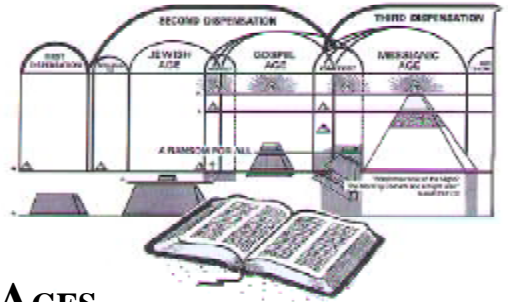




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THE DIVINE PLAN OF THE AGES

STUDY 12

EXPLANATION OF CHART REPRESENTING THE PLAN OF THE AGES

NAME: _____

PHONE: () _____

- ◆ **BEFORE** filling in the blanks, please prayerfully **study** the 57 paragraphs and the scriptures cited with the questions. We suggest that you number the paragraphs in your book.
- ◆ Return your answers to us. **PLEASE ENCLOSE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE.** Our Canadian and International friends may make special arrangements for the postage.
- ◆ Your answers will be checked and returned to you for your future studies.
- ◆ **STUDY 13** will be sent when you have completed this lesson.

1. The *Chart of the Ages* aids the mind, through the eye, to _____ **UNDERSTAND** the progressive character of God's **PLAN** and also the progressive steps which must be taken by those who attain the complete *change* from the human to the **DIVINE** nature.

2. **A** is called the _____ **WORLD** that was which lasted from Adam's _____ **CREATION** to the _____ **FLOOD**. **B** is called the present evil _____ **WORLD** which lasts from the _____ **FLOOD** to the commencement of the Mediatorial reign of Christ. **C** is called the _____ **WORLD** to come wherein dwelleth _____ **RIGHTEOUSNESS** which lasts from the beginning of Christ's reign for *ages to come*.

3. Each of the *three* great _____ **DISPENSATIONS** (**A**, **B**, **C**) is but a part of the one great _____ **PLAN** of God. The *first* dispensation (**A**) was under the supervision of _____ **ANGELS** who were permitted to endeavor to recover the degenerate _____ **RACE**. However, the _____ **ANGELS** were unsuccessful rulers. Even though Satan had influence during the _____ **WORLD** that was (**A**), it was not until after the flood that he usurped authority in the earth and is styled the _____ **PRINCE** of this present evil _____ **WORLD** (**B**) by our Lord. The *third* _____ **DISPENSATION** (**C**), under the control of our Lord _____ **JESUS** and his joint-heirs, will be a successful righteous _____ **ADMINISTRATION**.

4. During the *second* _____ **DISPENSATION** (**B**), under the usurped limited control of Satan, man is permitted to try governing himself, but the

attempted _____ **REIGN** is now ending in the greatest time of _____ **TROUBLE** of earth's history. (Dan. 12:1; Matthew 24:21)

5. The *second* _____ **DISPENSATION** (**B**) is composed of _____ **THREE** distinct ages.

6. During the *Patriarchal age* (**D**), God had special dealings with Noah, _____ **ABRAHAM**, _____ **ISAAC**, and Jacob.

7. During the _____ **JEWISH** age (**E**), God recognized with favor the 12 sons of _____ **JACOB** (Israel). (Amos 3:2) Israel, as a nation, was _____ **TYPICAL** of the Christian church. Their sacrifices _____ **JUSTIFIED** them _____ **TYPICALLY** (*not really*). In the _____ **GOSPEL** age (**F**), we find the *realities* of which the Jewish age (**E**) and its services were _____ **SHADOWS**. (Heb. 10:1)

8. The Gospel age (**F**) is the time of the *better sacrifices* during which the Christ (*Head* and *body* members) are offered the _____ **DIVINE** nature. (2 Peter 1:4) The continuation of the permission of evil is necessary for the testing of those who may be accounted worthy to share in the first _____ **RESURRECTION**. (Psalm 17:15)

9. The *third* dispensation (**C**) is to be composed of the _____ **MILLENNIAL** (Messianic) age (**G**) and many _____ **AGES**. During the Millennial age, Christ reigns for the purpose of destroying Adamic _____ **DEATH** and putting all enemies under his feet. (1 Cor. 15:25, 26) The Christ (*Head* and *body* members) will have accomplished the *restitution* of all things by the close of the _____ **MILLENNIAL** age (**G**). (Acts 3:19-21; Col. 1:20)

10. Beyond the Millennial (Messianic age) (G) will be *ages to come* (H)—ages of perfection, _____ **BLESSEDNESS**, and _____ **HAPPINESS**.

