

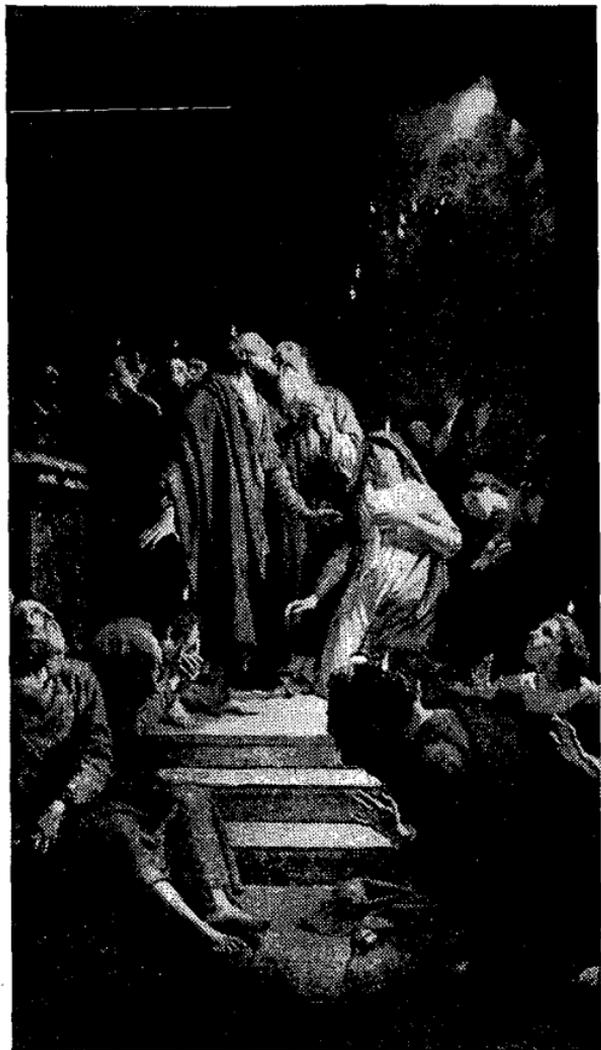
SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON QUARTERLY

W. A. Branson

THIRD QUARTER

1952

The **HOLY SPIRIT**



**SENIOR DIVISION
NUMBER 229**

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**Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, September 27, 1952
CENTRAL EUROPEAN DIVISION**

INDIVIDUAL SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERING GOAL

"As God hath prospered him"

MY WEEKLY GOAL (Check Amount)

	5.00	2.00	1.50	1.00	.50	.40	
<p>"God loveth a cheerful giver"</p> <p>RECORD</p>							
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DAILY LESSON STUDY PLEDGE

As one who greatly desires to improve his knowledge of the Scriptures, I pledge myself to the careful and prayerful study of some portion of my Sabbath school lesson each day of the week.

Name _____

Place a check mark in each space below for the days you have studied.

STUDY RECORD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1st Day's Study													
2d Day's Study													
3rd Day's Study													
4th Day's Study													
5th Day's Study													
6th Day's Study													
7th Day's Study													

"Let the Sabbath school lesson be learned, not by a hasty glance at the lesson scripture on Sabbath morning, but by careful study for the next week on Sabbath afternoon, with daily review or illustration during the week. Thus the lesson will become fixed in the memory, a treasure never to be wholly lost."—"Education," pgs 251, 252.

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Sabbath School Lesson Quarterly

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Lesson 1, for July 5, 1952

Personality and Deity of the Holy Spirit

MEMORY VERSE: "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" 1 Cor. 6:19.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, "The Holy Spirit," chapter 1.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

1. General survey of the lesson; memorize 1 Cor. 6:19.
2. Questions 1-4.
3. Questions 5, 6.
4. Questions 7-10.
5. Read "The Holy Spirit," chapter 1.
6. Questions 11-13.
7. Review the entire lesson.

A Divine Mystery

1. How inadequate is the unaided human mind to understand the Godhead? Rom. 11:33, 34; Isa. 40:28.

NOTE.—"Man cannot by searching find out God. Let none seek with presumptuous hand to lift the veil that conceals His glory. 'Unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out.' It is a proof of His mercy that there is the hiding of His power; for to lift the veil that conceals the divine presence is death. No mortal mind can penetrate the secrecy in which the Mighty One dwells and works. Only that which He sees fit to reveal can we comprehend of Him. Reason must acknowledge an authority superior to itself. Heart and intellect must bow to the great I AM."—*The Ministry of Healing*, page 438.

2. How many persons comprise the eternal Godhead? Matt. 28:19.

NOTE.—"There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these powers will co-operate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ."—*Special Testimonies*, Series B, No. 7, p. 63.

"The Godhead, or Trinity, consists of the Eternal Father, a personal, spiritual Being, omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient, infinite in wisdom and love; the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Eternal Father, through whom all things were created and through whom the salvation of the redeemed hosts will be accomplished; the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Godhead, the great regenerating power in the work of redemption. (Matt. 28:19)."—*Church Manual*, page 29.

3. How much of the mystery surrounding the personality of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit is open to our study? Deut. 29:29; 1 Cor. 2:11, 12.

NOTE.—“The revelation of Himself that God has given in His word is for our study. This we may seek to understand. But beyond this we are not to penetrate. The highest intellect may tax itself until it is wearied out in conjectures regarding the nature of God; but the effort will be fruitless. This problem has not been given us to solve. No human mind can comprehend God. Let not finite man attempt to interpret Him. Let none indulge in speculation regarding His nature. Here silence is eloquence. The Omniscient One is above discussion.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 8, p. 279.

4. What attribute of Deity belongs to the Holy Spirit? Heb. 9:14. See also 1 Tim. 1:17.

ANSWER: He, like the Father and Son, is eternal.

Personality of the Holy Spirit

5. What Scriptural evidence do we have of the personality of the Holy Spirit? John 14:26.

NOTE.—“It is not essential for us to be able to define just what the Holy Spirit is. Christ tells us that the Spirit is the Comforter, ‘the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father.’ It is plainly declared regarding the Holy Spirit, that in His work of guiding men into all truth, ‘He shall not speak of Himself.’”—*The Acts of the Apostles*, page 51.

“The Spirit of God certainly acts as a person and is presented to us as a person, throughout the Old Testament. In no passage is He conceived otherwise than personally—as a free, willing, intelligent being.”—Benjamin B. Warfield, *Biblical Doctrines*, page 125.

6. How do the words of Peter to Ananias show that the Holy Spirit is a divine Person? Acts 5:3, 4.

Activities of the Holy Spirit

7. What are some of the personal activities of the Holy Spirit? John 16:7, 8, 13.

NOTE.—“The Spirit is constantly seeking to draw the attention of men to the great offering that was made on the cross of Calvary, to unfold to the world the love of God, and to open to the convicted soul the precious things of the Scriptures.

“Having brought conviction of sin, and presented before the mind the standard of righteousness, the Holy Spirit withdraws the affections from the things of this earth, and fills the soul with a desire for holiness. ‘He will guide you into all truth,’ the Saviour declared. If men are willing to be molded, there will be brought about a sanctification of the whole being. The

Spirit will take the things of God and stamp them on the soul. By His power the way of life will be made so plain that none need err therein."—*The Acts of the Apostles*, pages 52, 53.

8. What works of Deity are performed by the Holy Spirit?

ANSWER: (a) He speaks as God. 2 Sam. 23:2, 3.

(b) He convicts of sin, righteousness, judgment. John 16:8-11.

(c) He guides in church affairs. Acts 13:2-4.

9. Who searches and tries the heart of man? 1 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 2:18, 23; 1 Cor. 2:9-11.

NOTE.—The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—the fullness of the Godhead—are unitedly engaged in the divine work of redemption.

10. What part is acted by the Holy Spirit in conversion? Rev. 22:17; 1 Cor. 6:11.

The Dwelling Place of the Holy Spirit

11. What earthly dwelling place is provided for the Holy Spirit? 1 Cor. 3:16, 17; 6:19.

NOTE.—“As at Jerusalem the holy of holies, though it contained no image of God, was for Israel the divine dwelling place on earth; so the Christian congregation in every place where the church had been planted, and even the body of the individual believer, had become a holy place, a sanctuary of the divine Spirit which dwells in the Ecclesia collectively and in its members as individuals. Both collectively and individually believers are in virtue of their baptism consecrated shrines of the presence of God, and in both capacities it is laid upon them to guard the sanctity of the divine abode.”—H. B. Swete, *The Holy Spirit in the New Testament*, pages 180, 181.

“From eternal ages it was God’s purpose that every created being, from the bright and holy seraph to man, should be a temple for the indwelling of the Creator. Because of sin, humanity ceased to be a temple for God. Darkened and defiled by evil, the heart of man no longer revealed the glory of the divine One. But by the incarnation of the Son of God, the purpose of Heaven is fulfilled. God dwells in humanity, and through saving grace the heart of man becomes again His temple. . . . His presence will cleanse and sanctify the soul, so that it may be a holy temple unto the Lord, and ‘an habitation of God through the Spirit.’”—*The Desire of Ages*, pages 161, 162.

12. What threefold assurance does Jesus give of the divine presence in the heart of the believer? John 14:16-18, 23.

NOTE.—“Those who see Christ in His true character, and receive Him into the heart, have everlasting life. It is through the Spirit that Christ dwells in us; and the Spirit of God, received into the heart by faith, is the beginning of the life eternal.”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 388.

13. In what words does Scripture record the Holy Spirit's final gracious call to men? Rev. 22:17.

NOTE.—“The same divine mind that is working upon the things of nature is speaking to the hearts of men, and creating an inexpressible craving for something they have not. The things of the world cannot satisfy their longing. The Spirit of God is pleading with them to seek for those things that alone can give peace and rest,—the grace of Christ, the joy of holiness. . . . To all these souls, who are vainly seeking to drink from the broken cisterns of this world, the divine message is addressed, ‘Let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.’”—*Steps to Christ*, pages 31, 32.

