

GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM
Primary Lessons: Phase 3 – Lesson 35
Conclusion: Review; Why the Lord Had to Come

I. Underling Ideas for the Teacher

- A. The Israelitish Church performed a great use: It provided a link between the Lord and mankind during the time between the Ancient Church and when the Lord could come on earth Himself and establish the Christian Church.
- B. The internal sense of the books of the prophets teaches us that evil may cause us temptations, sometimes mild and sometimes to such a degree that we despair of our salvation, but if we obey the Lord, He will always help us overcome these evils and lead us to everlasting life.
- C. The Lord had to come into the world because men had closed His access to their minds by perverting the Word.
- D. If the Lord had not come into the world, mankind would have destroyed itself.

II. Story Circle: OVERVIEW OF THE STORY OF ISRAEL

- A. Review of Early Israel
 - 1. We've been hearing stories about the prophets who tried to get the people of Israel to turn away from their wicked ways and go back to worshipping the Lord.
 - 2. But the Israelites had not always been so evil. Let's think back over what we've learned this year about the story of Israel. We began with the stories of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They loved the Lord and were very obedient of His commands. What was another name given to Jacob? (Israel)
 - 3. Israel had 12 sons. He loved his last two sons best. Do you remember their names? (Joseph and Benjamin) What bad thing did Joseph's brothers do to him? (sold him into slavery) But he became powerful in Egypt because he loved the Lord and did what was right.
 - 4. Many years later the children of Israel were slaves in Egypt. The Lord sent Moses to lead them out of bondage to the promised land of Canaan. Moses was a great leader. He brought the Ten Commandments to them, and with his guidance they built the tabernacle.
 - 5. After Moses the judges led Israel. Can you remember the first and greatest judge who led the people to victory over so many enemies? (Joshua) But when Joshua died, the Word tells us that the Israelites started following other gods (idols) instead of the Lord.
 - 6. But some good people continued to worship the Lord, and the Lord sent Samuel, a priest, to lead them.

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7. Do you remember when Samuel was asked by the Israelites to find a king to reign over them? Who was this first king? (Saul) Saul was a brave and mighty warrior. But he made some mistakes. He did not obey the Lord all the time.
8. David was the second king, and he did many good things. Can you remember any of them? (killed Goliath; got the Ark of the Covenant back from the Philistines; conquered Israel's enemies) But he also made a mistake by taking Bathsheba, Uriah's wife, to be his wife, and having Uriah killed.
9. And what about Solomon, David's son? He was the third king of Israel. He was very wise and had an understanding heart. But Solomon worshiped idols. So you see, he wasn't all good either.

B. The Decline

1. After Solomon died, his kingdom was divided into two: Judah and Israel. The people of Judah continued to worship the Lord at the beautiful temple that Solomon had built in Jerusalem. But the people of the kingdom of Israel started to worship two golden calves. And one after another, many evil kings ruled Israel.
2. Then came Ahab, the most evil king of Israel. The Word says: Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him. (I Kings 16:33) Ahab made the people of Israel worship an idol named Baal. Do you remember the name of the prophet who was sent to warn him to stop worshiping Baal? (Elijah) Elijah showed all the people that Baal was a false god with no power, so the people worshiped the Lord once again.
3. Because so many kings of Judah and Israel were evil, the Lord sent many prophets who tried to turn the people back to worship of the Lord. Can you remember the names of any of the other prophets we have studied? (Elisha, Daniel, Jonah)

C. Prophecies of the Lord's Advent

1. Even though much of the time the prophets warned the Israelites about their evils and idolatry, they also came to tell of a wonderful event that was yet to come. What do you think it was? (The Lord's coming/birth on earth)
2. Again and again the prophets reminded the people to hope for the Lord's coming into the world. They gave signs by which the people would know the Lord when He came. Here are two of these prophecies:
 - a. The prophet Isaiah said:
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)

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b. The prophet Zechariah said:

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your King is coming to you;
He is just and having salvation,
Lowly and riding on a donkey,
A colt, the foal of a donkey. (Zechariah 9:9)

3. When the few good people in Israel and Judah heard the prophecies, they were hopeful. They looked forward eagerly to the time when the Lord would come.
4. But years passed, and the Lord did not come! In fact, after the last prophet prophesied His birth, over 400 years passed before the Lord was finally born in Bethlehem. 400 years of silence, with not a word about the Lord! Over these many, many years the people began to forget about the Lord once again until there were only a few who thought about Him at all. Think about the story of the Lord's birth, and see if you can guess who some of those good people were who still remembered the Lord. (shepherds, wise men, Mary, Joseph, Simeon, Miriam)

D. Further Ideas

1. Can you see why the Lord had to come on earth? People had grown very wicked, and this wickedness had spread throughout the land. So few people remembered how to be good that the Lord had to be born on earth to teach them; then they could get to heaven.
2. The story of Israel can be useful to us. Can you think how? Well, just like the Israelites, we often have trouble remembering to obey the Lord's Word. But the Lord forgives us time and time again, Just as He forgave the Israelites over and over. He gives us a new chance every time we are sorry and try to change our ways.
3. We make choices between good and evil every day. So try to remember, as we make those choices, what Joshua said to the children of Israel:

And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve. . . . But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. (Joshua 24:15)

III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. "Genesis and Exodus. . ." (Books of the Word), LORI'S SONGS FROM THE WORD I, Side A, tenth song.
2. "All that the Lord hath spoken," HYMNAL 1245.
3. "Kol asher dibber Y'HOWAH," HYMNAL 1246 (Hebrew version of 1245).

