

SYSTEMATIC STUDY OF

BIBLE WOMEN

A TWO YEAR COURSE

STUDIES FROM THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

by Coleman Overby

Part 1 - WOMEN IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Revised and expanded by Beth Johnson and
the ladies of the North Columbia church of Christ
Columbia, South Carolina
between 1996 and 1998

**Dedicated to all women who study to show themselves
approved unto God—1 Tim. 2:15**

**“Grace is deceitful, and beauty is vain; But a woman that
feareth Jehovah, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit
of her hands; And let her works praise her in the gates”
(Prov. 31:30, 31).**

JUST A WORD PLEASE!

This fourth edition of Bible Women is marked by many radical changes from the first three in the series. These changes will be noted:

- 1) All characters studied are placed under the Period of Bible History, to which they belong. Every lesson displays these headings: The Period of History, the time of it, the scriptures covered by it, and the Dispensation of Time. In the New Testament, the Periods of Life of Christ, and the Divisions of Acts are followed with the same consistency. At a glance, the teacher and student may recognize the Period of Bible History and the characters who lived at that time.
- 2) A chart featuring these divisions is included in the book.
- 3) With rare exceptions, all characters are arranged chronologically.
- 4) The questions are often recast, to clarify the meaning, and to provoke thought.
- 5) Where differences of opinion might appear, secondary arguments have been presented as well. These are presented along with the original questions.
- 6) Many of the minor persons, mentioned in the first edition were omitted in the second, but they have been included again here. Therefore the study will take longer than a year.
- 7) An addendum to lesson 22 has been added to give researched notes to students and teachers because of the controversial nature of some of the questions.

This revision is a mite of gratitude for the gracious and extensive reception of previous editions. Its growth in popularity demanded the best the author could give. No efforts have been spared to make it the best. It is intentionally different from any other course of study and fills a niche in the walls of Bible Study, not occupied by any other outline, used by the churches of the Lord Jesus Christ. It should give the users an insight to the Bible never before realized. It is therefore sent forth with a prayerful hope that both the teacher and student will be richly blessed in their quest for His "unsearchable riches."

SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHERS

- 1) Prepare your lesson well. It will add interest and zest to the class, and it will gain the confidence and respect of the pupils.
- 2) Have a certain time to begin and close the lesson. Nothing helps quite as much as doing things on time and with regularity.
- 3) Make assignments to the students of the questions starred (*); these assignments are to be related in story form. This saves time, aids in covering the lessons, and breaks the routine of the recitation.
- 4) With the students, memorize the periods of Bible History and the Bible Dispensations.
- 5) Have frequent drills on the Periods of History and of the characters studied. This will aid the memory and add life to the course.
- 6) Do not argue or permit arguments in the class. This is the surest way to kill interest. Permit each lady to express herself freely and pass on to the next question.
- 7) Do not do all the talking; this is not a lecture course. Solicit the fullest cooperation of all.

PERIODS OF OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY

(Drill Work)

Probation	Preparation	Conquest	Power	Decline	Servitude
DURATION					
Adam To Call of Abraham	Call of Abraham to Exodus	Exodus to Coronation	Coronation to Division	Division To Captivity	Captivity To Christ
MAIN CHARACTERS					
Adam Abel Enoch Noah	Abraham Isaac Jacob Joseph M O S	Joshua Gideon Samson Samuel E S	Saul David Solomon Nathan	Elijah Elisha Isaiah Jeremiah	Daniel Ezra Nehemiah Zechariah
EVENTS					
Creation Fall Promise Deluge	Dispersion Patriarchs Bondage Exodus	Wanderings Tabernacle Crossing Conquering	Union Dominion Material Temple	Division Warnings Apostasy Decay	Chaldean Rule Persian Rule Greek Rule Maccabean Rule Roman Rule
INSTITUTIONS					
ALTAR		TABERNACLE TEMPLE		SYNAGOGUE TEMPLE	
DISPENSATIONS					
PATRIARCHAL			JEWISH		
DATES					
4004 to 2083 Years	19 to 430 Years	91 to 396 Years	95 to 120 Years	75 to 388 Years	5 to 4 BC 583 Years
4004 B. C.		FROM ADAM TO CHRIST		4 B. C.	

INDEX OF CHARACTERS STUDIED

Lesson numbers follow each name.

Since this is a work in progress, please be patient until lessons for *Women of the New Testament* are finished.

Abi (28)
Abigail, sister of David (22)
Abigail, wife of David (20)
Abihail, wife of Abishur (1 Chron. 2:29)
Abihail, wife of Rehoboam (27)
Abishag, David's wife (22)
Abital, wife of David (21)
Achsah, daughter of Caleb (13)
Adah, wife of Esau (10)
Adah, wife of Lamech (02)
Ahinoam, wife of David (20)
Ahinoam, wife of Saul (19)
Aholah, symbolic name for Samaria (see also Oholah-29)
Aholibah, symbolic name for Jerusalem (see also Oholibah-29)
Aholibama, wife of Esau (10)
Asenath, wife of Joseph (10)
Athaliah, Ahab's daughter (28)
Azubah, mother of Jehosaphat (27)
Azubah, wife of Caleb (1 Chron. 2:18)

Basemath, daughter of Solomon (1 Kings. 4:15) (23)
Bashemath, wife of Esau (10)
Bathsheba, wife of David (21)
Bilhah, Rachel's handmaid (09)

Certain widow of the Prophets (26)
Concubine of the Levite (16)
Concubines, little mentioned wives & handmaids (16)
Cozbi, woman of Moab (12)

Daughters of Shiloh (16)
Deborah, Rebekah's nurse (07)
Deborah, the Judge (13)
Delilah, Sampson's "friend" (15)
Dinah, Jacob's daughter (08)

Eglah, wife of David (21)
Elisheba, wife of Aaron (12)
Esther, (Hadassah), Mordecai's niece (30)
Eve, the mother of all (01) (02)

Gomer, Hoshea's wife (29)

Hagar, Sarah's handmaid (05)
Haggith, wife of David (21)
Hamutal, mother of Jehoahaz (29)
Hannah, wife of Elkanah (18)
Harlot of Gaza (15)
Hephzibah, mother of Manasseh (29)
Hoglah, daughter of Zelophehad (12)
Huldah, a prophetess (25) (29)

Iscah, daughter of Haran, sister to Milcah & Lot (09)

Jael, wife of Heber (13)
Jecoliah, mother of Azariah (1 Kings 15:2) (28)
Jecoliah, mother of Uzziah (1 Chron. 26:3) (28) same as
Jedidah, "mother" (grandmother) of Asa (29)
Jedidah, mother of Josiah (29)
Jehoaddin, mother of Amaziah (28)
Jehosheba (Jehoshabeath), wife of Jehoiada (28)
Jemimah, Job's daughter (03)
Jepthah's daughter (14)
Jerusha (Jerushah), mother of Jotham (28)
Jewish Maid, Naaman's servant (27)
Jezebel, wife of Ahab (26)
Job's Wife (03)
Jochebed, wife of Amram (11)
Judith, wife of Easu (10)

Kerenhappuch, Job's daughter (03)
Keturah, wife of Abraham (05)
Keziah, daughter of Job (03)

Leah, wife of Jacob (08)
Lot's daughters (06)
Lot's Wife (06)

Maacha, wife of David (21)
Maacha, wife of Rehoboam (24) (27)
Maachah, "mother" (grandmother) of Asa (23)
Mahalath, wife of Esau (10)
Mahalath, wife of Rehoboam (27)
Mahlah, daughter of Zelophehad (12)
Manoah's Wife (15)
Merab, wife of Adriel (19)
Meshullemeth, mother of Amon (29)
Michal, daughter of Saul; wife of David (19) (20)
Milcah, daughter of Zelophehad (12)
Milcah, wife of Nahor (04)
Miriam, sister of Moses and Aaron, a prophetess (11)

Mother of Jabez (29)
Mother of Micah (16)

Naamah, daughter of Zillah (Gen. 4:22) (02)
Naomi, wife of Elimelech (17)
Nehushta, mother of Jehoiachin (25)
Noadiah, false prophetess (29)
Noah, daughter of Zelophehad (12)

Oholah, symbolic name for Samaria (29)
Oholibah, symbolic name for Jerusalem (29)
Orpah, wife of Chilion (17)

Peninnah, wife of Elkanah (18)
Phinehas' wife (18)
Potiphar's wife (10)
Puah, a nurse (10)

Queen of Sheba (24)

Rachel, wife of Jacob (09)
Rahab (Rachab), who hid the Spies (12)
Rebekah, wife of Isaac (07)
Rizpah, Saul's concubine (19)
Ruth, wife of Mahlon and then Boaz (17)

Samson's wife (15)
Sarah (Sarai), wife of Abraham (04) (05)
Shelomith, mother of a Blasphemer (11)
Shiphrah, a nurse (10)
Shunamite woman (a great woman) (27)
Sister to Tahpenes was Hadad's wife (23)

Tahpenes, sister to Hadad's wife (24)
Tamar, Absalom's daughter (23)
Tamar, Absalom's sister (23)
Tamar, Judah's daughter-in-law (08)
Tirzah, daughter of Zelophehad (12)
Two Women of Solomon's Judgment (24)

Vashti, wife of Ahasuerus (30)

Widow of Zarephath (26)
Widow with the pot of oil (25)
Widows of the Bible (32)
Wife of Jeroboam (25)
Wise woman of Abel (23)
Witch of Endor (19)

Wives of Solomon (24)
Woman of Bahurim (23)
Woman of Tekoa (23)
Woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets (26)
Woman of Timnah (14)
Woman, of the Tower of Thebez (13)
Worthy Woman—A Tribute (31)

Zeresh, wife of Haman (30)
Zeruah, mother of Jeroboam (26)
Zeruiah, David's sister (22)
Zillah, wife of Lamech (02)
Zilpah, Leah's handmaid (08)
Zipporah, wife of Moses (11)

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 1

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Dispensation
Adam to Abraham
2083 Years; Gen. 1 to 12

(References in Genesis)

PERIOD OF PROBATION

WOMAN - HER ORIGIN

1. In whose image was she created (Gen. 1:27)?
2. What does this mean? Physical? Spiritual?
 - A. Intellectually free to act, with the never-dying spirit, and with a conscience
 - B. (mind, heart, and soul = spiritual image)
 - C. What is God's nature (John 4:24)?
 - D. What is spirit (Luke 24:39; Eccles. 12:7)?
 - E. Again, God tells us that man (generic term for mankind) was created in His image and that is why we must not murder (Gen. 9:5, 6)?
3. Physically, whose image do we all bear (Acts 17:26; 1 Cor. 15:45, 49)?
 - A. Spiritually, whose image do we bear (Gen. 1:27)?
 - B. What is man's spiritual nature (Matt. 22:36-37)?
 - C. How do we know God has a soul (Matt. 12:18; Ps. 11:5)?
 - D. How do we know God has a heart (Gen. 6:6; Ezek. 28:2-6)?
 - E. How do we know God has a mind (Gen. 6:6; Jer. 15:1; 19:5; 32:35; 44:21)?
 - F. Old Testament, the same Hebrew word includes both the mind and heart (Jer. 19:5—mind of God; Gen. 6:6—heart of God)
 - G. Does man have a heart, mind, and soul (Matt. 22:36-37)?
4. Tell about the two natures of man (Eccles. 12:7; Ps 16:10; Acts 2:27 and Rom. 7:14-25)?
 - A. How did God make man and woman (Gen. 5:2a)?
 - B. What did he call them (Gen. 5:2b)?

EVE—MOTHER OF ALL LIVING

Gen. 3:20; Gen. 4:1; 2 Cor. 11:3; 1 Tim. 2:13

HER CREATION

1. At the climax of creation, what was sadly lacking (Gen. 2:20b)?
2. For the first surgery, what preparation was made (Gen. 2:21a)?
 - A. What was taken from the incision, and what was done then (Gen. 2:21)?
 - B. What was made from Adam's rib (Gen. 2:22)?
 - i. Does the scripture tell us from which side it came?
 - ii. Does man, or did Adam, have one less rib than woman? Be sure to use a scripture if there is one.
3. Why was she called woman (Gen. 2:23)?
 - A. What did Adam call her (Gen. 3:20)?
 - B. Why was she called Eve (Gen. 3:20)?

HER MARRIAGE

1. After her creation, to whom did God present her (Gen. 2:22)?

- A. What were Adam's reactions to his new bride (Gen. 2:23)?
- B. In his quest for a "help meet," what will a man do (Gen. 2:24)?
- C. In this marriage, the two became what (Matt. 19:5-6)?
- 2. Who made this joint union? Of what must man beware (Matt. 19:6b)?
 - A. For how long is the woman bound to the man (Rom. 7:2)?
 - B. What frees her from this sacred contract (Rom. 7:3b)?
 - C. While both companions live, what is the only ground for separation or divorce (Matt. 19:9)? (Note: this verse says "if" not "when.")
 - D. Can the offended mate forgive, or *must* he put her away (Matt. 6:14-15)? (Whether or not he puts her away, he still must forgive.)
- 3. In a marriage, how is headship divinely arranged (1 Cor. 11:3)?
 - A. Who is the head (Eph. 5:23a)?
 - B. To whom is the wife to be in subjection (Eph. 5:22)?
 - i. What are the limits of this subjection (Eph. 5:22)?
 - ii. Give Christ's illustration of this (Eph. 5:22)?
 - C. In the meantime, how is the husband to love his wife (Eph. 5:25)?

HER HOME LIFE:

- 1. For a home, what did God prepare (Gen. 2:8)?
 - A. How was that place made beautiful (Gen. 2:8)?
 - B. What special trees were in the garden (Gen. 2:9)?
 - C. What wealth was there (Gen. 2:11-12)?
- 2. Why were the man and the woman placed there (Gen. 2:15)?
 - A. Was the garden given to them so they could enjoy themselves (Col. 1:16—talking about Christ)?
 - i. Ex 19:5—all is mine.
 - ii. Ps. 50:10, 12—all is mine.
 - iii. Man is only a steward, not an *owner*.
 - B. Should we feel that homemaking or home-keeping is burdensome (1 Cor 4:1-2)? There was work in the Garden of Eden, and where there is work there is pain.
 - C. What will home-idlers do (1 Tim. 5:13)?
- 3. What privileges were granted Adam and Eve (Gen. 2:16)?
 - A. What restriction was imposed (Gen. 2:17)?
 - B. In full, what was the menu for their food (Gen. 1:29)?
 - C. What was added to man's diet after the flood (Gen. 9:3)?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 2

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Dispensation
Adam to Abraham
2083 Years; Gen. 1 to 12

PERIOD OF PROBATION

(References in Genesis)

EVE

HER FALL AND THE RESULTS

1. As Satan approached Eve, what did he ask her (Gen. 3:1)?
 - A. Knowing well God's warning, what did she reply (Gen. 3:2-3)?
 - B. God said they would die. How did Satan modify that statement (Gen. 3:4)?
 - i. What kind of death does the average person think of first?
 - ii. Did Eve appear to understand the difference between physical death and spiritual death?
 - iii. Should we obey even when we do not understand fully?
 - iv. We have civil laws today, some of which we may be ignorant, but will the courts accept ignorance as an excuse for disobedience?
 - C. What is spiritual life (Dan. 10:12; John 11:26; John 5:24 [past tense]; John 8:51)?
 - D. What is spiritual death (Rom. 8:2; Jas. 1:15; Rom. 6:7-23)?
 - E. How does Satan impugn an evil motive to God and at the same time promise power (Gen. 3:5)?
 - F. What three things did Satan use to tempt Eve? Was she convinced (Gen. 3:6)?
 - G. Whom did Eve involve in her fall (Gen. 3:6)?
2. How did sin affect their eyes? Knowledge? Actions (Gen. 3:7)?
3. How did they react to God after that (Gen. 3:8)?
 - A. Why were they sore afraid (Gen. 3:10)?
 - B. What brought about shame and cowardice (Gen. 3:6-7, 11)?
 - C. What promise was made to the woman (Gen. 3:15)?
 - i. *Is it possible to take this verse literally (as the seed of woman in general and the seed of the serpent in general)? Is there enmity between people and snakes?
 - ii. *Some say this is a prophecy of the coming of Christ. Does this verse say that? Can you give a cross reference that proves that idea?
4. What other promises did God give Eve (Gen. 3:16)?
 - A. Can you multiply any number by zero and get a higher number ($10 \times 0 = 0$)?
 - B. There must have been some sorrow and pain in the Garden of Eden or else God could not multiply it (multiply conception).

- C. How many mammals do you know that can conceive every month?
 - D. Did God multiply her conception?
 - E. Does the husband rule over the wife (1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 5:23)?
5. What clothes were now made to cover *their* nakedness (Gen. 3:21)?
 - A. Who made them clothes?
 - B. Does God make a distinction between the nakedness of men and women? Is one more shameful than the other? If God thought they both should be covered, then why do we have a double standard today?
 - C. What happened when Noah was uncovered (Gen. 9:20-29)?
 6. Are we told why Satan appeared to Eve first?
 - A. Some want to use 1 Pet. 3:7 as a reason, but is the reference there talking about physical or spiritual weakness?
 - B. Woman is definitely weaker physically, but spiritually she may be even stronger than some men.
 7. What explanation did Eve give for her fall (Gen. 3:13)?
 8. What did she fall into when she was tempted (1 Tim. 2:14)?
 9. How is woman to be saved (1 Tim. 2:15)?
 - A. What about women who are not married or who are barren? Can they be saved?
 - B. In the Greek manuscript, the word “teknogonia,” meaning “*the* childbearing” is singular, not plural. The singular word, “the childbearing” indicates one singular act.
 - i. Mary’s giving birth to Jesus is one singular act of bearing one child. Are women saved through “the child bearing?”
 - ii. Of course men and women everywhere are saved through “the child bearing.” Because God sent his son, we are saved.

HER CHILDREN

1. Who was her firstborn (Gen. 4:1)?
2. Who was her second child (Gen. 4:2)?
3. What did the boys grow up to be (Gen. 4:2)?
4. During worship to God, what offering did Cain bring (Gen. 4:3)?
 - A. When his offering was rejected, how did Cain react (Gen. 4:5)?
 - B. Why was his sacrifice not acceptable (Heb. 11:4)?
 - C. What was God’s appeal to save him (Gen. 4:6-7)?
5. What offering did Abel bring (Gen. 4:4)?
 - A. How did God react to Abel’s sacrifice (Gen. 4:4)?
 - B. Why was the offering pleasing to God (Heb. 11:4)?
 - C. Was his offering in faith (Rom. 14:23)?

- D. How do we know who ordered animal sacrifice since it was by faith (Rom. 10:17)?
 - E. How did God richly bless Abel (Heb. 11:4)?
6. Eventually what did Cain do (Gen. 4:8)?
 7. Later, who was born to take the place of Abel (Gen. 4:25)?
 - A. Was there any hope now for Eve?
 - B. Righteous seed could still be born of her.
 8. Christ was the son of whom (Luke 3:23, 38)? Most scholars accept that the phrase “as was supposed” indicates that this is actually the genealogy of Christ through Mary.

ADAH—PLEASURE, GORGEOUSLY ADORNED, BEAUTY

1. She was the wife of whom (Gen. 4:19)?
2. Who were her sons? What was the occupation of each (Gen. 4:20, 21)?
3. The names in Hebrew and Greek usually are chosen for the most prominent characteristic of that person. Does the meaning of the name give any indication of her character?
4. She was the descendant of whom (Gen. 4:16-17)?
5. Another Adah was married to whom (Gen. 36:2)?

ZILLAH—A SHADOW, PROTECTION OR JINGLING OF JEWELRY

1. Who is her husband (Gen. 4:19)?
2. What practice is introduced into the world by Lamech and these two women?
3. Remember whose descendants they are (Gen. 4:16)?
4. Who was Zillah’s son? For what was he noted (Gen. 4:22)?
5. What was Leech’s appeal to his wives (Gen. 4:23-24)?
6. Who was Zillah’s daughter (Gen. 4:22)?
7. Naamah (lovely) was listed with whom?
8. Notice that Eve, Adah, Zillah, and Naamah are the four women listed before the flood.

