

Promise and Deliverance

Student Workbook

Volume 9
Level 1

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.

Accepted as a Gift

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 39

Scripture: II Kings 5:1–6:7

Memory Verse: “Indeed, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel.” (II Kings 5:15b)

Lesson Truth: Naaman had to learn that the healing of his body was a gift from the Lord.

Lesson

Naaman was the commander of the army of Syria. The king honored Naaman. However, Naaman was sick. He had a sickness called leprosy. Most people could never get well if they had leprosy. It was sad that Naaman had this awful sickness!

Naaman had servants in his house. One of his servants was a young girl from Israel. This young girl knew about God. She knew about God’s prophet, Elisha. She knew that God could make Naaman well. He could make Naaman well if he talked to God’s prophet. She told her mistress that she wished Naaman would go to see Elisha. Then he could be made well. Naaman heard what the young girl said. He told the king he wanted to go to Israel.

The king sent a letter to the king of Israel. He told the king of Israel he was sending Naaman to be made well. The king of Israel did not know what to do. He did not think about God’s prophet, Elisha. He thought the king of Syria wanted to start a quarrel.

Elisha heard that the king of Israel was afraid. He told the king of Israel to send Naaman to his house. Naaman would then know that there was a prophet in Israel. He would learn that God could heal sick people. The king sent Naaman to Elisha’s house. He came to Elisha’s house with his horses

and chariot. He came with his gifts. But Elisha did not go out to talk to Naaman. Do you know what he did? He sent his servant tell Naaman to wash himself in the Jordan River seven times. This made Naaman upset! He thought Elisha would talk to him. He thought Elisha would pray over him. He wanted to go back to Syria.

Then Naaman's servants talked to him. They asked him why he did not want to do an easy thing. They asked why he did not want to wash in the river. Then he decided to listen to the word that Elisha's servant gave him. He went to the Jordan River. He washed himself seven times. Do you know what happened to Naaman? He was made well. His leprosy was healed. Naaman went right back to Elisha. He said, "Now I know there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel" (II Kings 5:15b). He wanted to give Elisha a big present. But Elisha did not want to take a present. He wanted Naaman to know that God's grace is a gift! He wanted Naaman to know that he could not pay for God's gift of grace.

Elisha's servant did not think about God's gift. He wanted the present Naaman was going to give to Elisha. He followed Naaman and asked for the present. Naaman gave him silver and clothing. Then Elisha's servant pretended that he had not asked for a present. But God helped Elisha know that his servant lied. Then Elisha told his servant that he would have the sickness that was taken from Naaman. Elisha's servant now had leprosy. He became a leper because he did not help Naaman live by faith in God's free grace.

The sons of the prophets knew Elisha was their friend. They asked him if they should build a new house. The one they lived in was too small. Elisha told them it would be good to build a new house. So, they started cutting down trees to build their house. Do you know what happened? The ax head from one of the men's ax fell in the river. He felt bad because the ax was borrowed. He went to Elisha and asked what he should do. Elisha took a stick and threw it into the water. The Lord made the iron ax head float on the water. Even the laws of nature do what the Lord tells them to do. The Lord's grace in Christ rules everything.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. (Elisha – Naaman) was the commander of the army of Syria.
2. Naaman had a servant girl in his house from the land of (Syria – Israel).
3. This servant girl knew about God and God’s prophet (Elisha – Naaman).
4. Elisha’s servant told Naaman to wash in the Jordan River (ten – seven) times.
5. Elisha’s (servant – son) became a leper because he did not help Naaman live by faith in God’s free grace.

Unsolicited Grace

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 40

Scripture: II Kings 6:8–8:6

Memory Verse: “And Elisha prayed, and said, ‘Lord I pray, open his eyes that he may see.’” (II Kings 6:17a)

Lesson Truth: The Lord sent Elisha to show His grace to His people. He showed His grace even when His people did not ask for it.

Lesson

Big words were used for the name of today’s lesson. Unsolicited means that the people did not ask for it. Grace means the favor God shows to His people. We will learn about God showing His favor to His people when they did not ask for it. This is what happened.

The wicked Syrians were fighting God’s people. Small bands of Syrians made surprise attacks on God’s people. God wanted to help His people. He sent Elisha the prophet to help them. God told Elisha where the Syrians would attack. Elisha told the king of Israel. The king of Israel sent his soldiers to stop the Syrians. This happened a number of times. This made the king of Syria upset. He thought one of his soldiers was telling the king of Israel where they would attack. His soldiers told him the truth. They told him that Elisha the prophet knew where they would attack. They told him that Elisha knew everything. They said Elisha even knows what you say in your own bedroom. The king of Syria said that his soldiers had to capture Elisha. He did not know that God would take care of Elisha.

The king of Syria sent soldiers to the town where Elisha lived. They were going to capture Elisha. Elisha prayed that God would make the soldiers blind. God heard Elisha’s prayer. God made the Syrian soldiers blind. Elisha then led the blind soldiers to the king of Israel. The king of Israel wanted to kill them. Elisha told the king not to kill them. He told the king to give them

something to eat. The king gave them something to eat. Then he sent the soldiers home. This was the way God showed His grace. He showed His grace to Israel and to Syria.

