with his soldiers. They knew where David was and did not tell Saul. Saul said that even his own son was for David. Then Doeg the man from Edom spoke up. He told Saul he heard David talk to Ahimelech the high priest. This made Saul very angry. Do you know what he did? He sent for the priests and told his soldiers to kill them. His soldiers would not do it. So, Doeg killed all the priests. Then Saul had all the animals and people from Nob killed. He even killed the little babies. The Spirit of the Lord was no longer with Saul. Saul was now a curse to God's people.

The people still did not forsake Saul. They still were not ready to make David their king. But God had made David their deliverer. David became their deliverer again. The Philistines attacked the city of Keilah. David asked the Lord if he should fight the Philistines. The Lord told David to save Keilah. Still the people were not ready to follow David. This was hard for David. He knew the Lord had chosen him to be king. But he had to wait. He again went to hide. This time he went to the wilderness of Ziph. Jonathan came to the wilderness of Ziph. He told David that he knew he would be king.

David had to wait and hide for a long time. He did not have a place to lay his head. All this happened in Israel the land he would rule as king. David suffered much like the Lord Jesus did. The Lord Jesus did not have a place to lay his head on the earth he would rule as King.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Now _____ came to Nob to Ahimelech the priest." (I Sam. 21:1)
2. "So the priest gave him _____; for there was no bread there but the showbread." (I Sam. 21:6a)

3. “Then _____ arose and fled that day from before Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath.” (I Sam. 21:10)
4. “Then _____ said to his servants, ‘Look, you see the man is insane.’” (I Sam. 21:14)
5. “Then _____, Saul’s son, arose and went to David in the woods and strengthened his hand in God.” (I Sam. 23:16)
6. “So the two of them made a _____ before the Lord.” (I Sam. 23:18)

Vengeance Is Mine

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 16

Scripture: I Samuel 24–26

Memory Verse: “Those also who seek my life lay snares for me; Those who seek my hurt speak of destruction, and plan deception all the day long.” (Psalm 38:12)

Lesson Truth: David, God’s anointed, submitted his cause to the judge of all the earth.

Lesson

Even though Saul tried to take his life, David was not permitted to retaliate. David had to concern himself with the Lord’s rights. He had to make God’s cause his own cause. David was called to submit to the Lord in his dealings with Saul and Nabal.

Saul was called to fight off a Philistine attack. During this time he did not seek after David. As soon as he returned from fighting the Philistines he again went after David. He was told that David was at En Gedi. Saul took three thousand men to search for David. As he was seeking David he came to a cave. Saul went into this cave to rest. Saul did not know that David and his men were hiding in this cave. David’s men said, “The Lord has given your enemy into your hand.” These men thought David should kill Saul and stop running for his life. But David would not take Saul’s life. He crawled close enough to Saul to cut off a piece of his robe. It even troubled David to cut Saul’s robe. He would not take Saul’s life. David knew the Lord would have to judge between him and Saul. He told his men that he could not harm the one whom the Lord anointed. David knew that vengeance belongs to the Lord.

Imagine Saul’s surprise when he left the cave and David called to him. Think how he felt when David showed him a piece of his robe. Saul knew that David did not want to harm him. Now he knew, for a moment, that it was wrong for him to hate David. Saul even admitted that he knew David would be the king someday. He asked David to promise that he would not destroy his family. Yet Saul did not give his heart to the Lord in faith. It wasn’t long before he again went after David.

In this time of trouble Samuel died. A strong voice for the Lord was now quiet. This caused the people to begin to look to David to lead them. One person who knew that David was called to lead God’s people was Abigail. She showed this when her husband insulted David. Abigail’s husband was Nabal, a rich rancher. David and his men had

protected Nabal's livestock from thieves. At the time of the harvest banquet, David sent his men to ask Nabal for a gift. David became upset when Nabal called him a rebel and refused his request. David said he would kill Nabal and all the men of his house. Would David become his own judge? Did he really believe that he should seek vengeance?

The Lord kept him from acting in this wicked way. The Lord helped Abigail understand how foolish it would be for David to seek revenge. She knew that her husband and the men of his house could be killed. But her real worry was that David would no longer be worthy to be king. Abigail had the faith to believe that David was to be Israel's king and deliverer. She made up a large gift for David and went out to meet him. She bowed when she met David. She then told David that it was the Lord who held him back from taking revenge on Nabal. It was the Lord who kept him from bloodshed. Abigail knew that it was the Lord who was getting David ready to be king. Not long after Abigail went to meet David, her husband died. After Nabal's death David asked Abigail to marry him. She became David's wife. Now David knew that the Lord kept him from seeking vengeance.

Now Saul again went searching for David to take his life. He was told that David was hiding in a hill in the wilderness of Ziph. So Saul took three thousand men and went after David. David found out where Saul was camped. Then he and Abishai crawled into Saul's camp while the soldiers were sleeping. This time David took Saul's spear and his water bottle. The spear and water bottle were standing next to Saul's head. Again, David had the chance to harm Saul. As before he would not touch the Lord's anointed. David knew that he had to leave the punishment for evil in the Lord's hands.