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 3

Of the Old Testament
The Patriarchal Age
The Call of Abraham to the Exodus
430 Years; Gen. 12 to Ex 14

(References in Job)

PERIOD OF PREPARATION

PLEASE NOTE: This lesson was not originally in chronological order. It should be placed near or before the lessons about Sarah, Abraham's wife. Evidence for placing the Book of Job early in Hebrew history is found in Job 1:3 and Job 15:19.

Job 1:3—"His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east." If you count up the value of all he owned, it could not have been more than about \$500,000 worth. Abraham's possessions were much greater.

Job 15:19—"Unto whom alone the earth was given, and no stranger passed among them." The friends of Job evidently had to get their wisdom and knowledge from "the ancients" (Noah and his children) who were alone on the earth after the flood abated.

JOB'S WIFE

1. How many children did she have (1:2)?
2. What of their wealth (1:3)?
3. What about the mutual association of the children (1:4)?
4. What about the parental care which Job displays (1:5)?
5. What about Job's personal character (1:8)?
6. Describe her husband's loss of everything (1:13-19).
7. What about his personal affliction (2:7-8)?
8. What foolish thing did Job's wife suggest (2:9)?
9. What could have been her motive (1 Kings 21:10)?
10. How did Job rebuke her (2:10)?

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. Did she not become an accomplice to Satan with her suggestion?
2. Could there be any higher treason than to curse God (1 Kings 21:10)?
3. Was she in essence asking her husband to sell his soul?
4. There may be many ways that wives influence their husbands to "sell out" to Satan.
5. Was this possibly the most trying of Job's temptations?

6. It is generally accepted that God endowed woman with an “affectionate heart, a mild disposition, and a sensitive love. For what purpose (Gen. 2:20-24)?
7. How was Job blessed for his faithfulness (42:10-12)?

JEMIMAH--Day, Warm, Affectionate; **KEZIAH**—Cassia; **KEREN HAPPUCH**—Horn of Paint (cosmetic)

1. Whose daughters were they (42:10, 13-14)?
2. How did they compare with the daughters of the land (42:15)?
3. How were they rewarded (42:15)?
4. What about Job’s latter end (42:16-17)?

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. Why, possibly, was Job’s wife not mentioned in later life?
2. Does God always reward faithfulness (1:2-3; 42:12-14)?
3. How does he reward the faithful now (Mark 10:28-30)?
4. How many daughters did Job have at the first (Job 1:2)?
5. How many daughters did God give Job after his training? (Job 42:13)
6. Though Job was given twice as many possessions as he had before (Job 42:10), nevertheless, he had exactly the same number of sons and daughters that he had at first.
7. Note a few other scriptures about Job’s first set of children (Job 1:4-5).
8. Did Job or his wife attend the birthdays (Job 1:19)? How do you know?

Note other scriptures about birthdays (Gen. 40:20-22; Job 3:1; Matt. 14:6).

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 4

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Age
Abraham to Exodus
430 years; Gen. 12 to Ex 14

(References in Genesis)

PERIOD OF PREPARATION

MILCAH—COUNSEL

1. She was the daughter of whom (11:29)?
2. To whom was she married (11:29)?
 - A. How was she related to her husband (11:29b, 27)?
 - B. Name her other male relatives (11:27)?
3. How many children did she have (22:20-23)?
4. Who was her famous granddaughter (24:15)?
5. Who was her noted brother (11:27b)?

SARAI—DOMINATES; SARAH—PRINCESS

1. She was the daughter of what man (11:27a; 20:12)?
2. Who was her famous husband (11:29a)? (Please note the blood relationship between Sarai and her husband (11:27b; 20:12).
3. What did her husband say of her beauty (12:11b)?
 - A. How were the Egyptians also impressed (12:14-15a)?
 - B. Humanly speaking, how could her beauty have destroyed him (12:11-15)?
 - i. How did God vindicate Abram and Sarai (12:16-20)?
 - ii. Is there any indication that God was displeased with Abram's conduct?
 - iii. The only thing spoken against Abram was spoken by Pharaoh, who wanted to justify himself against God's rebuke.
 - C. What was Abram's position in his service to God (Gen. 20:7)? What is a prophet?
4. Thirty years later, what did Abram do in Gerar (20:1-2)?
 - A. Picture God's defense of the union between Sarai and Abram (20:3-7)?
 - B. This evil king severely criticized Abram; tell it (20:9-10)?
 - C. What was Abram's defense? Was he telling the truth (20:11-13; 11:27-31)?
5. Though Sarai was beautiful and beloved by her husband, what was her plight (16:1a)?
 - A. What does she decide to do in order to have children (16:1-2)?
 - B. What was Hagar's reaction (16:4)?
 - C. Did Sarai deserve to be despised (16:5)?
 - D. Abram honors Sarai by giving her the right to handle this unfortunate situation. What did Sarai do (16:6)?
6. At ninety years of age, Sarai has her name changed. Recount it (17:15).
 - A. What good news was given her husband (17:16)?
 - B. What was the child supposed to be named (17:19)?
 - C. Sarah was to become the mother of whom (17:16b)?
7. Sarah and Abraham entertain angels. Relate the account (18:1-8)?
 - A. What is the commandment to us today (Heb. 13:2)?
 - B. What good news did Sarah overhear (18:9-10)?
 - i. What was her reaction to the news (18:12-15)?

- ii. Was Abraham's laughter different (17:17)? Was he rebuked for his laughter?
 - iii. Note the disciples' reaction to the resurrected Christ (Luke 24:41)?
- C. What is said of the ages of Sarah and Abraham (18:11)?
- D. What were their actual ages (17:17)?
- 8. Tell of the birth, naming, and circumcising of the boy (21:1-4)?
 - A. How was the miracle of his birth accomplished (Heb. 11:11)?
 - B. Relate Sarah's outburst of joy (21:6-7).
 - C. What does the name Isaac mean?
- 9. How did Abraham celebrate the weaning of Isaac (21:8)?
 - A. What spoiled the occasion for everyone, especially Sarah (21:9)?
 - B. What did Sarah ask of Abraham because of Ishmael's behavior (21:10)?
 - C. Though Abraham was grieved, what did God direct him to do (21:12)?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 5

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Age
Abraham to Exodus
430 years; Gen. 12 to Ex 14

PERIOD OF PREPARATION

(References in Genesis)

SARAH—PRINCESS (continued)

1. At the time of her death, how old was Sarah (23:1)?
2. Where did she spend the end of her life (23:2a)?
3. How did her death affect Abraham (23:2b)?
4. Describe the surroundings of Sarah's burying place (23:17, 19).

POINTS TO PONDER:

1. Abraham and Sarah were the "parents" of what nation (Isa. 51:2)?
 - A. Notice the promise that was made and fulfilled here (Gen. 17:16b)?
 - B. Though they are fleshly parents to the nation of Israel, they are also the spiritual ancestors of spiritual Israel, the church (John 8:37-44)?
 - C. What key word did the Jews misunderstand in the passage mentioned above?
2. What covenant did Sarah represent (Gal. 4:22-31)?
 - A. What blessings grew out of her barrenness (Isa. 54:1; Gal. 4:27)?
 - B. Being impatient with delayed promises, what did she do (Gen. 16:1-3)?
3. How did she respect her husband (1 Pet. 3:3-6)?
 - A. What lesson should Christian wives or mothers learn from this?
 - B. How did Abraham order his house (Gen. 18:18-19)?
4. What price did Sarah pay for introducing polygamy (Gen. 16:4-6; 21:9)?
5. What had God commanded from the beginning (Matt. 19:4, 5; Mal. 2:14-16)?
6. What was her great contribution to the world (Gen. 3:15; Gal. 4:28)?
7. Discuss how Sarah had "children" (Gen. 21:7; 16:2).

HAGAR—WANDERING (uncertain Egyptian meaning—not a Hebrew name)

1. What nationality was she? What was her relationship to Sarah (16:1)?
2. How was she corrupted by becoming Abraham's wife (16:4)?
 - A. How did her mistress deal with her (16:6)?
 - B. Was it Abraham's fault that Hagar was lifted up with pride?
 - C. How did he clear himself (16:6)?
3. What did Hagar do because of the harsh treatment (16:6b)?
 - A. Who found her, and what were his words to her (16:7-9)?
 - B. What was the prophecy concerning the child to be born (16:10-12)?
 - C. How did Hagar speak about the angel who appeared to her (16:13-14)?
4. Whose child was now born to her (16:15)?
 - A. What was to be his disposition and that of his posterity (16:10-12)?
 - B. What does the name *Ishmael* mean (16:11)?
 - i. Give Job's description of the wild ass (Job 39:5-8).
 - ii. How does this fit the description of the Ishmaelites (37:25)?

- C. How many princes were to come out of his loins (17:20b)?
- D. What nation came from him (17:20; 37:25)?
- E. What are the Ishmaelites called today? [fleshly descendants are Arabians; their religion is Muslim] Gen. 25:13-18 & 25 describes the land inhabited by the Arabs today.
- 5. What is meant by “he shall dwell in the presence of his brethren” (16:12)?
 - A. The Hebrew word for *presence* literally means *face*.
 - B. What happens when someone is always in your face?
 - C. It may refer to the constant feuds between Jews and Arabs.
 - D. To whom was Joseph sold (37:28)?
- 6. Nothing more is said of Hagar’s pride, but what of her son’s (21:9)?
 - A. What was to be done with Hagar and her son because of his action (21:10)?
 - B. How did this affect Abraham (21:11)?
 - C. How did God make the ordeal easier for Abraham (21:12-13)?
 - D. Read the account of how Hagar and Ishmael were sent away (21:14-21)?
- 7. Hagar represents what covenant (Gal. 4:24-25)?
- 8. The end of the covenant is pictured by casting her out (Gal. 4:25, 30).

KETURAH—PERFUMED OR FRAGRANCE

- 1. To whom was she married (25:1)?
- 2. How many sons did she bear (25:2)?
- 3. Did Abraham divide his estate with all his children?
 - A. To whom did he give it (25:5)?
 - B. Before sending the others away, what did he do (25:6)?
- 4. Some consider this portion of Abraham’s life to be out of sequence in time. If this is according to sequence, approximately how old was Abraham at this time?
 - A. He was 86 when Ishmael was born (Gen. 16:16).
 - B. He was 100 when Isaac was born (Gen. 17:17).
 - C. Sarah was 90 when Isaac was born (17:17) and 127 when she died (Gen. 23:1).
 - D. Abraham was 137 when Sarah died and 175 when he died (Gen. 25:7)?
 - E. He lived another 38 years after Sarah died.

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 6

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Age
Abraham to Exodus
430 years; Gen. 12 to Ex 14

PERIOD OF PREPARATION

(References in Genesis)

LOT'S WIFE

1. Why did she and her husband choose to live in the plain of Jordan (13:10-11)?
 - A. After this where did they live (13:12b)?
 - B. Did they consider that they could be corrupted (1 Cor. 15:33)?
 - C. Finally where did they move (13:12)?
 - D. What were the cities of the plain like (13:13)?
 - E. How did this environment affect their children (19:13-14)?
 - F. What is said of Lot's distressed feeling (2 Pet. 2:7-8)?
2. Who was taken captive when the five kings came to make war (14:1-2, 12)?
 - A. Who was so unselfish in his rescue of this family (14:14, 16)?
 - B. Who was recruited to be in his "army" (14:14)?
 - C. Think of the faith of these who would stand against five ungodly kings.
 - D. Though it seems incredible, where did she and her husband and family resettle (19:1b)?
3. She and her husband showed hospitality to whom (19:1-3; Heb. 13:2)?
 - A. What do the men of the city try to do to the guests (19:5-11)?
 - B. Who are these guests (18:20-21; 19:1)?
 - C. What message of doom did the angels deliver (19:12-13)?
 - D. Was her husband's warning accepted (19:14)?
4. To escape, she and her family were urged to do what (19:16)?
 - A. Too many physical attachments caused them to do what (19:16a)?
 - B. Finally, how were they forced out of the city (19:16b)?
 - C. What were they told to do after they were out of the city (19:17)?
5. What happened to Lot's wife because she disobeyed the angel (19:26)?
 - A. How were the wicked cities destroyed (19:24-25)?
 - B. Speaking of Lot's wife, what warning did Jesus give (Luke 17:32)?

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

1. What two major lessons can we learn from the statement concerning Lot's wife in Luke 17:28-32?
 - A. [watchfulness for the Day of Judgment]
 - B. [not loving the world nor the things of the world (1 John 2:15)]
2. To teach unflinching loyalty, what warning did he give (Luke 17:32)?
 - A. God does not tolerate deliberate disobedience in anyone (Num. 20:8a, 10-12).
 - B. What caused Lot's wife to look back?
 - C. Was it possible that it was the same quality of heart, which caused her to be unable to leave the city without being forced?
3. Name the dangers of evil associations (1 Cor. 15:33).
4. Name the dangers of getting involved with worldly people (Luke 16:15).
5. What price did Lot pay for his fleshly choices (13:11-13; 19:26)?

6. What lessons on hospitality may be imitated (Heb. 13:2)?
7. Should we encourage our husbands to choose a career in a wicked city where Christianity will be smothered?

LOT'S DAUGHTERS

1. When Sodom was destroyed, who were the ones saved (19:15)?
2. How did the angel get them out of Sodom (19:16)?
3. Where did these girls go after the destruction of their city? Why (19:30)?
 - A. Did their father displease God in making this move (19:17-22; Num. 22:9-12; 15-22)?
 - B. Even though God allowed men not to obey his original command, is he necessarily pleased (Num. 22:32-33)?
 - C. How displeased was God (Gen. 19:30)?
 - D. Why did Lot fear to live in the city God planned to destroy?
4. Read without comment, the incestuous conduct of Lot's daughters (19:31-38). Was Lot aware of what happened?
 - A. Is it ever right to do evil that good may come (Rom. 3:8)? Any thought or procedure toward such is always sinful; the end will never justify the means.
 - B. What was wrong with their thinking to cause them to believe this act was necessary?
 - C. Name the children born out of this illicit action (19:37-38).
 - i. What nations descended from these sons (19:37-38)?
 - ii. What do we know of these nations (Num. 21:29; 22:1, 6; Judg. 11:4; Deut. 23:3)?
 - iii. They became inveterate enemies of God's chosen people (Num. 21:29; 22:1, 6; Judg. 11:4; Deut. 23:3).
 - D. Will God in any way tolerate evil?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 7

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Age
Abraham to Exodus
430 years; Gen. 12 to Ex 14

PERIOD OF PREPARATION

(References in Genesis)

REBEKAH—captivating; to fetter by beauty; to clog by tying up the feet (with beauty)

1. Who was her father (22:23)?
 - A. Who were her grandparents (22:20; 24:15)?
 - B. Who was her brother? What kind of man was he (24:29; 31:41)?
2. Rebekah becomes the wife of whom?
 - A. *Abraham prepares his servant for the quest (24:1-9).
 - B. *Describe the answer to prayer (24:10-27).
 - C. *Describe the royal hospitality of Rebekah's home (24:28-33).
 - D. *What does their guest say is the reason he has come (24:34-49)?
 - E. *Relate Rebekah's decision to go with the guest (24:50-60).

Notice that the questions above have an asterisk before them. These are longer discussion questions which require some thought and searching.

3. Narrate the meeting and marriage of Rebekah to her husband (24:61-67).
 - A. How old was her husband when they married (25:20)?
 - B. Where was Rebekah taken as a bride (24:67)?
4. What was her plight? What did her husband do (25:21)?
 - A. What did God reveal to her about the unborn children (25:22-23)? This prophecy will be important in answering further questions about her actions/motives.
 - B. Tell of the birth and appearance of these twins (25:24-26).
 - i. How old was Isaac at this time (25:26b)?
 - ii. How long had Rebekah been barren (25:20a, 26b)?
 - iii. As the boys grew, what did each become (25:27)?
 - iv. How was the parental affection divided (25:28)?
5. What possible deception did Isaac use at Gerar? Why (26:7)?
 - A. What similar action had his father twice taken (12:12, 13; 20:2)?
 - B. Was Rebekah his sister or a cousin (24:15)? In Asian countries, cousins are still called sisters in common speech.
 - C. How was Isaac's relationship to Rebekah discovered (26:8-9)?
6. *To secure the blessing for Jacob, what did Rebekah plan (27:5-17; Rom. 9:11-14)?
 - A. *Tell how Jacob executed the plan (27:18-29).
 - B. Later, God gives a law to the Israelite people which could have applied here had they known it (Deut. 27:18).
 - C. What three ways did Rebekah and Jacob deceive Isaac?
 - D. How did she propose to save Jacob from Esau's revenge (27:41-45)?
 - E. Do we know whether she ever saw her son again?
 - F. Remember what the Lord said about the two boys (Rom. 9:11-14).
7. Why did she beg Isaac to send Jacob away (27:41-46)?
 - A. Did Isaac agree (28:1, 2)? Why (26:34-35)?

- B. He was sent away with what blessings (28:3-5)?
- C. After his brother slipped away, how did Esau seek to get revenge (28:8-9)?
- 8. Who was Rebekah's trusted nurse (24:59; 35:8a)?
- 9. Where was Rebekah buried after her death (49:30-31)?

DEBORAH—orderly motion, systematic instincts of a bee

- 1. Who was she (35:8a)?
- 2. How long had she faithfully served Rebekah (24:59)?
- 3. Where was she buried? What was the name of the oak (35:8b)?
 - A. Give the meaning of Allonbacuth.

Why do you suppose she has such an elevated reputation in God's book?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 8

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Age
Abraham to the Exodus
430 Years; Gen. 12 to Ex 14

PERIOD OF PREPARATION

(References in Genesis)

LEAH—tender eyed; weary (implies she is *not* pretty—29:16)

- Who was her father (29:16)?
 - Who were her grandparents (22:23; 24:29)?
 - Who was her well-known aunt (24:29)?
- What is said of her eyes? This could be poor eyesight or lack of luster. Notice that the Hebrew definition in Strong's concordance says *weak*, as in faint-hearted.
- Jacob fulfilled his part of the agreement and asked for his reward (29:21).
- Who was given him instead of Rachel (29:23)?
 - What reason did Laban give for deceiving Jacob (29:26)?
 - How did Laban manage to keep Jacob from knowing who the woman was? (Heavy veils, darkness, no speech, etc.)
 - How did Jacob feel about the deception (29:25)?
 - Leah's father persuades Jacob to accept her by promising what (29:26-28)?
 - How many more years does Jacob have to serve to get the wife he asked for in the first place (29:20, 27b)? Was this fair?
 - What is the reason Leah had not married earlier? We might assume that it is because of verse 16.
- How was Jacob's love for his wives divided (29:30)?
 - When God saw that Leah's husband hated her, what did he do? The Hebrew dictionary says 'hated' means to hate (personally); enemy; foe; odious.
 - Later, at Mt. Sinai, the law was given to prevent such marriages (Lev. 18:18).
- Name the children of Leah and give the meanings of their names (29:32-35; 30:17-21)
 - In bearing these children, what did Leah think? Note the statements after the meaning of each child's name.
 - These were her statements after each child's birth.
 - Why was Levi so outstanding? What was to be his position in Israel?
 - For what great event was Judah used (Heb. 7:14)?
 - What blessing was given Ruth years later (Ruth 4:11)?
 - Was there ever any real peace between the sisters (30:15a)?
- When Jacob wanted counsel, for whom did he send (31:4)? How did his wives respond to his plan (31:14-16)?
- When Jacob met an enemy, how did he rank his family for protection (33:1-2)?
- What happened to Leah's only daughter (34:1-2)? How might this affect her?
- How many of her descendants went into Egypt (46:15)?
- Did her life and descendants compensate for her appearance?
- When Leah died, with which great people was she buried (49:31)?

ZILPAH—to trickle, as myrrh, fragrant dropping

- Whose handmaid was she (29:24)?

2. Who named the sons she bore to Jacob (30:9-13)? This custom indicates that the sons belonged to or were *claimed* by whom?
3. What was the reason she was given to Jacob for a wife (30:9)?
4. Through her, how many sons did Leah send into Egypt (46:18)?