Later Syria got a new king. The new king decided to fight Israel again. He put his soldiers all around Samaria. Samaria was the capital city of Israel. The Syrian soldiers did not allow any food to get into Samaria. Soon the people in Samaria were starving. They were very hungry. They even bought manure to eat. Some ladies even ate their babies. The king of Israel blamed Elisha for their troubles. Elisha was not to blame. God sent the Syrians to camp around Samaria. God wanted his people to be sorry for their sins. Elisha then told the king of Israel that God would help them. He said the people would buy flour and barley at the gate of Samaria the very next day. The king's captain did not believe this could happen. He said it could not happen even if God made windows in heaven to rain down grain.

But it did happen. God made the Syrian army hear noises of a big army. This made the Syrians run away. Some men who had leprosy found the Syrian camp empty. They first ate lots of food themselves. Then they told the people in Samaria. The king sent soldiers to check if the Syrians were gone. These soldiers brought flour and barley back to Samaria. It happened just like Elisha said it would. People bought flour and barley at the gate of Samaria the very next day. That was how God showed His grace to His people. He did this even though they did not ask for His grace.

God also brought a woman to tell king Jehoram about His grace. This was the woman whose dead son was made alive. God helped Elisha bring this boy back to life. King Jehoram listened to this woman. He even gave her land back to her. But he was not truly sorry for his sins. God showed His grace to his people. He showed His grace to king Jehoram. But the king was wicked like his father Ahab. You and I must ask for God's grace. We must also ask God to forgive our sins. God will then show us His grace. He will forgive us!

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. The wicked (Syrians – Egyptians) were fighting against God's people.
2. God heard Elisha's prayer and made the Syrians (deaf – blind).
3. The Syrians camped around the city of (Jerusalem – Samaria).
4. The people in the city became so hungry that they even ate their own (pets – babies).
5. The Syrians ran away when God made them hear the noise of a big (army – wind).

Divine Persecution

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 41

Scripture: II Kings 8:7-29; II Chronicles 21:1-22:9

Memory Verse: “Yet the Lord would not destroy the house of David, because of the covenant that He had made with David.” (II Chronicles 21:7a)

Lesson Truth: The Lord sent Hazael king of Syria to punish His people so they would turn from their sins.

Lesson

Have you ever used the words divine and persecution? Divine is a word that means God. Persecution is a word that means punishment. Our lesson today tells about the way that God punished His people. God chose an enemy to punish His people. He chose Hazael the king of Syria to punish His people. God wanted them to turn from their sin. He wanted His people to serve Him.

God’s people were now two nations. The nations were called Israel and Judah. King Ahab made Israel very wicked. He worshipped idols. He worshipped the idols of his wicked wife Jezebel. The daughter of Ahab and Jezebel married the king of Judah. She was a very wicked woman. Jehoram the king followed his wicked wife. Jehoram was from the house of David. It was terrible to see the house of David become so wicked. How could God get His people to forget idols? How could God get His people to worship only Him?

God loved His people. He decided to have an enemy punish them. God sent Elisha to Syria. Elisha was the prophet of the Lord. Elisha would anoint Hazael to be king of Syria. Hazael was a wicked man. God would use this wicked Hazael to punish His people. He wanted His people to forget idols. Elisha cried when he told Hazael he would become king. He cried because

he knew what terrible things Hazael would do. He cried because he knew that it hurt God to punish His people.

God would punish His people in Israel. He would send Jehu to destroy the house of Ahab. Would God also destroy Jehoram? Jehoram was from the house of David. Would God destroy the house of David? Didn't God promise David that he would always have a son on the throne? God would remember His promise to David. God would punish Judah. Yet He would not destroy David's house. God would find a way to save a son of David.

God sent a letter to king Jehoram. Elijah wrote this letter. He wrote this letter before he went to heaven. Now the letter was given to Jehoram. The letter told Jehoram that God's people would suffer. The letter also said Jehoram would die of a sickness. It happened just like the letter said. People from Philistia and Arabia took his wives and children. Jehoram died of a sickness. Jehoram was a bad king. Nobody cried when he died.

Jehoram's youngest son, Ahaziah, became king. He was king for only one year. He was put to death by Jehu. The people showed honor to Ahaziah at his burial. They showed him honor because he was from the house of David. God remembered His promise to David. God always keeps His promises! He promises to be your God if you believe that Jesus is His son.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. God chose (Hazael – Jehoram) king of Syria to punish his people.
2. Jehoram was from the house of (Ahab – David).
3. God sent His prophet (Elisha – Jehu) to anoint Hazael to be king of Syria.

4. God's prophet (Jehu – Elisha) cried because he knew what terrible things Hazael would do to God's people.

5. God remembered His promise to the house of (Elisha – David).

Flame and Stubble

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 42

Scripture: II Kings 9–10

Memory Verse: “For the Lord has done what He spoke by His servant Elijah.” (II Kings 10:10b)

Lesson Truth: To make His people clean, God destroyed the house of Ahab like a fire that burns stubble.

Lesson

You surely know what a flame is. It is what we see when a fire is burning. Do you know what stubble is? Stubble is the stalk that is left standing after the grain is cut. Today we will learn how God put away the house of Ahab. Everyone in Ahab’s house was put to death. Ahab’s family was gone just like stubble is gone when a fire burns it. God wanted to put evil away from His people. God loved His people. He loved them so much that he put away Ahab’s evil house.

