



METRO NEW YORK WORLD MINISTRY
ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL CONTRIBUTING NOTES
For the week of Mar 5 – Mar 11, 2016
Lesson #11: **Rebellion and Redemption**

Peter on the Great Controversy

Sabbath Afternoon

Memory Text: “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” 1 Peter 2:9

There was a chosen nation, the Jewish nation, but they made the worst decision of all in rejecting Jesus, the Chosen One. So God has called forth a chosen generation of believers out of every nation to receive all the promises and privileges to be a light to the world.

As a royal priesthood they are to serve their fellowman as they offer themselves as a living sacrifice. See Romans 12:1. As a result, they would become a “holy nation,” even a peculiar people. As a peculiar people they are the possession of God. They have consecrated themselves to God and He has taken possession of their life to help suffering humanity. As such, they give praise to God in every kind word and deed. They are a reflection of His altogether lovely character.

God has called them out of darkness to walk in His marvelous light. God is light and those who belong to Him will walk in the light. As His purchased possession becomes brighter in reflecting the image of Jesus, others can discern the darkness of our world, and themselves receive the Light of the world.

Application: In this great controversy between good and evil, we must become that servant-minded and holy people that God has called forth. We are to praise Him with not our lips alone, but with our life in reflecting the image of Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Sunday's Lesson

Title: Darkness to Light

Scripture: “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.” 1 Peter 2:9, 10



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There was a time when even the Jewish people were not a people. But due to God's mercy He called forth Abraham to be the father of a great nation. This chosen nation of Abraham's descendants had the privilege of being God's chosen nation to be a blessing to all nations. But tragically they fell short in their rejection of Christ. Now the Gentile world is called forth to be part of the Israel of God. They who were not a people, are now the people of God due to God's mercy. As Paul wrote, "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:27-29

Application: In our battle against evil, we must ever remember that the basis of our deliverance is due to God's mercy. Our family heritage earns us nothing. We are to individual receive Christ in the life, and follow in the footsteps of our merciful Savior.

Monday's Lesson

Title: Peer Pressure

Scripture: 1 Peter 4:1-7

If we are armed with the same self-sacrificing mind of Christ, we will choose to cease from sin. We have lived long enough in the flesh, we should now purpose in our hearts to do the will of God.

As Peter is likely speaking to Gentile Christians, he recognizes that all that have come to Christ have a sinful past. However, when we leave the sins of the flesh, the unconverted think that it is strange that we would not want to do those things anymore. They would say to themselves, "Why does he not want to get drunk, gamble, party, and practice immorality?" They may not only think that it is strange that you do not want to practice these sins anymore, they may even speak evil of you for your life of purity. Your life now has become a rebuke to theirs and they may come to hate you for it.

The gospel has been preached to men while they were living, but now that they are dead their life record is finished. They will be judged on the life they have lived. Clearly the gospel is not preached to men who are presently died. Rather, it was preached to them while they were alive.

Knowing that God shall judge the living and the dead, how should we be living our lives? Peter says, "But the end of things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer."

Application: In this great controversy, it is important that God has a people that stand out from the world. If we continue in sin like the rest of the world, then how will men and women believe in the power of the gospel?



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Tuesdays' Lesson

Title: The More Sure Word of Prophecy

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:16-21

When Peter beheld Jesus in the Tranfiguration, he saw both power and majesty. This was a type of the coming of the Lord with much great power and glory.

Peter was not a man who embraced cunning fables, whether of pagan origin or otherwise. He was an eyewitness of both the life of Jesus and the majesty of Jesus.

In addition, it was not only what Peter saw at the Transfiguration (See Matthew 17:1-5), but it was what he heard the Father say, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him."

Who could ever forget hearing the literally voice of the Father?

Beyond that, we have also a more sure word of prophecy. Peter could see how the life of Christ fulfilled all the prophecies concerning the Messiah to come. This provided him with an unshakable faith to preach the Word of God.

This is more! Peter not only saw prophecy fulfilled, the Word of God had changed his life. It was a light shining in a dark place. His mind was enlightened. His heart changed.

All of this taught him that no prophecy is of man, rather, it all came from God. As such, it must be understood by the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit. As men were moved by the Holy Spirit, so much we be.

Application: It is important that we are converted by the Holy Spirit through the reading of God's Word. Here we find prophecies fulfilled. We find the greatest love story of a Creator God that dies for the sins of His creation. He made them, and does not want to lose them. This divine love needs to be shed in the life of all His children.

Like Peter, we should often think about why we so firmly believe in God and in His Son, Jesus Christ. Why do we believe so firmly in the soon return of His Son? Think and pray much about this, and allow it to increase your faith in Him and your passion to share the truth with others.



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Wednesday's Lesson

Title: Scoffers

Scripture: 2 Peter 3:3-7

Peter teaches us to anticipate scoffers in the end of time. Why are they scoffing? They are still walking after their own lusts and have faced no accountability. The world seems to go on as it always has.

The scoffers say, “Where is the promise of His coming?” It seems that the longer the delay, the more likely they believe He will not come.

But we are not to base our faith on the seasons that follow year after year. Rather, we are to base it on the Word of God. As in the time of Noah, the season came and went. But one day the clouds began to form. The rain began to fall. The waters broke up from beneath. The Flood had come.

Even so today, there will be seedtime and harvest. While men and women are marrying, engaged in employment, and finding time for amusements, the judgment is surely going forward. Then the judgment will cease and ever case decided.

Application: If God’s people continue to live in sin, it just reinforces the belief that there is no judgment. It is only as God’s people live and walk in the footsteps of Jesus, that men may truly discern the times in which we live and the judgment that is certain to take place.

Thursday's Lesson

Title: Hastening the Day

Scripture: 2 Peter 3:8-14

If His people were ready, then Christ would have come before this. But God is not wanting any to be lost. So time still lingers.

Time does not mean the same to God as it does to us. There is no past or future with God. He has always been and will always be. He is not confined by space and time. So a day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as a day.

God’s promises are sure. Jesus will come again. He waits. He does not want to lose one soul by coming too soon. So He waits. But there does come a time, when more could be lost by waiting too long. Therefore, He will not come to soon, and He will not come too late.



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But when He comes, He will come like a thief in the night. He is not coming secretly as some teach. Rather, He is coming when so many are not expecting Him. This is not the fault of God, rather, it is the fault of man in not preparing for the soon return of Christ.

When Christ comes the second time, the seven last plagues will be poured out. The earth will lie in utter destruction. He will call forth His saints, and they shall awake and be changed in the twinkling of an eye. The living saints will also be changed and caught up together with the resurrected saints in a cloud of angels to be winged to heaven.

When Christ comes at the end of the thousand years, the earth will then melt with fervent heat. See Revelation 20.

Afterwards, God will create a new heaven and a new earth. See Revelation 21.

Knowing all these things, what sort of people ought we to be? The SDA Quarterly said that we must have the “righteousness of Jesus” “credited to us by faith.” We need more than that! We need the righteousness of Christ imparted to us as well.