DINAH—justice; judged or avenged

1. Who were her mother and father (30:19-21)?
2. What dangerous venture did this young girl make (34:1b)?
 - A. Who humiliated her and later wanted her for his wife (34:2-3)?
 - B. What OT law was later made to apply to both males and females in such situations?
 - C. How did Simeon and Levi avenge their sister (34:25-29)?
 - D. How did their conduct affect their father, Jacob (34:30-31)?
 - E. What are some of the dangers of “seeing the daughters of the land?”

TAMAR—A PALM TREE

1. She is the wife of _____, son of Judah (Gen. 38:1-30).
2. What did God think of this man and his brother?
3. From where had Er’s mother come (Gen. 38:1-3)? From what great nation did this tribe descend?
4. His children were born to a Canaanitish woman (1 Chron. 2:3).
5. Notice the tribal families, which descended from Tamar/Judah (Num. 26:20-21). She is an ancestress of the family of Christ (Matt. 1:1-17). Was she in Mary’s lineage or Joseph’s?
6. What should have been done for Tamar after her husband died? Why (Deut. 25:5-10)?
7. Was this a common practice among Jews even in Christ’s day (Matt. 22:24-28)?
8. What other character in Old Testament history can you think of who had this same situation (*Ruth* 1:1; 2:3; 3:1-5, 11-12; 4:1-17)?
9. Who was also obligated to support a widow (Lev. 22:12-13; Ruth 1:11-15)?
10. Why was Judah’s temptation strong? *There may be more than one reason*, but Gen. 38:12 gives one.
11. Where is Timnath (Judg. 14:1)? Who else found trouble in Timnath?
12. What was the custom concerning whores (Ezek. 16:33; Lev. 21:9)?
13. What was Tamar’s temptation? What was her right (Prov. 30:15-16)?
14. Who were Tamar’s sons? Name Judah’s other sons (1Chr 2:4-6)?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 9

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Age
Abraham to the Exodus
430 Years, Gen. 12 to Ex 14

PERIOD OF CONQUEST

(References in Genesis)

RACHEL—A LAMB

The meaning is taken from an old root word signifying—to journey; ewe, sheep—the female sheep being predominant in number in the flock—by implication, a good traveler.

1. Who was Rachel's father (29:16)?
 - A. Who were her grandparents and great-grandparents? **To be able to answer several questions about this family, it would be best to create a genealogy chart using Genesis 11:27-32.**
 - B. What was the blood relationship between Jacob and Rachel (24:29; 29:12)?
 - C. Who was her well-known aunt (24:29)?
2. Contrast her beauty with the looks of her sister (29:17)?
3. Briefly describe the meeting at the well (29:4-12).
4. Her father and the prospective groom made a marriage contract; what was it (29:15-20)? Why did the servitude seem so easy for Jacob (29:20)?
5. What three things prompted Laban to deceive Jacob concerning the marriage contract (29:17, 26-27)?
 - A. In spite of the terms of the new contract, when did Jacob actually marry Rachel (29:28)?
 - B. How long did he actually work for her (29:18, 30b)?
 - C. Contrast the love Jacob had for his wives (29:30).
 - D. Though multiple marriages were allowed during this dispensation, note the pitiful rivalry between the wives (30:1b, 14b, 15).
6. Though Rachel possessed Jacob's love, what was her sad situation (29:31b)?
 - A. When she was moved with envy, what did she demand of Jacob (30:1b)?
 - B. What does Solomon say of jealousy (Prov. 27:4; Song of Solomon (8:6)?
 - C. What kindled wrath; how did Jacob answer her demands (30:2)?
7. What did prayer do that jealousy and envy could not (30:22)?
 - A. What was her reaction to having her hopes realized (30:23)?
 - B. What does the name Joseph mean (30:24)?
8. When Jacob holds counsel with his wives, which is mentioned first (31:4, 14)?
9. When the family decided to flee the wicked father, what does Rachel steal (31:19)?
 - A. We can only guess her motives in taking this from her father.
 - B. Later, how did she prevent her father from finding the stolen goods (31:34-35)?
 - C. What would have been her punishment had Laban found the thing in her possession (31:32)?
 - D. Did Laban worship Jehovah, the God of Heaven? Did he fear Him (31:24, 29)? Did he fear enough to obey?
 - E. When he reached Canaan, what did Rachel's husband do with all idols (35:2-4)?
10. Tell of the heavy price Rachel paid for her second son (35:16-21).
 - A. What were her last words (35:18)?
 - B. What did Jacob call his son 35:18)?
 - C. What are the different meanings of *Benoni* and *Benjamin*?

- D. What was the humble grave marker (35:20)?
- E. Later, what reference did Jacob make to this event (48:7)?
- 11. Through Joseph and Benjamin, how many went into Egypt (46:22)?

BILHAH—timid, tender

- 1. Whose handmaid was she (29:29)?
- 2. Why was she given to Jacob to wife (30:3-4)?
 - A. Who else had resorted to this seeming “expediency” (16:1-2)?
 - B. Who were the children “born to Rachel” through Bilhah (30:6-8)?
 - C. Give the meanings of these two names.
- 3. Through Bilhah, how many sons went into Egypt (46:25)?

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- 1. Name some beautiful women (12:11; 26:7; 29:17; 2 Sam. 13:1; Job 42:15).
 - A. Is beauty sometimes dangerous (12:11-12; 26:6-9)?
 - B. What is said about a beautiful woman who has no discretion (Prov. 11:22)?
 - C. What is the difference between man’s idea of beauty and God’s (1 Sam. 16:7)?
 - D. What is said of grace and beauty (Prov. 31:30)?
 - E. What beauty should we desire (1 Pet. 3:3-4)?
- 2. Did Leah’s sons fall heir to her jealousy (37:12, 18-19, 28)?
- 3. Name the sons of Leah.
- 4. Name the sons of Rachel.
- 5. Name the sons of the handmaids.

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 10

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Age
Abraham to the Exodus
430 Years, Gen. 12 to Ex 14

PERIOD OF PREPARATION

(References in Genesis)

JUDITH—JEWISH (adjective)

Her father is Beerli the Hittite (26:34). Her mother is not mentioned.

BASHEMATH—FRAGRANT

She was the daughter of Elon the Hittite and Ishmael—sister of Nebajoth (36:3; 36:10).

MAHALATH—MILD SICKNESS (thought to be the first word of a popular song)

1. She is the daughter of Ishmael and the sister of Nebajoth (28:8, 9).
2. Thus she is a sister or at least a half sister to Bashemath.
3. In chapter 28:9 she is a third wife. Note question #2 (after Aholibamah).

ADAH—PLEASURE

1. The daughter of Elon the Hittite and Ishmael (36:2; 36:10)
2. She must also be a sister to Bashemath.
3. Notice that the sons are different.
4. In Gen. 36:1-3 she is mentioned as one of the three wives along with Aholibamah and Bashemath.

AHOLIBAMAH—TENT OF HIGH PLACES

- A. She is the daughter of Anah and granddaughter of Zibeon the Hivite. Her mother is not mentioned.
 - B. Read chapters 36:2; 36:5, and 36:24. It seems like a contradiction, but the Hebrew word “builder,” which was used in vs. 2 means “one who is used to extend the family name.” It is used in its widest sense to mean daughter, granddaughter, son, grandson, nephew, etc. and can be translated any one of these.
 - C. Read Gen. 26:34; 27:46; 28:1, 9; 36:1-6, 9-19 for the **details**.
 - D. These women are called the daughters of Heth (26:46).
 - E. They are also called the daughters of Canaan (28:1).
1. Who were these women (26:34; 28:9; 36:2, 3)?
 2. Special note: It appears that Esau’s wives did not all have children or else the sons are the only ones mentioned in the genealogy. Esau did have sons and daughters (plural) as we read from Gen. 36:6.
 - A. Bashemath bore Ruel (vs. 10, 4).
 - B. Aholibamah bore Jeush, Jaalam, and Korah (vs. 14, 5).
 - C. Ada bore Esau and Eliphaz (vs. 4, 10).
 - D. Other wives of Esau were either barren or bore girls.
 3. How did Isaac and Rebekah feel about some of them (26:35)?
 4. To try to please his parents, whom did Esau marry now (28:8)?
 - A. What relation was Esau to Mahalath, Bashemath and Adah (28:9)? It appears that it was almost the same relationship Jacob had to Rachel.

- B. How old was Esau when he first married (26:34a)?
- C. What nation did Esau represent (36:1, 8; 36:43)?

ASENATH—DEDICATED TO NIEL

1. Tell who gave her to whom for his wife (41:45a)?
 - A. She was the daughter of whom (41:45b)?
 - B. “On” was the sacred city of the Sun worshippers of Egypt. The priests of this cast were sages—hence the by-word, “the wisdom of the Egyptians.” (Acts 7:22).
 - C. Why did Pharaoh give this woman to Joseph?
2. Name the sons which Asenath bore to Joseph. (41:50, 51a, 52a).
 - A. Give the meaning of “Manasseh” and “Ephraim.” (forgetfulness and fruitfulness)
 - B. Why did Joseph name his sons these names (41:51b, 52b)?

(References in Exodus)

SHIPRAH AND PURAH—BEAUTIFUL

1. What were they (1:15)?
2. The king made a heartless demand of them. What was it (1:16b)?
 - A. Though they may not have known Jehovah, what did they do because they feared (1:17b)?
 - B. What had God forbidden (Gen. 9:6)?
3. When summoned before the king, what were they asked (1:18)?
 - A. What was their ready answer (1:19)?
 - B. How did God show his approval (1:20)?
 - C. Because they feared God, what did He make for them?
 - D. Does the word *house* always mean a physical building?
4. What new and drastic decree is issued by the king (1:22)?
5. In the book of Exodus, we are able to get great insight into the occupation of the nurse or midwife. There is much said and implied about this work.

POTIPHAR’S WIFE

1. What noted young man did her husband buy as a slave (39:1)?
 - A. Note God’s loving care for this young man (39:2).
 - B. Who noticed the blessings of God upon him (39:3)?
 - C. Why then was he made overseer of his entire house (39:4)?
 1. How was Potiphar’s house richly blessed (39:5)?
 2. Just how much did he trust Joseph (39:6)?
 - D. What is said of Joseph’s appearance (39:6)?
2. With lustful eyes, what did Potiphar’s wife propose (39:7)?
 - A. Tell of his frank refusal (39:8).
 - B. With gratitude and fear of God, what was his reply (39:9)?
3. With lustful intent, how did she execute her scheme (39:10-12)?
4. Defeated in her plans; what did she do to get vengeance (39:13-15)?
 - A. She relates her story to her husband; tell it (39:16-18)?
 - B. How was he affected; what did he do (39:19-20)?
 - C. How did God manifest his love for Joseph (39:21)?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 11

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Age
Abraham to the Exodus
430 Years; Gen. 12 to Ex 14

PERIOD OF PREPARATION

(References in Exodus)

JOCHEBED—JAH IS HONOR (*Jah* is part of the Hebrew words *Yahova* or *Jehovah*, i.e. God is honor.)

1. Of which tribe is she (2:1)?
2. To whom was she married (6:20a)?
 - A. How was she related to her husband (6:20a)?
 - B. Name the famous children born to them (6:20b; Num. 26:59).
 - i. Name the children in order of their births (ages) (2:4; 7:7)?
 - ii. Of the three, which one was referred to as the goodly child (2:2, 10)?
3. During what adverse circumstances was her third child born (1:16)?
 - A. How did the God-fearing mother seek to protect him (2:2b)?
 - B. Give a further description of this (Acts 7:20).
 - C. How did she protect him (Heb. 11:23)?
 - D. When she could no longer hide the child, what did she do (2:3)?
 - E. The mother posted a concealed guard to watch from afar, who was it (2:4)?
 - F. Finally, how was the child rescued (2:5-6)?
 - i. What wise suggestion did the sister make (2:7)?
 - ii. Was the suggestion taken? What was done (2:8-9)?
 - iii. Who was hired to nurse the child?
 - iv. When he was old enough to wean, to whom was he returned (2:10)?
4. What motherly protection did the king's daughter manifest (Acts 7:21)? What is your picture (concept) of the Pharaoh's daughter?
 - A. What kind of an education did Moses receive (Acts 7:22)?
 - B. Approximately how long was Moses in training (Acts 7:23)?
 - C. How did God overrule in Moses' life (Jer.10:23; Prov. 3:3-6; 16:9, 33)?
5. Why do we remember the children of Jochebed (3:11; 6:26; 15:20a)?
6. What was the office of Aaron and his sons after the law was given (28:1)?

MIRIAM—FAT, THICK, STRONG

1. As a child, how did she manifest her trustworthiness (Ex 2:3-4, 7)?
2. What did she become (Ex 15:20a)?
 - A. How did she lead in celebrating Israel's delivery (Ex 15:20b)?
 - B. Why did she ask the ladies to sing (Ex 15:21)?
3. Apparently jealousy was her weakness. What did she and Aaron join together to do (Num. 12:1-2)?
 - A. Give God's vindication of Moses (Num. 12:4-8).
 - B. How was she punished for her sin (Num. 12:9-10)?
 - C. Tell of Moses' intercession for her and of her being healed (Num. 12:13-15)?
 - D. Later, in teaching obedience, Moses used this incident as an illustration. What does he say of her (Deut. 24:9)?
4. Where did she die, and where was she buried (Num. 20:1)?

ZIPPORAH—LITTLE BIRD

1. She was the daughter of whom (Ex 2:18; 4:18)?
 - A. What was her father's official office (Ex 2:16a)?
 - B. How many girls were there in her family (Ex 2:16a)?
 - C. What was the occupation of these sisters (Ex 2:16b)?
2. Describe the meeting at the well (Ex 2:15-20).
 - A. Who became Zipporah's husband (Ex 2:21)?
 - B. Who are the others who met brides at wells (Gen. 24:10-11, 15; 29:10)?
3. What were the names of her two sons (Ex 2:22, 18:4)?
 - A. Give the meaning of *Gershom* and *Eliezer*.
 - B. In Midian, what was Moses' occupation (Ex 3:1)?
4. With whom did she and her sons go to Egypt (Ex 4:20)?
 - A. When Moses neglected to circumcise his sons, how did God propose to punish him (4:24)?
 - B. What was the penalty for failing to circumcise (Gen. 17:14)?
 - C. What did the mother do? Was she happy about it (Ex 4:25-26)?
 - i. What seems to be the reason Moses had failed to keep this rite (Ex 4:26)?
 - ii. Because of this rebellion, to whom was Zipporah sent (Ex 18:1-2)?
 - iii. When did she next see her husband (Ex 18:5)?
 - iv. Tell of the family reunion (Ex 18:6-7).

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. Did Moses do right in marrying Zipporah (Gen. 25:1-4; Num. 22:7; Gen. 37:25ff; Ex 2:15, 21: 4:19; 22:4-7; 25:15, 17; 31:2 ff)?
 - A. Who took advantage of this union, to lodge a complaint (Num. 12:1-2; He 5:4)?
 - B. Why could Moses' sons not become priests (Lev. 21:1-7, 5; Judg. 14:3)?
 - C. The priests were not to marry whom (Lev. 21:14a)?
 - D. But they were to marry whom (Lev. 21:14b)?
2. Did Zipporah ever fully enter into Moses' work (Ex 4:25-26)?
 - A. Can Moses' success be attributed to his wife?
 - B. How may the preacher's wife make or ruin him?
 - C. How may an otherwise good elder be unqualified as an elder because of his wife?

D. BIBLE WOMEN

Lesson 12

Of the Old Testament
Patriarchal Age
Abraham to the Exodus
430 Years; Gen. 12 to Ex 14

PERIOD OF PREPARATION

(References in Exodus)

ELISHEBA—GOD IS SWEARER

1. She was the daughter of whom; the sister of whom (6:23a)?
2. She was married to whom (6:23a)?
 - A. Name her noted sons (6:23c).
 - B. Why are they remembered (28:1)?
 - i. What presumptuous sin did Nadab and Aabihu commit (Lev. 10:1)?
 - ii. For this, what punishment was immediately imposed (Lev. 10:2)?
 - iii. Can we say what led to this sin (Lev. 10:8-9)?

(References in Leviticus)

SHELOMITH—PEACEFUL

1. She was married to what foreigner (24:10a)?
2. With whom did her rebellious son strive (24:10b)?
 - A. What did this wretched son also do (24:11a)?
 - B. For his blasphemy, before whom was he arraigned? Why (24:11b)?
 - C. *Tell of the penalty and its execution (24:13, 16, and 23).
 - D. From this, what further instructions were given (24:22)?

(References in Numbers)

COZBI—DECEITFUL

1. With whom did Israel, at this time, play the harlot (25:1; Rev. 2:14; 2:20)?
 - A. Of what did this consist (25:2)?
 - B. How were they punished for this (25:4-5)?
2. At the height of the sin, what did one venture to do (25:6)?
 - A. What did the zeal of Phinehas do to end it (25:7-8a)?
 - B. In all, how many were slain for the sin of harlotry (25:9)?
 - C. What was the name of the woman involved (25:15)?
 - D. Name the man who led in the sin (25:14).
3. How were the Midianites to be further punished? Why (25:17-18)?

HOGLAH—MAGPIE; MAHLAH—MILDNESS; MILCA—COUNSEL; NOAH—FLATTERY; TIRZAH—DELIGHTED

1. These were the daughters of whom (27:1a)?
2. Trace their ancestry back to Manasseh (Num. 27:1; Josh. 17:3).
3. How do their names signify the impressions of the parents at their birth?
4. *What earnest plea did they make to Moses (27:2-4)?
 - A. Moses appealed to God; what was the answer (Num. 27:5-7)?
 - B. To make certain the inheritance, what law was issued (Num. 27:8-11)?
5. To secure their heritage, to whom were these girls to marry (36:6-9)?
 - A. This would prevent the inheritance from doing what (36:7)?
 - B. How were all daughters to insure their inheritance (36:8-9)?

- C. To whom, then, were these girls married (Num. 36:10-12)?
- 6. On reaching Canaan, what did these daughters do (Josh. 17:3, 6)? With what results (Josh. 17:5-6)?
- 7. Whose names were listed in the genealogies of Israel (Num. 1:2)?
- 8. Who can claim credit for securing property rights for women (Num. 27:6-11)?
- 9. Down through the ages, has this privilege been adhered to by civilized nations?

(References in Joshua)

THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD OF CONQUEST

RAHAB or RACHAB—BREADTH; PROUD (from a word that means to broaden, open wide, make room)

1. Who is Rahab (2:1b)? Was she a Jew or a Gentile?
2. Tell of her shielding the spies (2:2-7).
 - A. How did she receive them (Heb. 11:31)?
 - B. How and why was she justified (Jas. 2:25)?
3. What was her city like (Josh. 2:5, 15)?
 - A. They had some contact with the outside world (7:21).
 - B. Close to the Jordan River (see map) which was in flood stage at this time (3:15).
4. What kind of person was Rahab?
 - A. Her principles: willing to lie (Josh. 2:3-6) Was this sin to her? (Rom. 2:14-15).
 - B. Her resourcefulness (Josh. 2:6; 2:15-16; 2: 21-22).
 - C. Her knowledge (Josh. 2:8-10).
 - D. Her faith (2:11-13; Heb. 11:31, Jas. 2:25).
5. What was her occupation (Josh. 2:11)?
 - A. Some say she was an innkeeper, not a prostitute, but Jas. 2:25 uses the Greek word *porne*.
 - B. What honorable occupation could she have followed (2:6, 15, 18)?
6. What were the conditions of her being saved (2:15-21)?
7. Relate her earnest plea to be delivered from destruction (2:12-13).
 - A. Tell the basis of her faith and her plea (2:8-14, 17-20).
 - B. What was to be the condition of her safety (2:14)?
8. Before taking Jericho, what minute instructions did Joshua give (2:17-23)?
 - A. The city destroyed: (6:1; 12-21).
 - B. What assurance did she give them (2:21)?
 - C. Rahab and her family saved: (6:22-25).
9. How was she saved and by what was she justified (Heb. 11:30, 31; Jas. 2:25)?
 - A. Rahab saved the spies; how did they save her (6:22-23)?
 - B. How did she provide the escape of the men; with what word (2:15-16)?
10. Where did she dwell after this (6:25)?
 - A. Later on, whom does she marry (Matt. 1:5)?
 - B. Who was her righteous son (Matt. 1:5a)?
 - C. She is therefore listed in the genealogy of whom (Matt. 1:5b)?
 - D. With what other harlot and with what other Gentile is she listed (Matt. 1:3, 5)?
 - E. How does God judge nations and people (Acts 10:34-35)?