David called to Abner, Saul's general. He asked Abner why he didn't protect the king. Saul recognized David's voice. Again, he confessed that he was wrong. Then David instructed Saul in the ways of the Lord. He said, "May the Lord repay every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness." He told Saul that the Lord had given him into his hand. He reminded Saul that he would not stretch his hand against the Lord's anointed. David knew that vengeance belongs to the Lord.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Then _____ took three thousand chosen men from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men on the rocks of the wild goats." (I Sam 24:2)

2. “Then the men of _____ said to him. “This is the day of which the Lord said to you, Behold I will deliver your enemy into your hand, that you may do to him as seems good to you.” (I Sam. 24:4a)

3. “And he said to his men. “The Lord forbid that I should do this to my master the _____ to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the Lord.” (I Sam. 24:6)

4. “Now Nabal answered _____ servants, and said, ‘Who is David, and who is the son of Jesse?’” (I Sam. 25:10a)

5. “Now when _____ saw David, she dismounted quickly from the donkey, fell on her face before David, and bowed down to the ground.” (I Sam. 25:23)

6. “May the _____ repay every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness.” (I Sam 26:23)

Forsaken and Sought Out

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 17

Scripture: I Samuel 27–31

Memory Verse: “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.” (Psalm 50:15)

Lesson Truth: God’s people were forsaken and then sought out again by David.

Lesson

God never abandons His people. They were forsaken when Saul could not get a word from the Lord. They were forsaken when David lived among the Philistines. But God did not abandon them. He restored David who sought out God’s people.

God delivered David from the hand of Saul many times. Still David thought he could not escape from Saul if he stayed in Canaan. He decided to go to the land of the Philistines. It seemed that David’s fear was greater than his faith. He went back to king Achish in Gath. He pretended that he was a friend of the Philistines. David told king Achish that it wasn’t right for him to stay at Gath. Gath was the capital city. He asked the king if he and his men could stay at Ziklag. The king allowed David to live in Ziklag. From Ziklag David attacked enemies living along the border of Canaan. He pretended that he was fighting for king Achish. But David was denying his own people. He was also denying the God of his people. We must be very thankful that God had mercy on David. For Jesus’ sake He rescued David and again made him the deliverer of His people.

Saul continued to fight the Philistines. He was camped at Mount Gilboa. The Lord was no longer with Saul. He did not get any advice from the prophets. The Lord did not answer when he called on Him through the Urim. This made Saul terribly afraid. He finally told his men to find a medium. A medium was a witch who sometimes talked to dead people. They found a medium at Endor. Saul asked her to get Samuel from the dead. She was afraid because Saul had sent the mediums out of Canaan. Saul promised that nothing bad would happen to her. So, she brought up Samuel. When Samuel appeared, she knew that she was talking to Saul. Again, Saul promised that nothing bad would happen if she told what she saw.

Then the spirit of Samuel talked to Saul. He asked Saul why he disturbed his spirit. Saul then said that the Philistines were attacking him and he could not get a word from the Lord. Then the spirit of Samuel told Saul what would happen. He told him that Israel would be delivered into the hands of the Philistines. Then he told Saul that the next day he and his sons would die. When Saul heard these words he fell over. This was a terrible judgment on Saul. It was also a judgment on the people of Israel.

David pretended he was a friend of the Philistines. King Achish wanted him to fight Israel. That would be terrible for David to fight God's people. God used the lords of the Philistines to make sure that did not happen. They told king Achish that David could not fight for them. They said they did not trust David. So they sent him back to Ziklag. At Ziklag he found that the Amalekites had taken all the women and children away. Then David acted like a man of God. He asked the priest to inquire of the Lord for him. This was the right thing for David to do. The Lord told him to go after the Amalekites. David rescued the women and children and all their possessions. Now David knew that it was the Lord who brought back the families and possessions. God showed His mercy to David. He again gave David His favor and His fellowship.

The following day it happened just as the spirit of Samuel said it would. The Philistines defeated the Israelites. Saul and his sons died. Saul became separated from his men. He knew the Philistines would capture him. He did not want them to torture him. So he asked his armor-bearer to kill him. His armor-bearer would not do this. So Saul fell on his own sword and died. This was very sad. Saul could have been a good king. But he became proud and would not live in the Lord's grace. The Philistines hung his body and the bodies of his sons on the wall at Beth-Shan. Out of respect, the men of Jabesh-Gilead took the bodies down and burned them. Because the Lord is always faithful to His people, Saul was removed.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "And it was told Saul that _____ had fled to Gath; so he sought him no more." (I Sam. 27:4)
2. "When _____ saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid and his heart trembled greatly." (I Sam. 28:5)

3. “Then Saul said to his servants, ‘Find me a woman who is a _____ that I may go to her and inquire of her.’” (I Sam. 28:7)
4. “Moreover the Lord will also deliver _____ with you into the hand of the Philistines.” (I Sam. 28:19a)
5. “And tomorrow you and your _____ will be with me.” (I Sam. 28:19b)
6. “So _____, his three sons, and his armor-bearer, and all his men died together that same day.” (I Sam. 31:6)

Lesson 5

The People's Submission to Their King

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 18

Scripture: II Samuel 1–5

Memory Verse: “David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.” (II Samuel 5:4)

Lesson Truth: The Lord prepares his people to receive David as their king.

Lesson

David honored Saul in his life and in his death. He honored him because Saul had been anointed by the Lord to be king. David showed that he was willing to submit to the Lord. God's grace was at work in David's life. God prepared David to be king. He prepared the people to accept David as king.

