VIDEO LECTURE MODULE:

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

New Testament

Lesson 1: The Setting of the Ministry of Christ

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John Knox Institute of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

New Testament

42 LESSONS Mr. Marinus Slingerland

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The Setting of the Ministry of Christ

Throughout the Old Testament God promised that in the fullness of time He would send His Son, Jesus Christ, as the Saviour to redeem His people. Between the Old Testament and the New Testament there was a period of more than four hundred years about which the Bible is silent, but also during this time the Lord directed events to prepare for the coming of Christ and the spread of His kingdom.

A. History

| The Jews were carried away into captivity by | | . The city of |
|--|-----------------|---------------|
| and the | were destroyed. | |

Babylon was captured by the Medes and Persians. After the ______ years of captivity the Lord inclined the heart of ______ to allow the Jews to return to their land. He gave the command to rebuild ______ and _____, even giving the necessary supplies.

During the time of the Greek Empire the empire extended into Asia, Africa, and Europe. During this time the ______ language was introduced as a universal language. This made it easier to communicate with people throughout the empire, but also to spread the

Christ was born and lived during the time of the ______ empire. During this time there was peace in the land and the Romans built a network of roads. This also would make it easier for Jesus and the disciples, but especially missionaries to travel.

B. Geography

| Palestine | is a very small country. It is | km long and only about _ | wide, and is |
|-----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| between | Sea on the west a | and the | River on the east. |

To be able to follow the events related to the ministry of Christ it is important to know something about the land of Palestine and to be familiar with some of the significant places. Palestine was divide into three main areas or provinces. Draw the borders of each and colour the

- area. 1. Judea This area is the southern part of Palestine between the Mediterranean Sea and the Dead Sea. It was inhabited mainly by the descendants of the Jews who returned from captivity. They considered themselves as the chosen people of God and as the true Israel.
 - 2. Samaria This area lay between Judea and Galilee and extended from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. The inhabitants of this area were a mixed people descending from the Jews who remained during the captivity and mixed with the foreigners that came to live there during that time. These people were shunned by the people of Judea and the Jews would not travel through their territory.
 - 3. Galilee This was the northern section of Palestine that lay around the Sea of Galilee. Although the people were Jewish they were not considered the equals of the inhabitants of Judea and were despised by them.

The following places are important to know and locate. For each one highlight it on the map and give one significant event that relates to it.

| Perea |
|----------------|
| Sea of Galilee |
| Jordan River |
| Jerusalem |
| Bethlehem |
| Jericho |
| Nazareth |
| Capernaum |
| Cana |
| Bethsaida |
| Bethany |
| Sychar |
| Nain |
| Samaria |



Government

The Jews were governed by Romans during the time of Christ. Caesar ______ was the emperor that issued the taxing and King ______ slew the children of Bethlehem. Later ______ would condemn Jesus to death, since the Jews were no longer allowed to put anyone to death.

During this time the Jews were allowed to have a religious council, called the ______ and consisting of ______ men. These men were usually scribes, ______ or _____. The scribes studied and taught the

The Pharisees were the largest group. They were very pious and self – righteous. They believed all the books of the Old Testament, the existence of ______ and in the resurrection. The Sadducees were the smaller group, but at this time the ______ belonged to group. They only believed in the five books of ______, and did not believe in angels or the resurrection of the dead.

Feasts

During the time of the captivity the Jews began to build synagogues in many cities, where they would gather on the ______ day.

At least three times a year, for special feasts, all the men and when possible also women and children would travel to the temple in ______. The three main feasts were:

- 1.Passover This feast lasted seven days and they remembered that the angel passed over in ______ and they pass over the Red Sea.
- 2.Pentecost This feast was celebrated 50 days after ______ as the Feast of First Fruits.
- 3.Tabernacles During this feast the Jews lived in tents for eight days to remember the 40 years in the ______.

Gospels

Gospel actually means Good News. God inspired 4 men to write a gospel of the Good news of Jesus Christ. Each of them wrote for a special audience and presented Christ from a different view.

Matthew – Was also known as Levi the publican. Since he wrote to prove to the Jews that Jesus was

the Messiah, he includes many Old Testament prophecies that were fulfilled. He also includes many of the teachings of Jesus such as the Sermon on the Mount.

Mark – Written by John Mark who travelled first with Paul and Barnabas, but later with Peter. Mark focussed on the deeds of Christ and directed his gospel to the Roman Christians.

Luke – Was written by Luke the physician of Paul. As the introduction suggests he wrote for the Greek Christians and focussed on the humanity of Christ.

John – As the beloved disciple of Jesus we would expect the most thorough account of the ministry of Christ, but he wrote a spiritual gospel for the Christians around the world. His emphasis is the Deity or ______ of Christ.

Even with 4 gospels everything is not written and we can't study everything either, but we should remember that there is enough written to make us wise unto salvation.