Lesson 2, for July 12, 1952

The Holy Spirit and the Scriptures

MEMORY VERSE: “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” 2 Peter 1:21.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, “The Holy Spirit,” chapter 2.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

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| 1. General survey of the lesson;
memorize 2 Peter 1:21. | 4. Read “The Holy Spirit,” chapter 2. |
| 2. Questions 1-4. | 5. Questions 8-10. |
| 3. Questions 5-7. | 6. Questions 11-14. |
| | 7. Review the entire lesson. |

The Scriptures and Their Divine Authorship

1. What is comprehended by the term “Scriptures”? Luke 24:27, 44, 45; 2 Peter 3:16.

NOTE.—“Beginning at Moses, the very Alpha of Bible history, Christ expounded in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. Had He first made Himself known to them, their hearts would have been satisfied. In the fullness of their joy they would have hungered for nothing more. But it was necessary for them to understand the witness borne to Him by the types and prophecies of the Old Testament. Upon these their faith must be established. Christ performed no miracle to convince them, but it was His first work to explain the Scriptures. They had looked upon His death as the destruction of all their hopes. Now He showed from the prophets that this was the very strongest evidence for their faith.”—*The Desire of Ages*, pages 796, 799.

2. Give examples of Scripture authorship by the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:16; 28:25-28; Heb. 3:7, 8.

3. What does the apostle Paul say about the authorship of the Scriptures? 2 Tim. 3:16, 17.

NOTE.—“The idea that certain portions of the Bible cannot be understood has led to neglect of some of its most important truths. The fact needs to be

emphasized, and often repeated, that the mysteries of the Bible are not such because God has sought to conceal truth, but because our own weakness or ignorance makes us incapable of comprehending or appropriating truth. The limitation is not in His purpose, but in our capacity. Of those very portions of Scripture often passed by as impossible to be understood, God desires us to understand as much as our minds are capable of receiving. 'All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,' that we may be 'thoroughly furnished unto all good works.'—*Education*, page 171.

4. How were the Holy Scriptures given? 2 Peter 1:21.

NOTE.—"The scribes of God wrote as they were dictated by the Holy Spirit, having no control of the work themselves. They penned the literal truth, and stern, forbidding facts are revealed for reasons that our finite minds cannot fully comprehend. It is one of the best evidences of the authenticity of the Scriptures that the truth is not glossed over, nor the sins of its chief characters suppressed."—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 9.

Preservation and Fulfillment of the Scriptures

5. How were the prophecies and divine messages preserved? Hab. 2:2; Jer. 36:1, 2; Deut. 10:4, 5.

6. How closely were these Old Testament prophecies related to the earthly life of the Saviour? Matt. 1:22; 2:15, 23; 4:14; 8:17. Compare 1 Peter 1:11.

NOTE.—"It is the voice of Christ that speaks through patriarchs and prophets, from the days of Adam even to the closing scenes of time. The Saviour is revealed in the Old Testament as clearly as in the New. It is the light from the prophetic past that brings out the life of Christ and the teachings of the New Testament with clearness and beauty. The miracles of Christ are a proof of His divinity; but a stronger proof that He is the world's Redeemer is found in comparing the prophecies of the Old Testament with the history of the New."—*The Desire of Ages*, pages 799.

7. What authority did Jesus constantly use? Matt. 4:1-10; 21:42; Mark 7:6.

NOTE.—"Jesus met Satan with the words of Scripture. 'It is written,' He said. In every temptation the weapon of His warfare was the word of God. Satan demanded of Christ a miracle as a sign of His divinity. But that which is greater than all miracles, a firm reliance upon a 'thus saith the Lord,' was a sign that could not be controverted. So long as Christ held to this position, the tempter could gain no advantage."—*The Desire of Ages*, page 120.

Testimony of the Scriptures

8. Of whom do the Scriptures testify? John 5:39.

NOTE.—“Jesus said of the Old Testament Scriptures,—and how much more is it true of the New,—‘They are they which testify of Me,’ the Redeemer, Him in whom our hopes of eternal life are centered. Yes, the whole Bible tells of Christ. From the first record of creation,—for ‘without Him was not anything made that was made,’—to the closing promise, ‘Behold, I come quickly,’ we are reading of His works and listening to His voice. If you would become acquainted with the Saviour, study the Holy Scriptures.”
—*Steps to Christ*, pages 92, 93.

9. Of whom does the Holy Spirit testify? John 15:26.

10. What should be our attitude to the testimony of the Scriptures? 2 Chron. 20:20, last part; 1 Thess. 2:13.

Power of the Scriptures

11. What effective weapon is wielded by the Holy Spirit? Heb. 4:12.

12. In Paul’s admonition to Timothy, what saving power does he attribute to the Scriptures? 2 Tim. 3:15.

13. By what powers are the new birth and sanctification effected? John 3:5; 1 Peter 1:23; Eph. 5:26.

NOTE.—“What Jesus said in justification of His doctrine of the new birth is equally applicable to the doctrine of inspiration: ‘That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.’ Educate, develop, and refine the natural man to the highest possible point, and yet he is not a spiritual man till, through the new birth, the Holy Ghost renews and indwells him. So of literature; however elevated its tone, however lofty its thought, it is not Scripture. Scripture is literature indwelt by the Spirit of God. The absence of the Holy Ghost from any writing constitutes the impassable gulf between it and Scripture. Our Lord, in speaking of His own doctrine, uses the same language, to show its separateness from common teaching which He employs above to mark the distinction of the new man. He says: ‘It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing; the words that I have spoken unto you are spirit, and are life.’ (John 6:63, R.V.)”
—A. J. Gordon, *The Ministry of the Spirit*, pages 169, 170.

14. In what service of consolation are the Scriptures and the Holy Spirit united? Acts 9:31; Rom. 15:4.

The senior Sabbath-school lessons, slightly condensed, are published each quarter in Braille, and they are supplied free to the blind upon request. Address: The Christian Record Benevolent Association, Box 66, Lincoln 6, Nebraska.

The Holy Spirit From Creation to Christ

MEMORY VERSE: "And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them." Ezek. 36:27.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

1. General survey of the lesson; memorize Ezek. 36:27.
2. Questions 1-3.
3. Questions 4, 5.
4. Questions 6-9.
5. Questions 10-12.
6. Questions 13, 14.
7. Review the entire lesson.

Holy Spirit in Creation

1. How early in the creation story do we find the Spirit of God mentioned? Gen. 1:2.
2. How does Job speak of the Spirit as an active associate in the work of creation? Job 26:13.
3. What particular act of creation indicates that man was made to be a temple of the Holy Spirit? Gen. 1:27; 2:7. Compare John 20:22; 1 Cor. 6:19.

NOTE.—"Through Christ was to be fulfilled the purpose of which the tabernacle was a symbol,—that glorious building, its walls of glistening gold reflecting in rainbow hues the curtains inwrought with cherubim, the fragrance of ever-burning incense pervading all, the priests robed in spotless white, and in the deep mystery of the inner place, above the mercy seat, between the figures of the bowed, worshiping angels, the glory of the Holiest. In all, God desired His people to read His purpose for the human soul. It was the same purpose long afterward set forth by the apostle Paul, speaking by the Holy Spirit:

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."—*Education*, page 36.

4. Long before the birth of Christ, what characteristic of the Spirit had been made known? Ps. 139:7-10; 104:30.

NOTE.—"The greatness of God is to us incomprehensible. 'The Lord's throne is in heaven;' yet by His Spirit He is everywhere present. He has an intimate knowledge of, and a personal interest in, all the works of His hand."—*Education*, page 132.

5. Before the Flood, against whom did the antediluvians rebel? Gen. 6:3.

Qualification for Leadership

6. What convinced Pharaoh that Joseph was a fit man for high office in Egypt? Gen. 41:38.

NOTE.—“In all the realm, Joseph was the only man gifted with wisdom to point out the danger that threatened the kingdom, and the preparation necessary to meet it; and the king was convinced that he was the one best qualified to execute the plans which he had proposed. It was evident that a divine power was with him, and that there were none among the king's officers of state so well qualified to conduct the affairs of the nation at this crisis. The fact that he was a Hebrew and a slave, was of little moment when weighed against his evident wisdom and sound judgment.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 221.

7. When God directed Moses to share his responsibilities with other leaders, what special provision did He make? Num. 11:16, 17, 24, 25.

8. When the tabernacle was to be built, who was appointed as master workman, and how was he fitted for his duties? Ex. 31:1-5.

NOTE.—“The skillful touch of the physician's hand, his power over nerve and muscle, his knowledge of the delicate organism of the body, is the wisdom of divine power, to be used in behalf of the suffering. The skill with which the carpenter uses the hammer, the strength with which the blacksmith makes the anvil ring, comes from God. He has entrusted men with talents, and He expects them to look to Him for counsel. Whatever we do, in whatever department of the work we are placed, He desires to control our minds, that we may do perfect work.”—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 349.

9. What distinguished Caleb and Joshua from the unbelieving spies? Num. 14:22-24; 27:18.

Essential to Victory

10. What was the great concern of David as he yearned for a life of victory? Ps. 51:11.

11. What made it impossible for God to bring the fullness of blessing to Israel? Isa. 63:10.

12. How does the prophet Isaiah predict the future work of the Holy Spirit in the life and ministry of Christ? Isa. 11:1, 2; 61:1-3.

Fullness of Blessing Foretold for Last Days

13. How does the prophet Joel envision the activities of the Holy Spirit in the last days? Joel 2:28, 29. Compare Acts 2:16-19. See *The Acts of the Apostles*, page 54, last paragraph.

