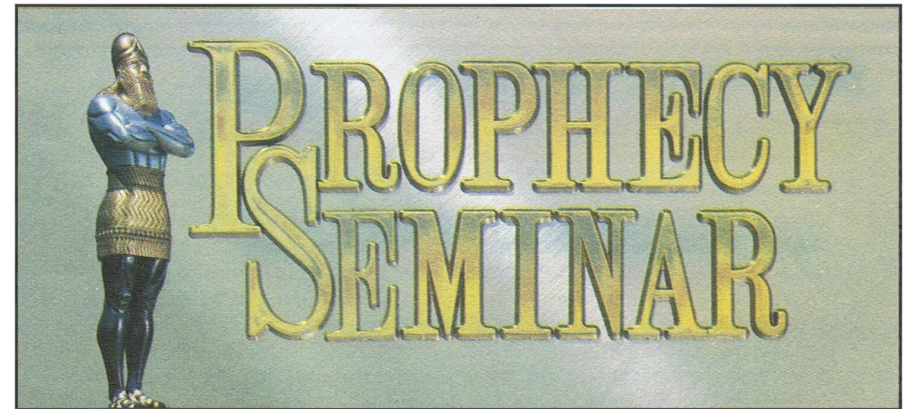


Notes, Questions & Prayer Requests

DS-010



LESSON TEN

CAN THE LITTLE HORN CHANGE GOD’S LAW?

QUIZ QUESTIONS

- 1. The little horn of Daniel 7 has not yet come. **False**
- 2. The little horn of Daniel 7 refers to a religious power that has mixed paganism and Christianity. **True**
- 3. One of the most daring claims of the little horn power is that it thinks to change God's law. **True**
- 4. The little horn of Daniel 7 and the beast of Revelation 13 refer to the same power. **True**
- 5. The number 666 refers to a literal number to be written on everybody’s forehead in the last days. **False**

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Lesson 10 for the first time will introduce the Sabbath truth. It is the plan of these lessons to introduce the Sabbath truth very softly in Lesson 10, but Lessons 11 and 12 will give the major Sabbath presentation.

You will not deal in this lesson with which day is the Sabbath, but you will present the essential fact that God has given us Sabbath time.

The introduction to this lesson is very important. Do not skip over it. Take the time to read it or say it in your own words, but make certain the three major points in the introduction are well emphasized. These three points are laying the foundation for the Sabbath.

We have tried to build a foundation into each of the lessons, and at this point you are reviewing the foundation.

Point 1 emphasizes the great controversy theme. Make it clear again that the issue of the controversy is over worship and obedience to the law of God.

Point 2 deals with the fact that there has been a major apostasy. The previous lesson has identified the apostate agent. Again make it clear that it is a mixture of truth and error, paganism and Christianity, a distortion of truth presented as truth, a religious apostasy that deals with worship and obedience to the law of God.

Point 3 makes your presentation extremely Christ-centered when you emphasize the need of a personal relationship with Jesus as our only security against the deceptions of the last days.

In the next couple of lessons you will expand their understanding of a relationship with God to include Sabbath keeping. Notice particularly the last paragraph in the note on the introduction.

The area that Satan will attack is the area that deals with a person's relationship with God. This is the major theme that we are building for the presentation of the Sabbath truth.

Notes, Questions & Prayer Requests

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Horizontal lines for notes, questions, and prayer requests.

Question 1

This section deals with the one identifying mark that we did not talk about in Lesson 9. In fact, it becomes the subject of Lessons 11 and 12. The emphasis here is not just that the papacy would attempt to change the law, but the times. Time deals with relationships. Therefore he will attack that which affects a person's relationship with God.

Question 3

In this lesson you will be establishing the immutability of God's law. This is the great presumption of the papal power—it attempted to change the Ten Commandment law which is a transcript of the divine character. Each of the Ten Commandments reveals what God is like.

When the commandment says “Thou shalt not commit adultery,” it really is telling us that God is pure, therefore we should be pure. When it says, “Thou shalt not steal,” it says that God is honest and therefore His people should be honest.

Any attack upon these Ten Commandments is an attack against God Himself. It is amazing how bold and presumptuous the apostate power has become. It would even think to attack that which God declares immutable. He even wrote it on tables of stone to indicate its permanency.

Questions 4 through 10

Very quickly go through the Ten Commandments. The purpose is not to give a detailed explanation of each commandment, but simply to acquaint people with what the commandments say and the foolishness of ever thinking to change any of them.

Questions 7 & 8

Questions 7 and 8 deal with the Sabbath commandment. Please give emphasis to the note under Question 8. However, it would not be wise at

this time to go into an explanation of which day is the Sabbath. That will come in the next lesson. Your emphasis here should be on the fact that God has given people the Sabbath so that they can have time to build a relationship with God.

Question 11

Law and grace, the main thrust of this lesson, are now introduced, and the rest of the lesson will deal with the relationship of law and grace. The transitional key here is that one of the ways Satan has sought to destroy God's law is to create a division over law and grace. God's plan was that law and grace should be tied together.

Question 12

The point you need to get across in this section of the lesson is that breaking the Ten Commandments is sin. The Biblical definition of sin is to transgress the Ten Commandments.

Question 13

Being saved by grace is no excuse for sinning. The major argument used by people who wish to get around the Sabbath or the Seventh-day Adventist message is to state that since we are saved by grace, we don't have to keep God's law. Paul makes it clear that grace is not an excuse for sin.