BIBLE WOMEN

Lesson 13

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
Exodus to the Coronation
396 Years; Ex 14 to 1 Sam. 10

PERIOD OF CONQUEST

(References in Joshua)

ACHSAH—SERPENT CHARMER

1. What does the meaning of her name indicate?
2. She was the daughter of whom (15:16)?
 - A. What do we remember about him (Num. 13:2, 6, 30; 14:6, 24, 38; Josh. 14:6, 14)?
 - B. From what tribe was he (Num. 34:19)?
3. The groom-to-be was to pay what dowry for her (15:15-16)?
 - A. Who won the coveted prize (15:17)?
 - B. What “dowry” was to be given the one killing Goliath (1 Sam. 17:25)?
4. Achsah moved her husband to ask for what prized possession (15:18a)?
 - A. As if forgetting something, what did she do (15:18b)?
 - B. For what did she ask (15:19a)?
 - C. She got more than she asked; what was it (15:19)?
 - D. What relation was she to her husband (15:17)?
5. Her husband became the first what in Israel (Judg. 3:9)?

(References in Judges)

DEBORAH—BEE, WASP (in the sense of orderly motion; from its systematic instincts)

1. What does her name signify? [Supposedly a symbol of Egyptian regal power]
2. To whom was she married (4:4b)?
3. What three things did she do (4:4, 5:1)?
4. In Israel, she was what (4:4ac; 5:1, 7b)?
5. Where did she dwell (4:5)?
 - A. Who came to her for judgment (4:5)?
 - B. What was she to Israel (5:7)?
 - C. What did this have to do with her greatness?
6. Who sorely oppressed Israel at this time (4:1, 2)?
 - A. What did they do because of this bondage; Why (4:3)?
 - B. What of Jabin’s strength; how long did he oppress Israel (4:3)?
 - C. For relief, whom did Deborah appoint (4:6a)?
 - i. With what orders was he appointed in Israel (4:6- 7)?
 - ii. Under what condition would he accept the charge (4:8)?
 - iii. The honor of the victory would go to whom, however (4:9)?
 - D. Barak was summoned to arms. What of the response (4:10; 5:9b; 15a)?
 - i. To what points of conflict did the armies assemble (4:10, 13)?
 - ii. *Describe the victory under Deborah’s directions (4:14-16).
 - iii. Who and what fought for Israel (4:6b; 5:20, 21)?
 - iv. How did Deborah and Barak celebrate the victory (5:1)?
7. Read the song of Deborah (chapter 5).
8. How long did Deborah judge Israel (5:31)?

- A. She was a prophetess. Name another one studied (Ex 15:20).
- B. Name four New Testament prophetesses (Acts 21:8, 9).
- C. By usurpation, who was the woman king (2 Kings 11:3b)?

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

1. Would the expression, *mother of Israel*, mean anything to the people of God?
2. What do you think of Deborah's military strategy?
 - A. What was her idea of getting Barak to assemble on Mount Tabor?
 - B. What was the idea of getting Jabin to assemble by the river (5:20, 21)?
3. Why was her husband's name overshadowed by hers?

JAEL—CHAMIOS (taken from two other words meaning to ascend; climbing; like a wild goat)

1. Note the meaning of the name in the Hebrew.
2. She was the wife of whom (4:17a)?
3. The Kenites were related to whom (4:11)?
4. Tell of her hospitality to Sisera (4:18, 19).
 - A. Her guest was fleeing from whom (4:15, 16)?
 - B. How did he flee in his great haste (4:15c, 17a)?
 - C. What did he ask of his hostess, and what was her response (4:20)?
5. How did she slay Sisera (4:21)?
 - A. To whom did she report her deed (4:22)?
 - B. Was Deborah's prophecy fulfilled (4:8, 9)?
6. Why was the honor of the victory not given to Barak (4:6-8)?
7. How did Deborah speak of Jael (5:24-27)?

WOMAN OF THE TOWER OF THEBES

1. At this time, who had besieged Thebes (Judg. 9:50)?
2. Who had fled the strong tower of the city (9:51)?
3. Describe how the "certain woman" ended the siege (9:51-53).
4. Who was Abimelech (Judg. 8:30-10:1; 2 Sam. 11:21; Judg. 9:22; Judg. 9:5)? Note: Shechem was a town in Palestine of Ephraim.
 - A. In his humiliation, what did Abimelech ask his armor bearer to do (9:54)?
 - B. How did this feat end the wickedness of Abimelech (9:55-57)?
5. What is obvious about this woman's skill (9:53)?
 - A. How does she compare to the men of the tower (9:51)?
 - B. Discuss Abimelech's action of killing himself.

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 14

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
The Exodus to the Coronation
396 Years; Ex 14 to 1 Sam. 10

PERIOD OF CONQUEST

(References in Judges)

JEPHTHAH'S DAUGHTER

1. What was Jephthah's rash vow (11:30-31)?
2. Was he victorious in battle (11:32-33)?
3. Tell how she came out to meet him, celebrating his victory (11:34)?
4. How was her celebration turned into sorrow?
 - A. How many children did Jephthah have (11:34)?
 - B. How was he affected (11:35)?
 - C. In her reply, how did she show love and obedience (11:36)?
 - D. What was her request (11:37)?
 - E. How long did she bewail her virginity (11:38)?
 - F. What then was done unto her (11:39; 11:30-31; Gen. 22:1-10)?
 - G. What custom then originated (11:40)?
5. Remember that the Israelites made Jephthah ruler.

POINTS TO CONSIDER

1. Read the Numbers 30—especially vs. 2; compare with Lev. 27:1-29.
2. How was Jephthah's vow different from the vow spoken of in these two readings?
3. Was there a difference between keeping a vow of separation or dedication and being a Nazarite (Num. 6:1-21)?
4. How was offering a burnt offering different?
5. Was it sinful to offer human sacrifice (Jer. 19:4-6; 2 Kings 3:26-27)?
6. What was the prophet's cry against human sacrifices (Jer. 19:3-5)?
7. What did Jephthah do with his daughter (11:31, 36, 39; Eccles. 5:1-7)?
 - A. Why did she want to spend two months away from her parents?
 - B. Why bewail her virginity?
 - C. What is the significance of the statement, "she knew not a man?"
8. Since she was his only daughter, Jephthah would have his name blotted out of Israel. How might this have affected him?
9. How did his daughter place the victory of Israel over her own welfare (11:36b)?
10. What lesson can be learned here concerning obedience to parents? Today, to what extent are children commanded to obey their parents (Eph. 6:1)?
11. What can be said for her sympathetic companions (11:38)?
12. As a man of faith, what was said of Jephthah (Heb. 11:32)?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 15

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
The Exodus to the Coronation
396 Years; Ex 14 to 1 Sam. 10

PERIOD OF CONQUEST

(References in Judges)

MANOAH'S WIFE

1. From what tribe was she (13:2a)?
2. What was her predicament (13:2b)?
 - A. Who appeared to her bringing wonderful news (13:3)?
 - B. What restrictions regarding drink and food were now imposed (13:4-5)?
 - C. What restrictions were given concerning the child (13:5)?
 - D. Read the law of the Nazarite (Num. 6:2-5).
3. Tell of her report to her husband (13:6-7)?
4. *Relate Manoah's prayer, and the answer (13:9-14).
5. Manoah desires to entertain his guest; relate it (13:15-21).
6. How did he feel because of the angel's presence (13:21-22)?
7. How did his wife comfort him (13:23)?
8. In fulfillment of the angel's promise, how were they blessed (13:24)?
9. The meaning of Samson in the Hebrew is *brilliant sunlight*.
 - A. Specifically it is the east sunlight. It has come to mean *distinguished, strong*.
 - B. Was this literally true (14:5-6)?
 - C. How did God manifest his presence with the child (13:25)?
10. How did his mother and father advise him, relative to marrying (14:1-3)?
11. Whose plan was it that Samson should marry a Philistine (14:4)?
12. Tell of his parent's accompanying him to see the woman he had chosen (14:5-10).

SAMSON'S WIFE—THE WOMAN OF TIMNAH

1. With whom did Samson fall in love (14:1)?
2. Who were her people (14:1)?
 - A. Where did Samson first see her (14:1)?
 - B. Manoah and his wife object, but did it do any good?
 - i. Israel is forbidden to marry certain nations (Deut. 7:1-5)?
 - ii. What of Samson's determination to have her (14:3c; Deut. 14:7)?
3. Relate the engagement visit and the lion experience (14:5-7).
4. Rehearse the marriage trip (14:8-9).
 - A. Describe the wedding feast (14:10-18).
 - B. How long did the feast last (14:17)?
 - C. *Tell of the riddle and the prizes to be given (14:12-15).
 - D. What did the wedding guests threaten the bride and her father (14:15)?
 - E. How did she move Samson to reveal his secret (14:16-17)?
 - F. Did Samson keep his promise to the men who guessed the riddle (14:19)?
 - G. When the men told the riddle, what was Samson's reply (14:18)?
5. Finally, to whom was his wife given (14:20)?
6. How did he avenge himself of the men who turned his wife against him (15:3-5)?
 - A. How did the Philistines get even with Samson (15:6)?

- B. Again Samson desires to avenge his wife. What does he do (15:7-9)?
7. Is there peace after that (15:9-19)?

POINTS TO CONSIDER

1. Name some women who, because of the decision of God, were blessed with a child (Gen. 17:19; 25:21; 30:22; I Sam 1:20; Luke 1:7).
2. Name the child or children of each of these characters.
3. Is the home fully happy without children?

HARLOT OF GAZA

1. Who went to see the harlot (16:1)?
2. Who laid wait for him until morning? How did they plan to catch him here (16:2)?
3. How long did Samson stay (16:3)?
4. How did he escape (16:3)?

DELILAH—LANGUISHING

1. What is the meaning of the name?
2. By what river did she live (16:4)?
3. Who was in love with her (16:4)?
4. Who plotted with her to betray Samson; for how much (16:5)?
 - A. What did she desire to know; why (16:6)?
 - B. Give Samson's reply and the results (16:7-9).
5. What was her second appeal to Samson? Give the results (16:10-12).
6. In the third test, how did she manifest her hidden hypocrisy (16:13-14)?
7. In her fourth trial, how did she finally reach the heart of Samson (16:15-17)?
8. Tell the sad story of her delivering Samson into the hands of his enemies (16:18-20)?
9. Describe his pitiful captivity (16:18-22).
10. How did Delilah likely lose her life (16:25-30)?

POINTS TO CONSIDER

1. What was Samson's weakness (14:1; 16:1; 16:4)? Why was it only one nation (14:4)?
2. In what was Delilah especially gifted?
3. Why was she so determined to find out Samson's secret (16:5, 18)?
4. What did she accomplish with her tongue that a whole battalion of Philistines could not do (16:19-21)?
5. Tell how any woman who "uses her beauty" becomes like Delilah?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 16

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
The Exodus to the Coronation
396 Years; Ex. 14 to 1 Sam. 10

PERIOD OF CONQUEST

(References in Judges)

MOTHER OF MICAH

1. What confession did her son make to her (17:1, 2)?
 - A. Who was Micah and where did he live (17:1)?
 - B. Who had stolen her money (17:1, 2)?
 - C. What had the woman done when she realized the money was missing (17:2)?
 - D. Was the woman angry with the thief (17:2-3)?
 - E. What likely had moved her son to confess (17:2b)?
2. After its restoration, what did she do with the money (17:3-4)?
 - A. What three things did her son, Micah, have in his house (17:5)?
 - B. How are these things used; from where might they have come (8:27; Hos. 3:4)?
 - C. Whom did Micah make to be his priest (17:5)? Who else (17:7-13)?
3. What commandments given on Mt. Sinai did Micah's mother violate (Ex. 20:1-17)?
4. Does good intention atone for sin (Prov. 14:12)?

CONCUBINE OF THE LEVITE

1. Using Gen. 30:3-5; Gen. 35:22; Gen. 49:3-4, give a definition for the word *concubine*.
2. Was this woman a faithful *concubine* to her husband (19:2)?
3. To what place had she fled (19:2)?
4. Did her husband get along well with her father (19:3-9)?
5. What happened to her on the way home (19:10-28)?
6. *Relate what her husband did to get revenge for her murder (19:29-30).
7. Were the Israelites willing to help him (20:1-11)?
8. Who was held responsible for the murder (20:4-5)?
9. What was to be done to the men of Gibeah (20:12-13)?
10. *The tribe of Benjamin refused to give up the criminals; tell their punishment (20:46-47).

DAUGHTERS OF SHILOH

1. What was the occasion of the dance in which these young ladies participated (21:19-21)?
2. Was it *their intention* to be caught?
3. Who plotted to set a trap for them (21:16)?
4. What would have happened to the tribe of Benjamin if this plot had not been conceived (21:5-7)?
5. Was it according to the law of God that these girls be married to Benjamites?

POINTS TO CONSIDER

1. Why do these people seem so barbaric to us (17:6)?
2. How many times does God say this in the book of Judges?
3. What lesson can we learn from the examples set by these women?
4. What happens to any nation when the people take the law into their own hands?
5. Name other concubines we have not studied so far.
 - A. Gen. 22:23-24
 - B. Gen. 36:12
 - C. Gen. 25:1
 - D. 1 Chron. 1:32
 - E. 1 Chron. 2:46-48
 - F. 1 Chron. 7:14

WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT FIRST REVIEW

Since we are about half way through our study of the Old Testament women, we need to review our work. Check this list of women studied:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Achsha | 29. Kezia |
| 2. Adah | 30. Leah |
| 3. Adah | 31. Lot's daughters |
| 4. Aholibamah | 32. Lot's wife |
| 5. Asenath | 33. Mahalath |
| 6. Bashemath | 34. Mahlah |
| 7. Bilhah | 35. Manoah's wife |
| 8. Concubine of the Levite | 36. Milcah |
| 9. Cozbi | 37. Milcah |
| 10. Daughters of Shiloh | 38. Milcah |
| 11. Deborah | 39. Miriam |
| 12. Deborah | 40. Naamah (Gen 4:22) |
| 13. Delilah | 41. Noah |
| 14. Dinah | 42. Puah |
| 15. Elisheba | 43. Rachel |
| 16. Eve | 44. Rahab |
| 17. Hagar | 45. Rebekah |
| 18. Harlot of Gaza | 46. Sarai; Sarah |
| 19. Hoglah | 47. Shelomith |
| 20. Iscah | 48. Shiphrah |
| 21. Jael | 49. Tamar |
| 22. Jemima | 50. Tirzah |
| 23. Jephthah's daughter | 51. Woman of Thebez |
| 24. Job's wife | 52. Woman of Timnah |
| 25. Jochebed | 53. Zillah |
| 26. Judith | 54. Zilpah |
| 27. Keren-happuch | 55. Zipporah |
| 28. Keturah | |

Using the names on the previous page, answer the following questions:

1. After Samson's wife was given to another man, who "befriended" him?
2. Can you think of anyone who has been omitted from the list? (Additionally, consider Gen 22:20-24; Gen 36:12; 1 Chr 2:46, 48; 1 Chr 7:14).
3. Distinguish between the Deborahs.
4. Distinguish between the two Adahs on the list.
5. How many of the list are unnamed?
6. How many women have we studied so far?
7. Identify the Milcahs of the list.
8. Name the children of Jochebed.
9. Name the handmaids of Leah and Rachel.
10. Name two women who were "sisters" to their husbands.
11. Name the daughters of Job.
12. Of the whole list of women, which ones were sisters? Is there more than one pair?
13. This woman advised her husband to curse God and die.
14. What Midianitish woman had a javelin driven through her belly while she committed adultery?
15. What woman from Moab is mentioned?
16. What woman was cut into twelve pieces and sent to the 12 Tribes of Israel?
17. Which is your favorite woman and why? (Personal judgment here)
18. Which ladies were visited by angels?
19. Which woman was judge, prophetess, and general—all at the same time?
20. Which women had sons who were hunters?
21. Which women had twins?
22. Which women secured property rights for themselves and future generations of women?
23. Which women were nurses?
24. Which women were prophetesses?
25. Which women were said to be the fairest in the land?
26. Who danced for husbands?
27. Who did the Philistines burn with her father?
28. Who is mentioned in the genealogy of Christ?

29. Who killed a man by dropping a millstone on his head?
30. Who lost her first husband, but later had twin sons?
31. Who met their future husbands nearby wells?
32. Who murdered a man?
33. Who suggested to her son to deceive his father?
34. Who was a harlot who believed in God?
35. Who was Caleb's daughter?
36. Who was Leah's daughter?
37. Who was Moses' wife?
38. Who was not *born* in the same way as the others?
39. Who was raped by Benjamites and left to die?
40. Who was Samson's legal wife?
41. Who was the grandmother of Rebekah?
42. Who was the mother of all living?
43. Who was the mother of Joseph and Benjamin?
44. Who was the mother of Samson?
45. Who went out to see the daughters of the land?
46. Who were Lot's two sisters?
47. Who were the wives of Abraham?
48. Who were the wives of Esau?
49. Who were the wives of Jacob?
50. Who were the wives of Lamech?
51. Whose father was a bandit warrior and later a ruler in Israel?
52. Whose husband became the first high priest in Israel?
53. Whose son was a blasphemer?

BIBLE WOMEN
LESSON 17

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
The Exodus to the Coronation
396 Years; Ex. 14 to 1 Sam. 10

PERIOD OF CONQUEST

(References in Ruth)

NAOMI—MY DELIGHT; PLEASANT; BEAUTIFUL

1. Where was her original home (1:1b)?
2. To whom was she married (1:2)?
 - A. Who were her sons (1:2)?
 - B. Give the meaning of Elimelech, Mahlon, and Chilion. [God is my King; Infirmary; Finished and Completed]
3. Why did her family leave Bethlehem (1:1a)?
 - A. What was their destination (1: 1b)?
 - B. What happened to Naomi's husband (1:3)?
4. Whom did Naomi's sons marry (1:4)?
 - A. Were these marriages a grief to Naomi (Deut. 7:1-3; Ex. 23:32-33; 34:16; 1 Kings 11:1-2)?
 - B. Tell what happened to her sons ten years later (1:5).
 - C. What did Naomi decide to do after losing her sons (1:6-7)?
 - D. Did Naomi want Ruth and Orpah to go with her (1:8-9)?
 - E. How did she reason with them (1:11-13)?
 - F. *Relate the touching appeal Ruth makes to her daughters-in-law (1:8-14).
5. Why did Naomi plan to return to Bethlehem 1:6)?
6. What happened when Naomi arrived in Bethlehem (1: 19)?
 - A. When did she and Ruth reach Bethlehem (1:22)?
 - B. How did she describe her feeling of loss 1:20, 21)?
 - C. What did she want to be called and what was the meaning (1:20-21)?
 - D. Name Naomi's kinsmen (2:1).
 - E. Who cared for Naomi in Bethlehem (2:17-18)?
 - F. Whom did Naomi praise when she found out where Ruth had worked (2:20)?
 - G. What was it that Naomi wanted to do for Ruth (3:1)?
 - H. What did she advise her to do (3:3-4)?
 - I. Which great blessing did God bestow on Naomi (4:13)?
 - J. According to her neighbors, to whom was this son born (4:17, Deut. 25:5-6)?
 - K. Who took care of the child (4:16)?

ORPAH—NECK; MAIN

1. Who was she and from what country (1:4)?
2. From whom did she descend (Gen. 19:36, 37)?
3. Whose wife was she (1:5a; 4:9, 10; 4:10 shows whose wife she was not.)?
 - A. How long did she live with him 1:4c, 5a)?