14. What victorious experience does Ezekiel declare will come to God's people? Ezek. 36:26, 27.

NOTE.—“Every time a soul is converted, and learns to love God and keep His commandments, the promise of God is fulfilled, ‘A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you.’ The change in human hearts, the transformation of human characters, is a miracle that reveals an ever-living Saviour, working to rescue souls. A consistent life in Christ is a great miracle. In the preaching of the word of God, the sign that should be manifest now and always is the presence of the Holy Spirit, to make the word a regenerating power to those that hear. This is God's witness before the world to the divine mission of His Son.”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 407.

Lesson 4, for July 26, 1952

The Holy Spirit in the Life and Ministry of Christ

MEMORY VERSE: “And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.” Isa. 11:2.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, “The Holy Spirit,” chapter 3.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. General survey of the lesson;
memorize Isa. 11:2. | 4. Read “The Holy Spirit,” chapter 3. |
| 2. Questions 1-3. | 5. Questions 7-10. |
| 3. Questions 4-6. | 6. Questions 11-13. |
| | 7. Review the entire lesson. |

The Incarnation

1. What does the prophet Isaiah foretell regarding the power of the Holy Spirit in the life and work of the Messiah? Isa. 11:2.

2. When the fullness of time came, how did the Son of God join the human family? Heb. 10:5; Phil. 2:5-7; Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:30, 31.

NOTE.—“In these words is announced the fulfillment of the purpose that had been hidden from eternal ages. Christ was about to visit our world, and to become incarnate. He says, ‘A body hast Thou prepared Me.’ Had He appeared with the glory that was His with the Father before the world was, we could not have endured the light of His presence. That we might behold it and not be destroyed, the manifestation of His glory was shrouded. His divinity was veiled with humanity,—the invisible glory in the visible human form.”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 23.

3. By what divine agency did Mary become the mother of Christ? Luke 1:34, 35.

Christ Identified With Humanity

4. How fully did the Saviour identify Himself with mankind? Heb. 2:14-18.

NOTE.—“Taking humanity upon Him, Christ came to be one with humanity and at the same time to reveal our heavenly Father to sinful human beings. He was in all things made like unto His brethren. He became flesh, even as we are. He was hungry and thirsty and weary. He was sustained by food and refreshed by sleep. He shared the lot of men, and yet He was the blameless Son of God. He was a stranger and sojourner on the earth—in the world, but not of the world; tempted and tried as men and women today are tempted and tried, yet living a life free from sin.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 8, p. 286.

5. What human experiences and trials was Jesus called upon to endure? Heb. 4:15; Isa. 53:3, 4; John 4:6; Mark 4:38.

6. When Jesus was baptized, what was seen to descend upon Him? Matt. 3:16, 17.

NOTE.—“Of the vast throng at the Jordan, few except John discerned the heavenly vision. Yet the solemnity of the divine Presence rested upon the assembly. The people stood silently gazing upon Christ. His form was bathed in the light that ever surrounds the throne of God. His upturned face was glorified as they had never before seen the face of man. From the open heavens a voice was heard saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’ . . . John recognized the token which God had promised. He knew that it was the world’s Redeemer whom he had baptized. The Holy Spirit rested upon him, and with outstretched hand pointing to Jesus, he cried, ‘Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.’” —*The Desire of Ages*, page 112.

His Spirit-Filled Ministry

7. What does Luke declare regarding the Holy Spirit in the life of the Saviour? Luke 4:1; Acts 10:38.

NOTE.—“Jesus lived in dependence upon God and communion with Him. To the secret place of the Most High, under the shadow of the Almighty, men now and then repair; they abide for a season, and the result is manifest in noble deeds; then their faith fails, the communion is interrupted, and the lifework marred. But the life of Jesus was a life of constant trust, sustained by continual communion; and His service for heaven and earth was without failure or faltering.

“As a man He supplicated the throne of God, till His humanity was charged with a heavenly current that connected humanity with divinity. Receiving life from God, He imparted life to men.”—*Education*, pages 80, 81.

8. During the wilderness temptation, to what authority did Christ constantly appeal? Matt. 4:4, 7, 10. What is the word of God said to be? Eph. 6:17.

NOTE.—“The work of the Holy Spirit is to enlighten the darkened understanding, to melt the selfish, stony heart, to subdue the rebellious transgressor, and save him from the corrupting influences of the world. The prayer of Christ for His disciples was: ‘Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy word is truth.’ The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, pierces the heart of the sinner and cuts it in pieces.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 441.

9. What power enabled the Saviour to cast out devils? Matt. 12:28, 29.

NOTE.—“The Pharisees had reiterated the charge, ‘He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils.’ Christ told them plainly that in attributing the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan, they were cutting themselves off from the fountain of blessing. Those who had spoken against Jesus Himself, not discerning His divine character, might receive forgiveness; for through the Holy Spirit they might be brought to see their error and repent. . . . They [the Jewish leaders] were convinced that a divine power attended Christ, but in order to resist the truth, they attributed the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan. In doing this they deliberately chose deception; they yielded themselves to Satan, and henceforth they were controlled by his power.”—*The Desire of Ages*, pages 321, 322.

10. In the Nazareth synagogue how did Jesus speak of His Spirit-filled ministry? Luke 4:18, 19.

Enabling Power in Death and Resurrection

11. What do the Scriptures say regarding the power manifested in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead? 1 Peter 3:18; Rom. 8:11.

12. To whom did Jesus continually refer as His director in all things? John 5:19; 6:57; 10:25.

NOTE.—“Consider the life of Christ. Standing at the head of humanity, serving His Father, He is an example of what every son should and may be. The obedience that Christ rendered God requires from human beings today. He served His Father with love, in willingness and freedom. ‘I delight to do Thy will, O My God,’ He declared; ‘yea, Thy law is within My heart.’ Christ counted no sacrifice too great, no toil too hard, in order to accomplish the work which He came to do. At the age of twelve He said, ‘Wist ye not that I must be about My Father’s business?’ He had heard the call, and had taken up the work. ‘My meat,’ He said, ‘is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work.’”—*Christ’s Object Lessons*, pages 282, 283.

13. What, therefore, was the relationship of the Father and the Holy Spirit to the earthly life and work of the Son? John 10:30; 16:13, 14.

NOTE.—The Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—are united in a supreme effort to save the lost race.

Lesson 5, for August 2, 1952

The Comforter—a New Relationship

MEMORY VERSE: "He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall show it unto you." John 16:14.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, "The Holy Spirit," chapter 4.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

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| 1. General survey of the lesson;
memorize John 16:14. | 4. Read "The Holy Spirit," chapter 4. |
| 2. Questions 1-3. | 5. Questions 7-9. |
| 3. Questions 4-6. | 6. Questions 10-12. |
| | 7. Review the entire lesson. |

Related in Nature and Work

1. What did Jesus tell the woman of Samaria regarding the nature of God? John 4:24.

NOTE.—"The mighty power that works through all nature and sustains all things is not, as some men of science represent, merely an all-pervading principle, an actuating energy. God is a spirit; yet He is a personal being, for man was made in His image."—*Testimonies*, vol. 8, p. 263.

"From the beginning God has been working by His Holy Spirit through human instrumentalities for the accomplishment of His purpose in behalf of the fallen race. This was manifest in the lives of the patriarchs. To the church in the wilderness also, in the time of Moses, God gave His 'good Spirit to instruct them.'"—*The Acts of the Apostles*, page 53.

2. How did Jesus speak of His relationship to God the Father? John 10:15, 30; Matt. 11:27.

3. What may be said of the work of the Spirit in co-operation with the Father and Son? 1 Peter 1:2.

NOTE.—"The religion that comes from God is the only religion that will lead to God. In order to serve Him aright, we must be born of the divine Spirit. This will purify the heart and renew the mind, giving us a new capacity for knowing and loving God. It will give us a willing obedience to all His requirements. This is true worship. It is the fruit of the working of the Holy Spirit."—*The Desire of Ages*, page 189,

4. How had the Holy Spirit been manifested during the earthly mission of Christ? John 3:34, 35; Luke 3:22.

NOTE.—“In this glory of Christ all His followers are to share. The Saviour could say, ‘I seek not Mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent Me.’ And John declared, ‘God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto Him.’ So with the followers of Christ. We can receive of heaven’s light only as we are willing to be emptied of self. We can discern the character of God, and accept Christ by faith, only as we consent to the bringing into captivity of every thought to the obedience of Christ. And to all who do this, the Holy Spirit is given without measure. In Christ ‘dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.’ And ye are complete in Him.”—*Gospel Workers*, page 57.

5. How did the disciples feel when Jesus spoke of leaving them? John 16:5, 6.

NOTE.—“They knew that His personal presence was no longer to be with them, and they recognized, as they had never recognized before, the value of the opportunities that had been theirs to walk and talk with the Sent of God. Many of His lessons, when spoken, they had not appreciated or understood; now they longed to recall these lessons, to hear again His words.”—*Education*, page 94.

6. As the time approached for Jesus to return to His Father, what announcement was made to the disciples? John 16:7, first part.

Coming of the Comforter

7. What advantage would be enjoyed as a result of the Saviour’s departure? John 16:7, last part.

NOTE.—“The Holy Spirit is Christ’s representative, but divested of the personality of humanity, and independent thereof. Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally. Therefore it was for their interest that He should go to the Father, and send the Spirit to be His successor on earth. No one could then have any advantage because of his location or his personal contact with Christ. By the Spirit the Saviour would be accessible to all. In this sense He would be nearer to them than if He had not ascended on high.”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 669.

