

STUDY QUESTIONS
for the book
Is the Bible
Really the Word of God?

This booklet of study questions is designed for use at congregation book studies. It is believed that all will benefit personally by becoming thoroughly familiar with the contents of the book **Is the Bible Really the Word of God?** As we all become better acquainted with the book, we will also be more eager to place it with others to strengthen their faith in the Bible. Of course, this should also prove valuable for use at home Bible studies.

When conducting the study, first have the paragraph(s) read and then invite those present to answer the questions and to read and comment on the scriptures cited. You will find that the questions are not overly detailed. This allows for those present to make more comments on each question and also for those who are more familiar with the subject to bring in related material not found in the text-book. By encouraging such full participation, the one conducting the study will help to make it of the greatest benefit to all in attendance. Where time permits, there could also be Bible reading and discussion based on portions assigned for the Theocratic School for that week.

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Why Examine the Bible?

- 5 1-3 What questions might be asked regarding the Bible's being the Word of God?
- 6 1,2 When it comes to age and the extent of distribution, what should we expect from a book that claims to be God's Word?
- 7 1 What reasons involving us personally do we have for investigating the Bible?
- 7 2 Why have scientific advances not made the Bible obsolete?
- 8 1 For what reasons involving life itself does the Bible merit our examination?
- 8 2 What claims did Bible writers make as to its authorship?
- 9 1 Why is it imperative that we examine the Bible now?
- 9 2 Why have some declined to examine the Bible, but is such reasoning valid?
- 10 1 What did one prominent investigator of the Bible find?
- 10 2-4 Why should we determine for ourselves whether the Bible is really the Word of God?

Chapter 2

Genesis Account of Creation—Fact or Fiction?

- 11 1-4 (a) What do many believe regarding Genesis 1:1? (b) Why is it important to know whether such claims are true?
- 11 5 to 12 1 (a) What does the main Babylonian myth regarding creation say? (b) an Egyptian myth?
- 12 2 Briefly, what does Genesis tell about creation?
- 12 3 How does the Genesis account compare with ancient creation myths?
- 13 1 What does the Bible say about the shape of the earth?
- 14 1 How do some view what the Bible has to say about the creation of the universe?
- 14 2 to 15 2 (a) Modern astronomers have what theories regarding the origin of the universe? (b) Why are they unable to prove the Bible wrong?
- 15 3 How do the Bible and the theories of modern scientists compare?
- 15 4 to 17 1 (a) Scientific men have said what about the theories regarding the origin of the universe? (b) What choice faces us as to the origin of the earth?

17² What fact regarding matter and energy agrees with the Bible's account of creation?

17³ to 18¹ (a) The six "days" of creation relate only to what? (b) How is this significant?

18² to 19¹ The Scriptures indicate what as to the length that a "day" might be?

19^{2,3} Why is it not reasonable to look to modern science to establish the correctness of the Bible's account of earth's early history?

20¹ Why cannot the simplicity of the Genesis record count against its being the truth?

20^{2,3} What do scientists admit as to the finality of scientific inferences?

20⁴ What is a frequent objection raised to the Genesis creation account?

20⁵ Why is there not a conflict as to what occurred on "days" one and four?

21¹ Why was there "darkness" on "day" one?

21² to 22² (a) What came into being on the second creative "day"? (b) What blocked the entry of light rays?

22³ So what change occurred on the fourth creative "day"?

23^{1,2} What does the Bible say was created on the third "day," posing what seeming difficulty?

23³ to 24¹ What scientific experiment bears on the Bible record about the third "day"?

24² to 25² Why cannot the fact that plant life preceded insect life be used as an argument against what the Bible says about the third "day"?

25^{3,4} What does the Bible say took place on the fifth and sixth creative "days," and what objection is raised about this?

25⁵ to 26² What must be said about the theories of the geologists?

27¹ How do geologists arrive at their figures as to the length of the geological periods?

27² By what means have geologists more recently estimated time periods?

27³ to 28¹ What would scientists have to know in order to arrive at a sound conclusion as to the time when matter was created?