- B. Was this marriage pleasing to God (Deut. 7:1-3)?
 - C. What happened to her husband (1:5)?
 - D. Where did she want to go after her husband died (1:7-10)?
 - E. Was she fully converted to the teaching of God (1:15)?
 - F. What was the chief thing in her mind (1:9s, 11-13)?
 - G. In a marriage, should the companion or God have the preeminence?
4. Tell of the heart-rending separation of Orpah and Naomi (1:9, 10).
 - A. Did Orpah go to Bethlehem, Judah (1:14)?
 - B. Did Orpah want to leave Naomi (1:14)?
 - C. Where did she go (1:15)?
 5. In returning to her people, what did she have in common with Lot (Gen. 19:16, 17)?

RUTH—FEMALE COMPANION, FRIEND

1. Who was she (1:3-4)? (Moabites—descendent of Lot—Gen. 19:36-37; Neh. 13:1-3)
2. What was the name of her husband (4: 10)?
 - A. About how long were they married (1:4-5)?
 - B. Who was her well-known mother-in-law (1:2)?
 - C. What was her first sad experience (1:5a)?
3. Did Ruth return to her people, after her husband died (1:14)?
 - A. Where did she want to go (1:16-17)?
 - B. What was the supreme test of her faith in God (1:8, 9)?
4. When did Naomi and Ruth arrive in Bethlehem (1:22)?
 - A. Where did Ruth want to go and why (2:2)?
 - B. In whose field did she want to gather (2:3, Deut. 24:19-22)?
 - C. What instruction had God given to reapers of any field (Lev. 19:9, 10)?
 - D. What did Boaz' servants have to say of her (2:5-7)?
5. Boaz told Ruth to gather on his field only. What was her reaction (2:10)?
 - A. How did she find favor with Boaz (2:11)?
 - B. Who was to recompense Ruth for her deeds (2:12)?
6. Ruth was invited to eat with Boaz's servants. For whom did she save food (2:18)?
 - A. To whom did Ruth give report of all things that happened (2:19)?
 - B. What did Naomi want to do for her daughter-in-law (3:1)?
 - C. Did Ruth obey her words (3:2-5)?
 - D. What did Ruth do (3:6-8)?
 - E. How did Ruth identify herself (3:9)?
7. What did Boaz say that she was called by people and why (3:11)?
 - A. Where did Ruth lie until morning (3:14a)?
 - B. What did Boaz ask Ruth do, before light (3:14b)?
 - C. What did Ruth tell Naomi upon her return (3:16-17)?
8. Who was purchased to be Boaz' wife (4:13)?
9. At the gate of the city, how did Boaz seek to redeem the inheritance (4:1-5)?
 - A. What prevented the nearest kinsman from redeeming it (4:6)?
 - B. *Now tell how Boaz redeemed it (4:7-10).

- C. *Relate the law that governed this procedure (Deut. 25:5-10)?
 - D. What benediction did the court pronounce upon Boaz (4:11, 12)?
10. What was said of Ruth by other women (4:15)?
 11. What benediction is pronounced upon Naomi (4:14, 15)?
 12. Name the son Ruth bore Boaz (4:17)?
 - A. Whose grandfather was he (4:17)?
 - B. In whose lineage was Obed (Matt. 1:5, 16)?

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. What do you think of Naomi as a mother-in-law?
2. What may be said of Ruth as a daughter-in-law (2:11; 4:15b)?
3. What do you think of her purity of life (3:10)?
4. What do you think of her willingness to work?
5. What does the Apostle Paul say of idle women (1 Tim. 5:13)?
6. Show how she was ever true to her immortal saying (1:16, 17).

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 18

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
The Exodus to the Coronation
396 Years; Ex. 14 to 1 Sam. 10

PERIOD OF CONQUEST

(References in 1 Samuel)

PENINNAH—JEWELS; PRECIOUS STONES

- To whom was she married (1:1b; 2b)?
 - God allowed polygamy then, but it was not his will. It always disturbed the peace of the family.
 - Who was her rival (1:2a)?
- She was blessed with what (1:2; 4b)?
- What of the devoutness of her husband (1:3a)?
 - When he sacrificed, what did he give to his wives and children (1:4)?
 - What was meant by *portions*? [Essentials for offerings]
- What do we know of Peninnah's character (1 Sam. 1:6-7)?
 - Name the rival sisters, both wives of Jacob.
 - Which of them was blessed with children?
 - Is there any indication that Elkanah felt the same way about Peninnah that Jacob did about Leah?

HANNAH—FAVORED

- She was the wife of whom (1:1b; 2a)?
- Who was her rival (1:2b)?
- What was her plight (1:2c)?
 - What other notable women were barren (Gen. 16:1a; 25:21; 29:31b)?
 - Who took advantage of this problem to tantalize her (1:6)?
 - How was she affected by this provocation (1:7b)?
 - How did her sympathetic husband seek to console her (1:8)?
- From which tribe was Elkanah descended (Exod. 6:24; 1 Sam. 1:1; 1 Chron. 6:22-24; 1 Chron. 6:33-38)?
- Why was Elkanah called an Ephrathite (Josh. 13:32-33; Josh. 14:3; Josh. 18:2, 5, 7)?
 - Was Elkanah a faithful worshipper of the Lord (1 Sam. 1:3)?
 - Why did Elkanah worship at Shiloh (Josh. 18:1)?
 - In sacrifice, how did Elkanah show his partiality to Hannah (1:5)?
- Did Elkanah show Hannah he loved her (1 Sam. 1:4-5)?
- What was Elkanah like as a husband and leader (1 Sam. 1:8)?
- At the feast, in her desperation, what did Hannah do (1:10-11)?
 - In her prayer, what vow did she make to God (1:11)?
 - In addition to being a Levite, what was the son to be (1:11c)? Give the rules regulating the Nazarite vow (Numbers 6:1-11). **An interesting study which some of you may want to pursue—name some men in the Old and New Testaments who were Nazarites. Was Jesus a Nazarite; how do you know?**

- C. Who, sitting nearby, watched her mouth and rebuked her (1:12, 14)?
 - D. How was Hannah praying (1:13)?
 - E. Give her most sincere reply to Eli (1:15-16).
 - i. Being convinced of his error, how did Eli assure her (1:17)?
 - ii. Prayerfully, and with what change of heart, did she depart (1:18)?
 - iii. Hannah lived before David but her thoughts may have been similar to Psalm 62:5-8.
 - F. Why was it easy for Eli to suspect Hannah (1 Sam. 2:22-24; Jud. 17:6; Jud. 18:1; Jud. 21:25)?
9. Was Hannah's depression lifted (1 Sam. 1:17-18)?
 10. What was the result of Hannah's prayer (1 Sam. 1:19-20; Ps 66)?
 - A. What was the usual custom for naming children (Ruth 4:13-17; Luke 1:57-63)?
 - B. Who named Hannah's baby (1 Sam. 1:20)?
 - C. John the Baptist (Luke 1:11-13)?
 - D. Jesus (Luke 1:30-31)?
 11. How did Hannah use the time with her son before he was weaned (De 6; Nu 6:1-21)?
 12. How do we know Elkanah approved Hannah's vow (Nu 30:3-8; I Sam 1:23-25)?
 13. Did Hannah keep her vow (1 Sam. 1:23-25)?
 14. How did Hannah react emotionally to giving up her son (1 Sam. 2:1-10)?
 15. How do we know Hannah trained her child well (1 Sam. 2:11; 2:26; 3:19-21; 7:15-17)?
 16. Describe Hannah's life after giving her child to the Lord (1 Sam. 2:19-21).
 17. *Relate her speech of presentation (1:25-28). **This will be a long answer; comparisons may be highlighted or listed from the two passages.**
 - A. Read the song of Hannah (2:1-10)
 - B. Compare the thanksgiving prayer of Samuel's mother (1 Sam. 2:1-10) with that of Jesus' mother (Luke 1:46-55).
 18. What was the duty (office) of the child Samuel (2:11b)?
 19. How often did Hannah visit her child; what was made for him (2:19)?
 - A. What benediction did Eli pronounce upon these parents (2:20)?
 - B. How many children did Hannah bear after Samuel (2:21)?

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. In what way does Hannah remind you of Sarah? Student answers will vary, but keep in mind that Sarah was very old while Hannah apparently was not.
 - A. When Sarah was promised a child, what did she do (Gen. 18:12-15)?
 - B. How did Hannah receive the good news (1 Sam. 1:18)?
2. Who, like Elkanah, was partial to one of his wives (Gen. 29:30-31)?
3. Elkanah was better to Hannah than how many sons (1 Sam. 1:8)?
4. Who loved her mother-in-law more than seven sons (Ruth 4:15c)?
5. What lessons may be learned here on rearing children (Prov. 22:6; 23:13-14)?

6. Considering Elkanah and Hannah, what lessons may be learned from the unison of parents?

PHINEHAS' WIFE

1. Who were the sons of Eli (1 Sam. 1:3)?
 - A. What were their occupations (1 Sam. 1:3)?
 - B. Were Eli's sons faithful servants of God (1 Sam. 2:12-17)?
2. What is the meaning of:
 - A. Daughter of Belial (1 Sam. 1:16)?
 - B. Sons of Belial (1 Sam. 2:12)?
 - C. Children of Belial (Jud 20:13)? Review lesson 15—The Concubine of the Levite.
3. What was the message of the Lord to Eli (1 Sam. 3:11-14)?
 - A. How did the Lord bring about the punishment of Eli's sons (1 Sam. 4:10-11; Ps 78)?
 - B. How did the Lord bring about the punishment of Eli (1 Sam. 4:12-18)?
 - C. How did the behavior of Phinehas affect his wife (1 Sam. 4:19-20)?
 - i. Who named the newborn son of Phinehas' wife (1 Sam. 4:21)?
 - ii. What was the meaning of the baby's name (1 Sam. 2:22)?
 - iii. Are there any clues as to the spirituality of the wife (1 Sam. 4:19-22)?
 - D. Phinehas and his wife had another son whose name was Ahitub (1 Sam. 14:3).
 - E. Their grandson, Ahiah, was the high priest who served Saul after he was made king (1 Sam. 14:3).

FURTHER STUDY:

1. What was the lineage designated by the Lord from which the priests were to be appointed (Num. 3:1-4; Ex 28:1, 41; Ex 29:44; Ex 30:30)?
2. What was the designated lineage of the assistants to the priests (Num. 3:5-9; 12; 17; 32; Num. 4:46, 47)?
3. From which son of Aaron did Eli descend (1 Chron. 24:1-6; 1 Sam. 14:3; 1 Sam. 22:9; 1 Sam. 22:20-21; 1 Kings 2:26-27)?
4. Through whom was the priesthood restored to the original lineage (2 Sam. 15:35-36; 1 Chron. 24:1-3; 1 Chron. 18:14-16)?

BIBLE WOMEN
LESSON 19

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
The Exodus to the Coronation
396 Years; Ex. 14 to 1 Sam. 10

PERIOD OF CONQUEST

(References in 1 Samuel)

AHINOAM—PLEASANT BROTHER

1. She was the wife of whom (1 Sam. 14:50a)?
2. Therefore, she was the first _____ in Israel.
3. Name the children born to her (14:49).
4. Who was her father (1 Sam. 14:50b)?
 - A. What were the names of Saul's three sons (1 Samuel 14:49)?
 - B. Name his two daughters (1 Sam. 14:49).

(References in 2 Samuel)

RIZPAH—VARIEGATED

1. Whose concubine was she (2 Sam. 3:7)?
2. Who was her father?
3. Who humbled her and how was he rebuked (3:6-8)? Notice a similar situation later when we study about Abishag, a concubine of David, in lesson 20.
4. When his guilt threw him into a rage, what did he threaten to do (3:9-11)?
5. How many sons did she bear to Saul (21:8)? Name them.
6. In his haste, what had King Saul done (21:1-2)?
7. As just retribution, what did the Gibeonites demand (21:4-9)?
8. What became of these sons (21:8-9)?
 - A. What remarkable thing did Rizpah do (21:10-11)?
 - B. What did David do then (21:12-14)?

(References in 1 Samuel)

MERAB—INCREASE

1. Whose daughter was she (1 Sam. 14:49)?
2. To whom did her father promise to give her in marriage (1 Sam. 18:17)?
3. What seems to have been in Saul's mind when he made this suggestion (1 Sam. 18:17)?
4. To whom was she actually given in marriage (1 Sam. 18:19)?
5. How many sons did she bring up and what was their fate (2 Sam. 21:8-9)?

Michal brought up these sons for her sister Merab (18:19).

- A. See also: 2 Sam. 21:8; 1 Sam. 18:19; 1 Sam. 14:49
- B. To understand why these sons were slain, read Joshua 9:3-16; 2 Sam. 21:16.

(References in 1 & 2 Samuel)

MICHAL—WHO IS LIKE GOD?

1. What must have been the feeling of the happy parents at her birth?
2. Name her parents, brothers and sister (1 Sam. 14:49-50).
3. With whom did she fall in love (1 Sam. 18:20)?
4. What dowry did her father demand (18:25)?

5. Tell how David “won” Michal (18:22-29).
6. How did she save David’s life (1 Sam. 19:11-12)?
7. What deception did she work (1 Sam. 19:13-17)?
8. In David’s absence, Michal was given to whom (1 Sam. 25:44)?
9. When David became king over all Israel, what did he demand (2 Sam. 3:12-16)?
10. How was her husband affected by all this (2 Sam. 3:16)?
11. Why did Michal become angry with David (2 Sam. 6:16, 20; 1 Chron. 15:29)?
12. How did David rebuke her, and how was she punished by God (2 Sam. 6:21-23)?
 - A. Harmonize 2 Sam. 6:23 with 1 Sam. 1:6-8; Isa. 4:1; Hos. 9:11-12 and Luke 1:25. This will be a short essay to explain the significance of the curse placed on Michal.
 - B. Now connect 2 Sam. 21:8 with 1 Sam. 18:19. This should help solve question 5 under Merab.**
13. What kind of image did she use/make? What was the purpose (1 Sam. 19:13)?
14. Did she do right in marrying Phalti?
15. Did she fully enter into the work of David (2 Sam. 6:14-16)?

WITCH OF ENDOR

1. Where did she live and what was her occupation (1 Sam. 28:7)?
 - A. Was she well known (28:7)?
 - B. Did her practice meet the approval of God (Lev. 19:31; Lev. 20:6; Deut. 18:10-11; 1 Sam. 15:23; Gal. 5:19-21)?
2. Why then did Saul seek for her (28:5-6)?
 - A. In what way did Saul come to her and why (28:8)?
 - B. What plea did she make to him (28:9)?
3. How did Saul answer her and what was his request (28:10-11)?
 - A. Did she expect to bring up Samuel from the grave (28:12-14)?
 - B. If so, why was she so excited in his presence?
 - C. If she could have really called up the dead, would she have been so excited?
4. What was Samuel’s speech to Saul (28:15-19)?
 - A. How was Saul affected by this message (28:20)?
 - B. What was her disposition then (28:21-23)?
 - C. How did she supply strength to Saul (28:24-25)?
5. Endor was a town in Manasseh, about four miles from Mount Tabor. **Look on a map to see the exact location and explain what you know of the city.**
6. Necromancers are sorcerers practicing necromancy (magic). They were declared an abomination to the Lord, but were common in Egypt, Assyria and Babylon (Isa. 47:9-12; Dan. 2:2). **According to these scriptures, how did the Lord feel about such people and their practices?**
7. A sorcerer is one who practices sorcery (Ex 7:11). They were banned from Israel and called witches and were punished by death (Ex 22:18).

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. Why do you suppose daughters submitted to parents demands regarding marriage?
2. Did Merab and Michal encourage the treachery of Saul?
3. Is it sinful to consult fortune-tellers today? Why? (Lev. 19:31; Lev. 20:6; Deut. 18:10-11; 1 Sam. 15:23; Gal. 5:19-21)
 - A. How do we renounce God in seeking the fortune tellers?
 - B. Who in the New Testament times sought such influence of departed spirits (Luke 16:27-28)?
4. What is God's final appeal (Luke 16:29-31)?
5. What if the witch had turned the strength of her powers for good?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 20

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
Coronation to the Division
120 Years; 1 Sam. 10 to 1 Kings 12

PERIOD OF POWER

(References in 1 Samuel)

HISTORY:

1. Who was David, and how did he first become king (1 Sam. 16:1-13)?
 - A. His original occupation: verse 11
 - B. His appearance: verse 12, 17:42
 - C. His age 17:55-56
 - D. His abilities: 16:17-23; 17:34, 35
 - E. His heart: prudent 17:18; champion of God 17:26; courageous 17:32; faithful 17:34-37, 45; humble 17:28-29, 58; wise 18:5 **Comments are encouraged.**
 - F. His best friend: (1 Sam. 18:1-6; 19:1-2)? **(Keep in mind the wide age difference between David and this person, who had a son David's age.**

MICHAL—TO MENACE

1. Who was Michal (1 Sam. 14:49-51)? **Everyone should to get this one.**
2. Who was her father; what was his position, and how was this acquired (1 Sam. 9:1-2; 11:14-15; 9:3-10:26)? **Put this answer into your own words to make it shorter.**
3. How were David and Michal separated (2 Sam. 3:14)? The story of Jonathan's attempt to end David's exile, and Saul's response (a show of his determination to kill David), begins David's permanent exile.
4. What was done with Michal during David's exile (1 Sam. 25:44)?
5. How and when were they reunited (2 Sam. 2:4)?
6. What incident was the turning point in David's and Michal's relationship (2 Sam. 6:12-23)?
7. What lessons can we take from the account of Michal's life (2 Tim. 3:3—despisers of those that are good; Prov. 14:1-2 (Hebrew # 959—to disesteem, despise, disdain, contemn(tible), think to scorn, vile person) 21, (Hebrew # 936—to disrespect; contemn, despise utterly)?

ABIGAIL—SOURCE OF JOY

1. History of Abigail's David: I Sam. 21: 1-15, 22:1-8; ch 23, 24) A fugitive, outcast, man with a price on his head, Israel's most wanted man, but righteous! Unjustly chased, captain over about 400 loyal men, ch 23 champion of the oppressed (Keilah, of Judah, Josh. 15:1, 44) humble and faithful (ch 24: 10-15). Before he became king in Jerusalem, his army multiplied until it became like the army of God (1 Chron. 12:22). **There is a**

lot of reading here, but well worth the time it takes to do it. This should broaden your understanding of King David.

2. Who was Abigail, and where did she live (1 Sam. 25: 1-3)? Also see map and/or Bible atlas. What was her physical situation like?
3. She was the wife of what wealthy man (25:3a)?
 - A. What was said of her husband's wealth (25:2)?
 - B. Contrast the appearance of Abigail and Nabal (25:3bc).
 - i. *David sends men to Nabal for mutual favors; relate it (25:4-12).
 - ii. What revenge did David plan (25:13)?
 - iii. This plan is related to Abigail; tell about it (25:14-17).
4. Under what circumstances did David and Abigail meet (25: 18-35)?
 - A. How did David get Abigail for his wife (25:36-42)?
 - B. What wealth did David become heir to through Abigail (25:2)?
 - C. Where do we further see the heart of Abigail (25:18-20; **26**; 28-31, 41)?
5. Follow Abigail's life/journeys with David: I Sam 26, 27, 28:1-2, ch 29.
6. What scare did David & Abigail have at the hands of the Amalekites (1 Sam. 30:1-19)?
7. What happened at the same time as this incident with the Amalekites that changed the lives of David and Abigail drastically (2 Sam. 1:1-4; 2:14)?
8. Describe a blessed occasion of her life (2 Sam. 2:1-4).
9. What child(ren) was/were born to David and Abigail (2 Sam. 3:1-3)? Chileab (restraint of father), also called Daniel (1 Chr. 3:1—Judge of God)
10. Afterward: David and his wives lived 7½ years in Hebron where David was king of Judah. After a long war between the house of David and Saul, David was crowned king of Israel as well as Judah, and reigned in Jerusalem 33 years.
11. What can be learned from the life of Abigail (Matt. 5:5, 9; Prov. 18:21; Prov. 17:13, 15; Prov. 19:14, 17; 1 Pet. 2:18-19)?