8. Who is the Comforter said to be? John 14:26.

NOTE.—At Pentecost “the Spirit came upon the waiting, praying disciples with a fullness that reached every heart. The Infinite One revealed Himself in power to His church. It was as if for ages this influence had been held in restraint, and now Heaven rejoiced in being able to pour out upon the church the riches of the Spirit’s grace.”—*The Acts of the Apostles*, page 38.

9. What change took place in the relation of the Holy Spirit to mankind when Jesus was glorified? John 16:13, 14; 15:26.

NOTE.—“When Christ passed within the heavenly gates, He was enthroned amidst the adoration of the angels. As soon as this ceremony was completed, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in rich currents, and Christ was indeed glorified, even with the glory which He had with the Father from all eternity. The Pentecostal outpouring was Heaven’s communication that the Redeemer’s inauguration was accomplished. According to His promise He had sent the Holy Spirit from heaven to His followers, as a token that He had, as priest and king, received all authority in heaven and on earth, and was the Anointed One over His people.”—*The Acts of the Apostles*, pages 38, 39.

10. In what capacity was the Holy Spirit to be revealed to the church? John 14:26.

NOTE.—“Thus it is clearly revealed by a multitude of witnesses that henceforth the presence of the Spirit in the church, or in the heart of the believer, was to be as the very presence of Jesus Himself. He comes in Jesus’s name, speaks Jesus’s words, ministers Jesus’s life to the heart, carries on Jesus’s work, and testifies of Jesus’s power in working out our salvation. So Paul could truly say, ‘Christ liveth in me,’ although the personal Christ was seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven.

“It was in this sense that the Holy Ghost had not been given before Pentecost. He was to assume an entirely new relationship, taking Christ’s place as head of the church upon earth, while Christ ascended to take up His work as our great high Priest in the sanctuary above, and to act as our advocate before the Father. Thus He could be personally present with the Father, and at the same time spiritually present with every believer.”—*The Holy Spirit*, page 46.

11. How are we made children of God? Rom. 8:14-16.

12. With whom does the Lord dwell? Isa. 57:15.

Lesson 6, for August 9, 1952

The Comforter at Work

MEMORY VERSE: “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.” John 14:26.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, “The Holy Spirit,” chapter 5.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

1. General survey of the lesson;
 memorize John 14:26.
2. Questions 1-3.
3. Questions 4-6.
4. Read “The Holy Spirit,” chapter 5.
5. Questions 7-10.
6. Questions 11-14.
7. Review the entire lesson.

The Abiding Presence Within

1. How permanent was the gift of the Comforter to be? John 14:16.

2. In addition to abiding with the believer, what still closer relationship is assured? John 14:17.

NOTE.—“Henceforth through the Spirit, Christ was to abide continually in the hearts of His children. Their union with Him was closer than when He was personally with them. The light, and love, and power of the indwelling Christ shone out through them, so that men, beholding, ‘marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.’”—*Steps to Christ*, page 80.

3. To what extent would the Comforter carry on the work which Christ had begun? John 14:26.

Convicts of Sin

4. As enumerated by Jesus, what is the first of the three vital services which the Comforter renders to the world in general? John 16:8.

NOTE.—“Man is responsible for receiving or rejecting sacred and eternal truth. The Spirit of God is continually convicting, and souls are deciding for or against the truth. How important, then, that every act of life be such that it need not be repented of, especially among the ambassadors of Christ, who are acting in His stead!”—*Gospel Workers*, page 174.

5. What instrument is used by the Holy Spirit in convincing men of sin? Ps. 19:7; Rom. 3:20; 7:7.

NOTE.—“In the new birth the heart is brought into harmony with God, as it is brought into accord with His law. When this mighty change has taken place in the sinner, he has passed from death unto life, from sin unto holiness, from transgression and rebellion to obedience and loyalty. The old life of alienation from God has ended; the new life of reconciliation, of faith and love, has begun. Then ‘the righteousness of the law’ will ‘be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.’”—*The Great Controversy*, page 468.

6. How was Jesus enabled to bring deliverance to the convicted sinner? Luke 4:18.

Establishes Righteousness in the Heart

7. What does Jesus enumerate as the second work of the Comforter? John 16:8, 10.

8. How was this work of righteousness, or regeneration, explained to Nicodemus? John 3:3-7.

NOTE.—“Jesus laid bare the foundation principles of truth. He said to Nicodemus, It is not theoretical knowledge you need so much as spiritual regeneration. You need not to have your curiosity satisfied, but to have a new heart. You must receive a new life from above before you can appreciate heavenly things.”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 171.

“There is no safety for one who has merely a legal religion, a form of godliness. The Christian’s life is not a modification or improvement of the old, but a transformation of nature. There is a death to self and sin, and a new life altogether. This change can be brought about only by the effectual working of the Holy Spirit.”—*Ibid.*, p. 172.

9. When the righteousness of Christ has been accepted through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, what does the body of the believer become? 1 Cor. 6:19; Gal. 2:20.

NOTE.—“He whose body is the temple of the Holy Spirit will not be enslaved by a pernicious habit. His powers belong to Christ, who has bought him with the price of blood. His property is the Lord’s.”—*The Great Controversy*, page 475.

10. In order to maintain this blessed experience and to grow in grace, what is our daily necessity? Luke 9:23; Rom. 6:11.

NOTE.—Christ “requires the whole heart, the entire affections. The exhibitions of zeal, earnestness, and unselfish labor which His devoted followers have given to the world should kindle our ardor and lead us to emulate their example. Genuine religion gives an earnestness and fixedness of purpose which molds the character to the divine image and enables us to count all things but loss for the excellency of Christ. This singleness of purpose will prove an element of tremendous power.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p. 307.

“When the light is received and acted upon, you will be crucified to sin, being dead indeed unto the world, but alive to God. Your idols will be abandoned, and your example will be on the side of self-denial rather than that of self-indulgence.”—*Ibid.*, p. 436.

Convinces of Impending Judgment

11. What is mentioned as the third accomplishment of the Comforter? John 16:8, 11.

12. Who is referred to as the prince of this world? John 12:31, 32.

NOTE.—“With prophetic eye Christ traced the scenes to take place in His last great conflict. He knew that when He should exclaim, ‘It is finished,’ all heaven would triumph. His ear caught the distant music and the shouts of

victory in the heavenly courts. He knew that the knell of Satan's empire would then be sounded, and the name of Christ would be heralded from world to world throughout the universe."—*The Desire of Ages*, page 679.

13. What event marks the final overthrow of the power of evil? Rev. 20:10, 14, 15; Matt. 25:41.

The Spirit's Gracious Invitation

14. In offering to man the riches of God's saving grace, what invitation is given by the Holy Spirit? Rev. 22:17.

NOTE.—"The Spirit of God is pleading with them [the hearts of men] to seek for those things that alone can give peace and rest,—the grace of Christ, the joy of holiness. Through influences seen and unseen, our Saviour is constantly at work to attract the minds of men from the unsatisfying pleasures of sin to the infinite blessings that may be theirs in Him. To all these souls, who are vainly seeking to drink from the broken cisterns of this world, the divine message is addressed, 'Let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.'"—*Steps to Christ*, page 32.

Lesson 7, for August 16, 1952

Pentecost—The Early Rain

MEMORY VERSE: "Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, He hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear." Acts 2:33.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, "The Holy Spirit," chapter 6.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

1. General survey of the lesson; memorize Acts 2:33.
2. Questions 1-5.
3. Questions 6-9.
4. Read "The Holy Spirit," chapter 6.
5. Questions 10, 11.
6. Questions 12-14.
7. Review the entire lesson.

The Glorification of Christ

1. What was necessary before the special gift of the Holy Spirit could be bestowed upon the church? John 7:39.

2. What earnest request did Jesus present in His prayer at the time of the Last Supper? John 17:1.

3. Upon what accomplishment did Jesus base His petition to be glorified? John 17:4, 5.

NOTE.—“Christ had finished the work that was given Him to do. He had glorified God on the earth. He had manifested the Father's name. He had gathered out those who were to continue His work among men. And He said, ‘I am glorified in them.’”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 680.

4. Although a brief visit to the Father had assured Jesus that His sacrifice was accepted (John 20:17), what period elapsed between the resurrection and the final ascension? Acts 1:3.

NOTE.—“Jesus quickly ascended to His Father to hear from His lips that He accepted the sacrifice, and to receive all power in heaven and upon earth.

“Angels like a cloud surrounded the Son of God, and bade the everlasting gates be lifted up, that the King of glory might come in. I saw that while Jesus was with that bright heavenly host, in the presence of God, and surrounded by His glory, He did not forget His disciples upon the earth, but received power from His Father, that He might return and impart power to them. The same day He returned, and showed Himself to His disciples. He suffered them then to touch Him; for He had ascended to His Father, and had received power.”—*Early Writings*, pages 187, 188.

5. What took place at Christ's ascension? Mark 16:19; Ps. 24:7-10; Phil. 2:9-11.

Tarry in Jerusalem for the Gift

6. What had the disciples been told to do before beginning their work of witnessing? Acts 1:4, 5.

7. Upon what Jewish feast day, and how long after the crucifixion, was the promise of the Father fulfilled? Acts 2:1; Lev. 23:15, 16.

NOTE.—“Christ arose from the dead as the first fruits of those that slept. He was the antitype of the wave sheaf, and His resurrection took place on the very day when the wave sheaf was to be presented before the Lord.”—*The Desire of Ages*, pages 785, 786.

“Barley was the earliest grain in Palestine, and at the opening of the [Passover] feast it was beginning to ripen. A sheaf of this grain was waved by the priest before the altar of God, as an acknowledgment that all was His. Not until this ceremony had been performed was the harvest to be gathered. Fifty days from the offering of first fruits, came the Pentecost, called also the feast of harvest and the feast of weeks.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pages 539, 540.