28^{2,3} What further fact throws doubt on the accuracy of radioactive "clocks"?

29¹ What should we ask ourselves as to dating methods?

29^{2,3} What part of the Genesis account of creation has come under the most attack, leading to what questions?

30¹⁻³ What conclusions have various scientists reached as to there having been an original pair of humans?

30⁴ What basic facts prove that we have all descended from one original pair?

30⁵ to 32¹ The Bible says what about the creation of the first woman, and how are some inconsistent in objecting to this?

32² to 33¹ What otherwise unexplainable things does the Genesis record of events in the Garden of Eden make clear?

33^{2,3} (a) An increasing number of clergymen take what attitude regarding the Genesis creation account? (b) What position did Jesus Christ take?

33⁴ to 34² What other testimony does the Bible give as to the authenticity of the creation account?

34^{3,4} Why is the rejection of the Genesis account at the same time a rejection of Christianity? How do you feel about this?

Chapter 3

Was There an Earth-wide Flood?

35^{1,2} What does the Bible say resulted because the earth was filled with violence?

35³ Why can the Bible's Flood account not be about just a local flood?

36^{1,2} (a) From where did the floodwaters come? (b) What can be said about this being scientifically plausible?

36³ to 37¹ Why is it reasonable to believe that the Flood was as extensive as the Bible says it was?

37^{2,3} What can be said about the earth's surface that can help us to understand the Flood account?

38^{1,2} What evidence is there that ocean depths have undergone changes?

38³ How do these facts about the mountains and oceans relate to the global flood?

39^{1,2} (a) The falling of the water canopy doubtless had what effect on earth's climate? (b) What scientific evidence is there to this effect?

39³ to 40¹ Besides a drastic change in climate, what else did the Flood produce?

40^{2,3} What further facts are there that a sudden catastrophe struck the earth?

41^{1,2} What evidence is there that the Flood was long remembered by humankind?

42¹⁻³ (a) What do some persons ask about the ark? (b) What was the size of the ark?

42^{4,5} (a) What are the facts as to the size and number of kinds of land mammals? (b) How could the ark have had room for all the "kinds"?

43 ¹ What do some of the latest religious encyclopedias have to say about the Noachian flood?

44 ¹ Jesus Christ and the apostle Peter gave what testimony regarding the factualness of the Flood?

44 ^{2,3} Why is it consequential whether we accept the Bible's record of the Flood or not?

Chapter 4

The Bible and Ancient History—Do They Agree?

45 ^{1,2} Why is this a good time to weigh the Bible in the light of history?

45 ³ What did one geologist say about disagreement between secular maps and the Bible?

46 ^{1,2} What distinctive Bible names have recently come to light?

46 ³ What other historical details have come to light in recent times supporting the Bible?

47 ^{1,2} Why is it not reasonable to expect that there can be absolute harmony between the Bible and ancient history?

48 ^{1,2} (a) What does the Bible show took place shortly after the Flood? (b) To what extent has this been testified to by archaeological discoveries?

49 ^{1,2} What do the Bible and historians indicate about the focal point from which mankind spread abroad after the Flood?

49 ³ Archaeological findings are in agreement with what facts concerning the construction of the tower of Babel?

50 ¹ In what respects do ancient records harmonize with the Bible, and in what respects can we not expect them to do so?

50 ² What is another reason why we should not expect full harmony between such ancient histories and the Bible?

50 ³ to 51 ² What facts about ancient historians should be remembered when comparing their writings with Biblical information?

52 ¹ What may well account for the silence of Egyptian records regarding the exodus of Israel from Egypt?

52 ² What modern example bears out the unreliability of secular historians?

52 ³ to 53 ¹ How does the Bible record furnish a striking contrast to Egyptian records?

53 ² to 55 ² How do the Bible and Assyrian records compare as to completeness?

55 ³ What example of dishonest reporting do the Persian scribes furnish?

56 ¹ Why might some other Biblical names not appear in ancient national histories?

