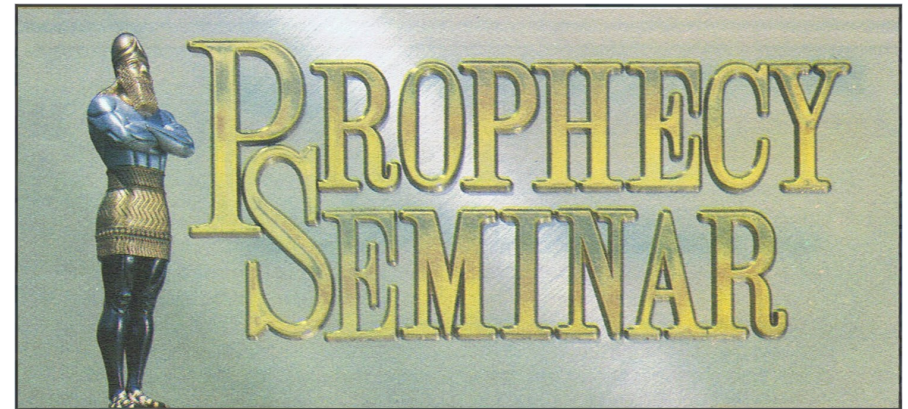


Notes, Questions & Prayer Requests

DS-005



LESSON FIVE CONFLICT OVER FALSE WORSHIP

QUIZ QUESTIONS

1. The book of Daniel contains many outline prophecies that outline world history from Daniel's day to the time of the end. **True**
2. The Babylonian wise men devised a false interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream, but fortunately Daniel gave the correct interpretation. **False**
3. The head of gold in Daniel 2 represented the nation of Babylon, of which Nebuchadnezzar was the king. **True**
4. The stone that crushed the image represents an atomic bomb that the United States drops on Russia. **False**
5. The progression of empires in Daniel 2 indicates that God is in full control of human events. **True**

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Lesson 5 lays a very basic foundation for the Sabbath and the mark of the beast. While neither issue is mentioned directly in this lesson, the foundations that are laid here will pave the way for the student to very easily accept the Sabbath truth. Study the introduction to this lesson very carefully.

The points raised there are crucial. Lesson 3 illustrated the conflict over obedience. This lesson illustrates the conflict over worship. The point that needs strong emphasis is that it matters how we worship God.

The story of the fiery furnace as told in Daniel, Chapter 3, illustrates so very clearly the crisis that God's people will face in the last days. Throughout this lesson keep drawing the attention of your students to the issue of how people worship God, as it is illustrated through this story.

Question 2

Most people would see the issue as treasonous. Certainly God would allow a little compromise so that people wouldn't be considered traitors to the state. So it will be in the last days.

People who disobey the state's decree will be considered traitors, but obedience to that decree will mean disloyalty to God, just as it did in ancient Babylon.

Question 4

The death penalty would be exacted upon those who did not worship the image. This would not be an easy decision to make, for those who refused would die. Keep before your students that this story is illustrative of the conflict that God's people will face in the last days.

Once again the death penalty will be passed. It will not be easy to serve God. In fact, to serve God will be considered treasonous to the state.

Yet, just as God had faithful people in ancient Babylon, so God's people in the last days will remain faithful. However, only those who have a

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[illegible]

Question 24

Move into your appeal with a strong entreaty to remain faithful to Jesus Christ, to have a deep personal relationship with Him and be loyal to God no matter whether threatened with death or economic restrictions.

Response Questions:

1. Do you clearly see that the issues in the last day will be the same as they were in Daniel's day, the issue of worship and obedience? if so, place a check mark in Box 1.
2. Is it your desire to be faithful to God in the final crisis as the three Hebrews were faithful to God in the crisis they faced in ancient Babylon? If so, put a check in Box 2.

relationship with Jesus will be able to remain faithful.

Question 6

You will want to give strong emphasis to this question also. Remember that you are laying the foundation for the study on the mark of the beast, in which the worship commandment will be the issue of overriding importance in the last days.

Daniel 3 gives a graphic illustration of the fact that the commandment about worship was a major issue in ancient Babylon.

Question 7

Nebuchadnezzar needs to be given credit. He didn't just throw them into the furnace on the hearsay evidence of those who told stories against them. He wanted to hear it from their mouths. He was willing to give them a second chance to prove their loyalty to the king.

Question 8

People who have a solid relationship with Jesus don't have to think twice when an issue of obedience comes. These people immediately follow the commandments of God when they understand what God is asking them to do.

Relating this thought to your students will help them to see the importance of making a decision to keep the Sabbath. When that issue arises, you want them to see the importance of deciding to follow Jesus because they have a relationship with Him.

To decide not to follow truth would thereby indicate that they do not have a relationship with Jesus. In every lesson try to stress the importance of a relationship with Jesus.

Question 9

This is probably the most important statement in the whole chapter. Deliverance is not the issue; obedience is. Emphasize the note under Question 9.

Encourage your students to decide to follow God from principle and not from convenience. "No matter what the cost, I need to follow God. Even if He doesn't work everything out for me, I'm still going to follow Him."

These kinds of statements will help your students to develop the faith they need to make a decision if they may lose their job over the Sabbath. You can even illustrate this further by telling the story of some of the martyrs in the early days of the Christian church who willingly gave up their lives rather than yield one point of truth.

While your students will not have the Sabbath truth in mind because they know nothing about it at this point," you are helping to prepare them so it will be easier for them to make their decision when that issue comes.

Question 15

Read the note under this question. If you have a personal experience where you knew that God was with you in a troublous time and you felt His presence and strength with you, relate that experience here.

You want your students to get the picture of a loving God who is interested in them, who cares about them and their needs.

You might even want to ask your students if any of them have had a similar experience where they've gone through a fiery ordeal, yet have sensed that God was with them through the trial.

Question 18

This section is not meant to be an exhaustive study on Revelation 13. You will not even identify any of the powers mentioned.

The only purpose in reciting this is to show your students that Revelation 13 is picturing the same kind of events at the time of the end that Daniel 3 illustrates in the story of the fiery furnace.

If any of your students press you for the identity of the various beasts mentioned in this lesson, refer them to the fact that Lesson 24 on the mark of the beast will clearly answer those questions, but that we need to study a lot more before we can clearly understand who these powers are.

Again, make sure that it is clear to your students that the issue in Revelation 13 is over worship, just as the issue in Daniel 3 was over worship. So many people have been brought up with the concept that so long as one worships God, it's all right, that it doesn't matter how one worships just so one does worship.

This lesson very clearly illustrates that there is true worship and false worship. So while you will not identify how people are worshipping falsely, you must clearly build the message that it is possible to worship God falsely.

Question 21

Again you have the death decree mentioned, just as you had in Daniel 3.

Question 23

Draw the parallel clearly. The issue in the book of Revelation is worship to the beast versus worship to the Creator. Of course, you clearly understand that Revelation 14:7 is a reference to the Sabbath commandment.

Your students will not understand this at this point, and again you do not want to mention the Sabbath. But you are laying a foundation here for your presentation of the Sabbath. This issue is over worshipping the Creator or worshipping the beast.