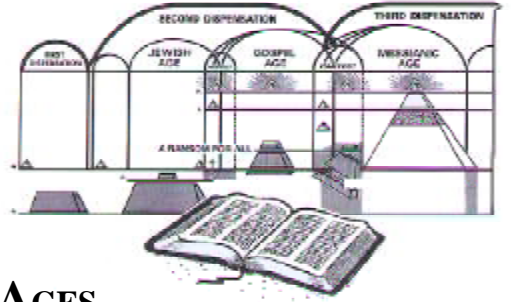


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THE DIVINE PLAN OF THE AGES

STUDY 7

THE PERMISSION OF EVIL AND ITS RELATION TO GOD'S PLAN

NAME: _____

PHONE: () _____

- ◆ Please **study** the 42 paragraphs in Study 7 of "The Divine Plan of the Ages" 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 8** will be sent when you have completed this lesson.

1. Evil is that which produces unhappiness and _____ of any kind. The primary cause of human ailments, sorrows, and death is _____.

2. God permits _____. God could have prevented _____ fall. The almighty Creator permitted Satan to present the _____ to Adam and Eve.

3. The present permission of evil is designed to work out some greater _____. God could have prevented the entrance of _____ but did not. Are men and angels learning of the evil consequences resulting from the violation of God's righteous law? _____ God cannot _____; he cannot _____ himself; he cannot do _____.

4. All things were created for the Lord's _____. (Revelation 4:11) Is God opposed to evil in every sense? (Psalm 5:4) _____ Does God's wisdom see a way in which evil may be made a lasting and valuable lesson to his creatures? _____

5. For every right principle there is a corresponding _____ principle. A right principle is that which is beneficial of ultimate _____ and happiness. A wrong principle is that which produces discord, unhappiness, and _____. Is an intelligent being capable of discerning the right principle from the wrong? _____

6. The moral sense or conscience is the faculty of discerning between _____ and _____.

Does God appeal to our moral sense to prove his righteousness and justice? _____ Could Adam discern sin to be evil even before he knew all of its consequences? _____ Are the lower orders of God's creatures endowed with this moral sense? _____

7. Could God have made Adam merely a living machine? _____ Could God have guarded Adam from Satan's temptation? _____ In that case, man's experience would have been limited to _____.

8. Adam and Eve were first made acquainted with _____. Because of disobedience, man has experienced _____, _____, and death.

9. Did Adam and Eve come to an appreciation of both *good* and *evil*? (Genesis 3:22) _____ Their posterity will fully know what *good* is during the _____ age.

10. The law of right and _____ is a part of man's nature. Man has lost much of this originally inscribed law due to the degrading influence of _____. Ability to love implies ability to _____. The liberty of choice is termed free _____ agency. After more than 6000 years of walking on the broad way, _____ is now more agreeable to the fallen race.

11. God seeks those who worship him to worship in _____ and in _____. Man wasn't created a mere machine because the Creator already had inanimate mechanical agencies accomplishing his _____.

12. Will the principles of *right* and *wrong*, as principles, always exist? _____ The evil principle will forever cease to be active when it has been permitted long enough to accomplish God's _____. Will those who continue to submit to sin forever cease to exist? _____ (1 Corinthians 15:25, 26; Hebrews 2:14) Only the _____ shall continue to live forever.

13. The four ways of knowing things are: _____; _____; _____; and _____. Who only has intuitive knowledge? _____ Does *observation* of evil imply its permission in some place? _____

14. Is man made a *spectacle* to angels? _____

15. The Creator gave Adam the *information* that "In the day thou eatest thereof, _____, thou shalt die." (Genesis 2:16, 17) Did Adam and Eve yield to the *temptation* which God wisely permitted? _____

16. Was Eve *deceived*? (1 Timothy 2:14) _____ Did Eve put confidence in Satan's deceptive misrepresentation? _____

17. Was Adam *deceived*? _____ After Eve disobeyed, the reckless decision of Adam was to _____ with Eve. Were both Adam and Eve in the transgression? _____ (Rom. 5:14; 1 Tim. 2:14) Did Eve share the sentence which her conduct help to bring upon Adam? _____

18. Did evil gradually become more agreeable and desirable to man than good? _____ Has man been learning of *the exceeding sinfulness of sin*? _____ Is man also learning of the matchless brilliancy of virtue in contrast with sin? _____ Is God the author and instigator of sin? _____ The man Christ _____ is our ransom price. (1 Tim. 2:5, 6) Are earthquakes, floods, and pestilences *sins*? _____ Is the doctrine of universalism a false one? _____ Man's noblest quality is _____ of will or _____. Would this quality be set aside if God caused sin and eventually forced all to obey? _____ Do even the ants have a power of choice? _____

19. God cannot consistently force man into sin because it would be inconsistent with his _____ character, and therefore impossible. God desires man to choose _____. A _____

has been provided to save to the uttermost all who will return unto God through him. Will all in due time come to an accurate knowledge of the truth? _____ (1 Timothy 2:4)

20. God has allowed man to feel and see the final result of _____. Is it morally impossible for God to sustain an evil being everlastingly? _____ It is morally impossible for God to sustain an evil being forever because such a life would be a source of _____ to itself and others. Life will be continued everlastingly only to the _____.