AHINOAM—BROTHER OF PLEASANTNESS

1. Where was Ahinoam from, and when did she become the wife of David (1 Sam. 25:42-43)?
2. For her safety, where was she taken by her husband (2 Sam. 2:2-3)?
3. Later she was taken captive by whom (30:1, 5)?
4. After being rescued, where did she go with David (2 Sam. 2:2, 3)?
5. In Hebron, what son did she bear (2 Sam. 3:2)?
6. How did her married life resemble Abigail's (27:1-3, 30:3-5; 2 Sam. 3:1-3)?
7. Who was her son? What did he do to alienate himself from his brethren, and eventually bring about his early death (2 Sam. 13:1-39)?
8. Make a list of some of her rivals (2 Sam. 3:3-5).

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. What do you think of miss-mated companions?
2. Why did Abigail likely marry such a reprobate as Nabal?
 - A. If parents arranged the marriage, should the priority have been finances?

- B. When modern women marry for money, it can bring tragic consequences.
 - C. What are the dangers of marrying to reform a person?
 - D. Did Abigail know of Nabal's folly (1 Sam. 25:25-26)?
3. What do you think of her diplomacy in dealing with a potentially difficult situation?

BIBLE WOMEN

Lesson 21

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
Coronation to the Division
120 Years; 1 Sam. to 1 Kings 12

PERIOD OF POWER

(References in 2 Samuel)

BATHSHEBA—DAUGHTER OF AN OATH

1. History of Bathsheba's David: 2 Sam. 3 and 4 Saul's son, Ishbosheth, who began to reign over Israel after Saul's death, is killed. In chapter 5:1-3, David is crowned king over Israel. He is 38 or so years old (2 Sam. 5:4-5). After battle with the Philistines (2 Sam. 5: 17-25), he was able to recover the Ark Of The Covenant which had been captured when Samuel was young, and to bring it back to Jerusalem with great rejoicing. He aspired to build a house for the Lord, but was told that his son will build it instead (chapter 7). The Lord was with him to secure his throne and give him victory over all the surrounding area (chapter 8) (See verses 14-18, and also chapter 10). **This is a long reading, but vital for understanding the situation.**
2. Who was Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11:3)?
3. Who was Uriah (2 Sam. 23: 8-39—His name means “Flame of Jah”)?
4. How did Bathsheba come to David's attention (2 Sam. 11:2)?
5. What did David do to sin regarding Bathsheba and her husband (2 Sam. 11:4-27)?
 - A. What was the Lord's response to David's sin (2 Sam. 12:1-23) and David's response to the Lord (Ps 51)?
 - B. Read the Psalm of David's repentance and confession (Ps 51:1-4; 7-13).
 - C. What comfort was given to Bathsheba after the death of her child (2 Sam. 12:24)?
 - D. What plans did David have for Bathsheba's son Solomon (1 Chron. 22:5-19)?
6. Who tried to usurp David's authority and exalt himself in the place of Solomon as king (1 Kings 1:1, 5-7)? Who brought about the frustration of this person's plans (1 Kings 1:1-53)?
7. ***Tell of Solomon's coronation (1 Kings 1:28; 32-40). Note the symbolic items and processes used in this event and compare these to the coronation of other kings. Compare these to Christ's coronation. This will be a longer answer, which might easily be used for a devotional article. Do your best.**
8. After the death of David, how did Adonijah manipulate Bathsheba to attempt to gain power (1 Kings 2:13-25)?

MAACHAH—DEPRESSION

1. Whose daughter was Maachah (2 Sam. 3:3)? (Geshur is a kingdom in Bashan.)

2. Whose mother was she (1 Chron. 3:2; the third child of David, born to him in Hebron)--we also see that she had at least one other child, (2 Sam. 13:1). Both children were "fair" to look upon, so it seems likely that Maachah may have been beautiful.
3. In what situation do we first hear of the children of Maacha (2 Sam. 13:1-39)?
4. What happened to her daughter against her will (2 Sam. 13:12-14)?
5. What did her son do to avenge his sister (2 Sam. 13:20, 23-29)?
6. What happened to her son because of the way he chose vengeance (2 Sam. 13:37-39)?
7. What happened to end his exile (2 Sam. 14)?
8. When did her son begin his quest for the throne of David, and by what devious means (2 Sam. 15:1-6)?
9. How did he eventually wrest the kingdom from David (2 Sam. 15:7-17)?
10. Who was a spy for David in the house of Absalom, and how was he able to protect David and the people that were with him (2 Sam. 15:30-37, 16:15-23, 17:1-29)?
11. What became of Absalom and his rule over Israel (2 Sam. 18)?

HAGGITH—FESTIVE

1. Who was Haggith's son (2 Sam. 3:4; 1 Chron. 3:2)?
2. What do we first hear in detail of him (1 Kings 1:1-6)?
3. Whom does he seek to help him (1 Kings 1:7)?
4. How are his plans foiled (1 Kings 1:8-53)?
5. How does her son die (2:13-25)?

ABITAL—SOURCE OF DEW

She was the mother of _____ (2 Sam. 3:4-5; 1 Chron. 3:3).

EGLAH—CALF

She was the mother _____ (2 Sam. 3:5; 1 Ch. 3:3).

At this point are you able to name the wives and children of King David?

BIBLE WOMEN

Lesson 22

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
Coronation to the Division
120 Years; 1 Sam. to 1 Kings 12

PERIOD OF POWER

(References in 2 Samuel)

ABISHAG –FATHER OF ERROR—concubine of David

1. Why did the people suggest David take her (1 Kings 1:1-4)?
2. What was to be her work for David (1 Kings 1:15)?
3. From where did Abishag come (1 Kings 1:3)? From which tribe was she descended (Josh. 19:17-23)?
4. Name some of the cities in her area (Josh. 19:17-23)?
5. What is said of Abishag (1 Kings 1:3-4)?
6. Who determined to have Abishag for his wife after David died (1 Kings 2:12-25)?
7. What appears to have been his purpose? Remember what happened to Rizpah in lesson 18. Apparently taking the concubine of the deceased king was one way of usurping the throne. **Compare what happened in the two cases.**
8. How did Solomon reward Adonijah for his deceitfulness?

ZERUIAH—FROM *tseruwyah* WOUNDED—Sister to David

1. Who was her father (2 Sam. 17:25; 1 Chron. 2:16)?
2. Name one of her famous brothers (1 Chron. 2:13-16). See also: 1 Samuel 17:12-13 and explain the difference.
3. Who are Zeruiah's famous sons 1 Sam. 26:6; 2 Sam. 2:13; 2 Sam. 2:18; (2 Sam. 3:22-30; 1 Kings 2:5)?
4. Who was her sister (1 Chron. 2:16)?
5. Which of her sons was "light of foot" (2 Sam. 2:18, also chapters 18 & 19)? Give a brief explanation of what happened to this son and why.
6. Which son of Zeruiah did Abner slay (2 Sam. 2:2).
7. What position did her son Joab occupy in David's kingdom (2 Sam. 20:23)?
8. What did David say of her sons (2 Sam. 3:39)?
9. Which of her sons rescued David from a giant (2 Sam. 21:16-17)?

ABIGAIL—FATHER (OR SOURCE) OF JOY—Sister to David

1. Whose daughter is she (2 Sam. 17:25)?
2. Who was her son (2 Sam. 17:25; 1 Chron. 2:12-17)?
3. Sister to _____
4. Is she a full sister or half sister to David?

OTHER MATTERS TO CONSIDER:

Please understand that we are in no way recommending all materials from these particular sites; however, the articles contain information that pertains to our study. **When the research is established by scripture, we have reason to accept it.** We hope you will be discerning readers.

1. With regard David's brothers and sisters, see an article written by Eric Lyons: "Jesse's Missing Son." See also:
<http://www.apologeticspress.org/abdiscr/abdiscr57.html>
2. With regard to his sisters, Zeruiah and Abigail, see also other research regarding the mother of David.
 - A. The Scandal in David's Family
(<http://home.mira.net/~housmail/hm023.htm>)
 - B. Are Men Born Sinners? (<http://www.firesofrevival.com/ps51.htm>)
 - C. NAHASH (<http://www.studylight.org/enc/isb/view.cgi?number=T6246>)
3. Michal was betrothed for (how many) foreskins (**1 Sam. 18:17-29**; 2 Sam. 3:13-16).
4. Who originally was betrothed to David for 100 foreskins but later was given to another man (1 Sam. 18:17-19)?
5. Is Daniel (1 Chron. 3:1) the same as Chileab (2 Sam. 3:3)? Whose son is this?
6. How many sons did David have in Hebron (1 Chron. 3:1-4)?
7. How many sons did David bear in Jerusalem (1 Chron. 3:5-9; 1 Chron. 14:3)?
8. How many sons and daughters did David have altogether? Can you name the daughter? **Remember in 2 Sam. 15:16 that David "inherited" Saul's concubines (given by God) when he was made king over Israel. He left 10 concubines to care for the house when he fled from Absalom. The children of those women are not named. Then at the end of his life he takes Abishag whom he never "knew" in the sense of marital relations.**

(See extra notes in the appendix)

BIBLE WOMEN

Lesson 23

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
Coronation to the Division
120 Years; 1 Sam. 10 to 1 Kings 12

PERIOD OF POWER

(References in 2 Samuel)

TWO TAMARS—TO BE ERECT, A PALM TREE

1. Note the meaning of the name and then think of the description of the two women (2 Sam. 13:1; 14:27). **From these verses and from what you remember of her mother, comment on the apparent appearance.**
2. Read the sad story of Absalom's sister (2 Sam. 13:1-39).
 - A. Who was to blame for what happened (Deut. 22:25-29; Lev. 18:9, 11; 20:17)?
 - B. Why was she in such despair after the event (Deut. 22:20-21)?
 - C. How did she plead for her future (2 Sam. 13:13)?
 - D. What could have been done for her (Deut. 22:22-24, 29)? Which one of these fits this Tamar?
3. Where did Absalom's sister go after her defilement (2 Sam. 13:19-20)?
 - A. What did Absalom plan for revenge (2 Sam. 13:28)?
 - B. Should Absalom have taken the law into his own hands? **Student answers will vary, but in any case scripture proof should be given.**
4. Why do you suppose Absalom named his daughter Tamar?
5. See if you can remember three females named Tamar (Gen. 38:6; 2 Sam. 13:1; 2 Sam. 14:27).

WOMAN OF TEKOA

1. Where is Tekoa? See Bible map.
2. Who sent for her (2 Sam. 14:2)?
3. What role does she play (14:2)?
4. Before which king was she to play the role (14:3)?
5. What was her plea before the king (14:4-7)?
6. How did her made-up story reach the king (14:8-11)? **Student research on the topic of "Avengers of Blood" or "Cities of Refuge" is encouraged.**
7. Give her application of the message (14:12-17).
8. When the king saw through the scheme, how did she show her wisdom (14:8-20)?
9. Did she accomplish her purpose (14:21-23)?
10. Was this what should have been done? See if you can remember the law. Was Absalom a true "revenger of blood" (Numbers 35:19-27)? Also, read Deut. 22:25-29 again.
11. Was she an *actress* or just a liar?
12. Did the king behave wisely in listening to her? Consider the results of this action (14:25-26; 15:1-6).

13. Whose plea was it really? Who "tutored" the woman?
14. Should anyone use seductive methods to lead astray the people of God?
Be sure to give a scripture and Bible examples here.

HOSPITABLE WOMAN OF BAHURIM

1. On fleeing from En-rogel, where did the spies, (Jonathan and Ahimaaz) go (2 Sam. 17:18)?
2. Where did they hide (17:18)?
3. Who made secure their hiding place (17:18)?
4. How did she divert the course of the pursuers (17:20)?
5. Then what did Jonathan and Ahimaaz do (17:21)?
6. How did she become a means of saving David?
7. Before this, who kept the spies of Joshua from destruction? **Be sure to give a scripture here.**

WISE WOMAN OF ABEL

1. Who was fighting against this town and why (2 Sam. 20:15)?
2. Who made an appeal to Joab (20:16-17)?
3. What was her appeal (20:18-19)?
4. Give Joab's reply to her (20:20-21).
5. Then what did she promise to do (20:21)?
6. What did she do "in her wisdom" (20:22)?
7. What did Joab do (20:22)?
8. What about her wisdom: **Student responses will vary. Cite scripture as proof.**
 - A. In handling generals?
 - B. Her own people?
 - C. Saving a city?
 - D. Making peace?

Note that Sheba was a traitor, an offense punishable by death. Can you name some other traitors to the kingdom and to David personally about this same time?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 24

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
Coronation to the Division
120 Years: 1 Sam. 10 to 1 Kings 12

(References in 2 Samuel)

PERIOD OF POWER

WIVES OF SOLOMON

- For political prestige, whom did Solomon marry (1 Kings 3:1; 1 Kings 11:3)?
 - Did the king, in this matter, transgress God's law (Deut. 7:1-4)?
 - Should political considerations dominate God's law? **Student answers should include examples from scripture.**
 - What did Solomon build for Pharaoh's daughter (2 Ch 8:11a)?
 - What was his explanation for so doing (2 Ch 8:11b)?
 - What had King Pharaoh given to his daughter (1 Kings 9:16)?
- In all, how many wives did Solomon have (1 Kings 11:3a)?
 - How many concubines did he have (1 Kings 11:3b)?
 - What seems to have been his temptation (1 Kings 11:1-4)?
 - What had God forbidden (1 Kings 11:2)?
 - In his later years, what did his wives lead him to do (1 Kings 11:4)?
 - After what gods did he go to please his wives (1 Kings 11:5)?
 - What did he build for some of the gods (1 Kings 11:7)?
 - Give God's ultimatum to the king (2 Ch 7:19-20).
 - Name one of Solomon's daughters (1 Kings 4:15).

(Most references in 1 Kings)

TWO WOMEN OF SOLOMON'S JUDGMENT

- Who was Solomon (2 Sam. 12:24; 1 Chron. 3:5)? His name means _____.
 - By what other name was Solomon called (2 Sam. 12:25)?
 - He ruled about 965-925 BC.
- How did God bless Solomon (3:5, 7, 9-14)?
- *Give an account of Solomon's wisdom as a judge and ruler (3:16-28; 4:29-34).
- Two women that were _____ stood before the king (3:16)?
- What was the sorrowful plea of the one woman (3:17-21)?
- What was the denial of the other (3:22)?
 - What was the sound judgment of the king (3:23-25)?
 - What did the pretended mother say (3:26b)?
 - To whom was the child given (3:27)?
 - What was the effect of the wise decision (3:28)?

(References in 1 Kings)

QUEEN OF SHEBA

1. Where was the kingdom of the Queen of Sheba (1 Kings 10:1-13; Matt. 12:42; Luke 11:31)?
2. Why, and when, did the Queen of Sheba travel to Jerusalem (10:1-2)?
 - A. With what pomp, train, and wealth did she come (10:2a)?
 - B. What trying questions did she have to ask (10:1b; 2 Chron. 9:1b)?
3. Was Solomon able to answer the queen's test of his wisdom (10:3)?
 - A. What also did the wise king show the queen (10:4-5)?
 - B. The queen is overwhelmed; give the speech of her reactions (10:6-8)
 - C. What benediction did she pronounce on Solomon (10:9)?
4. How did Solomon receive the Queen of Sheba (10:2c)?
5. Briefly describe the wealth of Solomon (9:26-28; 10:23-29; Matt. 12:42).
6. How did the queen manifest her gratitude to Solomon (10:10)? How much is a talent of Gold?
 - A. The stores of the precious stones and spices might have been more valuable than the gold.
 - B. In turn, what did Solomon now give her (10:13)?
 - i. Is gratitude real if unexpressed?
 - ii. What is the mutual gratitude of the King and Queen?
 - iii. What did the Savior say of her visit (Matt. 12:42; Luke 11:31)?
 - iv. Who now may be wise (Matt. 7:24-25)?
 - v. Who becomes the fool among fools (Ps. 14:1a; Matt. 7:26-27)?

MAACAH—Depression

- 1) She was the *mother* (grandmother) of what noted king (15:9-10)?
 - a) She was the mother of what king (15:1-2)?
 - b) She was the wife of what king (2 Ch 11:18-20)?
- 2) Why did Asa remove her from being queen mother (15:13)?
 - a) How may a mother guide the destiny of her son (2 Tim. 1:5)?
 - b) If need be, how may a noble son right his mother? **Students should use scripture for answering this question.**

THAPENES and her sister

1. Who was Thapenes (1 Kings 11:19)?
2. Thapenes' sister became the wife of whom (1 Kings 11:19)?
3. What s son did she bear to her husband (11:20)?
4. Why was her husband a fugitive in Egypt (11:14-18)?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 25

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
Coronation to the Division
120 Years: 1 Sam. 10 to 1 Kings 12

(References in 1 Kings)

PERIOD OF POWER

WIFE OF JEROBOAM:

1. Who was this lady's husband? (1 Kings 11:26-32, 35-40; 12:2-4; 12-16, 20)? How did her husband come into his position?
2. What rebellious thing had her husband done (12:26-33)? Who were the sons (14:1, 20)?
3. What were the opposite traits of the sons (14:13, 15:25-26)?
4. What happened to Abijah (14:1)?
5. To whom was this woman sent, how, and for what purpose (14:2)?
6. What did she take with her to entreat the favor of the prophet (14:3)?
7. What about her obedience to her husband (14:4)?
8. How did Ahijah know about her coming (14:5)?
9. What was his rebuke (14:6)?
10. What "heavy tidings" was she to bear to her husband (14:7-16)?
11. What took place when she reached home (14:17)?
12. How was the little child esteemed (14:18)?
13. What became of Nadab (15:27-29)?

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. Why did Jeroboam ask his wife to disguise herself to go see the prophet?
2. Should the wife have obeyed him in this instance (Prov. 20:17; Ps. 101:7; Mark 7:22-23)?
3. To what extent should a wife obey a husband (Eph. 5:22-24)?
4. How should husbands manifest love for their wives (Eph. 5:25, 28)?
5. What firmness should characterize parents (1 Cor. 15:58)?
6. Looking at Nadab, how did his parents contribute to his downfall (15:25-26)?
7. Are parents in a great measure responsible for the conduct of their children (Prov. 10:1; 20:11; 22:15; 19:18; 22:6; 29:1, 15)?
8. When were Jeroboam and his wife brought to their senses (14:1-6)?
9. What of the sin of "partly clinging unto God" and "partly clinging to the world" (Matt. 6:24)?
10. Why did Jeroboam not face the prophet?
11. What about those who can only be loyal during distress?

HULDAH

1. Who was HULDAH (2 Kings 22:14; 2 Chron. 34:22-28)?

- A. Where did she live?
 - B. What was her duty?
 - C. What was the message of the Lord (2 Kings 22:15-17)?
 - D. What was the special message concerning Josiah (2 Kings 22:18-20)?
2. Describe the reign of Amon as a king of Judah (2 Kings 21:19-26).
 3. How old was Josiah when he began his reign (2 Kings 22:1)?
 4. What was the character of Josiah (2 Kings 22:2)?
 5. During the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign, he began to make repairs to the house of God (2 Kings 22:3-7). What repairs were planned? Why was there no accounting?

JEDIDAH

1. Who was her son (2 Kings 22:1)?
2. Who was her husband (2 Kings 21:24)?

NEHUSHTA

1. Who was NEHUSHTA (2 Kings 24:8)?
2. Who was her husband (2 Kings 24:6)?
3. Who was her father (2 Kings 24:8)?
4. What kind of man and king was JEHOIACHIN (2 Kings 24:9)?
5. What was the fate of JEHOIACHIN and NEHUSHTA (2 Kings 24:11-15)?

BIBLE WOMEN
LESSON 26

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
The Division to the Captivity
388 Years; 1 Kings 11 & 12; 2 Kings 25

(References in 1 Kings)

PERIOD OF DECLINE

ZERUAH—Full Breasted

1. She was the mother of what subtle son (11:26)?
2. Her son was whose servant (11:26a)?
3. Her son became what in Israel 12:20a)?