8. Describe the Pentecostal visitation. Acts 2:1-4.

NOTE.—“On the Day of Pentecost the Infinite One revealed Himself in power to the church. By His Holy Spirit He descended from the heights of heaven as a rushing, mighty wind, to the room in which the disciples were assembled. It was as if for ages this influence had been held in restraint, and

now heaven rejoiced in being able to pour upon the church the riches of the Spirit's power."—*Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 31.

9. How does Peter show that Pentecost was a fulfillment of the Saviour's promise and a result of His glorification? Acts 2:32, 33.

Early Rain Prepared for World Witness

10. For what work was the early church now prepared? Mark 16:15-18; Acts 1:4, 5, 8.

NOTE.—“With great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.’ Under their labors were added to the church chosen men, who, receiving the word of truth, consecrated their lives to the work of giving to others the hope that filled their hearts with peace and joy. They could not be restrained or intimidated by threatenings. The Lord spoke through them, and as they went from place to place, the poor had the gospel preached to them, and miracles of divine grace were wrought.”—*The Acts of the Apostles*, page 48.

11. What gift enabled the apostles to reach the multitudes gathered in Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost? Acts 2:6-8.

NOTE.—“Every known tongue was represented by those assembled. This diversity of languages would have been a great hindrance to the proclamation of the gospel; God therefore in a miraculous manner supplied the deficiency of the apostles. The Holy Spirit did for them that which they could not have accomplished for themselves in a lifetime. They could now proclaim the truths of the gospel abroad, speaking with accuracy the languages of those for whom they were laboring. This miraculous gift was a strong evidence to the world that their commission bore the signet of Heaven. From this time forth the language of the disciples was pure, simple, and accurate, whether they spoke in their native tongue or in a foreign language.”—*The Acts of the Apostles*, pages 39, 40.

12. How many were converted at Pentecost? What other results followed? Acts 2:41, 43; 4:33-35.

13. What symbol is used in Scripture to illustrate the work of the Holy Spirit upon the human heart? Ps. 72:6, 7; Joel 2:21-24.

14. As we think of the work of the church as one of seed sowing and harvest, to what may Pentecost be compared? Joel 2:23.

NOTE.—“The outpouring of the Spirit in apostolic days was the ‘former rain,’ and glorious was the result.”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 827.

“In the East the former rain falls at the sowing time. It is necessary in order that the seed may germinate. Under the influence of the fertilizing showers, the tender shoot springs up. The latter rain, falling near the close of the season, ripens the grain, and prepares it for the sickle. The Lord employs these operations of nature to represent the work of the Holy Spirit.

As the dew and the rain are given first to cause the seed to germinate, and then to ripen the harvest, so the Holy Spirit is given to carry forward, from one stage to another, the process of spiritual growth."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, page 506.

Lesson 8, for August 23, 1952

The Apostasy: Loss of the Spirit's Power

MEMORY VERSE: "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Eph. 4:30.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, "The Holy Spirit," chapter 7.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

1. General survey of the lesson; memorize Eph. 4:30.
2. Questions 1-3.
3. Questions 4-7.
4. Read "The Holy Spirit," chapter 7.
5. Questions 8-10.
6. Questions 11, 12.
7. Review the entire lesson.

Apostasy Foretold

1. Against what danger must the church continually be on guard? Rev. 2:4, 5.

NOTE.—"Christ ascended to heaven and sent His Holy Spirit to give power to the work of His disciples. Thousands were converted in a day. In a single generation the gospel was carried to every nation under heaven. But little by little a change came. The church lost her first love. She became selfish and ease-loving. The spirit of worldliness was cherished. The enemy cast his spell upon those to whom God had given light for a world in darkness, light which should have shone forth in good works. The world was robbed of the blessings that God desired men to receive."—*Testimonies*, vol. 8, p. 26.

2. How did the apostles foretell the apostasy that would overtake the church? 2 Thess. 2:3; 2 Peter 2:1, 2.

NOTE.—"Almost imperceptibly the customs of heathenism found their way into the Christian church. The spirit of compromise and conformity was restrained for a time by the fierce persecutions which the church endured under paganism. But as persecution ceased, and Christianity entered the courts and palaces of kings, she laid aside the humble simplicity of Christ and His apostles for the pomp and pride of pagan priests and rulers; and in place of the requirements of God, she substituted human theories and traditions. The nominal conversion of Constantine, in the early part of the fourth century, caused great rejoicing; and the world, cloaked with a form of righteousness, walked into the church."—*The Great Controversy*, pages 49, 50.

3. What evil work would be done by the man of sin? 2 Thess. 2:3 (last part), 4.

NOTE.—“The work of corruption rapidly progressed. Paganism, while appearing to be vanquished, became the conqueror. Her spirit controlled the church. Her doctrines, ceremonies, and superstitions were incorporated into the faith and worship of the professed followers of Christ.

“This compromise between paganism and Christianity resulted in the development of the ‘man of sin’ foretold in prophecy as opposing and exalting himself above God. That gigantic system of false religion is a masterpiece of Satan’s power,—a monument of his efforts to seat himself upon the throne to rule the earth according to his will.”—*The Great Controversy*, page 50.

4. How does John the revelator describe the work of the apostate? Rev. 13:5-8.

NOTE.—“In the sixth century the papacy had become firmly established. Its seat of power was fixed in the imperial city, and the bishop of Rome was declared to be the head over the entire church. Paganism had given place to the papacy. The dragon had given to the beast ‘his power, and his seat, and great authority.’”—*The Great Controversy*, page 54.

5. For how long a time would the deceiver exercise his power? 2 Thess. 2:7, 8; Rev. 12:6; 13:5.

NOTE.—“Now began the 1260 years of papal oppression foretold in the prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation. Christians were forced to choose either to yield their integrity and accept the papal ceremonies and worship, or to wear away their lives in dungeons or suffer death by the rack, the fagot, or the headsman’s ax.”—*The Great Controversy*, page 54.

6. What will be the fate of those who are without the love of the truth? 2 Thess. 2:10-12.

7. Who is our Guide to the truth? John 16:13.

NOTE.—Those, therefore, who have not the love of the truth, whose love is grown cold, or who have left their first love, are in danger of grieving the Holy Spirit and losing His guidance.

Persecution by Apostate Power

8. What is prophesied by Daniel regarding this apostate power as represented by the little horn? Dan. 7:25, R.V.

NOTE.—“Says Daniel, of the little horn, the papacy, ‘He shall think to change the times and the law.’ And Paul styled the same power the ‘man of sin,’ who was to exalt himself above God. One prophecy is a complement of the other. Only by changing God’s law could the papacy exalt itself above God; whoever should understandingly keep the law as thus changed would be giving supreme honor to that power by which the change was made. Such an act of obedience to papal laws would be a mark of allegiance to the pope in the place of God. . . .

"The change in the fourth commandment exactly fulfills the prophecy. For this the only authority claimed is that of the church. Here the papal power openly sets itself above God."—*The Great Controversy*, page 446.

9. What would be done to the truth by this same power? Dan. 8:11, 12.

10. As a result of a similar apostasy, what had been withheld from Israel? Jer. 3:1-3.

11. What will characterize the faithful remnant who endure in spite of the forces of evil? Who makes war with them? Rev. 12:17.

NOTE.—"Some who today are living on the earth will see these words fulfilled. The same spirit that in ages past led men to persecute the true church, will in the future lead to the pursuance of a similar course toward those who maintain their loyalty to God. Even now preparations are being made for this last great conflict."—*Prophets and Kings*, page 605.

12. What timely admonitions should be ever before God's people today? 1 Thess. 5:19; Eph. 4:30.

Lesson 9, for August 30, 1952

The Latter Rain

MEMORY VERSE: "Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to everyone grass in the field." Zech. 10:1.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, "The Holy Spirit," chapter 8.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

1. General survey of the lesson; memorize Zech. 10:1.
2. Questions 1-4.
3. Questions 5-7.
4. Read "The Holy Spirit," chapter 8.
5. Questions 8-11.
6. Questions 12-14.
7. Review the entire lesson.

Work of Reform Necessary

1. What condition will prevail in the last days, calling for a demonstration of divine power? Isa. 60:2, first part.

2. How will the church be prepared to disperse the gross darkness of error? Isa. 60:1, 3.

NOTE.—"The day of deliverance is at hand. The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in the behalf

of them whose heart is perfect toward Him.' Among all nations, kindreds, and tongues, He sees men and women who are praying for light and knowledge. Their souls are unsatisfied: long have they fed on ashes. The enemy of all righteousness has turned them aside, and they grope as blind men. But they are honest in heart, and desire to learn a better way. . . .

"The Holy Spirit is implanting the grace of Christ in the heart of many a noble seeker after truth, quickening his sympathies contrary to his nature, contrary to his former education. The 'Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world,' is shining in his soul; and this Light, if heeded, will guide his feet to the kingdom of God."—*Prophets and Kings*, pages 376, 377.

3. What work of reform is called for as the end approaches? Isa. 58:12.

4. What particular truth is to be emphasized by the last-day reformers? Isa. 58:13.

NOTE.—"In the time of the end, every divine institution is to be restored. The breach made in the law at the time the Sabbath was changed by man, is to be repaired. God's remnant people, standing before the world as reformers, are to show that the law of God is the foundation of all enduring reform, and that the Sabbath of the fourth commandment is to stand as a memorial of creation, a constant reminder of the power of God. In clear, distinct lines they are to present the necessity of obedience to all the precepts of the Decalogue. Constrained by the love of Christ, they are to cooperate with Him in building up the waste places. They are to be repairers of the breach, restorers of paths to dwell in."—*Prophets and Kings*, page 678.