The Philistines would not allow David to fight against Israel. They sent him back to Ziklag. He found the Amalekites had taken the women and children. David went after the Amalekites and rescued the women and children. After he returned to Ziklag from this rescue a messenger came from Saul's army. He told David that Israel's army was defeated. He also brought the news that Saul and Jonathan were dead. The messenger even boasted that he killed Saul.

David and his men tore their clothes when they heard this. They wept at hearing that Saul and Jonathan were dead and that Israel was defeated. David became upset when he learned that the messenger was an Amalekite. The Amalekite thought it would be good news for David to hear of Saul's death. He may have thought he would get a messenger's reward. But David responded with real grief. Who was this Amalekite that he dared to touch the Lord's anointed? If his claim was true that he killed Saul; this was a disgrace to Israel. It was a disgrace to Israel's God. So David commanded his men to put the messenger to death. David did not want to become king by touching the Lord's anointed.

As a tribute to Saul and Jonathan, David wrote a lamentation. He lamented that the mighty of Israel had been slain. He asked the people not to tell the Philistines that Saul was dead. He did not want the Philistines to rejoice at Saul's death. David wept for Jonathan his friend, whom he loved. He was able to love Saul because God's grace ruled in his heart.

After Saul's death, David acted like a man of God. He was still living at Ziklag in the land of the Philistines. Before he returned to Judah, David asked the Lord if he should return. The Lord told him to return and to go to Hebron. At Hebron the elders came and anointed him king of Judah. David would have to wait before he would become king of all Israel. As the king of Judah, he sent a message of blessing to the men of Jabesh Gilead. This blessing was in honor of the kindness the men of Jabesh showed to Saul. These men had taken the bodies of Saul and his sons from the wall at Beth-Shan.

David still had to deal with people who were loyal to Saul. Abner, Saul's general, wanted to keep the kingdom for Saul. He gathered an army and marched against Judah. This was a civil war with the rest of Israel fighting against Judah. The war could end when all Israel was ready to submit to the Lord. It could end when all Israel understood that the Lord chose David as king. The turning point came when Abner became upset with Ishbosheth, Saul's son. Ishbosheth chided Abner for marrying his father's wife. This made Abner angry. He said he would make sure that the whole kingdom of Israel followed David. This was the Lord's way of making Abner also submit to His will. David's commander, Joab, did not trust Abner. He brought him back to Hebron and killed him. Again, David showed his respect for Saul. He mourned for Abner, and also wrote a lament for him.

After Abner's death the people were ready to unite with David. Ishbosheth, Saul's son was murdered. His murderers thought this would please David. But David had the murderers put to death out of respect for Saul and his family. All Israel finally submitted to God's choice to have David as king. One of the first things David did as the king of all Israel was to make Jerusalem the capital. He took his army to Jerusalem and fought against the Jebusites. The Spirit of the Lord was working in David, so he destroyed those that mocked the God of Israel. The Lord gave David the city. He came to deliver Israel. Now the people knew that it was the Lord who helped David rule Israel.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Then _____ said to him, How did the matter go? Please tell me."
(II Sam. 1:4a)
2. "And he answered, 'The people have fled from the battle, many of the people are fallen and dead, and _____ and Jonathan his son are dead also.'"
(II Sam. 1:4b)

3. “So _____ said to him, ‘How was it you were not afraid to put forth your hand to destroy the Lord’s anointed?’” (II Sam. 1:14)
4. “The beauty of _____ is slain on your high places! How the mighty have fallen!” (II Sam. 1:19)
5. “Should _____ die as a fool dies? Your hands were not bound nor your feet in fetters; as a man falls before wicked men, so you fell.” (II Sam. 3:33b-34)
6. “Then all the tribes of Israel came to _____ at Hebron and spoke saying, ‘Indeed we are your bone and your flesh.’” (II Sam 5:1)

Lesson 6
King of Israel

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 19

Scripture: II Samuel 6–9

Memory Verse: “For You have made Your people Israel Your very own people forever; and You Lord have become their God.” (II Samuel 7:24)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus, the promised son of David, will rule over God’s people forever.

Lesson

David was anointed king of all Israel. He learned to wait for the Lord. As the king of Israel he remembered the ark of God. The ark was the sign of God’s presence with Israel. David wanted the sign of God’s presence to be in Jerusalem, the capital city. We will learn how David brought the ark to Jerusalem. We will learn of the covenant God made with David, and how he ruled with justice.

The ark of God was still at the house of Abinadab. Choice men of Israel went with David to bring the ark to Jerusalem. Two sons of Abinadab were to drive the new cart bringing the ark to the city of David. Ahio would go before the ark and Uzzah would walk alongside. David and the people followed with singing and dancing. Then a shocking thing happened. The oxen pulling the cart stumbled and the ark nearly fell. Uzzah put out his hand to steady the ark. When he touched the ark, he was struck dead. This made David afraid and angry. He was afraid to move the ark any farther, so he brought it to the house of Obed-Edom. He was angry with himself because he did not know what sin caused the death of Uzzah. David and his men had forgotten that the ark was a sign of the presence of a holy God.

