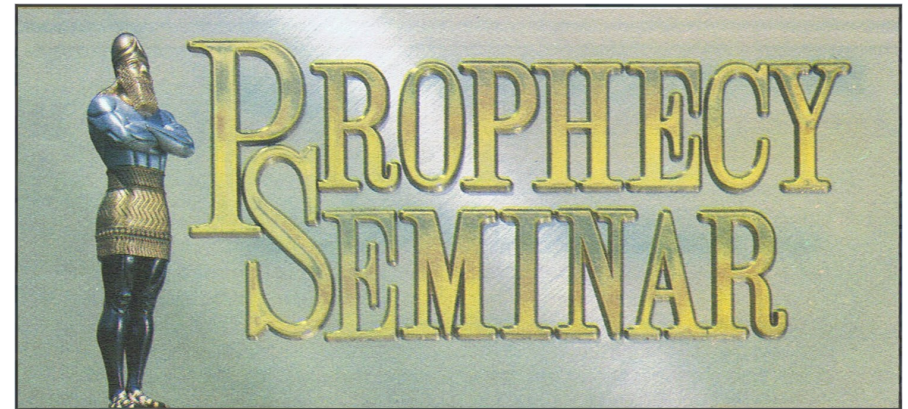


Notes, Questions & Prayer Requests

DS-002



LESSON TWO

THE COSMIC WAREFARE IN DANIEL

Welcome the participants to the second night of the Prophecy Seminar. After exchanging greetings, invite them to take their quiz envelopes which have been placed on the table and give them the quiz.

QUIZ QUESTIONS

1. The book of Daniel was written by the prophet Daniel during the sixth century B.C. **False**
2. The stories of the book of Daniel have nothing to do with the prophecies in the book of Daniel. **True**
3. A day in Bible prophecy is symbolic of one literal year. **False**
4. The book of Daniel gives four parallel prophecies, each beginning in the time of Daniel and ending in the last days. **True**
5. The best way to interpret the symbols of Daniel and Revelation is to ask the various preachers what they think the symbols mean. **True**

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Whenever you have a false answer on the quiz, please make certain that you give the correct answer. The purpose of the quiz is to review the main points from the previous lesson, so use the quiz as an opportunity for review.

In addition to the quiz each evening, you may find it helpful to review some of the major points from the past so that the student is constantly seeing the big picture.

The purpose of Lesson 2 is to present the great controversy theme as it is found in the book of Daniel. It is the purpose of this lesson to help your students clearly see the big picture in the book of Daniel: the cosmic drama being played forth by the forces of good and evil.

In presenting this lesson you'll have a wonderful opportunity to introduce the divinity of Christ as you attempt to identify the two opposing powers in the book of Daniel. It is essential that your students clearly see that Jesus Christ is fully divine.

You will also be identifying Satan as the antagonist in the great controversy in this lesson. He will be presented as one who has used all kinds of deceit to induce people to follow him.

This lesson serves the purpose of helping people to become aware of the fact that there is a counterfeit movement led by Satan, who is seeking to corrupt and destroy the truth of God. This will be an exciting lesson to teach, and one that your students will find very rewarding as they discover more about Jesus.

QUESTIONS 1 & 2

Questions 1 and 2 give you a chance to personalize the message of the book of Daniel. Perhaps you've had an experience in your own life where an apparent defeat turned into a tremendous victory for God.

Why not share that experience with your students. Help them to see that God can turn the apparent defeats in their lives into tremendous victories for God. And of course, don't forget to give emphasis to the ultimate victory for God's people in the last days. While it many times appears that God's people don't have things going their way on earth, yet they will

relationship with Jesus. This question is already laying the foundation of the Sabbath.

The thesis that is built through these lessons is that in order to survive in the last days it is absolutely essential that God's people have a strong personal relationship with Jesus. A relationship with Jesus takes time. It means spending time with God, time in Bible study, time in prayer, and when we get to Lesson 11 we'll see time in Sabbath keeping.

The purpose of the Sabbath is for God's people to have time to build a strong relationship with Jesus. If you can remember this at this stage and therefore give strong emphasis to the need of a relationship, then you will be paving the way to make it easier for your people to accept the Sabbath truth when it comes. Then they will see the Sabbath as a part of their relationship with Jesus.

Since they want a relationship with Jesus, they will accept the Sabbath as a part of that relationship. While you are not mentioning the Sabbath here, you are laying the groundwork for it.

It is very important that at this early stage of the lessons they are already seeing the need of a personal relationship with Jesus. As you build toward the appeal in this lesson, suggest that they take their quiz envelopes that they used for the quiz at the beginning, and in the upper right-hand corner place a check mark in response to the various questions that you're going to be asking them. Call them "response" questions rather than "decision" questions.

Question 1. Is it your desire to have a deep personal relationship with Jesus Christ? If so, put a check mark in Box 1.

Question 2. Do you wish me to pray for you, that you will not be deceived by Satan, and that God will help you to test everything by the Word of God?
If so, put a check in Box 2.