Special Outpouring in Last Days

5. What prophecy regarding the Holy Spirit was cited by Peter at Pentecost? Acts 2:16-18; Joel 2:28, 29.

NOTE.—"Joel foretells more explicitly than any other the outpouring of the Spirit upon all flesh (2:28, 29). This prediction has entitled him to be called, as he often is, 'the prophet of Pentecost.'"—George L. Robinson, *The Twelve Minor Prophets*, pages 38, 39.

6. Although Joel's prophecy was partially fulfilled at Pentecost, what indicates that it applies also to the time of the end? Acts 2:19, 20; Joel 2:30, 31.

7. How does Peter further call attention to a special visitation of the Spirit shortly before the second coming of Christ? Acts 3:19, 20.

NOTE.—"I heard those clothed with the armor speak forth the truth with great power. It had effect. Many had been bound; some wives by their husbands, and some children by their parents. The honest who had been prevented from hearing the truth now eagerly laid hold upon it. All fear of their relatives was gone, and the truth alone was exalted to them. They had

been hungering and thirsting for truth; it was dearer and more precious than life. I asked what had made this great change. An angel answered, 'It is the latter rain, the refreshing from the presence of the Lord, the loud cry of the third angel.'—*Early Writings*, page 271.

The Climactic Event

8. What is the culminating event in the work of redemption? Rev. 1:7.

9. What will happen to the righteous dead and living when Jesus comes? 1 Thess. 4:16, 17.

10. What occurs when all nations are gathered before the throne of the glorified Redeemer? Matt. 25:31-34.

NOTE.—“When the Son of man comes, the dead are raised incorruptible, and the living are changed. By this great change they are prepared to receive the kingdom; for Paul says, ‘Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.’ Man in his present state is mortal, corruptible; but the kingdom of God will be incorruptible, enduring forever. Therefore man in his present state cannot enter into the kingdom of God. But when Jesus comes, He confers immortality upon His people; and then He calls them to inherit the kingdom of which they have hitherto been only heirs.”—*The Great Controversy*, pages 322, 323.

11. What work will be completed before these thrilling events take place? Matt. 24:14; Rev. 14:6, 7.

NOTE.—“The whole earth is to be illuminated with the glory of God’s truth. The light is to shine to all lands and all peoples. And it is from those who have received the light that it is to shine forth. The daystar has risen upon us, and we are to flash its light upon the pathway of those in darkness.

“A crisis is right upon us. We must now by the Holy Spirit’s power proclaim the great truths for these last days. It will not be long before everyone will have heard the warning and made his decision. Then shall the end come.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 24.

Preparation to Meet God

12. What warning by the prophet Zephaniah is given regarding the needed preparation to meet the Lord? Zeph. 2:1-3.

NOTE.—“I was shown that if God’s people make no efforts on their part, but wait for the refreshing to come upon them and remove their wrongs and correct their errors; if they depend upon that to cleanse them from filthiness of the flesh and spirit, and fit them to engage in the loud cry of the third angel, they will be found wanting. The refreshing or power of God

comes only on those who have prepared themselves for it by doing the work which God bids them, namely, cleansing themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."—*Testimonies*, vol. 1, p. 619.

13. How are God's professed people admonished by the prophet Joel to prepare for the day of God? Joel 1:14; 2:17. Compare Rev. 3:18-20.

14. In response to our appeal for the power needed to do our part, what does the Lord promise? Joel 2:23.

NOTE.—"Christ declared that the divine influence of the Spirit was to be with His followers unto the end. But the promise is not appreciated as it should be; and therefore its fulfillment is not seen as it might be. The promise of the Spirit is a matter little thought of; and the result is only what might be expected—spiritual drought, spiritual darkness, spiritual declension and death. Minor matters occupy the attention, and the divine power which is necessary for the growth and prosperity of the church, and which would bring all other blessings in its train, is lacking, though offered in its infinite plenitude."—*Testimonies*, vol. 8, p. 21.

Lesson 10, for September 6, 1952

The Loud Cry

MEMORY VERSE: "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19.

STUDY HELP: "The Great Controversy," pages 603-612.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

1. General survey of the lesson; memorize Acts 3:19.
2. Questions 1-3.
3. Questions 4-6.
4. Read "The Great Controversy," pages 603-612.
5. Questions 7-9.
6. Questions 10-12.
7. Review the entire lesson.

The Outcry Against Sin

1. What message is given to the world preceding the giving of the loud cry? Rev. 14:6-12.

NOTE.—"The first angel's message of Revelation 14, announcing the hour of God's judgment, and calling upon men to fear and worship Him, was designed to separate the professed people of God from the corrupting influences of the world, and to arouse them to see their true condition of worldliness and backsliding. In this message, God had sent to the church a warning, which, had it been accepted, would have corrected the evils that were shutting them away from Him."—*The Great Controversy*, page 379.

2. What additional impetus is given to the message and work of the third angel? Rev. 18:1-4.

NOTE.—“Of Babylon, at the time brought to view in this prophecy, it is declared, ‘Her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.’ She has filled up the measure of her guilt, and destruction is about to fall upon her. But God still has a people in Babylôn; and before the visitation of His judgments, these faithful ones must be called out, that they ‘partake not of her sins, and receive not of her plagues.’ Hence the movement symbolized by the angel coming down from heaven, lightening the earth with his glory, and crying mightily with a strong voice, announcing the sins of Babylon. In connection with his message the call is heard, ‘Come out of her, My people.’ These announcements, uniting with the third angel’s message, constitute the final warning to be given to the inhabitants of the earth.”—*The Great Controversy*, page 604.

3. How urgently does God call upon His people to give a warning against sin? Isa. 58:1.

NOTE.—“The trumpet note of warning must be sounded. We are living in a fearfully wicked age. The worship of God will become corrupted unless there are wide-awake men at every post of duty. It is no time now for any to be absorbed in selfish ease. Not one of the words which God has spoken must he allowed to fall to the ground.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 517.

4. Who besides men take part in the final warning against evil? Rev. 10:1-3; 18:1, 2, 4.

NOTE.—“I saw angels hurrying to and fro in heaven, descending to the earth, and again ascending to heaven, preparing for the fulfillment of some important event. Then I saw another mighty angel commissioned to descend to the earth, to unite his voice with the third angel, and give power and force to his message.”—*Early Writings*, page 277.

5. How far-reaching is to be the influence of the message of the angel? Rev. 18:1, last part.

NOTE.—“The glory of God rested upon the patient, waiting saints, and they fearlessly gave the last solemn warning, proclaiming the fall of Babylon, and calling upon God’s people to come out of her that they might escape her fearful doom.

“The light that was shed upon the waiting ones penetrated everywhere, and those in the churches who had any light, who had not heard and rejected the three messages, obeyed the call, and left the fallen churches. . . . A compelling power moved the honest, while the manifestation of the power of God brought a fear and restraint upon their unbelieving relatives and friends, so that they dared not, neither had they the power to hinder those who felt the work of the Spirit of God upon them.”—*Early Writings*, pages 277, 278.

“During the loud cry, the church, aided by the providential interpositions of her exalted Lord, will diffuse the knowledge of salvation so abundantly that light will be communicated to every city and town. The earth will be filled with the knowledge of salvation.”—*Review and Herald*, Oct. 13, 1904.

6. What is said of those who have acted as God's messengers in proclaiming the third angel's message? Rev. 14:12.

NOTE.—“I was pointed down to the time when the third angel's message was closing. The power of God had rested upon His people; they had accomplished their work, and were prepared for the trying hour before them. They had received the latter rain, or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, and the living testimony had been revived. The last great warning had sounded everywhere, and it had stirred up and enraged the inhabitants of the earth who would not receive the message.”—*Early Writings*, page 279.

“As the time comes for it [the message of the third angel] to be given with greatest power, the Lord will work through humble instruments, leading the minds of those who consecrate themselves to His service. The laborers will be qualified rather by the unction of His Spirit than by the training of literary institutions. Men of faith and prayer will be constrained to go forth with holy zeal, declaring the words which God gives them.”—*The Great Controversy*, page 606.

Seeking the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

7. What should the church be doing in preparation for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? Hosea 10:12.

NOTE.—“We must pray that God will unseal the fountain of the water of life. And we must ourselves receive of the living water. Let us, with contrite hearts, pray most earnestly that now, in the time of the latter rain, the showers of grace may fall upon us. At every meeting we attend, our prayers should ascend that at this very time, God will impart warmth and moisture to our souls. As we seek God for the Holy Spirit, it will work in us meekness, humbleness of mind, a conscious dependence upon God for the perfecting latter rain.”—*Review and Herald*, March 2, 1897.

8. How should we pray for the baptism of the Spirit? Mark 11:24; Gal. 3:14.

NOTE.—“If we pray for the blessing in faith, we shall receive it as God has promised.” “Only those who are living up to the light they have, will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it.”—*Review and Herald*, March 2, 1897.

9. How essential is it that we believe that we shall receive what we ask for when we pray for the blessings God has promised? James 1:6, 7.

10. What assurances does the psalmist give that the one who asks in faith shall not lack any good thing? Ps. 84:11; 34:9, 10.

11. How willing is God to give the Holy Spirit to His children? Luke 11:13.

NOTE.—“He who truly seeks for the precious grace of Christ, will be sure not to be disappointed. This promise has been given to us by Him who will not deceive us. It is not stated as a maxim or a theory, but as a fact, as a law of the divine government. We can be assured that we shall receive the Holy Spirit if we individually try the experiment of testing God’s word.”—*Review and Herald*, May 5, 1896.

12. What special time of refreshing and rejoicing is to come to the church in the last days? Joel 2:23; Acts 2:17; 3:19.

NOTE.—“The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening. The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel, are again to be fulfilled in the latter rain at its close.”—*The Great Controversy*, pages 611, 612.

