1. Through much misunderstanding and ___IGNORANCE____, some misjudge God's unfinished work. (Eph. 4:18)  God's finished work will universally declare his infinite _WISDOM_ and ____POWER______. (1 Corinthians 15:28; Isaiah 55:10, 11)

2. In order to be found in harmony with the plan of God, should one seek to learn his plan? ____YES__ Will God accomplish that which he has purposed? (Isaiah 14:24-27; 46:9-11) ______YES____

3. By _FAITH_ and light from the __LAMP___ the child of God is enabled to understand things pertaining to the past and the ___PRESENT__. (Hebrews 11:6; Psalm 119:105) God's plan as it relates to man spans ___THREE____ periods of time. (2 Peter 3:6, 7) These epochs are called WORLDS_____.

4. The first world which started at creation lasted until the __FLOOD__ (Genesis 7:22, 23) Peter called this first epoch the ___WORLD_____ that then was. (2 Peter 3:6)

5. The second world is under the limited control of __Satan__. (2 Corinthians 4:4) This present world has been full of ___EVIL___. (Galatians 1:4)

6. The third epoch will be a _WORLD_ without end. (Isa. 45:17) Righteousness will begin to prevail as soon as the earthly phase of the __KINGDOM_ begins its operation. Then the knowledge of the LORD___ will begin to cover the ___EARTH____ as the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 11:9; 2 Peter 3:13)

7. The first world was under the administration of ___ANGELS__. (Heb. 2:5) ___Satan___ is the _usurper_ of the second evil world. (Isaiah 14:12-14) During the first age of the third world, all the __NATIONS____ of the earth will be blessed. (Genesis 22:17, 18)

8. ___EVIL___ is permitted to predominate during the second world. (Malachi 3:15) Evil will be blotted out during the ____MILLENNIAL____ age. (Zechariah 14:6, 7) Those who choose to remain evil doers will be __CUT___ off. (Psalm 37:9)

9. Evil has prospered under __Satan's__ usurped rulership. (Malachi 3:15) Those who have lived godly during the Gospel age have suffered ___PERSECUTION____. (2 Timothy 3:12)

10. We are taught to pray, “Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on ___EARTH__.” This manifests our desire for a ____RIGHTEOUS____ government. (Isaiah 2:2-4) Darkness has covered the earth because ___Satan____ now rules and works in the ___HEARTS___ of the children of disobedience. (Isaiah 60:2; Ephesians 6:12)

11. The transfer of the kingdoms of this world to become the kingdom of Christ causes a great time of ____TROUBLE__. (Daniel 12:1) Does our Lord gradually bind the influence and power of Satan after entering the strong man's house? ___YES___ (Mark 3:22-27) Will the earthly phase of the kingdom begin its operation when Satan is fully bound? ___YES___

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**THE DIVINE PLAN OF THE AGES**

**STUDY 4**

**EPOCHS AND DISPENSATIONS**

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- **BEFORE** filling in the blanks, please prayerfully **study** the 27 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 5** will be sent when you have completed this lesson.

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12. “The earth abideth _____FOREVER____.” (Ecclesiastes 1:4) The word heavens often symbolizes the higher or ______SPIRITUAL____ controlling powers. (2 Peter 3:7, 10) The word earth often symbolizes ______HUMAN____ government and social____ ARRANGEMENTS. Does Satan struggle while he is gradually being bound? _____YES_____ Fire is a symbol of __DESTRUCTION__—not preservation. (Revelation 20:14) The second symbolic heavens and the second symbolic earth will be replaced by a new ______HEAVENS_____ and a new ______EARTH_____ under Christ’s control. (Revelation 21:1)

13. The apostles _____PAUL_____ and _____JOHN_____ saw by vision the new heaven and the new earth. (2 Cor. 12:2-4; Rev. 1:9,10) Will righteousness eventually prevail in the earth? (Rev. 21:4) _____YES_____ How many ages are there in the world that now is? _____3_____ The Millennial age is the first age of the third ______WORLD_____.

14. Was the first epoch or world subdivided? _____NO_____ The first world ended with the ______FLOOD_____. (Genesis 7:17,18) The tendency of sin is ______DOWNWARD_____ to greater degredation. Who must intervene if the recovery of man’s first estate is ever to be accomplished? _____GOD_____ The three ages in the second dispensation are the ______PATRIARCHAL_____ age, the ______JEWISH_____ age, and the ______GOSPEL_____ age.

15. The period of the _______times of restitution____ is the same as the _______MILLENNIAL____ age. (Acts 3:19-21) How long will the world to come continue? (Ephesians 3:21) _____FOREVER_____.

16. The faithful patriarchs with whom God dealt during the Patriarchal age were Noah, _____ABRAHAM_____ , _____ISAAC_____ , and ____Jacob. At Jacob’s death, his descendants called the _____12_____ tribes of ______ISRAEL_____. (Exodus 1:1) Typical sacrifices were offered in the ______JEWISH_____ age. God sent his prophets and finally his dear Son, Jesus, to the house of ______ISRAEL_____. (Matthew 23:37; 15:24; John 1:11) During the time of our Lord's ministry at his first advent, his disciples were sent to preach to the lost ______SHEEP_____ of the house of ______ISRAEL_____. (Matthew 10:5, 6) The national favor of Israel ended when the Jews rejected and _____CRUCIFINED_____ Jesus. (Matthew 23:37, 38)

19. During the ______GOSPEL_____ age the good tidings of justification have gone to all nations. (Romans 1:5) The fully consecrated who follow in Jesus’ footsteps during the Gospel age are given ______EXCEEDING______ great and _____PRECIOUS_____ promises. (2 Peter 1:4) Have all the nations been converted during the Gospel age? (2 Tim. 3:1-5) _____NO_____ It is the Father’s good pleasure to give the kingdom to a ______LITTLE _____FLOCK. (Luke 12:32)

20. Even though God has permitted evil, have his deep designs been steadily progressing according to a fixed and definite plan? (Isaiah 46:10) _____YES_____ As soon as Satan is fully bound, ______RIGHTOUENESS_____ will begin to prevail. (2 Peter 3:13)

21. The first age of the Third Dispensation will last _____1000_____ years. (2 Peter 3:8) All _____TEARS_____ will have been wiped away by the close of the thousand year reign of Christ. (Revelation 21:4) The word restitution means _____RESTORATION_____. (Acts 3:19-21)

22. Is God’s plan a progressive one? _____YES_____ God is a wise economist of both _____TIME_____ and _____MEANS_____. Are all things working together for the accomplishment of God’s will? (Isaiah 45:23) _____YES_____ To the un instructed and undisciplined mind, God’s plan appears like ______ANARCHY______, confusion, and ______FAILURE_____. Maturity and investigation will show ______BEAUTIFUL____ harmony working good _____RESULTS_____. Has man been receiving the necessary discipline to eventually experience the blessed results of God’s plan? _____YES_____ One can rightly divide the word of truth by noting the distinctive ______FEATURES____ of each age. (2 Timothy 2:15)

23. The _______KNOWLEDGE_____ of the LORD will begin to fill the earth after the earthly phase of the kingdom begins its operation. (Isaiah 11:9) _____EVIL_____ is waxing worse and worse during this transition period between the beginning of the Third Dispensation and the full end of the Second Dispensation. (2 Timothy 3:1-13)

26. Present governments of this world are enriched and supported by oppression, _____INJUSTICE____, and _____DECEIT_____. Does our Lord have the power to fully bind Satan? (Matthew 28:18) _____YES_____ Is the household of faith now enjoying more light during this dawning of the Millennial age? (2 Peter 1:19; Revelation 3:20) _____YES_____.