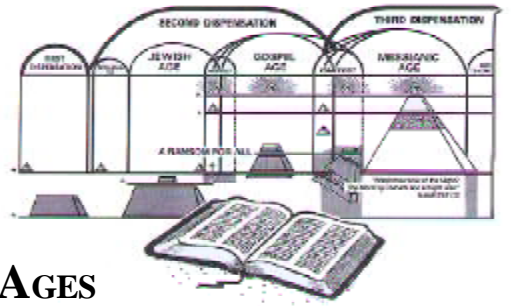


FORT WORTH BIBLE STUDENTS

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THE DIVINE PLAN OF THE AGES

STUDY 5

THE HIDDEN MYSTERY

NAME: _____

PHONE: () _____

- ◆ **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 6** will be sent when you have completed this lesson.

1. Did God repeatedly express his purpose to bless mankind through a coming deliverer? YES (Genesis 3:15; 22:18) For over 4000 years it was a mystery as to whom this deliverer would be. The mystery began to be clearly revealed after the RESURRECTION of Christ.

2. It is promised that the *seed* of the woman shall BRUISE the serpent's head. (Genesis 3:15) Over 2000 years rolled by with no evidence of fulfillment.

3. The promise made to Abraham was that his seed would bless ALL the families of the earth. Ishmael was the child of ABRAHAM and Hagar. (Genesis 16:3) The child of hope and promise was ISAAC. Was the covenant God made with Abraham assured by an oath to Isaac, and confirmed to Jacob and Israel? YES (1 Chronicles 16:16, 17)

4. After the death of Jacob, the expectation of the 12 tribes of Israel was that they would possess CANAAN and rule and bless the WORLD. The Egyptians held the Israelites as SLAVES.

5. MOSES delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage. Before Moses died, as God's mouthpiece, he declared: "A PROPHET shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me." (Deuteronomy 18:15) The one who actually led Israel into the promised land was JOSHUA.

6. Joshua eventually DIED. Israel reached the very zenith of their glory when DAVID and SOLOMON were kings.

7. At the time Jesus was born, ALL men were in expectation of the Messiah. (Luke 3:15) Israel had overlooked the types and prophecies which pointed to a work of SUFFERING and death as a RANSOM for sinners. (Heb. 9:11-20; 10:8-18)

The Old Testament prophets had testified beforehand the sufferings of CHRIST and the glory to follow. (1 Peter 1:11) Were the disciples of Jesus perplexed when he died? YES The withered hopes of the disciples revived after the RESURRECTION of our Lord. (1 Peter 1:3) Jesus' answer to the disciples question about the establishment of the kingdom was: "It is not for you to know the times and seasons which the FATHER hath put in his own power." (Acts 1:6, 7)

8. Jesus principally taught about the kingdom in PARABLES and DARK sayings. The spirit of TRUTH guides one into all truth. (John 16:12, 13)

9. Did it take time after Pentecost for the disciples to get a clear understanding of the work being done? (Acts 11:9) YES Are the words of the apostles inspired? (Matthew 16:19) YES The bride of Christ is being selected from Jews and GENTILES. (Acts 15:14-16) The tabernacle of David refers to the EARTHLY dominion.

10. PETER was sent to the first Gentile convert. (Acts 10:9-48) Later on, PAUL preached to many Gentiles. (Acts 9:15, 16) The promise to fleshly Israel will be fulfilled after the work of the GOSPEL age is completed. (Acts 15:16, 17) Only the SAINTS have understood the great mystery. (Colossians 1:26, 27)

11. The mystery hidden from ages and from generations is "Christ in you, the hope of GLORY." (Colossians 1:27)

12. Consecrated believers are those who have made a covenant with God by SACRIFICE. (Rom. 12:1) Jesus was anointed with the holy Spirit at the time of his full CONSECRATION and baptism in water (Matthew 3:16, 17) The word *Christ* signifies ANOINTED.