The ark was at the house of Obed-Edom for three months. Then David realized what sin had caused the death of Uzzah. He had followed the ways of the Philistines by putting the ark on a new cart. He had forgotten that God clearly instructed the Levites to carry the ark. Now David was ready to take the ark from the house of Obed-Edom and bring it to Jerusalem. This time the Levites carried the ark. When it came into Jerusalem, David and the people danced before it. There were instruments and shouting along with the dancing. What a reason for joy as the sign of the presence of God came to the city of David. But not everyone was happy. Michal, David’s wife, despised him when she saw him dance. She was embarrassed by his appearance. Michal was more

concerned with the way things looked than with God's honor. She had a proud selfish heart like that of her father Saul.

Now that the ark of God was in Jerusalem, David wanted to build a house for the Lord. He told Nathan the prophet that he lived in a house of cedar while the Lord lived in a tent. Nathan first told David to go ahead and build a house for the Lord. Then God spoke to Nathan in a vision to tell him that David was not the one who should build the Lord's house. Then Nathan went on to tell him that he would have a son to sit on the throne and to build the Lord's house. Even more God promised David that his kingdom would last forever. This was a promise that Christ Jesus would reign on David's throne. The kingdom of Christ Jesus will last forever. David could only ask, "Who am I, O Lord God? And what is my house that You have brought me this far?"

With God's blessing David ruled in Jerusalem with power and honor. This made his enemies hate Israel's king and her people. They really hated the Lord in whose name David ruled. But the Lord gave David the victory over his enemies. He defeated the Philistines, Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Amalekites, and the kings of Syria. David carried out the justice and righteousness of the Lord against his enemies. He was also faithful to the covenant he made with Jonathan. He promised Jonathan that he would always show mercy to his family. David found Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son, and gave him all of Saul's possessions. He also brought Mephibosheth to the palace to eat at the king's table. Christ Jesus will be even more faithful than David in keeping the covenant with those who believe.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, _____ put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it for the oxen stumbled." (II Sam. 6:6)
2. "Then the anger of the Lord was aroused against _____ and God struck him there for his error; and he died there by the ark of God." (II Sam. 6:7)
3. "So _____ and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet." (II Sam. 6:15)

4. “When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your _____, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.” (II Sam. 7:12)

5. “And your house and your kingdom shall be established _____ before you. Your throne shall be established forever.” (II Sam. 7:16)

6. “So _____ dwelt in Jerusalem, for he ate continually at the king’s table. And he was lame in both his feet.” (II Sam. 9:13)

The Lord's Beloved

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 20

Scripture: II Samuel 10–12

Memory Verse: “Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight; that you may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge.” (Psalm 51:4)

Lesson Truth: God showed His grace to Israel in Solomon, the beloved and in Christ His Beloved.

Lesson

Today the story is about the birth of Solomon. God showed his grace in a special way in the birth of Solomon. His birth showed God's renewed favor after David's sin with Bathsheba. It began with the war David had with Ammon. It was at the time of this war that David became involved with Bathsheba.

The war with Ammon began when their king embarrassed David's messengers. Ammon had a new king. David sent messengers to the new king to bring his sympathy for the death of his father. The king treated David's messengers like spies. He shaved off half their beards and cut off the bottom of their clothes. They were too ashamed to go back to Jerusalem. So, David told them to stay at Jericho until their beards grew out. Then he sent his army to fight the Ammonites. The Ammonites asked the Syrian army to help them fight. David's army defeated the Syrians but not the Ammonites.

The next spring David sent his army to destroy the Ammonites. They had to be destroyed because they shamed David's men and his God. When David's army went to fight the Ammonites, he stayed at home. As David rested at home he wandered on the roof of his house. Then he saw something he should not have seen. He saw a beautiful woman taking a bath. David then did a wicked thing. He wanted this woman and sent for her. He committed adultery with her. Her name was Bathsheba.

Later Bathsheba told David she was going to have a baby. She told him that he was the baby's father. Now David did another wicked thing. He tried to hide his sin. He tried to make it look like Bathsheba's husband was the father. He brought Uriah her husband home from the war. But Uriah would not go home to Bathsheba when his buddies were fighting. David was really in trouble. Do you know what he decided to do? He decided

to make sure that Uriah was killed in the war. He had his commander put Uriah in the most dangerous part of the war. Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, was killed. David made her his wife. This was very wicked thing for David to do! David never told anyone what he did. He thought he could hide his wickedness from God. But nothing can ever be hidden from God.

God sent Nathan the prophet to talk to David. He told David a story about a rich man and a poor man. He said the rich man had many flocks and herds. The poor man had just one little lamb. Yet the rich man took the poor man's lamb to feed his guests. David was very upset with the rich man. He told Nathan the rich man must be put to death. Then Nathan told David that he was that rich man. He had taken Bathsheba away from Uriah. God used Nathan to show David his sin. Then David was very sorry for his sins. He knew he had sinned against God.

God punished David for his sin. The son born to Bathsheba died. But God did not forget David. He gave David and Bathsheba another son. This was a very special son. He would be the king after David. They gave him the name Solomon. This meant he was beloved of the Lord. By giving David and Bathsheba this son God was telling them to look ahead. They could look ahead to the Promised Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ Jesus is truly the "Beloved of the Lord."

