

The Church in History
Discipleship Class
April 3, 2022

1. God's promise to Abraham was that through him, all the nations of the earth would be blessed. Genesis 22:18
2. All the nations of the earth are blessed through the nation of Israel, because they are the root through whom Messiah came. Genesis 49:9 – 10; Revelation 5:5; Micah 5:2.
3. What is the purpose of history?
 - a. There is no purpose.
 - b. The redemption of mankind at the cross.
 - c. To prepare a bride for the Lamb of God.
4. The purpose of the earth is to provide habitation for mankind.
5. The human race was created in the image and likeness of God to provide an eternal companion for God's son. Genesis 1:26, 27; Genesis 2:18.
 - a. The church is the custodian of all things. I Corinthians 3:21 – 23.
 - b. All things work together for the good of the bride. Romans 8:28.
 - c. The kings of old are significant only in terms of their relationship to Israel. Isaiah 10:5 – 14.
 - d. Unlimited atonement/limited acceptance. I John 2:2; Matthew 7:13, 14.
 - e. History ends with the bride on the throne. Revelation 3:21; Revelation 21:9; Revelation 19:7.
6. The authority of the bride.
 - a. Coregent with Christ. Romans 8: 17
 - b. Authority given by Christ. John 17:21 – 23.
 - c. Authority to judge I Corinthians 6:2 – 3.
 - d. Rulers in the kingdom. Luke 12:32
 - e. We will be like Christ. I John 3:1,2
 - f. We are of the family of God. Hebrews 2:11, 12; Matthew 12:48 – 50; Ephesians 1:23; Ephesians 5:30.
7. The bride was planned since before history began. Ephesians 1:3 – 5; John 1:12 – 13.
8. The bride was a mystery. Ephesians 5:23 – 27, 31, 32. Genesis 2:24
 - a. Beyond imagination, a work of grace. Psalm 8:4 – 5; Ephesians 2:8, 9.
 - b. Beyond understanding I Corinthians 2:9.
 - c. Revealed by the Spirit. Ephesians 1:18 – 23.

9. The duty of the bride is to pray.
 - a. Prayer is indispensable. Ezekiel 22:30 – 31.
 - b. Prayer is training for the church to rule with Christ. Matthew 16:19; 18:18 – 19.
 - c. God promises to answer prayer. John 14:13 – 14; John 15:7; John 16:23 – 24.
 - d. We are commanded to pray Matthew 7:7; Matthew 9:38.

10. Prayer is the symbol of the bride's authority.
Ephesians 5:23 – 32. I Corinthians 6:2 – 3; Revelation 2:26, 27; Revelation 3:21; Revelation 5:9 – 10.

11. The problem of unanswered prayer.
 - a. Because of selfish motives James 4:3
 - b. The example of Paul. II Corinthians 12:7
 - c. The example of Lucifer Ezekiel 28:18
 - “Until God has wrought in a worker true humility, and brokenness in his servants, he cannot answer some of their prayers without the undue risk of producing the pride that goes before a fall.” Watchman Nee
 - The greatest thing that anyone can do for God and for man is to pray. You can do more than pray after you have prayed, but you cannot do more than pray until you have prayed. Prayer is striking the winning blow. Service is gathering of the results. SD Gordon

12. The duty of the church is to give praise to God.
 - a. All thy works shall praise thy name” Psalm 145:10;
 - the cherubim and seraphim Revelation 4:8
 - the angels, Revelation 5:11 – 12
 - the multitude in heaven. Revelation 19:6

 - b. The practical benefits of praise
 - Praise promotes Godly Character
 - Praise promotes mental health
 - Praise invokes the power of God against enemies. Jehoshaphat II Chronicles 20.
 - God is active in the praise of His people. Psalm 22:3

 - c. Praise is continuous. Psalm 34:1; I Chronicles 23:5; Revelation 4:8

References: *Destined for the Throne*. Billheimer, Paul; Bethany House 1975
The Greatness of the Kingdom; McLain, Alva J; BMH Books 1959