Do you know how God put away Ahab’s evil house? He told Elisha to make Jehu the king of Israel. God would use Jehu to put all of Ahab’s family to death. Elisha sent a son of the prophets to find Jehu. He poured oil on Jehu’s head. This was a sign that Jehu was king. Jehu knew he had to put Ahab’s family to death. Would he do this the way Lord told him to?

Jehu decided to put away Ahab’s house his own way. This was sad. Now Jehu would show God’s punishment. He would not show God’s grace. He drove his chariot very fast to Jezreel. He would find king Jehoram. King Jehoram was Ahab and Jezebel’s son. The watchman told Jehoram that someone was coming. Jehoram sent messengers to see who was coming. The messengers did not go back to Jehoram. They stayed with Jehu. At last, Jehoram went to meet Jehu. He asked Jehu if he would bring peace. Jehu said there could not be peace. There could not be peace because the people

worshipped Baal. The people worshipped the god of wicked Queen Jezebel. Jehoram knew there would be trouble. He tried to run away.

Do you know what Jehu did? He shot Jehoram in the back with an arrow, so he died. Was this a bad thing for Jehu to do? Remember God told Jehu to put away the wicked sons of Ahab. Jehu then went into the city of Jezreel. Wicked Queen Jezebel saw him come. She called Jehu a murderer. Jehu told some men to throw her out the window. The men listened to Jehu. They pushed this wicked Queen out the window. Jehu's horses stepped on her so she died. Dogs ate her flesh before they could bury her. God's words to Elijah the prophet came true. God told Elijah that dogs would eat Jezebel's body. God wanted Jehu to put Jezebel to death. God could not have wicked Queen Jezebel live with His people.

God wanted Jehu to put away everyone from Ahab's house. Some soldiers helped Jehu put away Ahab's grandsons. They cut off the heads of Ahab's grandsons. They sent these heads to Jehu in baskets. God wanted Jehu to put all of Ahab's family to death. They had to die because they were very wicked. Still Jehu was very cruel. He did not show God's grace.

Jehu also put to death the prophets of Baal. He pretended that he was going to worship Baal. He had all the prophets of Baal come together for this worship. Jehu then had his soldiers kill them. Jehu killed them because they followed Ahab's house. God used Jehu to put away the wickedness of Ahab's house. He also put away the wickedness of Baal worship. Still Jehu did not put away the calf worship at Dan and at Bethel. He allowed this sin to stay in Israel.

Someday Christ Jesus will also put the wicked to death. Jesus will not do it the way Jehu did. He will be just like a flame that burns the stubble. Yet Christ Jesus will do it as part of God's grace. Jesus will be faithful to God when He brings His judgment. Those who belong to Jesus will judge with Him. They will hate sin the way Jesus hates sin.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. God used (Jehu – Elisha) to put all of Ahab's wicked family to death.
2. King (Jezebel – Jehoram) tried to run away from Jehu.
3. Jehu told some men to push wicked Queen (Jezebel – Ahab) out of the window.
4. God told (Ahab – Elijah) that dogs would eat Jezebel's body.
5. Jehu put to death the prophets of (God – Baal).

The Struggle of the Spirit

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 43

Scripture: II Kings 11–12

Memory Verse: “Joash was seven years old when he became king” (II Kings 11:21)

Lesson Truth: The Spirit of the Lord wanted Joash to serve Him as Christ would serve Him, but he only served the Lord as long as Jehoiada lived.

Lesson

Would you like to know about a boy who became king? This boy’s name was Joash. Sometimes they spelled his name Jehoash. He was made king of Judah. He was only seven years old when he became king. This is how it came about.

There was a wicked queen named Athaliah. She hated the family of David. She hated the promises that God made to David. She did not believe that a son of David would always be king. One day Jehu killed Ahaziah. Ahaziah was the king of Judah. He was the son of wicked queen Athaliah. His sons were of the family of David. Athaliah decided to kill all the sons of Ahaziah. These were her very own grandchildren. She decided to kill all of her grandsons.

Do you know what happened? God could not allow wicked Athaliah to kill all David’s family. Athaliah’s daughter hid one of the sons of Ahaziah. Athaliah’s daughter was named Jehosheba. She hid the baby Joash from Athaliah. Jehosheba was married to Jehoiada. Jehoiada was the High Priest. He loved the Lord. He helped Jehosheba hide little Joash. They hid him for six years. Then Jehoiada thought it was time to make him king. He was supposed to be king because he was a son of Ahaziah. He was from the family of David.

Jehoiada got ready to make Joash king. He told the soldiers to guard little Joash. He also told them to watch for wicked Athaliah. He told them to catch her. Then he put the king's crown on Joash. He also gave Joash the law of God. The people saw that Joash was king. They cried and shouted, "Long live the king!" They knew that seven-year-old Joash was their real king.

Athaliah heard the noise of their shouting. She hurried to the temple. There she saw Joash standing by the pillar. This was the pillar where the kings stood. Athaliah became very upset. She cried out, "Treason!" She thought this was wickedness against the country.

The soldiers caught her. They took her out of the temple. Then they put her death. The soldiers did what Jehoiada told them to do. Jehoiada then made a promise between the Lord and the king. He also asked the people to keep this promise. They promised to serve the Lord Jesus. Wasn't this a great promise? The boy who became king kept this promise for a long time.