Question 14

Question 14 deals with the purpose of the law. One of the major functions of the law is to show the sinner's desperate need of Jesus. It is not the purpose of the law to save—that is the purpose of the cross.

The law is to show the sinner's need of cleansing. You might want to use an illustration of the mirror at this point. A mirror only reflects. If a

If God does not change, how can the little horn ever attempt to change God's law.

As you move into the appeal you will want to review what you have covered in this lesson.

Those main points are:

1. God has only one plan of salvation.
2. God's law does not change, nor can it be changed.
3. The purpose of the law is not to save, since the sinner is saved solely by grace in Jesus Christ. The purpose of the law is to show the sinner his desperate need of Jesus and salvation. This makes a beautiful appeal. To uplift God's law shows the sinner his great need of Jesus.

Response Questions:

1. If it was clear to you from this lesson that God has only one plan of salvation, salvation by grace alone, and that God's law is as eternal and changeless as God Himself, put a check in Box #1.
2. If it is your desire to take a closer look at God's law to see if there is some area of your life that needs Jesus more, put a check in Box #2

person looks in the mirror, it may reveal a dirty face. Yet the mirror will not make his face clean. Instead, the person washes his face with soap and water. When he looks back in the mirror, he sees that his face is clean. The function of the law is to show the need of cleansing and redemption, never to save. That is the sole function of the cross of Jesus Christ and His shed blood.

Question 16

Here is a chance to review again what was studied in Lesson 6, that people today are saved solely by grace through Jesus Christ and not by their works. This would be the time to review the whole illustration of the fruit and the root.

Remember, the first thing your students will be told when they have heard the Sabbath truth and go out to share it with their friends is that Seventh-day Adventists are legalists who don't believe in salvation by grace.

That's why it is extremely important that before your presentation of the Sabbath, they have frequently heard you say that salvation is by grace alone and our works are the result of a saving relationship with Jesus. They are never a means to obtaining that relationship.

If you have adequately drilled this into your students' minds, then when their friends tell them that Seventh-day Adventist don't believe in salvation by grace, they will know their friends are not telling the truth and will continue to attend your seminar.

It cannot be over-emphasized that you should give this point a very strong emphasis. At the same time make it clear that grace does not abolish God's law: grace is not an excuse for sin. Works are an evidence that an individual has been saved by grace, but they are never a means to salvation.

Question 17

The purpose of this section is to show that God has only one plan of salvation. You should be aware that most dispensationalists (people who

believe in the secret rapture) believe that God has several ways of saving people. In fact, they believe there are seven dispensations through which God has sought to save mankind throughout history.

One of the main divisions they make is between the Old and New Testaments. Dispensationalists teach that in the Old Testament God saves people by works and by law, but in the New Testament He saves them by grace.

The purpose of this section is to make it very clear to your students that God has only one plan of salvation. God saved Old Testament people by grace and not by works. Even in the Old Testament works were a result of salvation and never a means of obtaining salvation. *

In Question 17 you examine the giving of the Ten Commandments. The point which should receive strong emphasis is that God redeemed Israel first and then He gave them the Ten Commandments. He did not give them the Ten Commandments while they were in bondage in Egypt, but only after He redeemed them.

Keeping the commandments only means something when people are redeemed. Before a person is redeemed, the commandments only bring guilt.

Question 18

The love motivation is clearly a New Testament teaching. It will come as a surprise to many of your students to learn that the two great commandments of Jesus were actually Old Testament commandments.

Point out to them that this is the heart of Old Testament religion. Deuteronomy 6:4, 5 was known as the **shema** among the Israelites. It was a part of the Old Testament that every Hebrew knew implicitly and quoted continually.

It was the very heart of Old Testament religion. Therefore Jesus did not inaugurate anything new. He merely was attempting to restore religion to the essence of Old Testament religion.

The Jews in the time of Christ had distorted Old Testament religion into a

system of legalism, but that was not Old Testament religion. God intended for His Old Testament people to obey Him out of love, and not from obligation. They would obey because they had a meaningful relationship with Him, not because the law stated they should.

Question 20

Isn't it amazing that even the new birth experience is found in the Old Testament? Old Testament religion, rather than being a meaningless round of ceremonies and legalistic observances, radiated with the love of God. Please make certain that you give good emphasis to paragraph two in this note. God only has one plan of salvation.

Can you imagine what it would be like if God changed His plan of salvation? We can be happy that our God is not wishy-washy, changing His basic way of saving people from time to time. No, God is trustworthy. He does not change, and neither does His plan of salvation.

The plan of salvation may be more powerfully revealed in the New Testament, but the basic plan does not change. God's one and only plan of salvation is salvation by grace alone, with works as a fruit or result of a saving relationship with Jesus.

Can you imagine what heaven would be like if God had two plans of salvation? Under one plan people got there by works, and in the other people got there by grace.

Can you imagine going up to Abraham and asking him how he got to heaven, and he says, "Oh, by works. How did you get here?" "Oh, I didn't have to keep the law, I got here by grace?" Obviously, God does not work that way. His plan is only one plan of salvation, by grace alone.

Question 21

Not only is there one plan of salvation, there is only one law. God's Ten Commandment law has not changed. Remember, the emphasis you are giving is that the little horn power has attempted to change the law. God says it is changeless and that He does not change.