

*"Whoso keepeth his word,
in him verily is the love of
God perfected." 1 John 2:5.*

for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." 1 John 3:4, 8. God gave His law in love to those whom He had created. Only through love did that creation return obedience to the Creator. Satan understood this and realized that his only chance for successful rebellion was to separate God's creatures from the principles of love and obedience found in God's law. The devil's plan through the centuries is still his plan today.

If you have not as yet accepted Christ as your personal Saviour, we invite you to do so now. In love return obedience to your Maker. In love He will place His seal on your life. This is His promise. Why not measure your life with the law of God? You will no doubt discover that you are a sinner, and you will learn from the Bible that the result of sin is death. Realizing that your only hope for spiritual cleansing and salvation centers in Christ and His death for your sins, go forth to live for Him. It is the only way you can find peace and happiness for your soul.

I want God's seal to be placed on my life and His help in becoming an obedient follower of Him. ☐

Name _____

Address _____

The title of Lesson 5 is:
The Third Angel's Message—Part II
Who Is the Beast?

This Maranatha Bible Reading Guide comes to you with the compliments of your friends in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. You can receive further information by writing or phoning the address nearest to you.

P.O. Box 99, Strathfield, N.S.W. 2135. Ph. 747 5655
P.O. Box 129, Hamilton, N.S.W. 2303. Ph. 61 2531
P.O. Box 800, Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601. Ph. 49 6822
19 Eagle Terrace, Brisbane, Qld. 4000. Ph. 221 7972
P.O. Box 51, Townsville, Nth Qld. 4814. Ph. 79 3988
P.O. Box 120, Prospect, S.A. 5082. Ph. 269 2177

P.O. Box 41, North Hobart, Tas. 7002. Ph. 34 2344
P.O. Box 44, Hawthorn, Vic. 3122. Ph. 818 1513
P.O. Box 118, West Perth, W.A. 6005. Ph. 321 5154
P.O. Box 10-018, Balmoral, Auckland, N.Z. Ph. 689 039
P.O. Box 25-085, Victoria St., Christchurch, N.Z. Ph. 62 899

SIGNS PRINT



who shall be able to stand?



Remember to ask God for the guidance of His Spirit.

We begin our study of the messages of the three angels of Revelation 14 with this lesson. In order to refresh your memory with the issues involved, read verses 6 to 12. We will first study what the third angel proclaimed in verses 9 to 12, then the first angel's message, verses 6 and 7, and finally that of the second, verse 8.

The introductions to Lessons 2 and 3 brought to view the issues involved in the great conflict between Christ and Satan. You will recall that it concerns each of us, since we must choose on whose side we will stand. There can be no neutral ground. Jesus said, "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me is not worthy of me." Matthew 10:37, 38.

To be on Christ's side we must totally commit ourselves to Him. In making our choice we receive one of two tokens of allegiance.

Those who choose Christ

"Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have *sealed* the servants of our God in their *foreheads*." Revelation 7:3 (NT 216).

Those who choose Satan

"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a *mark* in their *right hand*, or in their *foreheads*." Revelation 13:16 (NT 220).

Note: The Christian calls the change the new birth. When it takes place, we receive new outlooks and attitudes, and Christ dwells within us. It is His life that we then live.

21. How will the spiritually born-again person show his love for God? 1 John 5:1-3 (NT 210).

The Bible says: _____.

22. What does the Bible declare about a person who professes to know Christ and yet refuses to obey Him? 1 John 2:4 (NT 208).

The Bible says: _____.