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Then _____ said, 'I will show kindness to Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father showed kindness to me.'" (II Sam. 10:2)
2. "Therefore Hanun took _____ servants, shaved off half their beards, cut off their garments in the middle, at their buttocks, and sent them away." (II Sam 10:4)
3. "Now when David heard of it, he sent _____ and all the army of the mighty men." (II Sam. 10:7)
4. "David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that _____ had done displeased the Lord." (II Sam. 11:27b)

5. "Then the Lord sent _____ to David." (II Sam. 12:1a)

6. "So David said to _____ I have sinned against the Lord."
(II Sam. 12:13a)

Rejected and Restored

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 21

Scripture: II Samuel 13–20

Memory Verse: “But You, O Lord, are a shield for me, my glory and the One who lifts up my head. I cried to the Lord with my voice, and He heard me from His holy hill.” (Psalm 3:3-4)

Lesson Truth: God restored David as king after the people rejected him.

Lesson

David was rejected as king by Absalom and by the people. Yet God restored His anointed one. Absalom not only rejected his father as king, but also as the head of the covenant. Absalom rejected the covenant itself. He was an unbeliever who hated his father’s love for the ark as a sign of God’s presence.

Sin was present in the lives of David’s sons as they grew up. Both Amnon and Absalom were self-seeking, proud young men. Amnon had a sinful desire for his half-sister, Tamar. He planned a way to take advantage of her by acting like he was sick. When Tamar came to wait on him in the privacy of his room, he violated her. Then with his heart full of hatred, he sent her away. This made Absalom, her brother very angry. He made plans at a sheep-shearing event to kill Amnon. The wickedness of David’s sons reminded him of the curse on his house because of his sins. Now Amnon was dead and Absalom fled to Geshur causing David to grieve for his sons.

David longed for Absalom so much that he was willing to allow him to come back to Jerusalem. He did not insist that Absalom repent of his sins before he came back. This was a weakness on David’s part. He and Absalom got together in a shallow kind of way. But Absalom’s heart was not with his father. He did not share his father’s faith. He did not believe the covenant God made with David.

It wasn’t long before David learned Absalom’s real intentions. First Absalom gained the affection of the people by deceit and flattery. Then he asked if he could go to Hebron on business. David gave his permission and learned too late that Absalom declared himself king. Absalom was going to march into Jerusalem and do away with his father. David was not ready to resist so he made ready to leave Jerusalem. Think of the grief David felt at being rejected by Absalom and the people. David’s real grief came

because he knew that the people rejected the Lord when they rejected His king. David left the city weeping and barefooted with his head covered. Years later David's Promised Son would be rejected the same way. Christ Jesus would walk that same road of suffering and rejection.

Absalom had the service of David's adviser to help him in his rebellion. This adviser was Ahithophel who spent years with David. David prayed that God would make the advice of Ahithophel of no effect. Do you know how God answered David's prayer? He sent Hushai, David's trusted adviser, to pretend he was a friend of Absalom. Hushai made the advice of Ahithophel of no effect. Ahithophel had also rejected the Lord's covenant. He would learn he could not fight against the Lord.

Now the two armies stood against each other. David's army defeated the army of Absalom. In this defeat Absalom fled through the forest of Ephraim. As he was riding his mule his hair was caught in a terebinth tree. This is where Joab, David's commander, killed him. When David was told of Absalom's death he wept over his son. He wept uncontrollably for his rebellious son until Joab took him to task. David had to own that he was the head of the covenant. He had to understand that Absalom was a covenant breaker. It is not right to grieve uncontrollably when the Lord judges a covenant breaker.

Following Absalom's death David returned to Jerusalem. Yet the people were not completely united behind David. The people were still not entirely ready to submit to David as the covenant head. David was restored by God himself. Still there was no internal unity. The people had sinned against the Lord and against His anointed one. Because the people had not confessed their sin, the Lord would have to confront them with their guilt.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Then _____ put ashes on her head, and tore her robe of many colors that was on her, and laid her hand on her head and went away crying bitterly."
(II Sam. 13:19)
2. "But when _____ heard of these things, he was very angry."
(II Sam. 13:21)

3. “So _____ fled and went to Geshur, and was there three years.” (II Sam. 13:38)

4. “Then _____ sent spies throughout al the tribes of Israel, saying, ‘As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then you shall say, Absalom reigns in Hebron.’” (II Sam. 15:10)

5. “And the king said to the Cushite, is the young man _____ safe?” (II Sam. 18:32a)

6. “So the _____ answered, ‘May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise against you to do you harm, be as that young man.’” (II Sam. 18:32b)

Lesson 9
Israel's Lamp

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 22

Scripture: II Samuel 21–24

Memory Verse: “In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, and my cry came before Him even to His ears.” (Psalm 18:6)

Lesson Truth: Through David the anointed one, the Lord is a lamp to His people.

Lesson

David's soldiers called him the lamp of Israel. David said that the Lord was his lamp. David did light the way for Israel because the Lord was his light. Saul's lamp was put out as David's lamp pointed to the Christ.

David knew that God controls everything. When Israel had a famine for three years, David knew that this was from God. He asked the Lord why they had no rain. The Lord told him it was because of a sin of Saul. Saul's sin was that he tried to destroy the Gibeonites. It was wrong to destroy the Gibeonites because Joshua promised to protect them. The Gibeonites came to Joshua years before and pretended to be from a far country. They asked Joshua to protect them. Joshua gave them his promise in the name of the Lord. Such a promise may not be broken. But Saul broke that promise. He did not honor a promise made in the name of the Lord. That is why the Lord sent a famine on Israel.