Lesson 11, for September 13, 1952

Warnings Against Counterfeit Spirits

MEMORY VERSE: “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” Isa. 8:20.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, “The Holy Spirit,” chapter 9.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

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| 1. General survey of the lesson;
memorize Isa. 8:20. | 4. Read “The Holy Spirit,” chapter 9. |
| 2. Questions 1-3. | 5. Questions 7-10. |
| 3. Questions 4-6. | 6. Questions 11-14. |
| | 7. Review the entire lesson. |

Beware of False Spirits

1. How are God’s people warned against false spirits? 1 John 4:1.

NOTE.—“Evil spirits, in the beginning created sinless, were equal in nature, power, and glory with the holy beings that are now God’s messengers. But fallen through sin, they are leagued together for the dishonor of God and the destruction of men. United with Satan in his rebellion, and with him cast out from heaven, they have, through all succeeding ages, co-operated with him in his warfare against the divine authority.”—*The Great Controversy*, page 513.

2. What did Jesus say regarding the danger of deception? Matt. 24:4, 5.

NOTE.—“No man can serve God without uniting against himself evil men and evil angels. Evil spirits will be put upon the track of every soul that seeks to join the ranks of Christ, for Satan wishes to recover the prey taken from his grasp. Evil men will give themselves over to believe strong

delusions, that they may be damned. These men will put on the garments of sincerity and deceive, if possible, the very elect.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 595.

3. To what extent is the deception to be carried? 2 Cor. 11:13-15.

NOTE.—“The more we learn in reference to the early days of the Christian church, and see with what subtlety Satan worked to weaken and destroy, the better we shall be prepared to resist his devices and meet coming perils. We are in the time when tribulations such as the world has never yet seen will prevail. . . . But God has set bounds that Satan cannot pass. Our most holy faith is this barrier; and if we build ourselves up in the faith, we shall be safe in the keeping of the Mighty One.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p. 297.

Prove the Spirits

4. How reliable a sign of the Spirit's presence is a demonstration of great earnestness and fervor? 1 Kings 18:26-28. Compare verses 36-38.

NOTE.—“God does not require His people to imitate Baal's prophets, to afflict their bodies and cry out and shout, and throw themselves into almost every attitude, having no regard for order, until their strength fails through sheer exhaustion. Religion does not consist in making a noise; yet when the soul is filled with the Spirit of the Lord, sweet, heartfelt praise to God glorifies Him.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 1, p. 231.

5. What experience shows that we are not to depend upon spectacular manifestations as evidence of the divine presence? 1 Kings 19:11-13.

NOTE.—“The kingdom of God comes not with outward show. It comes through the gentleness of the inspiration of His word, through the inward working of His Spirit, the fellowship of the soul with Him who is its life. The greatest manifestation of its power is seen in human nature brought to the perfection of the character of Christ.”—*The Ministry of Healing*, page 36.

6. To whom only is the Holy Spirit given? Acts 5:32.

NOTE.—“The Holy Spirit especially rested upon the apostles, who were witnesses of our Lord's crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension,—important truths which were to be the hope of Israel. All were to look to the Saviour of the world as their only hope, and walk in the way which He had opened by the sacrifice of His own life, and keep God's law and live.”—*Early Writings*, page 197.

Seeking Spiritual Gifts

7. What spiritual gifts have been placed in the church? 1 Cor. 12:28-30.

8. What is to be the motive in seeking spiritual gifts? 1 Cor. 14:12. See Phil. 2:3.

9. What was accomplished at Pentecost by the gift of tongues? Acts 2:7-11.

10. What, then, can be said of the genuineness of this or any other gift of the Spirit? Matt. 7:20.

NOTE.—“All the true followers of Christ bear fruit to His glory. Their lives testify that a good work has been wrought in them by the Spirit of God, and their fruit is unto holiness. Their lives are elevated and pure. Right actions are the unmistakable fruit of true godliness, and those who bear no fruit of this kind reveal that they have no experience in the things of God.”—*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, page 329.

Masterly Deceptions of the Last Days

11. What warning is given against spiritism? Isa. 8:19.

NOTE.—“Satan leads men to consult those that have familiar spirits; and by revealing hidden things of the past, he inspires confidence in his power to foretell things to come. By experience gained through the long ages, he can reason from cause to effect, and often forecast, with a degree of accuracy, some of the future events of man's life. Thus he is enabled to deceive poor, misguided souls, and bring them under his power, and lead them captive at his will.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 687.

“Through the agency of Spiritualism, miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and many undeniable wonders will be performed. And as the spirits will profess faith in the Bible, and manifest respect for the institutions of the church, their work will be accepted as a manifestation of divine power.”—*The Great Controversy*, page 588.

12. What deceptions will be practiced by the archdeceiver? Rev. 13:13, 14.

NOTE.—“It was by the display of supernatural power, in making the serpent his medium, that Satan caused the fall of Adam and Eve in Eden. Before the close of time he will work still greater wonders. So far as his power extends, he will perform actual miracles. . . . But there is a limit beyond which Satan cannot go, and here he calls deception to his aid and counterfeits the work which he has not power actually to perform. In the last days he will appear in such a manner as to make men believe him to be Christ come the second time into the world.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p. 698.

“Satan is not permitted to counterfeit the manner of Christ's advent. The Saviour has warned His people against deception upon this point, and has clearly foretold the manner of His second coming.”—*The Great Controversy*, page 625.

13. How intense will be his efforts, and at whom will they be especially directed? 2 Thess. 2:9-12; Matt. 24:24.

NOTE.—“The only safety now is to search for the truth as revealed in the word of God, as for hid treasure. The subjects of the Sabbath, the nature of man, and the testimony of Jesus are the great and important truths to be understood; these will prove as an anchor to hold God’s people in these perilous times.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 1, p. 300.

14. By what divine measuring line are all spirit manifestations to be compared? Isa. 8:20.

NOTE.—“What message do these teachers bring? Does it lead you to reverence and fear God? Does it lead you to manifest your love for Him by loyalty to His commandments? If men do not feel the weight of the moral law; if they make light of God’s precepts; if they break one of the least of His commandments, and teach men so, they shall be of no esteem in the sight of heaven. We may know that their claims are without foundation. They are doing the very work that originated with the prince of darkness, the enemy of God.”—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, page 208.

Lesson 12, for September 20, 1952

The Unpardonable Sin

MEMORY VERSE: “For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.” Heb. 10:26, 27.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, “The Holy Spirit,” chapter 10.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

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| 1. General survey of the lesson; memorize Heb. 10:26, 27. | 4. Read “The Holy Spirit,” chapter 10. |
| 2. Questions 1-5. | 5. Questions 9-12. |
| 3. Questions 6-8. | 6. Questions 13, 14. |
| | 7. Review the entire lesson. |

Spirit Invites to Abiding Fellowship

1. What experience is necessary in order to be free from sin and condemnation? Rom. 8:9, first part.
2. Without the indwelling Spirit, what is the condition? Rom. 8:9, last part.

NOTE.—“If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His.’ He is alienated from God, fitted only for eternal separation from Him.”—*Christ’s Object Lessons*, page 251.

3. By whose invitation do we accept the call of God? Rev. 22:17.

4. By whose leading do we become sons of God? Rom. 8:14.

NOTE.—“Doing, not saying merely, is expected of the followers of Christ. It is through action that character is built. ‘As many as are *led* by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.’ Not those whose hearts are touched by the Spirit, not those who now and then yield to its power, but they that are led by the Spirit, are the sons of God.”—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, page 215.

5. By whose ministry are both the Father and the Son brought into abiding fellowship with the believers? John 14:17, 23.

NOTE.—To willfully reject the Holy Spirit, therefore, is to cut off all connection with God, heaven, and salvation.

“If we know God, and Jesus Christ whom He has sent, unspeakable gladness will come to the soul. Oh, how we need the divine presence! For the baptism of the Holy Spirit every worker should be breathing out his prayer to God.”—*Testimonies to Ministers*, page 170.

Warning Against Willful Disobedience

6. For what reason only, therefore, are sinners lost? John 5:40.

NOTE.—“Christ saw in Jerusalem a symbol of the world hardened in unbelief and rebellion, and hastening on to meet the retributive judgments of God. The woes of a fallen race, pressing upon His soul, forced from His lips that exceeding bitter cry. He saw the record of sin traced in human misery, tears, and blood; His heart was moved with infinite pity for the afflicted and suffering ones of earth; He yearned to relieve them all. But even His hand might not turn back the tide of human woe; few would seek their only Source of help. He was willing to pour out His soul unto death, to bring salvation within their reach; but few would come to Him that they might have life.”—*The Great Controversy*, page 22.

7. What is the result of continuing in a course of willful disobedience? Heb. 10:26, 27.

NOTE.—“God works by the manifestation of His Spirit to reprove and convict the sinner; and if the Spirit’s work is finally rejected, there is no more that God can do for the soul. The last resource of divine mercy has been employed. The transgressor has cut himself off from God; and sin has no remedy to cure itself. There is no reserved power by which God can work to convict and convert the sinner. ‘Let him alone,’ is the divine command. Then ‘there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.’”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 405.

8. What is said regarding the sin of Esau? Gen. 25:34; Heb. 12:16, 17.

NOTE.—“When he sought to buy it [the inheritance] back, even at a great sacrifice on his part, he was not able to do so. He then bitterly repented his rashness, his folly, his madness. He looked the matter over on every side. He sought for repentance carefully and with tears, but it was all in vain. He had despised the blessing, and the Lord removed it from him forever.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 2, p. 39.