11. While the work of the Jewish age (E) was ending with a _____ **HARVEST**, the work of the _____ **GOSPEL** age (F) began—a lapping of the ages.

12. The Jewish age (E) ended in a *measure* in the middle of the 70th week (*of years*) (Dan. 9:24-27) at the time our Lord _____ **REJECTED** Israel. (Matt. 23:38)

13. In a fuller sense, God's favor toward and recognition of the Jewish church ended 3 1/2 years after the _____ **CROSS**, and then the gospel began to be preached to the Gentiles. (Acts 10:45) The national existence of Israel terminated in the great time of _____ **TROUBLE** which followed.

14. The harvest of the Jewish age (E) started at the time the Gospel age (F) began with the _____ **ANOINTING** of Jesus with the Holy Spirit. In relation to the body members of Christ, the _____ **GOSPEL** age (F) started 3 1/2 years after the consecration, baptism, and anointing of Jesus.

15. The Gospel age (F) ends with a **HARVEST**, during which the restitution (Millennial) age (G) begins—a lapping of the ages. During the same time period that the Gospel age (F) and the second dispensation (B) are coming to an end, there is a time of _____ **TROUBLE** (*fire*) such as never before experienced by the world. (Joel 2:1-3)

16. Adam (a perfect human being) was represented on plane N before he _____ **SINNED**. After Adam disobeyed, he and his _____ **POSTERITY** are shown on plane R, the *broad way* which leads to _____ **DESTRUCTION**. Plane P represents the *typical* _____ **JUSTIFICATION** of Israel, reckoned as effected by the sacrifices of the _____ **LAW**.

17. Adam (*before disobedience*) and Jesus (*before his consecration and baptism*) are represented as perfect _____ **MEN** on plane N. All others shown on this plane are tentatively _____ **JUSTIFIED**. During the Gospel age (F) those who have repented of sin and accepted _____ **JESUS**, the dear Redeemer, are shown on plane N and thus have a *measure* of peace with God.

18. During the _____ **GOSPEL** age (F), a *few* of the ones who have a *measure* of peace may be moved by the _____ **LOVE** of God, as shown in their _____ **RANSOM** from sin, to present their bodies a *living* _____ **SACRIFICE**. (Rom. 12:1)

19. The _____ **HOLINESS**, and acceptableness to God, of the fully consecrated comes from the fact that _____ **GOD justifies** one freely from all sin, through faith in Christ's _____ **SACRIFICE**, at the moment a covenant is made with God to sacrifice *earthly* hopes for *spiritual* ones. (Rom. 3:24; 5:9; 5:1)

20. The fully consecrated are no longer reckoned as _____ **MEN**, but as spiritual children—begotten of God through the word of _____ **TRUTH**. (James 1:17, 18) Those begotten of the spirit are _____ **EMBRYO** spiritual children, represented on plane M, the plane of _____ **SPIRIT** begetting. The new creatures in Christ Jesus no longer have _____ **HUMAN** hopes but *spiritual* hopes. As human beings they are *reckoned* _____ **DEAD** at the time of their full consecrations. (2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 8:9)

21. Those who are faithful in fulfilling their covenant by _____ **SACRIFICE** (Romans 12:1) reach plane L (the condition of *perfect spirit* beings) at the moment of their resurrection from the dead in the dawning of the Millennial (resurrection) age (G). The *dead in Christ* are first resurrected and then the consecrated living in the harvest of the _____ **GOSPEL** age (F), upon finishing their earthly course faithfully unto death, are changed in a moment (resurrected *divine spirit beings*). (1 Cor. 15:51-54; 1 Thes. 4:16, 17) The *entrance* upon plane L is called _____ **BIRTH**.

22. After the entire body of Christ reaches the plane of full *personal* _____ **GLORY** (L), like unto Christ (divine spirit beings), the further step taken brings these body members to plane K, which represents the glory of power and _____ **OFFICE**—to sit with Christ in his _____ **THRONE**, who, since his ascension to the Father 40 days after his resurrection, has been at the *right hand* of the majesty on _____ **HIGH**.

23. The *pyramid* figure, used on the *Chart of the Ages*, represents _____ **PERFECTION**.

24. A *topless* _____ **PYRAMID** represents imperfection. Adam as a perfect human being is shown by pyramid _____ **a** on plane _____ **N**. After disobedience, Adam and his posterity are represented by *topless* pyramid **b** on plane _____ **R**.