David asked the Gibeonites what he could do to make amends for Saul's sin? They said he should give them seven of Saul's relatives. They would take these relatives and hang them before the Lord. David gave them seven of Saul's relatives. They hung them on a hill and let them hang all through barley harvest. God allowed seven people to die for the sins of all the people. The kingship was taken away from Saul's house forever.

The Philistines continued to fight David. There was a giant who thought he could kill David. But Abishai, David's soldier, struck the giant and killed him. Then David's men did a wonderful thing. They told David they did not want him to go into battle anymore. They said it was because they didn't want the lamp of Israel to go out. David's men understood that God anointed him. He was the lamp of Israel because Christ Jesus was

his lamp. David sang a song of praise because the Lord delivered him from his enemies. In his song he said the Lord was his Rock, his Shield, his Refuge, and his Redeemer. David's song showed that he looked forward to the coming of Christ, the Promised Son.

Near the end of David's life, the Lord moved David against the people of Israel. The people had to be punished for their sin of rejecting David as God's anointed. David did a sinful thing. He decided to count all the people to see how strong his army was. This was sad that David would trust in his army rather than in God. He told Joab to count the people. Joab knew this was wrong and asked David not to have him count the people. But David did not listen to Joab.

The Spirit of the Lord then spoke to David's heart. David knew that he had sinned. He asked the Lord to take away his sin. God then sent the prophet Gad to speak to David. The prophet told David that he would be punished. He asked him what punishment he would choose. Would it be seven years of hunger? Or would he like to flee before his enemies for three months? The third choice was to have three days of a plague from the Lord. David was in great distress, but he knew he had to choose. He said he would rather be in the hands of God than in the hands of his enemies, so he chose the three days of plague from the Lord.

The plague broke out all over Israel. Seventy thousand people died. The people were punished for the sin of rejecting David. But David was also punished. He cried out to the Lord and said: "It is I who have sinned; I am the one who acted wickedly. But these sheep, what have they done? Let Your hand be against me and against my father's house." David offered to take the punishment in place of the people. He acted like the Redeemer who would come from his family. Christ Jesus, the Redeemer, would take the punishment for the sins of God's people on the cross. David then offered burnt offerings and peace offerings to the Lord. He did this at the place he had seen the angel of destruction. David was the lamp of Israel. He could be Israel's lamp because Christ was his lamp, and the lamp of God's people.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Now there was a _____ in the days of David for three years." (II Sam. 21:1a)

2. “It is because of _____ and his bloodthirsty house, because he killed the Gibeonites.” (II Sam. 21:1b)

3. “So he brought up the bones of Saul and the bones of _____ his son from there; and they gathered the bones of those who had been hanged. (II Sam. 21:13)

4. “They buried the bones of _____ and _____ his son in the country of Benjamin in Zelah in the tomb of Kish his father.” (II Sam. 21:14a)

5. “Then _____ spoke to the Lord the words of this song.” (II Sam. 22:1a)

6. “And he said: ‘The Lord is my _____, my fortress and my deliverer.’” (II Sam. 22:2)

The Kingdom of Peace

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 23

Scripture: I Kings 1–4

Memory Verse: “If your sons will keep my covenant and my testimony which I shall teach them, their sons also shall sit upon your throne forevermore.” (Psalm 132:12)

Lesson Truth: The kingdom of Solomon pointed to the Kingdom of peace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lesson

When Solomon was king, the land of Israel lived in peace. The people of Israel looked up to King Solomon. They could see that God gave him wisdom. Solomon ruled the kingdom with justice.

Before Solomon was anointed, Adonijah tried to become king. Adonijah was also a son of David. He was a brother of Absalom. He thought he had a right to be king of Israel. Adonijah knew that David was getting weaker. He decided to take advantage of David’s weakness and name himself king. He knew the Lord had said that Solomon would be king. But Adonijah would not submit to the word of the Lord. He called the people who supported him to a sacrificial meal. Joab came to Adonijah’s meal. Joab was David’s commander. Abiathar the priest came to his meal. They would help Adonijah.

Nathan the prophet found out what Adonijah was doing. He knew this was not the Lord’s will. Nathan knew that the Lord said Solomon would be king after David. He went to Bathsheba, Solomon’s mother. He asked her to go and remind David of his promise to make Solomon king. Bathsheba went to David and reminded David of his promise. David knew the Lord wanted Solomon to be king. So he told Nathan, Zadok, and Beniah to anoint Solomon as king. Nathan was the prophet and Zadok and Beniah were priests. They had Solomon ride on the king’s mule. Then they anointed him king and shouted: “Long live King Solomon.” The people shouted with the prophet and priests.

Adonijah heard the noise. He was told that David had Solomon anointed as king. Then Adonijah became afraid. He went to the tent where the ark of God was kept. There he took hold of the horns of the altar. Taking hold of the horns of the altar meant he would be protected. Solomon promised Adonijah he would protect him if he would

never again revolt. But Adonijah did not keep his promise. He plotted against the new king. Solomon knew that there could not be a kingdom of peace without justice. So he had Adonijah put to death. He was put to death because he did not submit to the one the Lord chose to be king. Abiathar was punished for helping Adonijah. He had to leave Jerusalem. Joab was put to death because he failed to honor Solomon as the Lord's anointed.