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B. Activities

See the STORY OF ISRAEL activity, attached. This can be done alone by the children who know how to read, or the teacher can do it out loud with the class, or it can be sent home.

C. Project: WE WILL SERVE THE LORD (Joshua 24:15) [Decorated quotation]

1. Materials Needed:

- a. scissors
- b. glue
- c. crayons, felt markers, and/or colored pencils
- d. 9" x 12" sheets of colorful wallpaper samples or construction paper

2. Before Class:

- a. Photocopy the attached quotation from Joshua 24:15, one per child.
- b. Optional: Cut out the house shapes to save class time.
- c. Prepare background pages: Cut wallpaper samples and/or colored construction paper into 9" x 12" sheets.

3. In Class:

- a. If house shapes are not already cut, have children do it.
- b. Let each child choose a background page for his/her quotation.
- c. Glue the quotation to the background.
- d. Optional: Children could do further decoration around the house.

IV. Teaching Aids

Any number of illustrations of the stories used in the review could be used, but beware showing so many that it significantly lengthens Story Circle time.

V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. Sunday School Curriculum, Phase III, "The Story of Israel." (It would be useful to glance over each lesson to get an overview of the stories covered during the year.)
- B. Sunday School Curriculum, Phase I, "The Life of the Lord," Lesson #1, "Why the Lord was Born on Earth; Prophecies."
- C. ARCANA COELESTIA #2034, 5110 (reasons for the incarnation).
- D. HEAVEN AND HELL #101 (reasons for the incarnation).

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A REVIEW OF THE STORY OF ISRAEL

Activity

Here are some quotes from the Word. Who is the one talking? Who or what is being talked about? Circle the right answers.

1. "Then he dreamed and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it." (Gen. 28:12) Whose dream was this?

- a. Joseph's
- b. Jonah's
- c. Jacob's

2. "So he went down and dipped seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean." (II Kings 5:14) Whose flesh was restored?

- a. Ahab's
- b. Naaman's
- c. Jonah's

Who is the "man of God" spoken of here?

- a. Elisha
- b. John the Baptist
- c. Elijah

3. "Then it came to pass on the third day . . . that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain. . . . And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain." (Ex. 19:16– 17) What mountain was this?

- a. Mt. Sinai
- b. Mt. Ararat
- c. Mt. Zion

4. "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14) Who is the virgin mentioned?

- a. Rebekah
- b. Sarai
- c. Mary

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5. "Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag ... and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistines." (I Samuel 17:40) Who was this?
 - a. David
 - b. Joshua
 - c. Saul

6. "So he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' And he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.'" (I Samuel 3:5) Who was this that ran to Eli?
 - a. David
 - b. Joseph
 - c. Samuel

7. "'My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him.'" (Daniel 6:22) Who spoke these words?
 - a. Daniel
 - b. King Darius
 - c. Samson

8. "And Moses turned and went down from the mountain, and the two tablets were in his hand." (Exodus 32:15) What was written on these tablets?
 - a. Plans for the tabernacle
 - b. A decree that all the world should be taxed
 - c. The Ten Commandments

9. "And [he] said to his brothers . . . 'Do not therefore be grieved nor angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.'" (Gen. 45:3,5,8) Who is speaking?
 - a. David
 - b. Israel
 - c. Joseph

10. "So Jacob served seven years for [her], and they seemed but a few days to him because of the love he had for her." (Gen. 29:20) Whom did Jacob love?
 - a. Rachel
 - b. Leah
 - c. Rebekah

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11. "Then the Lord brought him outside [his tent] and said, 'Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.' And He said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.'" (Gen. 15:5) Who is the Lord talking to?
- Moses
 - Joseph
 - Abram
12. "So the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And . . . the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city . . . and they took the city." (Joshua 6:20) What city was this?
- Jerusalem
 - Jericho
 - Bethlehem
13. "And the servant ran to meet her [at the well] and said, 'Please let me drink a little water from your pitcher.' So she said, 'Drink, my lord' . . . And when she had finished giving him a drink, she said, 'I will draw water for your camels also . . . (Gen. 24:17– 19) Who is the woman?
- Sarah
 - Rebekah
 - Mary
14. "Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and _____ went up by a whirlwind into heaven." (II Kings 2:11) Whose name belongs in the blank space?
- Elisha
 - Daniel
 - Elijah
15. "Then the king said, 'Bring me a sword.' So they brought a sword before the king. And the king said, 'Divide the living child in two, and give half to one, and half to the other.'" (I Kings 3:24,25) Who is this king?
- Saul
 - David
 - Solomon

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16. "Now Israel loved [him] more than all his children. . . . Also he made him a tunic of many colors." (Gen. 37:3) Who was this son of Israel?
- Judah
 - Joseph
 - Benjamin
17. "So the woman conceived and bore a son. . . . But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by the river's bank." (Exodus 2:2,3) What was the name of the child?
- Samuel
 - Moses
 - Jesus
18. "Then [he] spoke to the Lord . . . and he said . . . 'Sun stand still over Gibeon. . . ' So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the people had revenge upon their enemies." (Joshua 10:12,13) Who was this that spoke to the Lord?
- Joshua
 - Samson
 - Moses
19. "So the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited [him] onto dry land." (Jonah 2:10) Who is spoken of?
- Elisha
 - Daniel
 - Jonah
20. "And his servant said to him, 'Alas, my master! What shall we do?' So he answered, 'Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.'" (II Kings 6:15,16) Who said these words?
- Daniel
 - Jonah
 - Elisha