THE WIDOW OF ZAREPHATH (of Sidon)

1. What was happening in the land (17:8-24)?
2. What great man was sent there, to be sustained (17:1, 9)?
 - A. On reaching there, what did he ask of her (17:10-11)?
 - B. She readily obeys, but what was the added request (17:11)?
 - C. What did John say of God's commands (1 John 5:3)?
 - D. What is to be sought first in all things (Matt. 6:33)?
3. When she reveals her plight, what were the depths (17:12)?
 - A. The prophet assures her with one more request. How was that a trial for her (17:33)?
 - B. How long was the meal and oil promised to last (17:14)?
 - C. Who fed on this "scant supply" and for how "many days" (17:15)?
 - D. What promise here was fulfilled (17:16)?
 1. What reference did Jesus make to this event (Luke 4:25-26)?
 2. Who is the widow indeed (1 Tim. 5:5)?
4. Later, what sadness befell this faithful widow (17:17)?
 - A. Thinking her loss was due to sin, what did she say to Elijah (17:18)?
 - B. *Now relate the story of the raising of the boy (17:19-23).
 1. Who also in a similar way raised a young man (17:21; 2 Kings 4:34: 32a)?
 2. In the New Testament times, who did the same (Acts 20:10)?
 3. Of what is the widow now fully convinced (17:24)?
 - 4.

POINTS TO CONSIDER

1. How are widows to be cared for (Exod. 22:22-24; 1 Cor. 7:8-9, 32)? Notice the term "widows who are widows indeed," and "in the LORD."
2. Read 1 Tim. 5: 3-16 and see how verse 10 relates to the widow of Zarephath.
3. Consider Jas. 1:27 in the light of the widow.
4. Elijah was only sent to one widow (Luke 4: 25-26).

JEZEBEL—WITHOUT COHABITATION

She is directly named 22 times in 1 and 2 Kings. There is one more reverence in Revelation which may or may not be the same person, but the reference reflects her type of behavior.

1. She was the daughter of what idolatrous king (16:31a)?
2. She was the wife of what weak and wicked king (16:30-31)?
 - A. Name two of her sons who become kings of Israel (22:40: 2 Kings 3:1)?
 - B. What about the character of these two sons (22:52: 2 Kings 3:2)?
3. She influences her spineless husband to do what (16:31-33)?
4. Can you verify that she moved her husband to high-handedness (21:25)?
5. In her thirst for blood, how did she treat the prophets of God (18:13)?
 - A. In turn, how did Elijah rid Israel of her prophets of Baal (18:40)?
 - B. What threat did she send to Elijah (19:1-2)?
 - C. *Tell of her plot to kill Naboth and take his vineyard (21:1-16).
 - D. *For this, recite Elijah's prophecy against her (21:21-24).
 1. *Show how his prophecy was literally fulfilled (22:34-39).
 2. *Also tell how Jehu was to complete God's vengeance upon her (2 Kings 9:7-10).
6. What horrible things did Jezebel practice (2 Kings 9:22)?
 - A. How near did she come to supplanting the true worship (19:13-14, 18)?
 - B. Are heartless women sometimes worse than heartless men?
 1. On the other hand, if they are god-fearing, do they sometimes excel men in goodness?
 2. If a woman surrenders her feminine nature, is she more brutal than a man?
7. How did she seek to conquer and disarm Jehu (2 Kings 9:30-31)?
 - A. Her purpose was thwarted, how was vengeance meted to her (2 Kings 9:32-35)?
 - B. How completely was the prophecy of Elijah fulfilled (2 Kings 9:36-37)?
 - C. *How completely was His word fulfilled in Ahab's house (2 Kings 1:1-11, 17)?

(References in 2 Kings)

A CERTAIN WIDOW OF THE WIVES OF THE SONS OF THE PROPHETS

1. What distressing appeal did she make to the prophet when a creditor came to take her two sons (4:1)?
2. She was reduced to what extreme poverty (4:2)?
3. *Tell how safety and security were made possible (4:3-7).
 - A. To whom should all appeals be made (Matt. 6:6; Phil. 4:6)?
 - B. What is God's appeal for the widows (Isa. 1:17)?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 27

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
The Division to the Captivity
388 Years; 1 Kings 11 & 12; 2 Kings 25

(References in 2 Kings)

PERIOD OF DECLINE

THE GREAT WOMAN—THE SHUNAMMITE WOMAN

1. What was said of her greatness and her hospitality (4:8)?
 - A. Who was supposed to have been her sister?
 - B. What is meant by “great woman?”
2. Working with her husband, what plans were made for Elijah (4:9-10)?
 - A. What oneness should exist between companions (Eph. 5:22, 25)?
- B. Was the room used by the prophet (4:11)?
 - C. How did the prophet and his servant want to compensate her (4:12-17)?
 1. What is meant by “I dwell among my own people”?
 2. Was she happy with her aged husband (4:13-14)?
 3. What was promised and later given to her (4:14-17)?
3. Tell of the sad event of the sickness and death of the child (4:8-37).
 - A. “Was grown” does not mean that he was full-grown, but that he grew.
 - B. Where did she lay the child; why (4:21: Kings 17:17, 19)?
 - C. Note her plans to get word to the prophet (4:22-25).
 - D. *Tell of the meeting of the woman and the prophet (4:26-28).
 1. Thinking that the child was still alive, what did Elijah order (4:29-31)?
 2. *Narrate how Elijah raised the child from the dead (4:32-36).
 3. With what happiness and gratitude did she receive the boy (4:37)?
4. What did Elisha tell the woman to do when there was a famine in the land (2 kings 8:1)?
 - A. After she returns, what trouble does she have (2 kings 8:3)?
 - B. How does Gehazi, Elisha’s servant, help (2 kings 8:5)?
 - C. What was the outcome (2 kings 8:6)?

POINTS TO CONSIDER: Considering 2 Kings 4:13; 2 Kings 8:6, Rom. 12:13; 1 Tim. 3:2; Tit. 1:8 and 1 Peter 4:9, is being hospitable only for the elders of the church?

Why should elders be hospitable (1 Tim. 3:1-7)?

THE JEWISH MAID

1. She was taken captive by whom (5:2)?
2. She became the servant of whom (5:2)?
 - A. From what malady was her master suffering (5:1)?

- B. What was the compassionate plan she suggested for her master to be healed (5:3)?
 1. *How did the captain misapply the instructions (5:4-7)?
 2. *Describe the healing of Naaman (5:8-14).
3. How did her influence affect Naaman and the nation (5:15)?
 - A. How was she taught by her parents (Deut. 11:18-19)?
 - B. Suppose she had not been taught, what might have happened?
 - C. How does God often use the most humble instruments (1 Cor. 1:27-28)?

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. Tell of the accounts of lepers where only one was saved (Luke 4: 27).
2. Remember the phrase, "She has done what she could" in Mark 14:8. Tell how this concept applies to the little maid who helped Naaman be healed.
3. We today should not grow weary doing what we can for the Lord.

MAACAH—depression; **MAHALATH**—mild; **ABIHAIL**—father of might

1. These were wives of whom (2 Ch 11:18, 20)?
2. Who was the favorite wife of the king (2 Ch 11:21)?
 - A. How many wives and concubines did the king have (2 Ch 11:21)?
 - B. How many sons and daughters did he have by them (2 Ch 11:21)?
3. How was Abijah, Maacha's son, honored; Why (2 Ch 11:22)?
 - A. Who was Maacha's daughter?
 - B. Finally, how was her son honored so highly (2 Ch 13:1)?
 - C. Strangely enough, all of the kings wives were related to whom (2 Ch 11:18, 20)?
 - D. Note: these characters belong to 1 Kings 12.

(References in 1 Kings)

AZUBAH—FORSAKEN

1. She was the mother of what great king (22:42)?
2. Who was the good king who was her husband (22:41)?
3. Tell of the character of the husband and son (22:43).

BIBLE WOMEN
LESSON 28

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
The Division to the Captivity
388 Years; 1 Kings 11 & 12; 2 Kings 25

(References in 2 Kings)

PERIOD OF DECLINE

ATHALIAH—JEHOVA IS STRONG

1. Whose daughter was she (8:16-18, 26-27; 2 Chron. 21:5-6, 22:2)? The term *daughter* is used loosely to mean daughter, granddaughter or descendent. Here we understand that Athaliah is the granddaughter of Omri, because her father was his son (1 Kings 16:28-30; Mic. 6:16).
2. Who was her mother (8:18)?
3. What was the name of her husband (8:18)?
4. How long did he reign and what wicked thing did he do when he came to power (2 Chron. 21:4-6; 2 Chron. 22:11)?
5. She was mother of _____ (8:25-26; 11:1; 2 Chr. 22:2).
6. She was the grandmother of _____ (11:2; 2 Chron. 22:10-12)?
7. What did Athaliah do to gain the throne after her husband died (11:2)?
8. For six years, what did she do (11:1-3)?
9. What kind of worship did she introduce in Judah causing part of the temple to be destroyed (2 Chron. 24:7)?
10. How long was her grandson hidden inside the temple (11:3; 12:1; 2 Chron. 22:12)?
11. How did Athaliah die? Why was she removed from the temple first (11:13-16; 2 Chron. 23:12-15)? Tell how she reaped what she sowed.
 - A. Did she manage to eliminate all the successors to the throne of David?
 - B. What promise had God made to David (2 Chron. 21:7)?
12. Notice the influence the house of Ahab on Judah through Athaliah (11:1-3, 13-14; 2 Chron. 22:1-34; 2 Chron. 22:10-12).

JEHOSHEBA or JEHOSHABEATH—Jehovah-sworn; an Israelitess

1. She was called by two different (but similar) names (2 Chron. 22:11; 2 Kings 11:2).
2. Who is this spectacular lady?
 - A. She is the daughter of _____ (11:2).
 - B. She is sister to _____ (2 Chron. 22:11).
 - C. She is wife of what priest (2 Chron. 22:11)?
 - D. What reforms did her husband introduce (2 Chron. 23:16-20)?
 - E. She was the sister (possibly half sister) of _____ (11:2-3).
3. Who was her nephew (12:1)?
 - A. God was able to use her courageous act to work His plan to save the lineage of _____ so that _____ could sit on His throne (Jer. 33:17, 21; Luke 2:4).

- B. How did she manage to hide her nephew from his intended killer (1 Kings 6:5-6; 1 Kings 6:8-10; Jer. 35:2; Ezek. 40:45; Lev. 8:35; Num. 3:27-28; Num. 3:32, 38; Num. 18:5; 1 Chron. 6:49; 1 Chron. 9:23; 2 Chron. 13:11; Ps 134:1; Mal. 2:4-7)? **The answer will not be long, but to be able to answer this question you must remember that her husband was a priest.**
- C. How did she and her husband influence the young child they hid (11:18-21)?

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. How did Jehosheba work with her husband in his service to God?
2. Judging from these accounts, what kind of person was Jehosheba (2 Kings 11:2-3; 2 Chron. 22:11-12)?
3. What sad thing happened after her husband died (2 Chron. 24:18)?
4. Showing his ingratitude and his lack of wisdom, what did her nephew do after the death of her husband (2 Chron. 24:20-22)?
5. How did God requite him for this evil deed (2 Chron. 24:23-24)?
6. Thinking back on our study of Athaliah and her wicked influence, compare her work to that of Jehosheba.
7. Genesis 6:2, 5 talks about the sons of God marrying the daughters of men. How did the “daughters of men” contribute to the fall of the human race?
8. How did Athaliah lead Judah from the true faith?
9. Trace the process of transfusion of poisonous blood.
10. How can the scope of a woman’s evil influence be broader than her power for good?
11. Discuss the dangers of an unholy marriage.

JEHOADDIN—JEHOVA IS STRONG

1. Who was her husband; what king (14:1)?
2. Who was her royal son (14:1-2)?
3. What was the character of this king at first (14:3)?

JECHOLIAH—JEHOVA IS ABLE

1. Who was her royal husband (15:1)?
2. Who was her royal son (15:1)?
3. What was the character of her son (15:3)?

JERUSHA—POSSESSION

1. Who were her husband and son (15:32)?
2. Who was her father (15:33)?
3. What of Jotham’s character in the beginning (15:34)?

ABI (ABIJAH)—JEHOVA IS FATHER

1. Who were her husband and royal son (18:1-2)?
2. Describe the character of her reformer son (18:3).

BIBLE WOMEN
LESSON 29

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
The Division to the Captivity
388 Years; 1 Kings 11 & 12; 2 Kings 25

(References in 2 Kings)

PERIOD OF DECLINE

HEPHZIBAH—MY DELIGHT IS IN HER

1. Who was her husband (20:21; 21:1)?
2. Tell about the wicked reign of her son (21:2).
 - A. Why were Christians foreseen as “Hepzibah” and “Beulah”?
 - B. God delights in them and they will be married to Christ (Isa. 62:4).

MESHULLEMETH—an Israelitess

1. Who was her royal companion (21:18-19)?
2. Who was her royal, but wicked, son (21:19-20)?

JEDIDAH—BELOVED

1. She was the wife of what rebellious king (21:25; 22:1)?
2. When did her marvelous son begin to reign (22:1)?
3. Tell of his outstanding goodness (22:2).

HAMUTAL—GOD IS FRESH LIFE

1. She was the daughter of what great prophet (23:31)?
2. She was the wife of what good king (23:30-31)?
3. Name her sons who became kings (23:31, 34).

HULDAH—WEASEL (more about this prophetess)

1. What was she during those dreadful days (22:14)?
2. Name two prophetesses already studied.
3. She was the wife of whom (22:14)?
4. In repairing the temple, what was found (22:8)?
 - A. Where was the book found?
 - B. On hearing the book read, what did the king order (22:9-13)?
 - C. To whom did the message go along with the book (22:14)?
 1. Sometimes women attain prominence when male leaders are lacking.
 2. What man did Deborah inspire into action?
 3. When were Jezebel and Athaliah able to do their deadly work?
 4. At such a time, how did Jehosheba save the royal seed?
 5. What would become of the church if it were not for godly women?
 - D. *Briefly sketch Huldah’s message to the king (22:15-20).
 - E. Moved by the message, what did the king do (23:1-3)?

(References in 1 Chron.)

THE MOTHER OF JABEZ

1. Why was he called Jabez (4:9)?
2. How did her son rank above his brethren (4:9)?
3. Her son was a praying man, you may wish to consider his prayer deeply and memorize it (4:10).
4. How must this son have rewarded his mother for her sorrow?

The Jewish Age
Women of Nehemiah
Captivity to Christ
583 Years; 2 Kings 25 to Matt. 1

(References in Nehemiah)

PERIOD OF SERVITUDE

NOADIAH—JEHOVAH ASSEMBLES

1. She was what (6:14)?
2. In opposition to Nehemiah, with whom did she work (6:14)?
3. Was she therefore a true or false prophetess?
4. What prayer did Nehemiah utter against her and her allies (6:14)?
5. She and her cohorts would have put Nehemiah to what (6:14)?
 - A. What wicked woman put Elijah to flight (1 Kings 19:2-3)?
 - B. What woman worked havoc with the church in Thyatira (Rev. 2:20)?
 - C. She was also what (Rev. 2:20)?

(References in Hosea)

GOMER—COMPLETION

1. She was the wife of whom (1:2-3)?
2. Give the meaning of Jezreel and Loruhamah, her children (1:4-6).
3. Who was her son (1:9)?

(References in Ezekiel)

OHOLA—her own tent; OHOLIBA—my tent in her

1. These names represent what (Ezek. 23:4)?
2. Read the chapters, discussing them fully (23:5-49).

BIBLE WOMEN
LESSON 30

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
Captivity to Christ
583 Years; 2 Kings 25 to Matt. 1

(References in Esther)

PERIOD OF CAPTIVITY

VASHTI—BEAUTIFUL OR EXCELLENT

1. She was queen and wife of whom (1:9)?
 - A. She made a feast for whom (1:9)?
 - B. *Describe the feast of Ahasuerus (1:1-8).
2. During the height of the feast, the king sent for someone. Who was it (1:10-11)?
 - A. Why did he want her to appear before the nobles (1:11)?
 - B. What did he want her to wear?
 - C. Some people teach that the king asked her to appear naked before the nobles. Is there any indication of that in these verses? “With the crown royal...” seems to indicate that she was to dress in her royal apparel to have a show of power as well as beauty before the nobles. At least the crown would be beautiful on a beautiful queen.
 - D. What did Vashti do (1:12)?
 1. What about the king’s fury (1:12)?
 2. What about Isaiah’s description of vain women (Isa. 3:16-17)?
 3. How does the apostle Peter describe a beautiful woman (I Pet. 3:1-4)?
 4. To what extent is the woman to obey her husband (Eph. 5:22)?
 5. If Ahasuerus did not ask Vashti to sin, was she justified in her disobedience?
3. The king planned to take Vashti from the throne. What counsel was asked (1:13, 15)?
4. Tell what the counselors thought should be done (1:16-22) Why?
5. What was their main concern (1:17)?

ESTHER means star—the planet Venus;

HADASSAH means myrtle—a flower.

1. After the queen was deposed, what plans were made (2:1-4)?
2. Esther was an orphan, reared by whom (2:7)?
 - A. Who was her father (2:15)? His name means father of strength in Hebrew.
 - B. What was her Persian name (2:7)?
 - C. What was said of her beauty (2:7)?
3. In keeping with the king’s plan, where was she taken (2:8)?

- A. What favor did she gain from the keeper and maids (2:9)?
- B. Why were all these plans kept from her people (2:10)? (It was not a credit before the Persians to be a Jew.)
- C. Who always kept watch over Esther (2:11)?
- 4. *Relate how she found favor and became the queen (2:12-18).
 - A. Who always controlled the conduct of Esther (2:20)?
 - B. How did Mordecai save the king through Esther (2:21-23)?
 - C. Who sought to kill all the Jews because of envy (3:6)?
- 5. How did Esther seek to make Mordecai happy (4:1-4)?
 - A. Through Esther, how did Mordecai plan to save the Jews (4:4-8)?
 - B. How did she plead her case (4:9-12)?
 - C. Fitting in with the plan of God, how did Mordecai persuade Esther to act (4:13-17)?
 - D. Did Mordecai tell Esther that she only could save the Jews (4:14)?
 - E. Some people preach that God cannot get his work done unless we do it. They say, "God has no hands but our hands, no feet but our feet..." etc. Read Isa. 55:10, 11 and Luke 19:35-40 to see if this is true.
- 6. Finding favor before the king, for what did Esther ask (5:1-4)?
 - A. *Tell of the planned feast and of the deferred petition (5:5-8).
 - B. *Describe Haman's inflated pride and his envious plan (5:9-14).
 - C. *How was his pride deflated (6:1-14)?
- 7. Describe the favorable petition and the hanging of Haman (7:1-10).
- 8. How was Esther honored with Mordecai (8:1-2)?
 - A. How did she move the king to alter his decree (8:3-8)?
 - B. Mordecai is honored and the Jews are made happy. Tell about it (8:15-17).
 - C. *Describe how the Jews were completely avenged (9:14-16).
 - D. *Tell of the institution of the feast of Purim (9:17-19).
 - E. *How was this feast further confirmed (9:29-32)?

ZERESH means gold.

- 1. She was the wife of what evil man (5:10)?
- 2. Joining with her husband's friends, what evil did she suggest (5:14)?
 - A. After that, what was her husband to do (5:14)?
 - B. How did this appeal to him (5:14)?
- 3. Even though she gave evil advice to her husband, she also gave him a warning? What was it (6:13)?
 - A. Give the fulfillment of this prediction (7:5-7).
 - B. How was this so completely climaxed (7:9, 10)?

BIBLE WOMEN

LESSON 31

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
Coronation to the Division
120 Years; 1 Sam. 10 to 1 Kings 12

PERIOD OF POWER

(References Proverbs)

WORTHY WOMAN

HER RELATIONSHIP TO HER HUSBAND

1. In search for the best, what does he ask (31:10)?
2. What is her value?
3. How is the husband rewarded for his trust in her (31:11)?
4. Notice her faithful attitude toward him (31:12).