It is sad that Joash forgot this promise. He forgot it after Jehoiada died. He became like the other wicked kings. God sent Jehoiada's son to warn the king. Do you know what the king and the people did? They killed Jehoiada's son in the temple court. They threw stones at him until he died. This was a very wicked thing to do. God sent the king of Syria to fight with king Joash. God wanted Joash to serve Him. He wanted him to be a king like Christ Jesus.

You and I must be very thankful that Jesus served God perfectly. Jesus was the perfect king. God kept His promise to the family of David. Joash became king when he was seven years old. He was the only son of David left alive. But Joash was not a king like Christ Jesus.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. (Joash – Jehosheba) became king of Judah when he was seven years old.

2. The wicked queen who hated the family of David was (Ahaziah – Athaliah).
3. The daughter of Athaliah who hid little Joash was (Jehosheba – Jehoiada).
4. (Jehoiada – Ahaziah) was the high priest who put the crown on Joash to make him king.
5. (Joash – Christ Jesus) is the perfect king who paid for the sins of Judah and for our sins.

Extreme Long-suffering

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 44

Scripture: II Kings 13; 14:23-29

Memory Verse: “Then they remembered that God was their rock, and the Most High God their Redeemer.” (Psalm 78:35)

Lesson Truth: The Lord waited a long time to punish His people because of the covenant He made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Lesson

Are you long-suffering? Long-suffering means to wait a long time. If your friends hurt you, do you wait a long time before you are angry? God was long-suffering with His people Israel. God waited a long time before He punished them for their sins. Do you know why God waited a long time to punish Israel? God waited because of His promise to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. The story today tells us how God kept His promise. God’s promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob was called a covenant.

This is what happened when Jehoahaz was the king of Israel. The Bible tells us that he was a wicked king. He allowed the people to worship idols. They bowed down to calves. They also bowed down to God. They acted like God was no different than the idols. It was wicked for the king and the people to bow down to idols. God became angry with Jehoahaz the king. God was angry because the king allowed the people to worship idols. Do you know what God did? God let the king of Syria fight with His people of Israel. Then Jehoahaz thought about God.

King Jehoahaz prayed to God. He begged God to take away the Syrians. Then the Bible tells us a wonderful thing. It tells us that God listened to Jehoahaz. Even though God listened to the king he still allowed the people to worship idols. Do you know why God listened to King Jehoahaz. God

listened because He had made a promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Because of this promise God waited a long time to punish His people.

Joash became the king after Jehoahaz. The Bible tells us that he was also a wicked king. He also allowed the people to worship idols. But God was long-suffering. God waited a long time before He punished His people. King Joash remembered God's prophet. God's prophet at this time was Elisha. Elisha was very sick. He was about to die.

King Joash went to see Elisha. He knew that Elisha spoke God's Word. He knew that God's Word was the strength of Israel. He cried over Elisha. He called Elisha father and talked about chariots and horsemen of Israel. King Joash knew that God's Word from Elisha was like the strength of an army. Elisha told Joash to shoot an arrow out of the east window. He said this was the arrow of freedom for Israel. Israel would win some fights against Syria. Elisha then told Joash to strike the ground with his arrows. Joash hit the ground three times. Elisha was sad that he did not hit the ground five or six times. Each time he hit the ground meant that Israel would win a battle against Syria. Elisha wanted him to win five or six battles. Then Syria might have been destroyed.

Elisha the man of God died. God still showed the power of the Word Elisha spoke. Some men threw a dead body into Elisha's grave. Do you know what happened? The dead man came back to life. He became alive when he touched Elisha's bones. The power of God's Word was even with Elisha's bones. God waited a long time before He punished Israel. The Bible tells us that God showed His grace and compassion. God did this because of His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God is also long-suffering with you and with me. He sent Christ Jesus to be our Savior.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. King (Jehoahaz – Elisha) allowed the people to worship idols.

2. God listened to king (Jacob – Jehoahaz) when he begged God to take away the Syrians.

3. God's prophet at this time was (Isaac – Elisha).

4. King (Jehoahaz – Joash) went to see Elisha when he was very sick.

5. God showed His grace and compassion because of His (promise – curse) to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Sanctified and Made a Blessing

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 45

Scripture: Jonah 1–4

Memory Verse: “When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the Lord.” (Jonah 2:7a)

Lesson Truth: The Lord had to change Jonah before Jonah could become a blessing.

Lesson

When the second Jeroboam was king of Israel Jonah was the prophet. Jonah brought the word of the Lord. He told Jeroboam that he would win back some of Israel’s land. Jonah was a man of Israel. He liked to tell the king that good things would happen to Israel. Jonah did not like Israel’s enemies. He did not like the Assyrians. Jonah had to learn that God could show mercy even to Israel’s enemy. It was very hard for Jonah to learn this lesson.

Assyria was very wicked. The Assyrians stole things from other nations. They brought these things to Nineveh. Nineveh was the capital of Assyria. God could not allow the Assyrians to destroy His world. God decided to send Jonah to warn the Assyrians. Jonah had to tell the Assyrians that they would be destroyed. They would be destroyed if they did not repent. Jonah did not want to warn the Assyrians. He did not like the Assyrians. He was afraid they would repent. If they repented, God would not destroy them. Jonah wanted God to destroy them.