Question 23

Again, you need to build the truth of testing by the Word and not by miracles, signs and wonders. Many of the people who come to your seminar may have been involved in a church or a movement that has given great emphasis to miracles and signs.

You need to make it clear that the Bible teaches there are genuine miracles. The point that you're raising is that miracles are not a test of what is truth.

Only the Word is the standard of truth. There are true miracles and there are false miracles, and if we make miracles the test, we will be wide open to deception. Many people think that because an event has supernatural connotations, it therefore has to be from God.

Once we admit the presence of a counterfeit, then miracles and signs cannot be a test of genuineness, only the Word of God can be.

Question 24

Help your students to see that Satan is not far from truth. Satan's arguments are sometimes so close to the truth that many people are deceived. The Bible warns us that it is so close to the real that if it were possible, even the very elect could be deceived.

Question 25 lays a foundation for the remnant church. However, please don't give emphasis to the remnant. Pass over this question fairly quickly. The emphasis should be on the fact that the issue in the last days is over the commandments of God, and that Satan is angry with anybody who obeys God instead of him.

Question 28

Wrap up this lesson with a strong emphasis on the need for them to test even/thing by the Word, to enter into an experience of deep Bible study and a personal relationship with Jesus that will make them strong for the last days. Give very strong emphasis to the need of developing a personal

ultimately be delivered in the last day.

Question 4

Here is another opportunity to emphasize God's personal interest in every one of His people. He doesn't deliver us from trials, He goes through the trials with us.

FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND

One night I had a dream. I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord and across the sky flashed scenes from my life. For each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand, one belonged to me and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of my life flashed before us, I looked back to the footprints in the sand and I noticed that many times along the path of my life there was only one set of footprints. I also notice that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in my life. This really bothered me and I questioned the Lord about it.

"Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way. I have noticed that during the most troublesome times of my life there is only one set of footprints. I do not understand why in times I needed you the most you should leave me."

The Lord replied: "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never, never leave you during your times of trial and suffering. . . When you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

— Author Unknown

Question 9

This section on the divinity of Christ is the heart of Lesson 2 and one that

needs very strong emphasis. Many do not think the Seventh-day Adventists believe in the divinity of Christ. Yet of all professing Christians, Seventh-day Adventists ought to be foremost in uplifting Jesus Christ. Here is a wonderful opportunity to totally exalt Jesus as the center of the book of Daniel, and Jesus as the heart of the book of Revelation.

Make certain that you make it very clear to your students that Christ is fully God, fully divine. Questions 9-16 are all building this magnificent point — the full divinity and full humanity of Jesus Christ.

Question 11

This text indicates that Christ is actively involved in the exodus event. He is the One who led Israel out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. Exodus 3:13, 14 indicates that the One who led Israel out of Egypt and into the Promised Land, the One who called Moses, was called the “I AM.”

According to John 8:58, 59 Jesus claimed to be the “I AM.” The Jews clearly understood His claim because they immediately attempted to stone Him because He had claimed to be the God of the Old Testament. Exodus 6:2, 3 says that the One who led Israel out of Egypt and into the Promised Land was also known by the name Jehovah. Thus Jesus Christ claimed to be the Jehovah of the Old Testament.

This is the awesome claim of Christ. He does not claim to be a lesser God, He claims to be fully and equally God.

Question 16

The Trinity is sometimes confusing to some people. You will need to be careful that you make it clear that there are not three separate gods, but one God manifested in three separate persons.

Each one is distinct, and yet each one is totally God. In other words, the Son is not a lesser God than the Father, the Holy Spirit is not less than the Son. All are fully God, all are equally God. But the Father is not the Son, and the Son is not the Holy Spirit. It's like a family where you have a mother, father and child.

You have three separate persons, but one family. Likewise with the family of God, you have the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: three separate persons, but one God.

Question 19

This is the origin of sin. Sin was not a specific act, sin was a rebellion, an exaltation of self. The center of sin is “I”—S I N. That is the essence of all sin. Satan felt he could rule better than God. He felt God's law was unjust and unfair and that nobody could keep it. And so he rebelled. Thus it would not be surprising for Satan to suggest today that God's requirements and His laws are unjust and unfair. Remember that all such suggestions come from Satan himself.

Question 22

This point needs very strong emphasis. People need to see clearly that Satan never comes as Satan. He always comes professing to have great truth and light. His purpose is to deceive people into thinking they have the truth, when they really have been deceived by Satan. Thus our only safety against Satan's deceptions is to study the Word.

Give strong emphasis to the need for your students to test everything by the Bible. They cannot go by what preachers say, they cannot go by what people say; they must go by what the Bible, and the Bible only, says. This will not only build confidence in you as one who encourages them to test by the Word, but it will impress vividly upon their minds the need to test everything by the Word.

Remember that when your students come to testing truths later on in this series they will be tempted to go check with the preacher, to see what he says.

If you can get it across to them very early that they have to test by the Word and not by preachers, you may avert losing a student later on when some preacher tells him to never mind the Word and trust what the preacher says.