

Bible Course in Questions and Answers

BY JOHN P. SCOTT

LESSON 4

- Q. Relate the symbolic story of the "son of the widow."
- A. According to the Masonic legend, God is supposed to have created Eve first. (It is true that the feminine characteristics were first developed.) Samael, leader of the Lucifer Spirits, united with her, but was driven away when discovered by Jehovah. Thus, Eve was a widow, and bore Cain, who was the "widow's son." Later Eve united with Adam and bore Abel, and still later Seth. This story will bear much meditation, since it contains the fundamentals of types of humanity and their causes.
- Q. Tell the inner story of Lamech and his two wives.
- A. Lamech (humanity) has two "wives" (or expresses the feminine or emotional force in two ways). Adah is the higher use of this feminine force, and Zillah the lower. He "laments" this lower use. This story is an admonition to all of us.
- Q. What is the meaning of the "sons of God" marrying the "daughters of men"?
- A. When a certain group is set aside to form a new race-type body, its members are "sons of God" or Chosen Ones. The "daughters of men" represent the lower types of humanity. When the higher type marries into the lower, it frustrates the plans of the Hierarchy to produce a superior race, as far as those who intermarry are concerned.
- Q. Give the esoteric story of Noah.
- A. Noah represents the pioneers of humanity who build the "ark" or the soul body, capable of rising above the "flood waters" of the emotions that destroy ordinary humanity. Their attainment is not complete until they can send out, or radiate, pure thoughts (the dove that returns to them with the olive branch of peace). The "raven" first sent out represents dark or evil thoughts.
- Q. Give the esoteric story of the Tower of Babel.
- A. Early humanity, while still conscious of spiritual realms, tries to bring down and use spiritual forces for selfish ends, by contacting it (building a tower to heaven) through unworthy means ("bricks of earth" and "mortar of slime"). God prevents them from destroying themselves and the world thereby through scattering them into small groups, incapable of forming a large enough force to do much serious harm through their magic.
- Q. Where is the Garden of Eden?
- A. The Garden of Eden was on a plane not physically discernible to man. Therefore, it will never be found as a physical place by explorers.
- Q. What country was actually submerged in the Bible flood story?
- A. The country of Atlantis, which now lies beneath the waters of the Atlantic Ocean; it was our ancient home, destroyed as told in the Bible in the flood story.
- Q. Give the inner story of Abram and Sarah's trouble with Pharaoh.
- A. Pharaoh represents the lower nature within each of us and Abram and Sarah, the head and the heart. Pharaoh, as king of sin, seeks continually to seize upon our emotional nature, to our sorrow and trouble.
- Q. What was the inner story of the strife between Lot's and Abram's herdsmen?
- A. Lot represents the material mind and Abram the spiritual mind. The "herdsmen" are the activities of each

phase of the mind which clashed. Some time we also must decide what "land" or part of our being is to be governed by which phase of the mind.

- Q. Give the inner story of the five kings who rebelled.
- A. The five "kings" are the five physical senses which always "rebel" or run riot in the thirteenth year (puberty). We must then "capture" them and bring back "Lot" (the lower mind) from their dominance, as "Abram" (the spiritual mind) did, in the Bible story.
- Q. Why would Abram not take anything from the King of Sodom?
- A. The King of Sodom represents the lower nature. The spiritualized mind (Abram) would only take from the lower nature that which the "young men" (youthful, unrestrained emotions) had "eaten"—or the experience gained from their activity. In other words, all that "Abram" would have to remind him of the "rebellion" would be the *memory* of the experience.
- Q. Why were Sarah, Rachel, and Rebecca barren until God was entreated?
- A. These three women were the true (or higher) wives of their husbands, and represent the higher emotional or heart side of our being, which never "brings forth" until we seek God.
- Q. What is the meaning of Abram's dividing the animals?
- A. The different animals represent phases of our being which have a higher and a lower, or a spiritual and a physical, use. These must be "divided" or used at the proper time in the proper way. He does not divide the "birds" (thoughts) since our mind or our thoughts must not be divided, but of one purpose.
- Q. What is the inner story of Sarah and Hagar?
- A. Sarah (the favored wife) is the higher emotional nature (which finds it hard to bring forth). Hagar, the

lower emotional, or physical use of the Life Force, can conceive readily. However, the fruit of Sarah, the higher emotional nature, is Isaac, "joy and laughter," while Hagar's "son," Ishmael, is "strife and trouble."

(To be continued)

OUR DUTY AS PARENTS

(Continued from page 104)

we are the pattern which the children are following, and that they are impressionable and everything in the environment leaves its impress upon them. The story of the mother who had three sons who all became sailors illustrates the importance of surroundings. None of their friends were sailors, they did not live near the water and they never talked about sailors. In their home they had one picture and that was a ship in full sail. Everything in the child's environment, even to the smallest detail, leaves its impression for good or evil.

To be the parent of a child is a great privilege and we should look upon him as a gift to be loved, guided, and allowed to grow in the way that is best for his development. No effort should be too great to put forth in preparing ourselves for the training of the child. We must always bear in mind that we are the pattern, the example, and we cannot expect more from our children than we do from ourselves. Let us take an inventory and check up on our thoughts, our words, and our actions. If we are not the ideal that we should like our children to strive to attain, let us change and strive for that ideal ourselves.

Since we are constantly supplying our child with mental and spiritual food, let us see that we ourselves keep renewed and inspired by good books, poetry, fresh air, change of scenery, stimulating companions, good pictures and music. Our child comes to us with the *divine spark*. He is for us to make or to mar. We must accept our responsibility and the important task before us.