Do you know what Jonah decided to do? He decided to disobey God. He thought he could run away from God. No one can run away from God. God is everywhere! Jonah ran away from Nineveh. Instead, he ran to Joppa. Joppa was a city by the sea. Jonah got on a ship that was going to Tarshish. He would not go to Nineveh. He would not listen to God.

How would God stop Jonah? How would God change Jonah so he would be obedient? God sent a strong wind on the sea. The wind blew a terrible storm. The storm was so bad the ship nearly broke apart. Do you know what Jonah was doing in the storm? He was in the lower part of the ship sleeping. The sailors were afraid. They thought the ship would sink. They even prayed to their gods for help. The sailors thought that gods caused the storm. So the captain woke up Jonah. He asked Jonah to pray to his God. Maybe Jonah's God could quiet the storm.

The sailors wondered who caused the storm. They cast lots to find out. The lot pointed to Jonah. The sailors asked him who he was. They asked Jonah where he came from. Jonah told them he was a Hebrew. He told them he served God. He served the God who made the sea and the dry land. This made the sailors even more afraid. They asked Jonah what they should do. Jonah told them to throw him into the sea. He said that the sea would then become calm. The sailors tried to row the ship. But they could not do it. So they threw Jonah into the sea.

Do you know what happened to Jonah? God told a big fish to swallow him. He stayed alive in the fish's belly. Jonah was there for three days and three nights. God changed Jonah when he was in the fish's belly. A big word that describes this change is in the title of this lesson. This big word is *sanctified*. God sanctified Jonah. He did this so Jonah would be a blessing.

God again told Jonah to go to Nineveh. This time Jonah listened to God. He went to Nineveh. Jonah still did not like to warn the Assyrians. He really wanted God to destroy them. But Jonah cried out against the people of Nineveh. Then a wonderful thing happened. The people in Nineveh felt sorry for their sins. They dressed in sackcloth. So God did not destroy Nineveh. This made Jonah feel bad. He felt so bad he asked God to take his life. Then God told Jonah that he was right to show his mercy to Nineveh. God was right because the people of Nineveh were just like children. You and I must be thankful that God also shows us His mercy.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. When the second Jeroboam was king of Israel, (Jonah - Nineveh) was the prophet.
2. God told (Jeroboam - Jonah) to go to Nineveh to warn the people.
3. (Jonah - Jeroboam) decided to disobey God and tried to run away.
4. Jonah told the sailors that he was a (Ninevite - Hebrew).
5. When (Jeroboam - Jonah) was in the fish's belly God changed him.

Self-complacency

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 46

Scripture: II Kings 14:1-22; 15:1-7; II Chronicles 25–26

Memory Verse: “And he did what was right in the sight of the Lord, yet not like his father David.” (II Kings 14:3a)

Lesson Truth: Amaziah and Uzziah became proud but God remembered His promise to David.

Lesson

Amaziah and Uzziah were kings of Judah. They were both good kings at first. Later they changed. They became proud. The title of our lesson says they were self-complacent. That means they were pleased with themselves. They were even pleased when they did wrong. God does not like proud people. God did not like it when these kings became proud. God would make these kings humble. Still God would remember His promise to David.

Amaziah became king of Judah after Joash. At first he was a good king. He did what was right in the sight of the Lord. He punished the men who killed his father. He kept the law of Moses when he did this. Amaziah listened to God’s prophet. He sent the soldiers from Israel home when the prophet told him to. God was not with Israel. So Amaziah could not have the soldiers from Israel in his army. He listened to the Word of the Lord.

King Amaziah went to war against the Edomites. The Lord was with him in battle. He won the battle against Edom. Then he changed. He became proud. He wanted to hurt the Edomites. He killed ten thousand Edomite prisoners. This was wrong for the king to do. Yet he was pleased with what he did. Then he did something even worse.

Do you know what Amaziah did? He took some idol gods from Edom. He set up these idol gods. He even bowed down to them. He thought the idol

gods of Edom could help him. Amaziah forgot that God does not share His grace with idol worshippers.

A prophet of the Lord scolded Amaziah. He asked him if these idols saved Edom. If the idols did not save Edom how could they save Judah? But the king was proud. He did not listen. Instead, he wanted to fight Israel. The king of Israel asked him not to fight. He went into battle anyway. Israel defeated Amaziah. He was taken prisoner. Jerusalem was captured. This was the way the Lord humbled Amaziah. Yet the Lord did not forget His promise to David.

Uzziah became king after Amaziah. He was also a good king at first. The Lord blessed Uzziah. He allowed him to build a strong army. Uzziah also made Jerusalem a strong city. He knew that the Lord blessed him. He thought he was the Lord's favorite person. This made him begin to feel proud. He thought he could do things that others were not allowed to do.

One day Uzziah went to the temple. He decided to offer incense on the altar. He knew that only the priests were allowed to offer incense. Uzziah decided to do it anyway. The priests tried to stop him. He became angry with the priests. Now God knew it was time to make Uzziah humble. Do you know what God did? He sent a terrible disease on Uzziah. The disease was called leprosy. The priests saw it come on his forehead. The priests asked him to leave the temple. Uzziah also saw the leprosy. Then he ran from the temple.

The Lord made Uzziah humble. The leprosy made him humble. Uzziah was a leper the rest of his life. He had to live in a house by himself. He could not go to the temple. God made Uzziah humble. But he did not forget His promise to David. David would always have a son on the throne. The son of David on the throne today is Christ Jesus.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. Amaziah and Uzziah were kings of (Israel – Judah).