Sinning Against the Holy Spirit

9. What offense did Jesus say is unforgivable? Matt. 12:31; Mark 3:29.

NOTE.—“What constitutes the sin against the Holy Ghost? It is willfully attributing to Satan the work of the Holy Spirit. For example, suppose that one is a witness of the special work of the Spirit of God. He has convincing evidence that the work is in harmony with the Scriptures, and the Spirit witnesses with his spirit that it is of God. Afterward, however, he falls under temptation; pride, self-sufficiency, or some other evil trait, controls him; and rejecting all the evidence of its divine character, he declares that that which he had before acknowledged to be the power of the Holy Spirit was the power of Satan. It is through the medium of His Spirit that God works upon the human heart; and when men willfully reject the Spirit and declare it to be from Satan, they cut off the channel by which God can communicate with them. By denying the evidence which God has been pleased to give them, they shut out the light which had been shining in their hearts, and as the result they are left in darkness.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p. 634.

10. Under what circumstances did Jesus define the unpardonable sin? Matt. 12:22-30.

11. How are we admonished against drifting into a state which makes it impossible for the Holy Spirit to reach us? Heb. 3:12, 13; 1 Tim. 4:1.

NOTE.—“Beware of procrastination. Do not put off the work of forsaking your sins, and seeking purity of heart through Jesus. Here is where thousands upon thousands have erred, to their eternal loss.”—*Steps to Christ*, page 37.

“The book of life contains the names of all who have ever entered the service of God. If any of these depart from Him, and by stubborn persistence in sin become finally hardened against the influences of His Holy Spirit, their names will in the judgment be blotted from the book of life, and they themselves will be devoted to destruction.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 326.

12. What blasphemy uttered by the scribes and Pharisees regarding Christ made them guilty of the unpardonable sin? Mark 3:30.

NOTE.—“In rejecting Christ the Jewish people committed the unpardonable sin; and by refusing the invitation of mercy, we may commit the same error.”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 324 (1940 ed., pp. 324, 325).

The unpardonable sin, therefore, is committed by a continual rejection

of truth, a repeated hardening of the heart against the wooing of the Spirit, or procrastination in following Christ until the heart becomes so seared and hardened that the Holy Spirit can no longer make any impression upon it. Such a person has grieved away the Spirit, and has left himself without God and without hope in the world.

Complete Forgiveness for Confessed Sin

13. What is the condition upon which God will forgive our sins? 1 John 1:9.

14. How complete is the provision for the forgiveness of sin? Isa. 1:18; 38:17.

Lesson 13, for September 27, 1952

Receiving the Spirit

MEMORY VERSE: "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" Luke 11:13.

STUDY HELP: W. H. Branson, "The Holy Spirit," chapter 11.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT

1. General survey of the lesson; memorize Luke 11:13.
2. Questions 1-4.
3. Questions 5-7.
4. Read "The Holy Spirit," chapter 11.
5. Questions 8-10.
6. Questions 11-13.
7. Review the entire lesson.

God's Willingness to Bestow the Holy Spirit

1. When Jesus met with the disciples after the resurrection, how did He remind them of His promise that the Comforter would come? John 20:22.

NOTE.—"Not until after the ascension was the gift received in its fullness. Not until through faith and prayer the disciples had surrendered themselves fully for His working, was the outpouring of the Spirit received. Then in a special sense the goods of heaven were committed to the followers of Christ."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 327.

2. In the message to the Laodiceans, what moving invitation is given? Rev. 3:18-20.

NOTE.—"Every warning, reproof, and entreaty in the word of God or through His messengers is a knock at the door of the heart. It is the voice of Jesus asking for entrance."—*The Desire of Ages*, page 490 (1940 ed., pp. 489, 490).

"He is not repulsed by scorn or turned aside by threatening, but con-

tinually seeks the lost ones, saying, 'How shall I give thee up?' Although His love is driven back by the stubborn heart, He returns to plead with greater force, 'Behold, I stand at the door, and knock.'"—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 235.

3. How does the Scripture teach the eagerness of God to bestow the gift of the Holy Spirit? Luke 11:13.

NOTE.—"The Father gave His Spirit without measure to His Son, and we also may partake of its fullness."—*The Great Controversy*, page 477.

"The Holy Spirit, the representative of Himself, is the greatest of all gifts. All 'good things' are comprised in this. The Creator Himself can give us nothing greater, nothing better. When we beseech the Lord to pity us in our distress, and to guide us by His Holy Spirit, He will never turn away our prayer."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, pages 189, 190.

4. In what words does the prophet Isaiah assure us of the un-failing, loving care of the heavenly Father? Isa. 49:15, 16.

NOTE.—"Every soul is as fully known to Jesus as if he were the only one for whom the Saviour died. The distress of every one touches His heart. The cry for aid reaches His ear. He came to draw all men unto Himself. He bids them, 'Follow Me,' and His Spirit moves upon their hearts to draw them to come to Him."—*The Desire of Ages*, pages 479, 480 (1940 ed., p. 480).

Living Faith Essential

5. Although saved by grace, what are we required to exercise in order to possess the promised blessing? Eph. 2:8; Heb. 11:6.

6. How is the promise of the Spirit made a reality in the life? Gal. 3:14.

NOTE.—"In the great and measureless gift of the Holy Spirit are contained all of heaven's resources. It is not because of any restriction on the part of God that the riches of His grace do not flow earthward to men. If all were willing to receive, all would become filled with His Spirit. . . .

"The indwelling of the Spirit will be shown by the outflowing of heavenly love. The divine fullness will flow through the consecrated human agent, to be given forth to others."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 419.

7. What assurance is given the one who prays in faith for the promised blessing? Mark 11:24.

Promise of God is Sure

8. How may we know that whoever asks in faith for the Holy Spirit will actually receive Him? Luke 11:9-13.

NOTE.—“Plead for the Holy Spirit. God stands back of every promise He has made. With your Bible in your hands say, I have done as Thou hast said. I present Thy promise, ‘Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.’”

“We must not only pray in Christ’s name, but by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. This explains what is meant when it is said that the Spirit ‘maketh intercession for us, with groanings which cannot be uttered.’ Such prayer God delights to answer. When with earnestness and intensity we breathe a prayer in the name of Christ, there is in that very intensity a pledge from God that He is about to answer our prayer ‘exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think.’”—*Christ’s Object Lessons*, page 147.

9. What is the promise regarding the latter rain? Zech. 10:1.

NOTE.—“Near the close of earth’s harvest, a special bestowal of spiritual grace is promised to prepare the church for the coming of the Son of man. This outpouring of the Spirit is likened to the falling of the latter rain; and it is for this added power that Christians are to send their petitions to the Lord of the harvest ‘in the time of the latter rain.’”—*The Acts of the Apostles*, page 55.

“While we cherish the blessing of the early rain, we must not, on the other hand, lose sight of the fact that without the latter rain, to fill out the ears and ripen the grain, the harvest will not be ready for the sickle, and the labor of the sower will have been in vain. . . . Do not rest satisfied that in the ordinary course of the season, rain will fall. Ask for it. The growth and perfection of the seed rests not with the husbandman. God alone can ripen the harvest. But man’s co-operation is required. God’s work for us demands the action of our mind, the exercise of our faith. We must seek His favors with the whole heart if the showers of grace are to come to us.”—*Testimonies to Ministers*, pages 507, 508.

10. Since the promises of God are sure, what is the explanation of our lack of the Holy Spirit? James 1:6, 7.

NOTE.—“After the prayer is made, if the answer is not realized immediately, do not weary of waiting and become unstable. Waver not. Cling to the promise, ‘Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it.’ Like the importunate widow, urge your case, being firm in your purpose.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 2, p. 131.

“Lord, Increase Our Faith”

11. On the last day of the feast, how did Jesus invite His hearers to receive the Spirit? John 7:37-39.

NOTE.—“If, with these promises before us, we choose to remain parched and withered for want of the water of life, it is our own fault. If we would come to Christ with the simplicity of a child coming to its earthly parents, and ask for the things that He has promised, believing that we receive them, we should have them. . . . Now the question is: Will we come to the fountain and drink? . . . God will do great things for us if we by faith take Him at His word.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 179.

12. In healing the demon-possessed child, what gracious assurance did Jesus give the father? Mark 9:23.

13. In what prayer of the apostles should we earnestly join, in order that our lack may be supplied? Luke 17:5.

LESSONS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER

Sabbath-school members who have failed to receive a senior *Lesson Quarterly* for the fourth quarter of 1952 will be helped by the following outline in studying the first lesson. They will thus be able to follow the daily study plan.

The general topic of the lessons is "Lessons From the Experiences of Israel." Lesson 1, for October 4, is entitled, "The Call of Abraham." The memory verse is Genesis 12:3. The study help is *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 125-128, 140-144. The texts to be studied are:

Ques. 1. Joshua 24:2.

Ques. 2. Gen. 12:1.

Ques. 3. Rev. 18:1-4.

Ques. 4. Heb. 11:8, 9; James
2:21-24.

Ques. 5. Gen. 12:2; 17:7, 8.

Ques. 6. Rom. 3:1, 2; 9:4, 5.

Ques. 7. Gen. 26:4, 5.

Ques. 8. Gen. 12:7, 8.

Ques. 9. Gen. 18:19.

Ques. 10. 2 Tim. 3:1, 2; Mal.
4:6; Eph. 6:1-4.

Ques. 11. Gen. 12:2, 3; 22:18;
Gal. 3:16.

Ques. 12. Gen. 15:9-18; 22:13;
Gal. 3:8.

THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING

September 27, 1952—Central European Division

The overflow of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering at the close of the third quarter will go to the Central European Division to be used in restoring the conference office building and the church in the city of Frankfort, Germany, both of which were destroyed by bombings during the war. Here is our opportunity to show our poor people in Germany who have suffered so much that we truly love them and want to do all we can to see their church homes restored.