Consecrated believers have come in under this one ANOINTING of the Spirit. (1 John 2:27) Consecrated believers need men TEACHERS and pastors to teach them. (Ephesians 4:11-16) The fully consecrated of the Gospel age are anointed to become KINGS and PRIESTS. (2 Corinthians 1:21:21; Revelation 1:6) Who is the chief or Lord of the anointed class? JESUS

13. The *anointed body* of Christ is made up of 144,000 members. (Revelation 14:1) Are all the members of the *human body* important? YES (1 Corinthians 12:21, 22) In one illustration, Jesus is pictured as the Bridegroom united with his BRIDE (his body members). (Ephesians 5:25-30) The Christ (Head and body members) is the *spiritual seed* of ABRAHAM. (Gen. 22:15-18; Gal. 3:16, 29)

14. Jesus is also illustrated as being the true VINE and the fully consecrated are pictured as the BRANCHES. (John 15:5) Who has the pre-eminence in all things? JESUS (Ephesians 1:22; Colossians 1:18)

15. Does the figure of a *pyramid* illustrate the oneness of the Christ? YES

16. The top-stone of a *pyramid* is a perfect PYRAMID of itself.

17. The Chief corner *stone* is JESUS. (Isaiah 28:16) The living *stones* are the royal PRIESTHOOD. (1 Peter 2:4-6)

18. Many blows and much polishing are necessary for the living *stones* in order not to have any cross grained WILL of our own. God resists the *proud* but gives grace to the HUMBLE. (1 Peter 5:5) Those who have humbled themselves will be EXALTED in due time. (1 Peter 5:6) Our REDEEMER humbled himself and became obedient unto death. (Philippians 2:8, 9)

19. The PROPHETS proclaimed the *grace* that was to come unto the anointed class. (1 Peter 1:10) The NARROW way is the way in which those accepting the high calling walk in. (Matt. 7:14) The waiting consecrated disciples of Jesus were begotten of the spirit to the divine nature at PENTECOST. (Acts 2:1) The natural man can't understand the things which God has prepared for those who love him supremely because these things are SPIRITUALLY discerned. (1 Cor. 2:6-14)

20. The Law Covenant did not interfere with the original COVENANT. (Galatians 3:17) The Law was *added* until the promised SEED should come. Primarily the *spiritual seed* of Abraham is CHRIST the Head. (Galatians 3:16) The fully

consecrated of this Gospel age are body members of the *spiritual seed* of ABRAHAM. (Galatians 3:29) Abraham was typical of the heavenly FATHER. Sarah was typical of the Grace COVENANT. Isaac was typical of the CHRIST (Head and body members). (Galatians 4:22-28; Galatians 3:16, 29)

21. Had men known this mystery, they would not have crucified our REDEEMER. (1 Corinthians 2:8) If the mystery were known, would the fully consecrated be persecuted? NO

22. The course in which the fully consecrated are called to walk causes them to be spoken of as a "PECULIAR people". (Titus 2:14) Jesus might have been very popular with the scribes and Pharisees if he had turned his attention to POLITICS, MERCHANDISE, and POPULAR religion.

23. The apostles left their business prospects to preach CHRIST. All who follow the Master are counted FOOLS for Christ's sake.

24. The *dawn* of the Millennial day is bringing LIGHT. All mankind will eventually come to an accurate knowledge of the TRUTH. (1 Timothy 2:3, 4) The body members of Christ will be a part of the Sun of RIGHTEOUSNESS. (Matthew 13:43) Those who suffer with Christ are promised to REIGN with him. (Romans 8:17; 2 Timothy 2:11, 12; Colossians 3:4)

25. Are the promises to the fully consecrated visionary to all others not consecrated? YES During the earthly phase of the kingdom (Mediatorial phase), the holy Spirit will be poured out upon ALL flesh. (Joel 2:28) Eventually, all mankind will rejoice when the full union of the Bridegroom to his BRIDE takes place. (Rev. 19:6, 7) The world of mankind will become PERFECT human beings if obedient. (Isaiah 35:8-10)

26. Will the world come to see that the fully consecrated were not foolish in following Christ after they learn that the church is complete? YES

27. During the sounding of the *seventh symbolic TRUMPET* the *mystery of God* will be finished. (Revelation 10:7) The two senses in which the word *mystery* is used are the secret features of God's PLAN, and the *mystery of God*, the CHURCH. The plan will cease to be a *mystery* because there will be no further OBJECT in perpetuating its secrecy. After the bride of Christ is complete, the world will experience showers of BLESSINGS. (Revelation 22:17) The groaning creation is waiting for the manifestation of the SONS of God. (Romans 8:19, 21, 22)