21. Was the Creator in any sense bound to bring us into existence? _____ Is the present life a favor? _____

22. The penalty for sin is _____—*not eternal torment*. (Genesis 2:17) Life everlasting is promised only to the _____.

23. Only a _____ understand the parables, dark sayings and symbols found in the New Testament. The *soul* that sinneth, it shall _____. (Ezekiel 18:4)

24. Will the world's opportunity and trial for life be much more favorable than was Adam's? _____

25. How many share the curse of death that came upon Adam? (Romans 5:12) _____ Will all who accept and obey Christ gain life in due time? _____ Jesus died for _____ mankind.

26. The resurrected princes and then all who accept and obey _____ will become children of the Christ under the terms of the New Covenant. (Psalm 45:16; Jer. 31:31-34) All who come into _____ will be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:22)

27. Will all have an opportunity to be restored to what Adam enjoyed before he sinned? _____ All will have the opportunity to come to an accurate knowledge of the truth after the highway of _____ is opened. (Isaiah 11:9) Will all in the graves be awakened from death? (John 5:28, 29) _____ The _____ will die the *second death*. The members of the church are under the _____ covenant. Israel and the whole world of _____ will be blessed under the New Covenant arrangement. (Jeremiah 31:31-34) Absolute moral _____ will be expected of the world after physical _____ is reached.

28. What did Adam lose for himself and his race “yet in his loins”? _____ Under that original trial, condemnation passed upon _____ men. Through Christ's redemption-sacrifice for Adam and his race, mankind will be given the opportunity to turn to _____ through faith in the _____. This will be the first individual opportunity for Adam's descendants because they were born under _____ to death. The message given to the shepherds at the time of the birth of Jesus was _____ tidings which shall be unto _____ people. (Luke 2:10) Many shall be made _____ in due time because of the obedience of _____. (Romans 5:19) The purpose of the Gospel age is for the selection of the _____. The _____ (Head and body members) will bless all the _____ of the earth. (Genesis 22:18; Galatians 3:16, 29)

29. Some of the questions asked concerning the long process of Adam's trial and condemnation are “Why not give all men an _____ chance for life now?” and “Why allow so much _____ to intervene?”

30. Had God ordered that children would not partake of the results of parental sins and had He arranged for all to have a favorable Edenic condition, how many would be found worthy of life? _____

31. If Adam be taken as a criterion, _____ would be found perfectly obedient and worthy. Christ's _____ of the Father enabled him to trust and obey implicitly (Isaiah 53:11) If one-half should remain obedient under a trial and the other half suffered the wages of sin, which is *death*, would the obedient forever feel a curiosity toward the things forbidden? _____

32. Would the one-half cut off in *death* remain dead forever unless they were given a hope of being released from death and tried again? _____

33. Has God adopted the best plan? _____

34. The wages of sin is _____. The Millennial reign of Christ will accomplish the full extinction of _____ and evil-doers, and will usher in an eternity of _____.

35. All of Adam's children share his _____. The perfect man Christ Jesus was a _____ (corresponding price) for all.

36. If God had adopted a plan which permitted each one to be on trial, and if one-half of these sinned, it would require the other one-half to _____ for them if they were to be redeemed; thus, all would still be dying.

37. Such a plan as suggested above would disarrange for the selection of the body of _____. God would have to set before the ones who would die for the disobedient some special _____ such as that offered to Jesus. The reward of our Lord for his faithfulness is being at the right hand of _____. (Ephesians 1:20-22) If one-half of the human race were exalted to the divine nature, would this be too many in the divine family? _____ Would such a plan allow for one to be the Head of the church? _____ God's plan calls for how many body members of Christ? _____ (Revelation 14:1)

38. It is a great favor to have _____ provided for all through the sacrifice of our dear Redeemer. Evil will be forever _____ when God's purpose in permitting it shall have been accomplished, and when the benefits of the _____ are made co-extensive with the penalty of sin. Is it important to recognize that the penalty of sin is death? _____ Is it necessary to understand the doctrines of ransom and restitution? _____

39. A correct understanding of the doctrines of _____ and of _____ makes it possible to see blessings resulting from the permission of evil.

40. Angels are benefiting by the permission of evil by _____. What are the attributes of God? _____; _____; _____; and _____. Could *justice* violate the divine decree? _____ God's *love* provided his dear _____ to shed his precious blood for mankind. God's *power* and _____ are working out a glorious destiny for his creatures.

41. The permission of _____ makes it possible for Jesus and the church to be rewarded with the divine nature.

42. God's law is briefly comprehended by what word? (Luke 10:27) _____ Ultimately all will understand why God permitted evil, but one now sees by the eye of _____.