Solomon treated with justice the people who revolted. Now he went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices to the Lord. He asked the Lord to bless his kingdom. There the Lord appeared to Solomon. He asked Solomon what he could give him to help him rule His people. Solomon answered the Lord that he needed wisdom to rule God's people. He said he needed an understanding heart.

God was pleased with Solomon's request. Solomon had the Spirit of Christ in him. He was not thinking about himself. God told him he would be given an understanding heart. God said he would also get what he did not ask for. He would get wealth and honor. Solomon showed his wisdom when two women came to him. One woman said the other one had taken her child because her own child had died. Solomon said the living child should be cut in half and a half given to each woman. Then the real mother pleaded to let the child live and be given to the other. So Solomon knew who the real mother was and he gave her the child. Because Solomon was wise the people felt safe. The people who loved the Lord felt a shield of protection in Solomon's wisdom. The people who did not know the Lord knew they could not hide from his wisdom. The kingdom of Solomon pointed to the Kingdom of Christ.

Solomon was given wisdom. The Lord also gave him riches and honor. He used his wisdom to rule the people with justice. But Solomon also used his wisdom to write proverbs and songs. He wrote thousands of proverbs and songs to guide the people. These songs and proverbs were for young and old and for rich and poor. Solomon could do this because the Spirit of Christ was in him. The Kingdom of our Lord will be greater than Solomon's kingdom. If we live by faith in God's covenant, we are citizens of His Kingdom.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Then _____ the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, 'I will be king.'" (I Kings 1:5)

2. “Go immediately to _____ and say to him, ‘Did you not, my lord, O king swear to your maidservant, saying, ‘Assuredly your son Solomon shall reign after me, and shall sit on my throne?’” (I Kings: 1:13)

3. “Then _____ the priest took a horn of oil from the tabernacle and anointed Solomon. And they blew the horn, and all the people said, ‘Long live King Solomon.’” (I Kings 1:39)

4. “Now, O Lord my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father _____, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.” (I Kings 3:7)

5. “Therefore give to Your servant an _____ to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil.” (I Kings 3:9)

6. “The speech pleased the Lord, that _____ had asked this thing.” (I Kings 3:10)

The Palace of His Holiness

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 24

Scripture: I Kings 5–9

Memory Verse: “May the Lord our God be with us, as He was with our fathers. May He not leave us nor forsake us.” (I Kings 8:57)

Lesson Truth: Solomon’s temple in Jerusalem showed that God was present with his people.

Lesson

David defeated the enemies of Israel. His son Solomon was now the king of a peaceful kingdom. Solomon wanted to do what David planned for years. He wanted to build a temple as a place for God to dwell. God lived among His people in the tabernacle for years. He lived in the tent where the ark of God was kept. Solomon knew it was time to replace the tabernacle. He wanted to build a glorious temple. He wanted a temple as the palace of God’s Holiness.

Solomon was a wise king. He made plans to build the temple in Jerusalem. Solomon asked Hiram, the king of Tyre, if he could get cedar trees from Lebanon. Hiram was a friend of David, so he was happy to help his son. He agreed to have men from Israel cut cedar trees and bring them to Jerusalem. The people could see that God gave Solomon great wisdom to build the temple. He had to plan the work for thousands of men to get the materials ready for the temple. There were so many workers that it took three thousand three hundred overseers to tell them what to do. The Lord guided Solomon as he made plans for the temple.

It took seven years to build the temple. It was something like the tabernacle only much larger. It had three areas like the tabernacle. It had the outer court, the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies. The building of the temple was very unusual. All the wood and stone work was done at Jerusalem without any noise. The wood and stone were cut exactly so they could quietly be put in place. Even as the workmen were building, they were aware of the holiness of the temple. The Lord came to Solomon when the temple was being built. He promised that He would live among his people. He promised that he would always keep His Word about David’s house. David would have a son to sit on the throne forever.

As soon as the temple was finished Solomon began building the king's palace. It took thirteen years to build the king's palace. It was very beautiful. It had to be beautiful to show the splendor of the king the Lord had given to Israel. In the splendor of this king the people could see the glory of God. At the time the king's palace was built the furnishings for the temple were built. These furnishings were also at lot like the furnishings in the tabernacle. Only they were much larger and more glorious. He made two pillars to stand in the front court of the temple. These pillars were given names that meant God's promise to David was certain.

When everything was finished, Solomon called the people together. He was ready to have the priests carry the ark of God from the tabernacle to the temple. The priests brought the ark to the Holy of Holies and placed it under the cherubs. Then when they left the Holy of Holies a wonderful thing happened. A cloud filled the temple. The priests were not able to continue the service. In that cloud the glory of God's grace was shown to Israel. The temple would remind people from all nations that God lived among his people. Even though the temple was later destroyed, God still dwells with his people. Today He lives in the hearts of His people in the Spirit of Christ Jesus.

Solomon then acted like the head of the covenant in Israel. He knelt in prayer in front of all the people. He confessed that there is no God like the God of heaven. Then he pleaded with God to hear His people if they look to the temple and confess their sin. Then Solomon blessed the people again and said a benediction. "May the Lord our God be with us, as he was with our fathers. May He not leave us nor forsake us" (I Kings 8:57) Then Solomon offered thousands of peace offerings to dedicate the temple. After seven days of celebration, he sent the people home. The people were filled with joy at the goodness of the Lord.