HER FULLNESS OF LIFE

1. What raw material did she seek; how did she work it (31:13)?
2. What did she do that was like the merchant's ships (31:14)?
3. Making the most of her time, what does she ration out and assign (31:15)?
4. How does she richly provide for the growing wants of her family (31:16)?
5. How does she build up strength for every emergency (31:17)?
6. By honesty and deft hands, what does she recognize (31:18)?
7. Her labor never stood still, but what about her burning lamp?
8. How did she show skill in using the distaff and the spindle (31:19)?
9. How did she use her hands to supply the needy (31:20)?
10. What precautions did she take for the cold weather (31:21)?
11. With what did she cover her floors (31:22)?
12. Did she make fine clothing for herself (31:22)?
13. How does her influence put forward her husband (31:23)? Note: he was the "husband" of the worthy woman.
14. What garments did she deliver to the merchants (31:24)?
15. Making her garments strong and beautiful, how does she face all (31:25)? "Strength" and "Dignity" seem to refer to traits of character.
16. In the household affairs (counsel), how does she speak (31:26)?
17. What was the law of her tongue (31:26)?
18. As the moral manager, how did she guard her household (31:27)? How do you know that all her household disdained a certain kind of bread?
19. Being well reared, to whom do the children ascribe the honor (credit) (31:28)?
20. What does her grateful husband do?
21. How does the husband speak of his wife (31:29)?

GENERAL SUMMARY

1. In general, what may be said of her grace and beauty (31:30)? What about the woman whose grace is inward?

2. What must be the ground of all praise (31:31)?
3. How is everyone known (Matt. 7:16)?
4. Memorize Gal. 5:22, 23.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How will Solomon's description of a worthy woman fit into every age?
2. If you would add to it or take from it, what would it be?
3. Who was the New Testament character who cared for the poor (Acts 9:36, 39)?
4. What Old Testament character was both a seamstress and a cook (Gen. 27:11-16)?
5. Who honored her husband, calling him "Lord" (1 Pet. 3:6)?
6. How would a worthy mother eliminate family trouble today?
7. How will she assist her husband in business and religion?
8. How will she contribute to industry?
9. How will she rebuke idleness and laziness?
10. How will her adornment crown her inward grace?
11. How would her life condemn this "fast stepping and immoral age?"
12. How would her life condemn this immodest age?

WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT--SECOND REVIEW

1. *Abihail
2. Abi (Abijah)
3. Abigail
4. Abigail
5. Abishag
6. Abital
7. Achsah
8. Ahinoam
9. Ahinoam
10. Athaliah
11. Azurah
12. Bathsheba
13. Bithiah
14. Concubine of the Levite
15. Daughters of Shiloh
16. Eglah
17. Esther
18. Gomer
19. Haggith
20. Hamutal
21. Hannah
22. Hephziba
23. Huldah
24. Jecholiah
25. Jedidah
26. Jehoaddin
27. Jehosheba or Jehoshabeath
28. Jerusha
29. Jewish Maid
30. Jezebel
31. Job's Wife
32. Maacah
33. Maacah
34. Maacah
35. Mahalath
36. Merab
37. Meshullemeth
38. Michal
39. Mother of Jabez
40. Mother of Micah
41. Naomi
42. Nehushta
43. Noadiah
44. Ohola
45. Oholiba
46. Orpah
47. Peninnah
48. Phinehas' Wife
49. Queen of Sheba
50. Rizpah
51. Ruth
52. Shunammite Woman
53. Tahpanes and her sister
54. Tamar
55. Tamar
56. Vashti
57. Widow of Zarephath
58. Wife of Jeroboam
59. Wife of one of the prophets
60. Wife of Phinehas
61. Wise woman of Abel
62. Witch of Endor
63. Wives of Solomon
64. Woman of Bahurim (Hospitable)
65. Woman of Tekoa
66. Woman of Thebez
67. Women of Solomon's Judgment
68. Worthy Woman
69. Zeresh
70. Zeruath
71. Zeruiah

One lady that we did not study is included on the list. Use your research skills to find out who this person was. You may do 50 of the 52 questions for 100%. Or you may do all 52 questions correctly for 104%! Have fun!!

1. How do we know that Abigail is ½ sister to David?
2. Who was David's other ½ sister?
3. Name and distinguish the Maacha's.
4. Name and distinguish the Tamar's.
5. Name the wives of David.
6. Name the wives of Rehoboam.
7. What did the woman of Tekoa do?
8. What is the distinction for each of the Ahinoams?
9. What little maid was taken into captivity?
10. What mother and daughter suggest wickedness? Who slew the royal seed?
11. What queen refused to appear before the king—her husband?
12. What widow's name means pleasantness? Who were her sons? Who were her daughters-in-law?
13. What wise woman was willing to deliver a traitor's head in order to save her city and herself?
14. What woman and her son went out to meet the king of Babylon and carried away all the treasures of the house of the Lord?
15. Who are the daughters of Saul?
16. Who despised her husband because he danced and praised God?
17. Who disguised herself to appear before a prophet?
18. Who gave evil advice to her husband--a very jealous man?
19. Who had a churlish husband?
20. Who had a son named Ichabod?
21. Who had a son named Ithream?
22. Who had a son named Shephatiah?
23. Who had three sons who were generals in David's army?
24. Who had two beautiful children who came to sad fates?
25. Who hid a baby for six years?
26. Who hid Jonathan and Ahimaaz? 2 Sam. 17:19
27. Who is Adonijah's mother?
28. Who is Caleb's daughter and Othniel's wife?

29. Who lived in the temple during Josiah's reign? What was her duty?
30. Who made a god for her son out of the 1,100 shekels of silver which he stole and later returned?
31. Who took care of her mother-in-law?
32. Who traveled to the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon?
33. Who wanted to cut a baby into two parts to settle a quarrel?
34. Who was an orphan girl adopted by her uncle who saved her nation from death?
35. Who was asked to bring back the dead to give tidings of the battle?
36. Who was asked to cook all the food she had left for a prophet?
37. Who was Hannah's adversary that provoked her year by year because the Lord had shut up her womb?
38. Who was Josiah's mother?
39. Who was King Solomon's mother?
40. Who was known for her heart-felt prayer, but was accused being drunk, while she prayed?
41. Who was the woman who killed Abimelech?
42. Who went back to her people and her gods after the death of her husband?
43. Whose dowry was 100 foreskins of the Philistines?
44. Whose dowry was 200 foreskins?
45. Whose home was richly supplied with oil?
46. Whose son killed his half brother?
47. Whose sons were hanged on a tree?
48. Who fought off birds from the bodies of her sons?
49. Who "brought up" (adopted) her sister's sons for their father?
50. Who was Pharaoh's daughter?

BIBLE WOMEN
Lesson 22 (addendum)

Of the Old Testament
The Jewish Age
Coronation to the Division
120 Years; 1 Sam. to 1 Kings 12

PERIOD OF POWER

(References in 2 Samuel)

OTHER MATTERS TO CONSIDER:

Please understand that we are in no way recommending all materials from these particular sites; however, the articles contain information that pertains to our study. If the research is established by scripture, then we have reason to accept it. We hope you will be discerning readers.

9. With regard David's brothers and sisters, see an article written by Eric Lyons: "Jesse's Missing Son." See also: (<http://www.apologeticspress.org/abdiscr/abdiscr57.html>)
10. With regard to his sisters, Zeruah and Abigail, see also other research regarding the mother of David.
 - A. The Scandal in David's Family (<http://home.mira.net/~houmail/hm023.htm>)
 - B. Are Men Born Sinners? (<http://www.firesofrevival.com/ps51.htm>)
 - C. NAHASH (<http://www.studylight.org/enc/isb/view.cgi?number=T6246>)

COPIES OF VARIOUS ARTICLES:

This item is available on the Apologetics Press website at:
<http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/612>

AP Content: Alleged Discrepancies
Jesse's Missing Son
by Eric Lyons, M.Min.

Some time ago, I received a letter from a woman who was seeking an answer to a question that an unbeliever had presented to her. The question that gave her so much trouble, and that seemed to plant a seed of doubt in her mind about the inerrancy of Scripture, was this: "Did Jesse (the father of David) have seven sons or eight?" This question arises from a comparison of the information about Jesse's family in 1 Sam. 16-17 with the genealogy given in 1 Chronicles chapter two.

First Samuel 16 states that Jesse made seven sons pass before the prophet Samuel, in hopes that God would anoint one of them as the next king of Israel (16:10). Samuel then informed Jesse that God had not chosen any of these seven sons that passed before him, but was looking for another. Of course, that other son was David, "the youngest" (16:11) of Jesse's "eight sons" (17:12). The "problem" with this information is that the genealogy in 1 Chronicles 2:13-15 specifically states that David was "the seventh" son of Jesse. How is it that David could be both the seventh son and eighth son of Jesse? Some are eager to call this a legitimate Bible contradiction. Even many Bible students (like the one who wrote me

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about this question) read these statements for the first time and wonder if this is an “inconsistency in the Word.” What is the answer? How many sons did Jesse have? And was David Jesse’s eighth son or seventh?

The answer is really quite simple. It seems that one of Jesse’s sons shown to Samuel at Bethlehem must have died while young and without posterity. Thus, at one time David was the youngest of **eight** sons, and at another time he was the youngest of **seven** sons. We must keep in mind that Hebrew genealogies often included only the names of those who have some significance for future generations (Richards, 1993, p. 106; *Nelson’s Illustrated Bible Dictionary*, 1986). It makes sense that if one of David’s brothers died before marrying and begetting children (or before doing something extraordinary), he would not have been mentioned.

Lest you think this situation sounds too bizarre, consider the following. Fifty years ago, whenever my father engaged in a discussion about his family, he would tell people that he had **five** brothers and two sisters. Today, when he converses with others about his family he often speaks of his **four** brothers and two sisters. Is he being dishonest when he does so? No. Sadly, when my dad was 19 years old, one of his younger brothers died in a tragic accident. Although this brother was loved deeply and is missed greatly, usually when my father is asked about his siblings he simply says: “I have **four** brothers and two sisters.” If he has time or feels there is a need, he then will mention his other brother who died at a very young age. The point is, whether my dad tells someone that he is the oldest of eight children or the oldest of seven children, he is telling the truth.

Admittedly, the Bible does not say specifically that one of David’s brothers died at a young age. But, it most likely is implying such a thing when one less son is mentioned in 1 Chronicles 2:13-15. [And considering David’s three oldest brothers were warriors in Saul’s army (1 Samuel 17:13ff), one certainly would not be surprised if one of David’s other brothers also became a soldier and died in battle.]

To say that one of David’s brothers dying at a relatively young age is not an option is to assert that the Bible does not teach by implication. [Yet, as anyone who has studied the Bible knows, it most certainly does teach by implication (cf. Acts 8:35-36).] Furthermore, if people today who have lost children or siblings can speak legitimately about their family number in two different ways, should we not also give Bible writers the same freedom in their recording of historical families?

REFERENCES

“Genealogy,” (1986), *Nelson’s Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (Thomas Nelson Publishers).

Richards, Larry (1993), *735 Baffling Bible Questions Answered* (Grand Rapids, MI: Revell).

A HINT OF "SCANDAL" IN DAVID'S FAMILY

"Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me." (Psalm 51:5)

The verse quoted above has long been one of the strongholds of those who promote the doctrine of "Original Sin" in one or other of its various forms.

However, for those of us who do NOT believe that doctrine is supported by the rest of Scripture, it is far more logical to assume that the verse has a different meaning.

We have all heard the phrase "living in sin". And we all know that in plain English, it means that two parties are living together without benefit of wedlock. To be "conceived in sin" is to be born as a result of such a liaison.

If we bypass the "invented theology" of "original sin", it is far more logical to take the verse at face value, and assume that there may have been some "scandal" associated with the circumstances of David's birth.

We find some evidence which tends to support that in some of the snippets of genealogical information which are given about David and his family.

From 1 Sam. 17:12 we learn that David is one of eight brothers. 1 Chron. 2:13-16 names seven, as well as two sisters, Zeruah, and Abigail.

The sons of Zeruah include Joab and Abishai and Asahel. Abishai was with David in exile. 1 Sam. 26:6. Joab, Abishai, and Asahel all became leaders in David's army. This probably means that although nephews of David, they were of a similar age, and that therefore David's two sisters were much older than David.

Then in 2 Sam. 17:25 we learn that in fact Zeruah and Abigail were only David's **HALF SISTERS. Their father was Nahash.... not Jesse!**

Nahash was an Ammonite King who had "dealt loyally with David". (1 Sam. 10:2) It seems reasonable to speculate that this is the same Nahash who was the father of Zeruah and Abigail. If David's two half sisters were in fact the daughters of this Nahash, then Joab, Abishai, and Asahel were his grandsons. So of course it could be expected that Nahash would have a strong incentive to "deal loyally with David" for the sake of his daughters and grandsons.

All of that suggests a "hint of scandal" in the circumstances of David's birth. His mother had two daughters by Nahash, before David was born. Nahash was still living when she bore David to Jesse.

What were the rest of the circumstances? Alas..... There are too many things left unsaid, to go any further. Some of the unanswered questions include:

- Was David's mother a "divorcee"?
- Or was she perhaps a Jewish captive of war, a slave and concubine in the house of Nahash, who had later been "rescued", or set free?
- Is it possible that she was an Ammonite? (See Deut. 23:3)
- Was she perhaps Jesse's second wife? Or not married to Jesse at all?
- Were David's seven brothers, actually only half brothers?
- Is any of that the reason why, when Samuel asked to meet Jesse's sons, David was not called?
- Does it have anything to do with the reason why David was kept away from the rest of the family, tending the flocks?
- Does it contribute to the apparent antagonism of his oldest brother towards him (1 Sam 17:28)?

While we must leave those puzzling questions unanswered, there is certainly enough "hint of scandal" there, to provide a reasonable explanation for David's statement that he was "brought forth in iniquity and conceived in sin".

And it is far more intellectually satisfying than the MYTH of "Original Sin"!

Allon

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Are men born sinners?

A commonly abused "proof text" is Psalm 51:5. Although I cannot claim the following as a result of my own scholarship or research, the information is a culmination from many sources over the years, and, I feel, the best explanation of this particular text that I have come across.

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Psalm 51:5- "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me." KJV

This is a Hebrew poetic parallelism, with the second line of the verse saying the same thing as the first line in a slightly different way.

The first verb, of which David is the subject, is in the Pual tense (as is "made" in # Job 15:7), which is an idiom used to refer to creation or origins, and is the 'passive' form of Polel ("formed": # Ps 90:2 Prov. 26:10). TWOT, #623, 1:270.

The subject of this verse is NOT the state or constitution of David's nature as a sinner at, or before, his birth. The subject is, as the verse clearly states, the 'circumstances' of his conception- the sexual union which produced him was an act of sin, and addresses the unrighteousness of his mother's act, not anything (such as a sin nature) inherent within himself.

The NIV's version of this verse is an INTERPRETATION, not a translation: "Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me."

David had two half-sisters (Zeruiah, Abigail).....:

1 Chron. 2:13-16 13 "And Jesse begat his firstborn Eliab, and Abinadab the second, and Shimma the third, 14 Nethaneel the fourth, Raddai the fifth, 15 Ozem the sixth, David the seventh: 16 Whose sisters were Zeruiah, and Abigail. And the sons of Zeruiah; Abishai, and Joab, and Asahel, three. 17 And Abigail bare Amasa: and the father of Amasa was Jether the Ishmaelite."

....and the father of David's half-sisters was not Jesse, but Nahash: 2 Sam. 17:25 "And Absalom made Amasa captain of the host instead of Joab: which Amasa was a man's son, whose name was Ithra an Israelite, that went in to Abigail the daughter of Nahash, sister to Zeruiah Joab's mother."

Nahash, the father of Zeruiah and Abigal, David's half-sisters, was an Ammonite king.

1 Sam. 11:1 "Then Nahash the Ammonite came up, and encamped against Jabeshgilead: and all the men of Jabesh said unto Nahash, Make a covenant with us, and we will serve thee."

1 Sam. 12:12 “And when ye saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, ye said unto me, Nay; but a king shall reign over us: when the LORD your God was your king.”

David's father was Jesse, not Nahash. Zeruiah and Abigail were David's half-sisters through his mother's previous marriage to Nahash. This would also help explain why Nahash showed kindness to David, perhaps out of respect for David's mother, Nahash's former wife and the mother of two of Nahash's children.

2 Sam. 10:2 “Then said David, I will shew kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father shewed kindness unto me. And David sent to comfort him by the hand of his servants for his father. And David's servants came into the land of the children of Ammon.”

David's mother was most likely the second wife of Jesse, the first wife being the mother of David's half-brothers. Jesse's first wife's standing before the 'righteousness of the law', (her not having been married to, or the concubine of, a heathen king, as was David's mother), would have been superior to that of David's mother, and explains why David's half-brothers, Jesse's other sons, would have felt they were superior to David, and why he would be accused of being prideful, for thinking he was as good as them [sic]...

1 Sam. 17:28-30 28 “And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle. 29 And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause? 30 And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner.”

...and why David was not considered, by his father Jesse, as 'true' a son as his half-brothers. Samuel had called Jesse and his sons, and thus expected 'all' his sons, to the sacrifice (1 Sam. 16:5, 11). Jesse, having been told to bring 'his sons' by a prophet of the Lord everyone feared (1 Sam. 16:4), was confident he had obeyed the prophet, even knowing he did not bring David....

1 Sam. 16:11 “And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.”

...which would be consistent with God's sometimes choosing that which men esteemed as worthless (the 'least') to be the greatest: (Gideon- Judg. 6:15; King Saul- 1 Sam. 9:21; Jesus- Matt. 2:6, Luke 9:48)

David's mother was apparently a Jewish woman, because no Ammonite shall enter the congregation of the Lord to the 10th generation' (Deut. 23:3), and yet in Psa. 86:16 and Psa. 116:16, David refers to himself as "the son of thy handmaid", which would seem to testify to his mother's relationship with the Lord. David's mother was, in the eyes of Jewish law, considered 'defiled' by her previous relationship to an Ammonite.



The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia

NAHASH

na'-hash (nachash, "serpent"; Naas):

(1) The father of Abigail and Zeruah, the sisters of David (2 Sam. 17:25; compare 1 Chron. 2:16). The text in 2 S, where this reference is made, is hopelessly corrupt; for that reason there are various explanations. The rabbis maintain that Nahash is another name for Jesse, David's father. Others think that Nahash was the name of Jesse's wife; but it is not probable that Nahash could have been the name of a woman. Others explain the passage by making Nahash the first husband of Jesse's wife, so that Abigail and Zeruah were half-sisters to King David.

(2) A king of Ammon, who, at the very beginning of Saul's reign, attacked Jabesh-gilead so successfully, that the inhabitants sued for peace at almost any cost, for they were willing to pay tribute and serve the Ammonites (1 Sam. 11:1). The harsh king, not satisfied with tribute and slavery, demanded in addition that the right eye of every man should be put out, as "a reproach upon Israel." They were given seven days to comply with these cruel terms. Before the expiration of this time, Saul, the newly anointed king, appeared on the scene with an army which utterly routed the Ammonites (1 Sam. 11:1), and, according to Josephus, killed King Nahash (Ant., VI, v, 3).

If the Nahash of 2 Sam. 10:2 be the same as the king mentioned in 1 Sam. 11, this statement of Josephus cannot be true, for he lived till the early part of David's reign, 40 or more years later. It is, of course, possible that Nahash, the father of Hanun, was a son or grandson of the king defeated at Jabesh-gilead by Saul. There is but little agreement among commentators in regard to this matter. Some writers go so far as to claim that "all passages in which this name (Nahash) is found refer to the same individual."

(3) A resident of Rabbath-ammon, the capital of Ammon (2 Sam. 17:27). Perhaps the same as Nahash (2), which see. His son Shobi, with other trans-Jordanic chieftains, welcomed David at Mahanaim with sympathy and substantial gifts when the old king was fleeing before his rebel son Absalom. Some believe that Shobi was a brother of Hanun, king of Ammon (2 Sam. 10:1).

W. W. Davies



A former student named them and put them all in order:

DAVID'S WIVES AND CHILDREN:

Michal

Ahinoam

1. Amnon

Abigail

2. Chileab/Daniel

Maachah

3. Absalom

4. Tamar

Haggith

5. Adonijah

Bathsheba/Bathshua

(First son died)

6. Solomon

7. Shammua

8. Shobab

9. Nathan

Abital

10. Shephatiah

Eglah

11. Ithream

Other children:

12. Elishua/Elishama*

13. Elpalet

14. Eliphalet (probably the same person as listed above)

15. Nogah

16. Nepheg

17. Eliada

18. Ibhar

19. Japhia

20. Jerimoth

Concubines:

Abishag

Most concubines and children are not named.