56 ^{2,3} Regarding what fact about King Sennacherib does the Bible show itself to be more accurate than previously known sources?

57 ¹ to 58 ¹ How else has the Bible proved more accurate in differences between it and secular history, obliging us to reach what conclusion?

58 ² to 59 ¹ (a) What question arises as to dating historical events? (b) What facts throw light on the matter of reliability of secular chronology?

59 ^{2,3} Where else can we look for reasons to put confidence in the Bible, and why?

60 ¹ What does the Bible's message illustrate?

60 ² What must be said about the men who had their exploits engraved on stone, and how does this compare to the Bible?

61 ¹ (a) What has the discovery of ancient non-Biblical histories often demonstrated? (b) What can we not reasonably expect of or hope to find in such records?

Chapter 5

Early Christianity—Is the Record Sound?

62 ^{1,2} What claims does the Bible contain regarding the contents of the Christian Greek Scriptures, raising what questions?

62 ³ to 63 ¹ What has well been said as to the historical aspects of the record of Christianity?

63 ²⁻⁵ Secular historians give what testimony as to Jesus Christ, pointing to what conclusions?

64 ^{1,2} (a) What may some persons wonder regarding Jesus Christ? (b) The four Gospel accounts contain what testimony?

64 ³ to 65 ¹ How does the Talmud compare with the Gospel record?

65 ² to 66 ¹ What do ancient Roman writers mention about Christianity, leading to what conclusion?

66 ² to 67 ¹ (a) What characteristic of Bible writings argues for their reliability? (b) How can Luke's accuracy be proved?

67 ² to 68 ¹ How accurate is the book of Acts?

68 ²⁻⁴ The humility of Bible writers should help us to reach what conclusion regarding their records?

69 ¹ to 70 ¹ (a) What facts recorded regarding Jesus have caused some critics to question his deserving to be referred to as "Lord"? (b) To what conclusion does all this evidence point?

70 ^{2,3} What do some clergymen say about the Christian record, and what might be their reason for doing so?

71 1,2 (a) What traits of religious leaders, past and present, may well affect their attitude toward the truth about Jesus? (b) What must be said about books and articles written against the Christian Greek Scriptures?

72 1 Just where may the problem lie on the part of those who say that they cannot believe the Bible?

72 2,3 To have the right attitude regarding Christianity's record what differentiations must we make?

73 1 What, in brief, does the Bible teach regarding Jesus?

73 2,3 Why should we want to learn about the hope presented in the Bible and exercise faith in it?

Chapter 6

Are the Miracles of the Bible True?

74 1,2 Why do some persons find it difficult to believe in the Bible?

74 3 to 75 1 How do scientific feats compare with Bible miracles?

75 2,3 What must be said about the power that produced the universe, aiding us to what conclusion regarding the miracles mentioned in the Bible?

75 4 to 76 2 Why is the claim that miracles are contrary to "nature" not valid, as illustrated by what examples?

76 3 to 77 2 How do some view the virgin birth of Jesus, and why is their position not sound?

77 3 What exposes the flawed thinking of those who deny the virgin birth of Jesus?

78 1 What facts regarding the transmission of life bear on this matter?

78 2 Why should it not be difficult for us to believe in the virgin birth of Jesus?

78 3 to 79 1 Why did Jehovah God have his human representatives perform miracles?

79 2 What promises and testimony of the apostles were strengthened by miracles?

79 3 to 80 1 What shows that miracles do not necessarily convince the people observing them?

80 2 What is the Bible's position as to miracles' being performed in our day?

80 3 to 81 1 What is the strongest evidence that miracles actually took place, and why so?

81 2 Regarding what puzzling events do the miracles of the Bible give hope?

Does the Bible Contradict Itself?

82 1-3 What fact must be true of the Bible for it to measure up to its claim of being God's Word, but what is the view of many toward the Bible?

82 4 to 83 1 What examples of seeming contradictions in the Gospel accounts might be cited?

83 2 to 84 1 How may these seeming contradictions be resolved, and how can this be illustrated by the way in which people express themselves today?