25. The faith of _____ **ABRAHAM** and others of his day (represented by pyramid **c** on plane N) lifted them up to a position of justification to friendship. (James 2:23)

26. *Topless* pyramid **d** represents the world of _____ **MANKIND**, after the _____ **FLOOD**, still

at enmity with God, where it will remain until the earthly phase of the Kingdom begins its operation.

27. Israel (represented by *topless* pyramid **e** on plane **P**), during the Jewish age, offered *typical* _____ **SACRIFICES** and hence were *typically* _____ **JUSTIFIED**. This *typical* justification lasted from the giving of the _____ **LAW** at Mount Siani until Jesus made an *end* of it by _____ **NAILING** it to his cross. (Col. 2:14)

28. Figure **f** represents the fire of _____ **TRIAL** and _____ **TROUBLE** upon fleshly Israel during the harvest of the Jewish age. (Luke 3:17)

29. Jesus at the age of 30, a perfect mature _____ **MAN**, is represented by pyramid **g** on plane _____ **N**. Previously to becoming a human being, he was a glorious _____ **SPIRIT** being. As a perfect man, Jesus was a _____ **RANSOM** (corresponding price) for Adam (and all mankind represented in him).

30. The perfect man Jesus at the age of 30 _____ **HUMBLED** himself and consecrated to do God's will. Then he symbolized that consecration by water _____ **BAPTISM**. God showed his acceptance by filling Jesus with his _____ **SPIRIT** and power—thus anointing him.

31. At the time of Jesus' full consecration, he was begotten of the _____ **SPIRIT** to the divine nature (pyramid **h** on plane **M**). He was born of the spirit 3 1/2 years later at the time of his resurrection from the dead (pyramid _____ **i** on plane **L**). Christ was the *firstborn* from the _____ **DEAD**. "That which is *born* of the _____ **SPIRIT** is *spirit*."

32. After Christ was *born* of the spirit, during a period of 40 days, he briefly appeared as a man to his disciples (*not to the world*) on several occasions in order that they could be assured that he was no longer _____ **DEAD** but since his resurrection was a glorious divine spirit being.

33. Jesus reached plane **L** at the time he was _____ **RESURRECTED**—*born* of the spirit.

34. Forty days after the resurrection of our Lord, he ascended to the majesty on high—the plane of divine glory, **K** (pyramid **k**). During the Gospel age our Lord is shown by pyramid **l** on plane **K** from where he _____ **GUIDES** and directs the affairs of those who will become his _____ **BRIDE** and joint-heir.

35. By repenting of sin and accepting _____ **JESUS** as his Savior, the sinner is lifted up from plane **R** to plane _____ **N** where he is shown as tentatively justified with a measure of peace with God.

36. One who has consecrated to righteous living may be invited to the high calling by the heavenly _____ **FATHER**. (1 Cor.1:26-30; Eph. 4:4) The acceptance of this invitation means the giving up of all our _____ **EARTHLY** hopes, _____ **AMBITIONS**, and aims. The consecrated give up the _____ **HUMAN** nature in exchange for the promise of the divine _____ **NATURE**, which will be received if we suffer with Christ.

37. After one is spirit *begotten*, he is able to do _____ **WORKS** and bring forth _____ **FRUIT** acceptable to God.

38. The consecrated must do good to _____ **ALL** as they have opportunity, especially to the household of _____ **FAITH**. When others have need, the spirit begotten ones on plane **M** must serve either _____ **SPIRITUAL** or _____ **NATURAL** food (*or both*) if they have the ability to do so.

39. Until the crown is won, the flame and _____ **INCENSE** of our sacrifice of labor and service must ascend _____ **DAILY**.

40. The spirit *begotten* ones who are overcomers will be *born* of the _____ **SPIRIT** (represented on plane **L**).

41. The unifying and full glorification of the entire _____ **BODY** with Christ the Head is the *marriage* of the _____ **LAMB** to his bride (shown by pyramid **w** on plane **K**).

42. The **n** and **m** classes on plane **M** (the plane of spirit-begetting) represent the *little flock* and the *great company*. The **n** class (the *little flock*) fulfill their _____ **COVENANT** and will be given the kingdom. (Luke 12:32) The **m** class shrink back from the performance of their _____ **COVENANT**. Eventually, by way of adversity and _____ **TROUBLE**, the great company will reach plane **L** (the perfect spirit plane).

43. The majority of the nominal church have accepted _____ **JESUS** as their Savior but not the high _____ **CALLING**. They are on plane **N** (topless pyramid _____ **p**). Those who reach plane **N**, but go no further, have received *tentative* justification in _____ **VAIN**. However, after the earthly phase of the Kingdom begins its operation, all who do not accept the high calling of the _____ **GOSPEL** age will have the opportunity of learning the truth accurately under favorable conditions and, if obedient, attain the likeness of the perfect earthly man, _____ **ADAM** (pyramid **a**).