2. King (Amaziah – Uzziah) listened to God’s prophet and sent the soldiers of Israel home.
3. Amaziah bowed down to idol gods from (Israel – Edom).
4. Uzziah decided to offer (incense – animals) on the altar.
5. God sent a terrible disease called leprosy on (Amaziah – Uzziah).

Wayward Children

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 47

Scripture: II Kings 15:32–16:20; II Chronicles 27–28

Memory Verse: “Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth! For the Lord has spoken.” (Isaiah 1:2a)

Lesson Truth: The people of Judah followed other gods in the time of Ahaz. Because of His covenant, God called His wayward children to return to Him.

Lesson

The people of Judah were God’s wayward children. A wayward child is a child who will not listen. The people of Judah would not listen to God. They were very bad when Ahaz was king. Ahaz was a very wicked king. Yet God called His wayward children to come back.

The people of Judah had some good kings. Jotham was a good king. The Bible says he did what was right in the sight of the Lord. Jotham made Judah a strong country. He wanted the people to serve the Lord. Still some people were evil. They prayed to idols. They did not go back to the Lord. The Lord decided to punish the people of Judah.

The Lord allowed two kings to attack Judah. They were the kings of Syria and Israel. The Lord wanted His wayward children to trust Him. But His children did not turn back to the Lord. Then God sent them another punishment. Do you know what this punishment was? The punishment was a wicked king. God gave Judah a wicked king. Sometimes God will punish us by allowing us to follow our wicked ways. God punished Judah that way.

The wicked king God gave to Judah was Ahaz. Ahaz bowed down to the Baals. He even sacrificed his own children to idols. Just think, Ahaz burned his own children on the altar of idols. He acted just like the unbelieving

people of Canaan. God wanted His people to feel bad that Ahaz did these terrible things. He wanted them to come back to the Lord.

Would God forget His wayward people? No, He would not forget. God made a promise to David years before. This promise was called a covenant. God never forgets a promise. Ahaz and the people did wicked things. But God did not forget. Many people of Judah were killed in the war. Many of them were taken as prisoners. They were punished but God did not forget.

God told the Israelite soldiers to send the prisoners home. The people of Judah were not to become slaves. The Israelite soldiers listened to God. They were afraid God would destroy them. So, they sent the prisoners home. This was the way God remembered his promise. This was the way God called the people of Judah to return to Him.

God loved His people. He even sent the prophet Isaiah to talk to Ahaz. Isaiah told Ahaz that God would destroy his enemies. He then told Ahaz to ask for sign from the Lord. Ahaz would not ask for a sign. He did not want any word from the Lord. Ahaz was very wicked. He did not want the Lord. He did not want the Lord's help. Still God kept His promise to David.

The Lord said He would give sign anyway. He would give a sign even if Ahaz did not want one. Then the Lord gave a beautiful sign. The sign was that a young woman would have a Son. She would call His name Immanuel. God was sure that He would keep His promise to David. This sign came true when Jesus was born. Ahaz was so wicked that he did not believe this sign. He had the high priest make an altar like an idol's altar. Then he pushed aside the altar of the Lord. Ahaz and God's people were wayward. But God kept calling them to return.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. A good king of Judah was named (Ahaz – Jotham).

2. God gave Judah the wicked king (Ahaz – Jotham) to be their king.
3. God made a promise to (Isaiah – David). He would not forget His promise.
4. God sent (Isaiah – Jotham) to Ahaz. He told Ahaz to ask for a sign from the Lord.
5. The Lord gave sign that a young woman would have a Son and she would call His name (David – Immanuel).

A Return to the Lord

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 48

Scripture: II Kings 18:1-8; II Chronicles 29–31

Memory Verse: “He trusted in the Lord God of Israel, so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor who were before him” (II Kings 18:5)

Lesson Truth: Good king Hezekiah led the people of Judah to return to the Lord.

Lesson

Do you remember king Ahaz? He was a very wicked king. He led the people of Judah to worship idols. He even closed the doors of the Lord’s house. Ahaz did not want the people to worship the Lord. It almost seemed that God forgot His people. But God would never forget His people. God remembered His people in a special way. He gave them a new king. The new king’s name was Hezekiah. Hezekiah was a good king. He was a good king like king David. Hezekiah trusted in the Lord God of Israel. He wanted the people to serve the Lord.

Do you know the first thing Hezekiah did when he became king? He opened the doors of the Lord’s house. Hezekiah opened the doors that Ahaz had closed. He wanted the people to worship in the Lord’s house. Hezekiah also called the priests and Levites to the temple. He reminded them that the people had worshipped idols. He said that he wanted to remember the covenant. The covenant was the promise that God made to David. Many of the priests and Levites believed Hezekiah. They wanted to serve the Lord with Hezekiah. Do you know what they did to help Hezekiah? They took all the idols out of the temple. They made the temple ready to worship the Lord.

Hezekiah then called the leaders of Jerusalem to the temple. He had the priests offer sacrifices as a sign that they were clean. They offered burnt

offerings and sin offerings. These offerings were a sign that the people would worship the Lord again. The people and the king confessed their sins. They believed the Lord's promises. They accepted the Lord's grace. Then they praised the Lord. The people sang and made music. Then do you know what happened? Joy at last filled their hearts. God's people were able to worship the Lord again! Hezekiah then asked the people to bring offerings to the Lord. They were so filled with joy that they brought many offerings. There were so many that the priests needed help to take care of them.