84 2 When considering parallel accounts in the Bible, what is the reasonable approach, and why?

84 3,4 How can the seeming contradiction between the words of Moses (Num. 35:14) and Joshua (Josh. 14:3) be reconciled?

85 1 to 86 1 (a) How can the accounts of Mark and Luke regarding a blind beggar be harmonized with Matthew's account as to number? (b) as to location?

86 2,3 What is it always wise to consider when texts seem to contradict each other? (Illustrate.)

86 4 How else can the importance of considering the context be illustrated?

87 1,2 Since both Matthew and Luke were early members of the Christian congregation, what must we conclude about their differing genealogies?

88 1,2 What reason is there to believe that these two differing genealogies are not in conflict?

88 3,4 How should we approach seeming contradictions in the Bible?

89 1 (a) If some contradictions seem unsolvable to us, what does not necessarily follow? (b) What might one do to get such problems solved?

89 2 Instead of giving a basis for doubts, why should seeming contradictions be reason for faith?

Chapter 8

The Bible's Moral Standards— Are They Consistent?

90 1,2 What can be said about the Bible's moral standards, but why do some question the Bible's consistency?

90 3,4 Just what is the effect of the way in which the Bible presents wrongdoing?

91 1,2 Why, then, does the Bible include such accounts of wrongdoing?

- 91 ³ What can we say to those who object to the Bible's frankness?
- 92 ^{1,2} (a) Of what is the Bible a record, and what benefit comes from studying it? (b) Why would we not want to approach the Bible with the idea of having it conform to our own personal concept of right and wrong?
- 93 ^{1,2} What attitude should we avoid, and what view should we have?
- 94 ³ What is the Bible record regarding the Canaanites?
- 94 ^{1,2} What can we learn from God's judgment against the Canaanites?
- 95 ¹ What does the account about God's commanding the execution of the Canaanites show? (b) Rather than repel us, what should this account do?
- 95 ^{2,3} What objection do some raise as to the execution of Jehovah's judgments, and what can we say by way of reply?
- 96 ¹ How is God's dealing with the Canaanites consistent with an undeniable fact as to the lot of children?
- 96 ² What resulted from the adult Canaanites' choosing either life or death?
- 97 ¹ What vital lesson is there for us in the Bible account of the Canaanites?
- 97 ² to 98 ¹ How can you answer those who claim that God's requirements in the Hebrew Scriptures conflict with those in the Christian Greek Scriptures?
- 98 ² to 99 ¹ How are we to understand God's law about 'soul for soul, eye for eye'?
- 99 ² What do both the Hebrew and the Christian Greek Scriptures counsel as to taking personal vengeance?
- 100 ¹⁻³ (a) What charge is made by some as to how God is presented in the Hebrew and the Christian Greek Scriptures? (b) What, though, is actually the case?
- 101 ¹ The way in which the Bible is written causes what to be revealed?
- 101 ^{2,3} (a) What excuse do some use in rejecting the Bible? (b) But if we carefully examine the Bible's moral standards what do we find?
- 102 ^{1,2} (a) For those who view portions of the Bible as stumbling blocks, where does the problem usually lie? (b) What may we rightly expect of God's Word, the Bible?

Chapter 9

The Significance of Bible Prophecy

- 103 ¹ How is prophecy one of the outstanding features of the Bible?
- 103 ² to 104 ¹ How do the prophecies of the Bible compare other prophecies of ancient times?