23. What will be the attitude of the person whom God's matchless grace has saved? Psalm 40:8 (OT 480).

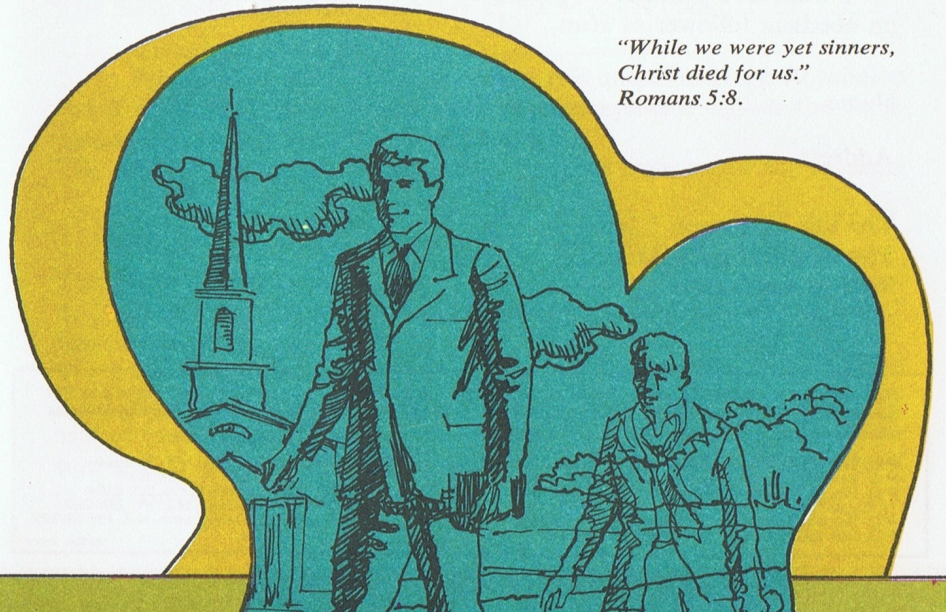
The Bible says: _____.

Read God's Ten Commandment law, Exodus 20:3-17 (OT 72).

In the last part of the third angel's message we find clearly explained the principle you have just studied, "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that *keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus*." Revelation 14:12. When understood correctly, no conflict exists between the law and the gospel. In these last hours of earth's history, with the question, "Who shall be able to stand?" ringing in our minds, there must be no conflict within ourselves.

At the center of the conflict between Christ and Satan stands God's law: "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: *for sin is the transgression of the law*." "He that committeth sin is of the devil;

"While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
Romans 5:8.



13. Can sin exist outside of law? Romans 4:15 (NT 138).

The Bible says:

Note: God gave His law to point out the existence of sin. In the Ten Commandment law we have the perfect rule of correct living. It convinces the sinner that he has done wrong, is alienated from God. For the Christian it serves as a standard of correct living. *It does not save anyone from sin.* It can only bring a conviction—recognition—of sin so that the sinner may feel his need of Christ and come to Him for salvation.

14. Because the transgression of God's law has made us sinners, what did Christ have to do to save us? Romans 5:8 (NT 138).

The Bible says:

15. What actually saves us from our sin? Ephesians 2:8, 9 (NT 171).

The Bible says:

Note: Grace is defined as "unmerited favor." Something that we cannot earn, nor deserve, it is the free gift of God.

16. How do we receive the gift of grace? Romans 6:23 (NT 139).

The Bible says:

Note: Jesus exchanged places with us. On the cross He received the punishment that we deserve, paying the debt we owe to God's law created by our sins. We receive the reward His perfect life of obedience deserves.

17. How does Paul indicate that a person saved by grace will not continue to live in a state of sin? Romans 6:14, 12, 15 (NT 139).

The Bible says: "For sin shall not

....."

18. Does our acceptance of Christ through faith abolish the law? Romans 3:31 (NT 137).

The Bible says:

19. What nature do we still possess if we stand opposed to God's law? Romans 8:7 (NT 140).

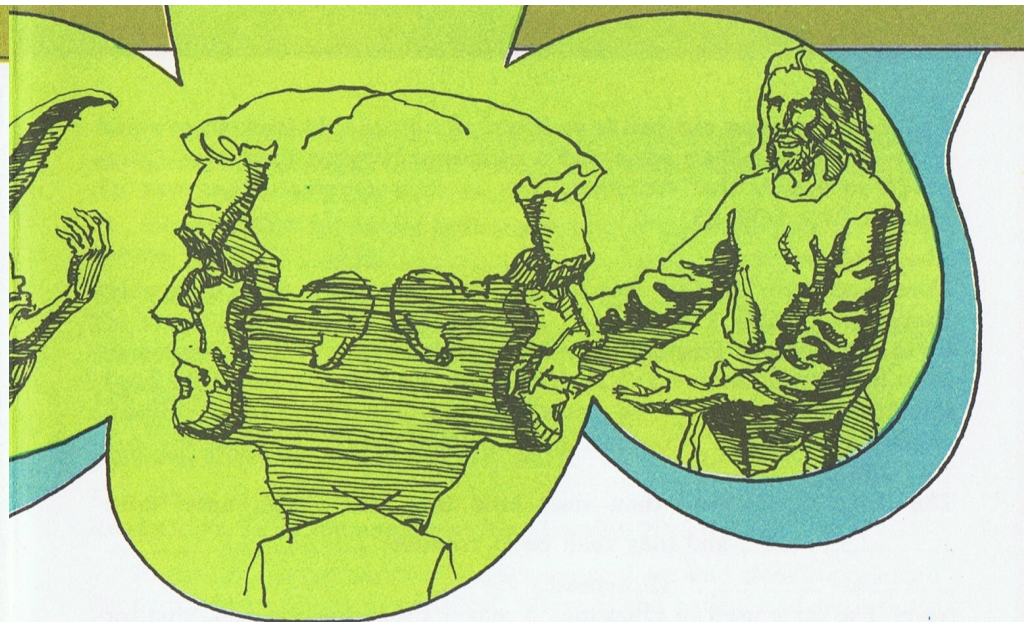
The Bible says:

Note: The increase of violence and decrease in commitment to law and order so prevalent in our society result from a disregard for the law of God. How can we expect men to respect the laws of men when they disrespect and ignore the law of God?

20. Then how can we keep God's law? Ezekiel 36:26, 27 (OT 682); Galatians 2:20 (NT 167).

The Bible says: "And I will put

....."



This lesson will identify the seal of God. Lessons 5 and 6 will explain the "beast" and his "mark."

THE BIBLE SAYS

1. Read Revelation 6:13-17 (NT 216). You will recall from Lessons 2 and 3 that the passage mentions the signs of Christ's second coming. What question does verse 17 ask?

The Bible says: "For the great day of his wrath is come;

.....?"

2. In Revelation 7 we find the answer to this question. Read Revelation 7:1-3 (NT 216). What thing must be accomplished before the judgments of God fall upon the earth? Verse 3.

The Bible says: "Hurt not the earth . . . till we have sealed the servants

....."

3. Where will the righteous receive the seal? Verse 3.

The Bible says:

4. How do those opposed to God receive the symbol of their rejection? Revelation 13:16 (NT 220).

The Bible says: "In their, or in their"

Note the similarity of the symbols used in the texts introducing the seal of God and the "mark of the beast." We shall turn back in Scripture to find in just what way the ancients used the symbolism of a mark in the forehead or hand.

5. As the Israelites escaped from Egypt, the Lord told them they would receive a sign on their hand and a memorial between their eyes (forehead) to signify that something was in their mouths. What was it? Exodus 13:9 (OT 66).

The Bible says: _____.

Note: Scripture uses the words *sign*, *seal*, and *mark* interchangeably. Romans 4:11 (NT 138).

6. In the Book of Deuteronomy Moses restates God's Ten Commandment law. Deuteronomy 5:7-21 (OT 167). As Moses explains the law's significance to his people, he states that they should bind the commandments as a sign on what two parts of the body? Deuteronomy 6:8 (OT 168).

The Bible says: "And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine _____, and they shall be as frontlets _____.

_____." (Forehead.)

Note: The texts used in Questions 5 and 6 show that the seal, sign, or mark is not to be some visible token on the body, but a symbol denoting allegiance to God through obedience to His Word.

7. What did Isaiah prophesy God would seal among His people as they waited for the Lord? Isaiah 8:16, 17 (OT 557).

The Bible says: _____.

Note: Such Scriptural passages tell us that God is holding back His judgments in order for us to have the opportunity of being sealed by allegiance to God's law. The focus of our study will turn to the relationship of holy law to the gospel.

8. How does the Bible describe the law? Psalm 19:7 (OT 471); Romans 7:12 (NT 140).

The Bible says: _____.

9. What is one of the main purposes of the law? Romans 3:19, 20 (NT 137).

The Bible says: "For by the law is _____."

10. What helped the Apostle Paul to recognize sin in his life? Romans 7:7 (NT 140).

The Bible says: _____.

11. To what law recorded in the Old Testament did Paul refer? Exodus 20:3-17 (OT 72).

The Bible says: _____.

12. How does the Bible define sin? 1 John 3:4 (NT 208).

The Bible says: _____.

"Sin is the transgression
of the law." 1 John 3:4.