Hezekiah also wanted to remember the Passover feast. The Passover started when Israel left Egypt. It reminded the people that the angel of death killed the firstborn in Egypt. But the angel passed over Israel. The Passover had not been remembered for many years. Now Hezekiah wanted everyone in Israel to remember the Passover. He invited the people of Israel and Judah to come to Jerusalem to remember. It is sad that the people in Israel made fun of the king's invitation. Only a few people from Israel came to Jerusalem. But most of the people from Judah came. They celebrated the Passover feast.

Do you know what happened at the Passover feast? The Spirit of God came into the people's hearts. Because God's Spirit was in their hearts, the people no longer wanted idols. They went through the land and destroyed all the idols. Now they were ready to serve the Lord. Good king Hezekiah led the people to return to the Lord. God showed His grace to the land of Judah. He did this by giving them Hezekiah to be their king.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. God gave Judah a new king named (Hezekiah – Ahaz).
2. The new king opened the doors of the (palace – Lord's house).
3. The priests and Levites took (the Lord's altar – idols) out of the temple

to help Hezekiah.

4. Hezekiah wanted to remember the (Passover – Sabbath) feast.
5. At the Passover Feast (the Spirit of God – the Spirit of evil) came into the people's hearts.

No Longer a People

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 49

Scripture: II Kings 15:8-31; 17:1-41

Memory Verse: “For He tore Israel from the house of David, and they made Jeroboam son of Nebat king.” (II Kings 17:21a)

Lesson Truth: The Lord was faithful to His covenant. He rejected Israel as a people because they no longer served Him.

Lesson

The Israelites were God’s chosen people. God brought them out of Egypt. God made a covenant with them. The covenant was like a promise. God also made a covenant promise to king David. The children of Israel rebelled against David’s house. They made their own kingdom under Jeroboam. Jeroboam brought calves for the children of Israel to worship. For almost two hundred years the people worshipped calves. The kingdom of Israel became very evil. The people forgot God and worshipped idols. God knew that He could not keep His covenant promise through such wicked people. God said that Israel could no longer be His people.

It is very sad that God had to reject Israel. He allowed the king of Assyria to carry the people away as captives. But God did not break His promise. God knew that there would be faithful people in captivity. He knew some faithful people would come back to Israel. God would keep His promise through these faithful people.

This is what happened when the nation of Israel came to an end. There was a lot of confusion. Everyone was mixed up. The kings were greedy for power. The people bowed down to idols. A number of the kings were killed. One man was king for only six months. Another one was king for only a month. Then the Assyrians began carrying the people into captivity.

Hoshea was the last king of Israel. When he was king the Assyrians attacked Samaria. Samaria was the capital city of Israel. They put their armies all around Samaria. They did not let any food get into the city. This lasted for three years. Finally the people in Samaria gave up. King Hoshea was taken prisoner. Many people of Israel were carried away as captives. Then Israel was no longer a nation. God's people were no longer a people. This is sad because God's people no longer served the Lord.

It was a terrible thing to be rejected by God. Why did God reject the nation of Israel? He rejected them because they did not believe the promise of God's covenant. They did not believe the promise made to David's house. They did not believe the promise that God made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. One day their father Jacob wrestled with God for His grace. Now the nation of Israel did not want God's grace. That is why God allowed His people to be taken into captivity. They could no longer be a people.

Would God forget His people forever? No He would not! He would remember His promises. His promises would come true through faithful captives. God's word would again be heard in Israel. Do you know when that happened? It happened when Jesus went through Samaria. Jesus talked to the Samaritan woman at the well. He also told the people of Sychar the good news. The Samaritans were a mixed people. They were a mixture of people who stayed in Israel that married strangers. The apostles also brought the gospel to the Samaritans. Many of them became believers. They accepted the grace that Israel had rejected. God allowed Israel to be carried into captivity. But He did not forget His promises to His people.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. The people of Israel rebelled against the house of (Hoshea – David).
2. For almost two hundred years the people of Israel worshipped (kings – calves).

3. God allowed the king of (Assyria – Judah) to carry the people of Israel away as captives.
4. (David – Hoshea) was the last king of the nation of Israel.
5. God's word was heard again in Israel when Jesus talked to the (Israelite – Samaritan) woman at the well.

The Intercession of the Mediator

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 50

Scripture: II Kings 18:9–19:37; II Chronicles 32:1-23

Memory Verse: “I am the first and I am the last; besides Me there is no God.” (Isaiah 44:6b)

Lesson Truth: Hezekiah stood between God and the people. He prayed for them to be saved from the king of Assyria. God heard the prayer of Hezekiah.

Lesson

The title of today’s lesson has big words. The words are *intercession* and *mediator*. They are good words. They describe what Hezekiah did for God’s people. Intercession means to beg God in prayer. Mediator means a person who stands between. Good king Hezekiah stood between God and the people. He begged God in prayer to save the people of Judah. He asked God to save them from the king of Assyria.

The kingdom of Israel was gone. The people were carried to other lands. God was still with the kingdom of Judah. God gave Judah a good king. This good king was Hezekiah. He obeyed the Lord. He led the people to worship the Lord. Hezekiah destroyed the places of idol worship. Hezekiah wanted to seek God with all his heart.