- 104 ^{2,3} How do Bible prophecies and human predictions differ?
- 105 ^{1,2} What did Isaiah foretell about Babylon, and how was this prophecy fulfilled?
- 105 ³ to 106 ¹ What did Jeremiah prophesy eighteen years before it took place, and how has that prophecy been confirmed?
- 106 ^{2,3} What further prophecy did Isaiah utter regarding Babylon?
- 106 ⁴ to 107 ² What have historians recorded showing the fulfillment of the prophecies of Isaiah and Jeremiah, leading to what conclusion?
- 107 ³ to 108 ¹ While in Babylon, the prophet Daniel received what vision regarding world powers, and what was it interpreted to mean?
- 108 ² to 109 ¹ What facts regarding Alexander the Great confirm the truthfulness of Daniel's prophecies?
- 109 ² To what conclusions must we come regarding Daniel's prophecies?
- 109 ^{3,4} What must be said about the validity of claims that some make in their efforts to discredit Bible prophecies?
- 110 ^{1,2} Why is it unreasonable to hold that false additions have been made to the Bible?
- 110 ³ to 111 ¹ How is the view of the Jews noteworthy regarding Bible prophecies?
- 111 ^{2,3} What facts prevent critics of the Bible from claiming that additions were made to the Bible later than the second century B.C.E.?
- 112 ^{1,2} What most unusual thing did Bible prophecies foretell regarding Babylon?
- 112 ³ to 113 ¹ How were the prophecies regarding Babylon's destruction completely fulfilled?
- 113 ^{2,3} What prophecies regarding the extinction of certain peoples were fulfilled?
- 113 ⁴ to 114 ¹ What picture had Hebrew prophecies built up regarding the Messiah?
- 114 ² How can you illustrate what the prophecies foretold about the Messiah, and where is their fulfillment recorded? (Get a number of answers.)
- 115 ¹ to 116 ² How do some argue against these events having actually been fulfillment of prophecies, but why are such arguments wholly baseless?
- 116 ³ to 117 ¹ Who was Jehovah's foremost prophet, and what did he foretell regarding Jerusalem?
- 118 ^{1,2} Why could Jesus' prophetic word not have been made up after Jerusalem's fall?
- 118 ³ to 119 ¹ What happened when Jerusalem was besieged by Roman armies, enabling early Christians to do what?

119 ^{2,4} After the early Christians heeded Jesus' command, what happened to the city of Jerusalem?

120 ^{1,2} What is the significance of all these fulfilled Bible prophecies?

Chapter 10

Bible Prophecies You Have Seen Fulfilled

121 ^{1,2} How are we involved in Bible prophecies?

121 ³ These prophecies have what twofold fulfillment?

122 ¹ Why are certain prophecies in the book of Revelation of interest to us?

122 ^{2,3} For what reasons does the Bible contain these prophecies?

122 ⁴ Revelation 6:3, 4 and Matthew 24:6, 7 speak of war taking place to what extent?

123 ¹ to 124 ¹ What facts indicate that these prophecies have found fulfillment and at what time?

124 ² We have what reason for believing that the promise of the approaching deliverance will also prove true?

124 ³ to 126 ¹ How could you show that Jesus' words regarding food shortages have had a fulfillment in modern times?

126 ² to 127 ¹ (a) What other striking fulfillment regarding prophecies have we seen in our day? (b) What have been some factors contributing to these conditions?

127 ^{2,3} What further outstanding feature of the "sign" has been fulfilled?

128 ^{1,2} Why can it not be said that there have always been earthquakes of similar intensity and frequency?

128 ³ to 129 ³ How might the correctness of the conclusions regarding the "sign" be illustrated?

129 ⁴ Jesus said that what mental attitude would in particular mark this generation?

130 ¹ to 131 ¹ What indicates that governments have been unable to give relief from anxiety?

131 ² to 132 ¹ What kind of evidence is there that our time has seen an "increasing of lawlessness"?

132 ^{2,3} How can we establish that 'the love of the greater number has cooled off'?

132 ⁴ to 133 ³ What fulfillment have we seen of Paul's words at 2 Timothy 3:1-5?

133 ⁴ The fulfillment of so many of its prophecies in our day indicates what regarding the Bible's origin?

134 ^{1,2} To what does the fulfillment of these prophecies point, and what meaning do they have for us?

Is the Bible Practical for Our Day?

135 ^{1,2} What should we expect of the Word of God, raising what questions?

135 ³ In what various respects is the Bible unique?

136 ¹ The Bible gives us what counsel that can benefit us economically?

136 ² How can the Bible's counsel affect our mental attitude toward work?