44. Section **q** represents those who have attached themselves to the nominal church but are not believers in **CHRIST** as their Redeemer. These *wolves* in sheep's **CLOTHING** belong on plane **R**. The **n**, **m**, **p**, and **q** classes assembled together until the **HARVEST** time.

45. During the harvest of the Gospel age (**F**), the **SAINTS** (**n**), approved and owned of God, are made **MANIFEST**. (Matt. 13:39)

46. The good **SEED** are the spiritual children. All of class **q** and many of class **p** are **TARES**.

47. The **TRUTH** tested fleshly Israel in the harvest of the Jewish **AGE** (**E**). The harvest of the Gospel **AGE** (**F**) is under the supervision of the chief **REAPER** (our Lord Jesus) who is now present separating the true from the false. The wheat (the **n** class) is **SEPARATED** from the tares during this harvest.

48. Figure **s** represents the *little flock* out of **BABYLON**. In due time these will shine forth as the *sun* in the **KINGDOM** of their Father. (Matt. 13:43) The *cross* of Christ was a *stumbling block* to the worldly-wise during the harvest of the Jewish age (**E**) and is again a test during the harvest of the **GOSPEL** age (**F**).

49. The **s** class, who built with **GOLD**, silver, and precious stones, possess the approved **CHARACTER**. The **t** class, who built with wood, **HAY**, and stubble, lose the prize of the throne, but eventually wash their **ROBES** in the blood of the Lamb and will be invited to the *marriage supper*. Their position is then shown by **y** on the spirit plane **L**. (Rev. 7:14 15, 19:6,7)

50. During the present transition period, in the which there is a great time of trouble, fleshly **ISRAEL** has again become a nation among the nations. (Amos 9:13, 14; Matt. 24:32) Later on in the Millennial age (**G**), Israel will be the chief **NATION** of earth. (Zech. 8:23)

51. The restoration, to perfect human nature, of those in Israel and the world who are obedient will be a gradual **WORK**. By the end of the Millennial reign of Christ the great *pyramid* of the *Chart of the Ages* will be **COMPLETE**. The Christ (Head and body) shown by pyramid **x** will be the **HEAD** of all things. The great company (**y**) and angels will be next in **RANK**. Israel after the flesh (including only *Israelites indeed*)

will be at the head of earthly **NATIONS**. The world of men (**W**) who obey will be restored to human **PERFECTION**. (Acts 3:19-21) Those who make no progress, and those who refuse to obey, will die the *second* **DEATH**. During a *little season* following the **MILLENNIAL** age (**G**), those having reached perfection will experience a final testing. Those who follow Satan during that *little season* will die the **SECOND** death. (Rev. 20:9, 14)

52. The Father's great plan is for the *exaltation* of the church to the **DIVINE** nature and the *restitution* of all the willing and obedient of mankind to human **PERFECTION**.

53. The *pyramid* not only represents perfect beings, but it also represents the **ONENESS** of the whole creation, as it will be, when all the willing and obedient have been brought under the headship of **CHRIST**. (Eph. 1:10; Col 1:20)

54. All (whether of a heavenly *or* earthly nature) who wish to be everlastingly acceptable to God must be conformed to the image of his **SON** and partake of the spirit of **OBEDIENCE**.

55. Christ Jesus, the **HEAD**, was first selected and then secondly his **BODY** members. Angels and other spirit beings will **RANK** next. The worthies of Israel and the world will also be brought into harmony and **ONENESS** with the Head.

56. The corner top-stone (*laid first*) is also called a *foundation* **STONE**. Our foundation is laid upward—not **DOWNWARD**. The work of the Millennial age (**G**) will progress until every creature in heaven and on earth will be praising and **SERVING** God. Those who refuse to obey will be **CUT** off from among the people. (Acts 3:22, 23)

57. Outside the court of the Tabernacle lies the whole world in **SIN** (plane **R**). Entering through the **GATE** those who accept Jesus are tentatively justified (plane **N**). Those who make a full consecration enter into the Holy (plane **M**) and are strengthened by the *shew bread*, **ENLIGHTENED** by the *candlestick*, and offer acceptable incense to God by Christ Jesus at the Golden **ALTAR**. In the first resurrection, the faithful enter into the Most **HOLY** (plane **L**) and are then associated with Jesus in the **GLORY** of the kingdom (plane **K**).