

BSF Reading; Revelation #4

FIRST DAY:

Read the lesson notes

SECOND DAY:

Read Revelation 2:1-7

To the Church in Ephesus

[2:1] “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands: [2] I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. [3] You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

[4] Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. [5] Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. [6] But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

[7] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

Question 5

Acts 17:11; [11] Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Romans 12:2; [2] Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you

will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.

1 Corinthians 12:3; [3] Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 6:4-6; [4] Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, [5] for each one should carry his own load.

[6] Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor.

2 Timothy 3:16; [16] All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

Hebrews 5:14; [14] But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

THIRD DAY

Read Revelation 2:1-7

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Question 8a

Matthew 22:36-40; [36] “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

[37] Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ [38] This is the first and greatest commandment. [39] And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ [40] All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Question 8b

1 John 2:5-6; [5] But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: [6] Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

Question 10

Genesis 2:8-9, 15-17; 3:1-24;

[8] Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. [9] And the LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

[15] and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. [16] God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. [17] God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth,

The Fall of Man

[3:1] Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

[2] The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, [3] but God did say,

‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

[4] “You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. [5] “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

[6] When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. [7] Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

[8] Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. [9] But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?”

[10] He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

[11] And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

[12] The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

[13] Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

[14] So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,

“Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals!

You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

[15] And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

[16] To the woman he said,
“I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing;
with pain you will give birth to children.
Your desire will be for your husband,
and he will rule over you.”

[17] To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your
wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded
you, ‘You must not eat of it,’

“Cursed is the ground because of you;
through painful toil you will eat of it
all the days of your life.

[18] It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.

[19] By the sweat of your brow
you will eat your food
until you return to the ground,
since from it you were taken;
for dust you are
and to dust you will return.”

[20] Adam named his wife Eve, because she would
become the mother of all the living.

[21] The LORD God made garments of skin for
Adam and his wife and clothed them. [22] And the
LORD God said, “The man has now become like one
of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be
allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the
tree of life and eat, and live forever.” [23] So the
LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden
to work the ground from which he had been taken.
[24] After he drove the man out, he placed on the east
side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming
sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to
the tree of life.

FOURTH DAY:

Read Revelation 2:8-11

To the Church in Smyrna

[8] “To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

These are the words of him who is the First and the
Last, who died and came to life again. [9] I know
your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! I
know the slander of those who say they are Jews and
are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. [10] Do not
be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you,
the devil will put some of you in prison to test you,

and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be
faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give
you the crown of life.

[11] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit
says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be
hurt at all by the second death.

Question 12b

Matthew 5:3; 6:19-20; [3] “Blessed are
the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

[19] “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on
earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where
thieves break in and steal. [20] But store up for
yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust
do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and
steal.

2 Corinthians 8:9; [9] For you know the
grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was
rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you
through his poverty might become rich.

FIFTH DAY:

Revelation 2:8-11

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Question 14

Matthew 10:28-33; [28] Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. [29] Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. [30] And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. [31] So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

[32] "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.

[33] But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.

SIXTH DAY:

Review Revelation 2:1-11

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