137 ¹ to 138 ¹ How is the Bible's advice about the effect of the mind and the emotions on bodily health being confirmed?

138 ^{2,3} What beneficial counsel does the Bible give as to our emotions?

138 ⁴ to 139 ¹ In what other respects is the Bible's counsel practical?

139 ^{2,4} What testimony shows whether those who adhere to the Bible's moral standards are missing something or not?

139 ⁵ What alternatives to the Bible face a person as to morals?

140 ¹ What can be said as to the need of marriage partners to be honest with each other?

140 ² to 141 ² What are the bad fruits of divorce?

141 ^{3,4} What is the situation among many as to family headship?

141 ⁵ In what ways does the Bible's position regarding women work to their advantage?

142 ¹ to 143 ¹ What biological facts support the respective roles that the Bible accords men and women?

143 ² How can heeding the counsel of God's Word counteract the tendency of youths toward juvenile delinquency?

143 ^{3,4} Why can the Scriptures give the family unit the strength it needs to endure?

144 ¹ How does the Bible provide wise counsel for religiously divided homes?

144 ^{2,3} Why is there at times the need to exercise self-control, and to what does failure to exercise it lead?

145 ¹ Instead of a person's repaying evil for evil, what does the Bible recommend?

145 ^{2,3} What evidence is there to show that following the principles of God's Word is realistic?

146 ^{1,2} In view of world conditions, what practical action does the Bible urge us to take?

146 ³ to 147 ³ Where can living proof be found that following Scriptural principles is indeed practical?

147 ⁴ to 148 ¹ The book **Christians of the Copperbelt** gives what testimony as to the practical benefits resulting from adhering to Bible principles?

148 ^{2,3} What evidence is there that adhering to Bible principles enables one to endure persecution?

149 ^{1,2} How extensive is the evidence that the Bible is indeed practical for our day, suggesting what action on our part?

How the Bible Came to Us

150 ^{1,2} What might be asked about the writing and authenticity of the Bible?

150 ^{3,4} What do some persons mean when speaking of the Bible as inspired, but what does the Bible mean by claiming to be inspired?

151 ¹ How did God cause men to write the Sacred Scriptures?

151 ² Just what part of the Bible did Jehovah God personally write?

151 ³ How did God's penmen at times receive his message?

152 ¹ By what means did God demonstrate that he was dealing with the Christian congregation?

152 ² How might the personal initiative that God allowed his penmen to take be illustrated?

152 ³ to 153 ¹ (a) At times, how did God's spirit communicate his message to Bible writers? (b) How could you illustrate this?

153 ² (a) What does Bible writing reflect about its one Author? (b) Why do we say "one Author"?

154 ^{1,2} Why is it appropriate to refer to the Bible as a "Divine Library"?

154 ³ In what two main languages was the Bible originally written, leading to what fitting designations?

154 ⁴ (a) How might the Hebrew Scriptures be grouped into three general sections? (b) the Christian Greek Scriptures?

155 ¹ (a) What can be said about the relationship of the two main divisions of the Bible to each other? (b) How many direct and how many indirect quotations from the Hebrew Scriptures are found in the Christian Greek Scriptures?

155 ² Far from being a collection of unrelated fragments, what can be said about the books forming the Bible?

156 ^{1,2} Instead of the original writings or autographs of the books of the Bible, what do we have, raising what questions?

156 ³ What are the facts as to the copying of the Bible?

156 ⁴ to 157 ¹ What strikingly demonstrates the carefulness with which the Bible manuscripts were copied?

157 ² To what does the abundance of manuscripts of the Hebrew and Christian Greek Scriptures point?

158 ^{1,2} What can be said about the nature of the differences found in these manuscripts?

158 ³ How extensively has the Bible been translated?

159 ¹ What fact has made it necessary to continue translating the Bible?

159 ² to 160 ¹ Why have Bible translators been able to produce more accurate versions of the Bible?

160 ^{2,3} What can be said about the way the Bible is written and its being understood?

161 ^{1,2} Why is it that the Bible cannot be understood by some but can be by others?