After these ceremonies the Lord came to Solomon in a dream. He told Solomon that he heard his prayer. God told Solomon that the temple was a Holy Place. God would always show His grace at the temple. But he warned Solomon that he must walk in the ways of the Lord. If he forgot the Lord to serve other gods, the temple would be destroyed. Yet God would always be true to His promise to David. David would always have a son to sit on the throne. That son is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Blessed be the Lord this day, for He has given _____ a wise son over this great people." (I Kings 5:7b)

2. “And the _____, when it was being built, was built with stone finished at the quarry, so that no hammer or chisel or any iron tool was heard in the temple while it was being built.” (I Kings 6:7)

3. “So all the elders of Israel came, and the _____ took up the ark. (I Kings 8:3)

4. “Then they brought up the ark of the Lord to the _____ of meeting.” (I Kings 8:4a)

5. “But will God indeed dwell on the _____?”
(I Kings 8:27a)

6. “Behold, _____ and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less the temple which I have built!” (I Kings 8:27b)

The Light of the World

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 25

Scripture: I Kings 10–11

Memory Verse: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.” (Psalm 45:6)

Lesson Truth: Christ is the Light of the World, which is seen, in his grace.

Lesson

All the nations heard about Solomon’s wisdom. The queen of Sheba heard about his wisdom. She heard that Solomon’s wisdom was a gift of God’s grace. His wisdom was a light to the world because it showed the grace of Christ in his life. The queen of Sheba wanted to see for herself if the claims of Solomon’s great wisdom were true. So she traveled to Jerusalem.

The queen arrived in Jerusalem with a parade of gifts and people. After she arrived, she was allowed to ask Solomon any question she wanted. She was amazed at the answers she heard. She also saw the riches and splendor of his court. The queen said God must surely love the people of Israel, because he gave them such a king. What the queen said was true. God did love His people Israel with an everlasting love. He loved them for the sake of Christ Jesus. The kingdom of Solomon was to point to the Kingdom of Christ Jesus. The Lord Jesus had wisdom far greater than Solomon’s. He is the Light of the World.

Solomon was not only wise; he was also rich. He showed his riches by the many gold shields he displayed. He also had horses and horsemen and a beautiful gold-covered throne. He was viewed as the leader of the nations in wealth and courtesy. The Lord gave Solomon everything because his kingdom was to point to the Kingdom of Christ. The Kingdom of Christ owns all the world’s treasures that He will give to those who belong to Him. They will use these treasures to honor God.

The riches of Solomon were a great blessing, but they were also a great danger. Solomon did not escape the danger. He began to rely on his wisdom instead of on the Lord. He forgot that his wisdom came from the Lord’s grace. He then began to look for women from other countries to be his wives. The Lord said the men of Israel could not marry women from these countries. So, Solomon disobeyed the Lord. These wives brought

their idols along to Jerusalem. They flattered Solomon by telling him he was a smart king. They made him believe it was smart to tolerate other gods. They told him it would be narrow minded to think the worship of the Lord God, was the only true worship. In this way Solomon's wives led him away from God. He allowed them to build altars to their gods near Jerusalem. This was holy ground that was to be used to worship only Jehovah God. It is sad that Solomon slowly forgot the Lord. He had been so close to God. Now he broke the Lord's covenant. The Lord cannot allow his covenant to be broken because of His grace toward His people.

The Lord was angry with Solomon. He told him that he and his house would be rejected. They would be rejected just like Saul was rejected before. The Lord told Solomon the kingdom would be taken away from him. But, because of His covenant with David, one tribe would stay under the rule of David's house. The light of God's grace would continue to shine because of His covenant with David. God showed his grace to Solomon by telling him that the kingdom would not be divided in his lifetime.

The Lord then sent the prophet Ahijah to speak to Jeroboam. Ahijah took off his robe when he came to Jeroboam and tore it into twelve pieces. Each piece was to represent a tribe of Israel. Ahijah told Jeroboam to take ten pieces of the robe. This meant that ten tribes of Israel would be taken away from Solomon's house. Ahijah also told Jeroboam that he would not rule these ten tribes until after Solomon died. But Jeroboam did not listen to the Word of the Lord. He rebelled against Solomon, so Solomon wanted to kill him. He had to flee to Egypt to escape. Yet God did not forget His covenant with David. The full glory of David's house would shine again, in the Christ. The Kingdom of Christ Jesus, the son of David, will be more glorious than Solomon's kingdom. His is the Kingdom of light, because He is the Light of the World.

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "Now when the queen of _____ heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with hard questions." (I Kings 10:1)
2. "So _____ answered all her questions; there was nothing so difficult for the king that he could not explain it to her." (I Kings 10:3)

3. “Then she said to the king it was a true _____ which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom.” (I Kings 10:6)

4. “Moreover the king made a great _____ of ivory, and overlaid it with pure gold.” (I Kings 10:18)

5. “And to his son I will give one tribe, that My servant _____ may always have a lamp before Me in Jerusalem.” (I Kings 11:36a)

6. “And I will afflict the descendants of _____ because of this, but not forever.” (I Kings 11:39)