Do you know what happened to Hezekiah? Do you know what happened to Judah? The king of Assyria attacked Judah. He came against Hezekiah the king of Judah. Hezekiah got ready to fight the king of Assyria. He told his men to stop the wells around Jerusalem. He did not want the king of Assyria to find water to drink. Hezekiah trusted the Lord. He told the people that God was with them. He knew that God was greater than the Assyrians.

The king of Assyria made Hezekiah pay a big tax. Hezekiah even took gold from the temple doors to pay this tax. Still the king of Assyria wasn't satisfied. He wanted to capture the city of Jerusalem. He sent a soldier to mock Hezekiah. The soldier called to the people on the wall of Jerusalem. He told them not to believe Hezekiah. The soldier said that God could not save Judah. He said that the Lord God was no greater than idols.

The king of Assyria sent a letter to Hezekiah. This letter made fun of the Lord God. Hezekiah took this letter to the temple. He spread it out before the Lord. The Lord then answered Hezekiah's prayer. God sent Isaiah the prophet with a message for Hezekiah. Isaiah said that Assyria would be destroyed.

Do you know what happened? God sent an angel into the camp of the Assyrians. The angel put to death all the captains and mighty men of Assyria. One hundred eighty five thousand men of Assyria were killed. But this was not the end for the king. He went back home to Nineveh. There he went to the temple of an idol. While he was in the temple his sons put him to death. Assyria's king was not allowed to make fun of the Lord God.

Later Judah forgot God. They were taken captive. But God did not forget His promise to David. God kept His promise through faithful people. God's promise to David was filled when the Lord Jesus Christ came. God will protect you and me because of the Lord Jesus.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. God gave Judah good king (Ahaz – Hezekiah).
2. (Hezekiah – Assyria) wanted to seek God with all his heart.
3. (Ahaz – Hezekiah) knew that God was greater than the Assyrians.

4. The king of (Judah – Assyria) sent a soldier to mock Hezekiah and his God.

5. God sent an (angel – army) to the camp of Assyria to put thousands to death.

The Need for a True Mediator

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 2, Lesson 51

Scripture: II Kings 20; II Chronicles 32:24-33

Memory Verse: “What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?”
(Psalm 116:12)

Lesson Truth: Hezekiah could not be the true Mediator. He looked for help from another country instead of from the Lord. So, we must look to Christ Jesus the true Mediator.

Lesson

Do you know what the word mediator means? Mediator means someone who stands between. King Hezekiah was a mediator. He stood between God and the people. Hezekiah was also a sinful man. He could not be the true Mediator. The true Mediator is Christ Jesus. Christ Jesus stands between God and us. He asks God the Father to forgive our sins.

Hezekiah was a good king in Judah. He led the people to worship the Lord. Hezekiah put away idol worship. He prayed for God to deliver the people of Judah. He asked God to deliver them from the king of Assyria. A sad thing happened to Hezekiah. He became very sick. Isaiah the prophet said he would die. Do you know what Hezekiah did? He turned his face to the wall. He prayed that the Lord would heal him. Hezekiah wanted to lead the people to the Lord.

Then a wonderful thing happened. The Lord heard Hezekiah’s prayer. He sent Isaiah back to Hezekiah. Isaiah told Hezekiah that God would add fifteen years to his life. He also said that God would deliver Jerusalem from the Assyrians. Hezekiah asked Isaiah, “How do I know this true? How do I know this is from the Lord?” Isaiah said, “The Lord will give you a sign.”

Do you know what sign the Lord gave? He made the shadow on the sundial go backward. It went backward ten steps. Now Hezekiah knew this was from the Lord. Only the Lord could make the sun go back ten steps. Hezekiah did get well. He sang a song of praise to the Lord!

The Lord delivered Judah from Assyria. God allowed Hezekiah to help deliver His people. People from other nations honored Hezekiah. They brought gifts because he was healed. He became strong again. Then Hezekiah did a bad thing. He forgot to trust God!

Some leaders from Babylon came to Hezekiah. They wanted him to help fight Assyria. Hezekiah thought the armies of Babylon would keep him safe. He forgot that only the Lord could keep him safe.

Hezekiah wanted the men from Babylon to think he was a good partner. He showed them all his treasures. He showed them all his gold and silver. This was a bad thing to do. It showed that he did not trust only the Lord for his safety. God sent Isaiah to talk to Hezekiah.

Isaiah told Hezekiah that all his gold and silver would be taken to Babylon. He also said the people would be taken to Babylon. Even some sons of Hezekiah would be taken to Babylon. They would be made to serve the king of Babylon.

Hezekiah was a mediator for God's people. He was not the true Mediator for God's people. Hezekiah humbled himself before the Lord. He said the word of the Lord was good. Even the word of judgment was good. Hezekiah believed the true Mediator would come. This true Mediator is Christ Jesus our Lord.

Questions

Choose the correct answer.

1. A (mediator – king) is one who stands between.
2. Hezekiah was a good king of (Assyria – Judah).

3. (Isaiah – Hezekiah) became very sick and thought he would die.
4. God made the shadow on the sundial go (backward – forward) ten steps for a sign to Hezekiah.
5. The true Mediator is (Hezekiah – the Lord Jesus Christ).