161 ³ (a) The manner in which the Bible is written points to what fact? (b) The way in which it was preserved gives what evidence, encouraging us to do what?

Chapter 13

Do Christendom's Churches Represent the Bible?

162 ¹ What would many persons living in Christendom be surprised to learn?

162 ^{2,3} What could one expect as regards conditions in Christendom, but what are the facts?

163 ¹ What vital questions regarding Christendom need answers?

163 ² In view of the circulation of the Bible in Christendom, what might be asked?

163 ³ to 164 ² What evidence is there as to whether the people of Christendom are reading the Bible?

164 ^{3,4} What accounts for this condition in Christendom?

164 ⁵ to 165 ¹ How do a large number of Christendom's clergy view the Bible?

165 ² What especially do religious critics of the Bible question?

165 ³ to 166 ² How far do some go in denying the Bible's truthfulness?

166 ³ to 167 ¹ (a) What may be asked regarding the clergy's claim to be the guardians of public morality? (b) How does their record compare with what the Bible says?

167 ² to 168 ² What attitude do certain clergymen take as to sex, and what does this show as to their representing the Bible?

168 ³ to 169 ² What does the Bible say about homosexuality, but what attitude do many clergymen take regarding it?

169 ³ How clear is the Bible regarding homosexuality?

169 ⁴ What might be asked of clergymen who have not expressed themselves on these questions?

170 ¹ To what charge does the attitude of such clergy lay them open, and what did Jesus say about this?

171 ^{1,2} Why should the position of such clergymen not cause us to doubt the Bible?

171 ³ to 172 ¹ Why have the clergy taken the course they have?

172 ² How did the Bible prophetically speak of these things?

172 ³ to 173 ² How did the Bible foretell what has taken place in respect to these things?

174 ¹ In striking contrast to the position Jesus Christ took as to worldly political rule, what did one pope of Rome claim?

174 ² to 175 ¹ (a) The "Dark Ages" brought about what conditions in Western Europe? (b) What Scriptural counsel was being ignored?

175 ² Regarding the Inquisition of the "Dark Ages," what admission do Roman Catholic authorities make?

175 ³ The Protestant Reformation brought about what improvements, yet what Scriptural exhortation did its churches not heed?

176 ^{1, 2} What unscriptural doctrines and actions are linked with those reformers?

176 ³ to **177** ¹ Illustrate how the record of professed Christian nations belies their claim to be Christian.

177 ² Of what inconsistency has Christendom been guilty?

178 ^{1, 2} What difference is today clearly discernible in keeping with what Scriptural principle?

179 ^{1, 2} (a) What consequences is Christendom reaping in view of the way she has been sowing? (b) If we want to be among "my people" (Rev. 18:4), to whom may we not look?

Chapter 14

The Bible, Your Guide to a Happy Future

180 ¹⁻³ What does the evidence show regarding the Bible, and how are we affected?

180 ⁴ to **181** ¹ (a) What does the Bible make clear as to man's governing himself? (b) What will the answer to the prayer Jesus taught us mean?

181 ^{2, 3} Why will a world government by God succeed where that of man has failed?

182 ¹ What visible and invisible wicked factors will God eliminate?

182 ² to **183** ¹ What will this cleansing operation bring to those granted survival, but what is required?

183 ²⁻⁴ (a) What assurance do we have that crime will never again mar earth's peace? (b) How will men be helped to get rid of animalistic personalities?

184 ¹ Though described as a 'jewel in space,' the earth has what conditions prevailing upon it?

184 ^{2, 3} What changes will take place after Armageddon's storm?

185 ^{1, 2} What promise has God given as to mankind's condition, and why can we be sure of its occurring?

186 ^{1, 2} What hope does the Bible hold out for those who have died?

186 ^{3, 4} Why will there be no danger of the earth being overpopulated?

187 ¹⁻⁴ What choice now faces people, and what pertinent questions are asked?

188 ¹ to **189** ¹ How can we gain the knowledge that means everlasting life?

189 ^{2, 3} Through the Bible, what does Jehovah urge us to do?