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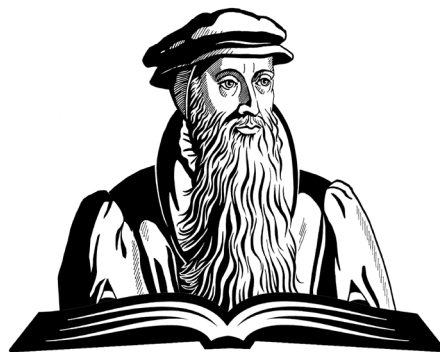
**BIBLE FOR
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

Old Testament

Lesson 32:

God's Patience with a Complaining People

Lecture Presenter: Mr. Daniel Van Brugge



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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Mr. Daniel Van Brugge is a teacher at Timothy Christian School in Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada.

www.timothychristian.ca

Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament

113 LESSONS

77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge

36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman

- | | |
|--|---|
| 01. The Bible: The Word of God | 26. Joseph and His Brethren |
| 02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God | 27. Jacob Comes to Joseph |
| 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation | 28. God Heard Their Cry |
| 04. A Gracious Promise | 29. Moses and the Burning Bush |
| 05. Cain and Abel | 30. Let My People Go |
| 06. Only Noah Found Grace | 31. Deliverance |
| 07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape | 32. God's Patience with a Complaining People |
| 08. The Noahic Covenant | 33. Keeping the Law: Not to Merit /Thankfulness |
| 09. The Tower of Babel | 34. The Lord Dwells Among His People |
| 10. Abram: Called by God | 35. A Priest for the People |
| 11. Abram Intercedes for Lot | 36. Moses Intercedes for a Rebellious People |
| 12. Melchizadek | 37. Worshiping God Rightly |
| 13. Righteous by Faith | 38. Walk Not According to the World |
| 14. Two Sons | 39. Hearts of Ingratitude |
| 15. Lessons from Lot's Life | 40. Aaron's Rod Blossoming |
| 16. Faithless Abraham – Faithful God | 41. The Serpent of Brass Lifted Up |
| 17. Abraham Tested – God's Provision | 42. Phinehas Turning Away God's Wrath |
| 18. Isaac and Rebekah | 43. Cities of Refuge |
| 19. Jacob: A Better Desire than Esau | 44. A New Generation |
| 20. Jacob the Deceiver | 45. Moses' Last Days |
| 21. God Preserves Jacob | 46. Joshua—God's Promise Fulfilled |
| 22. Jacob Returns to Beth-el | 47. A Promise to Rahab |
| 23. Joseph Loved – Joseph Hated | 48. The Rise of Judges |
| 24. An Eye upon God | 49. Gideon—God with Him |
| 25. Joseph Raised Out of Prison | 50. Samson |

51. Ruth the Moabitess
52. Samuel Judges Israel
53. Israel's First King
54. The Kingdom Established
55. David Anointed the Next King
56. David Hunted by Saul
57. The Last Days of Saul
58. David, the Next King
59. Fetching the Ark
60. Thou Art the Man
61. David's Return to Jerusalem
62. Seven Sons of Saul Killed
63. Genealogies of Israel
64. David Appointed King
65. David's Kingdom Established
66. David Prepares for the Temple
67. David's Departing Instructions
68. Solomon Becomes King
69. Solomon Builds the House of God
70. The Kingdom is Rent
71. A Wicked Divided Kingdom
72. Ahab's Reign and Death
73. Elisha Begins his Work
74. Elisha's Voice is Heard
75. A Succession of Kings
76. Ahaz and Hezekiah
77. The Captivity of Judah
78. Introduction to the Prophets
79. Isaiah's Vision & Song
80. Isaiah Prophecies about Christ
81. The Prophet Jeremiah Called and Sent
82. Jeremiah Opposed and Comforted
83. Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet
84. Ezekiel's Comforting Visions
85. Daniel and His Three Friends
86. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream
87. Three Friends in the Fiery Furnace
88. Nebuchadnezzar's Madness
89. The Writing on the Wall
90. Daniel in the Lions' Den
91. Daniel's Visions and Dreams
92. Ezra—Return from Captivity
93. Ezra—Rebuilding the Temple
94. Ezra—The Scribe
95. Nehemiah—Rebuilding the Walls
96. Nehemiah—The Task Completed
97. Esther the Queen
98. Esther—Haman's Plot
99. Esther—The Jews Saved
100. Hosea—The Minor Prophets
101. Joel and the Day of the LORD
102. Amos the Fearless Herdsman
103. Obadiah Prophecies Edom's Fall
104. Jonah's Flight
105. Jonah's Mission
106. Micah Preaches Judgment & Mercy
107. Nahum—A Message for Nineveh
108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
109. Zephaniah—Threatenings & Promises
110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple
111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
112. Zechariah Prophecies of Christ
113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet

Lesson 32

God's Patience with a Complaining People

The Book of Exodus, chapters 14 through 17

Memory Verse

“Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and son, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.”

Exodus 12:13

A Hard Heart Forgets God's Judgments

There is no clearer evidence of the need for the Spirit's work upon the heart than Pharaoh. Repeatedly, Egypt came under the severe judgments of God. It was only after the tenth plague that Pharaoh relented and let the Hebrew people go. Was Pharaoh's heart changed? Was he humbled before the Lord? No, soon after the Hebrew children departed, he forgot the severe afflictions that came upon them. When the affliction is over, his anger is kindled again—kindled, not only against the Hebrew children, but against God.

How clear it is that man needs the work of the Spirit to make a heart of stone, a heart of flesh. This is the heart God speaks of in Ezekiel 36:26—“A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.” As covenant children, as children under the Word of grace, let us pray for this heart.

A Prayer for Kings

Among the rulers of the world, the heart of Pharaoh is not unique. There are many whose hearts are just as hard, who afflict the children of God. What should we do? Paul gives good direction to Timothy, when he writes, “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour” (1 Timothy 2:1–3).

What should we pray for? We should pray that our leaders have their eyes opened. We should pray that they have their hearts softened. We should pray that they “fear the Lord,” for this “is the beginning of wisdom.”

God's Patience

In these chapters, we notice something incredible. We notice a people severely oppressed, delivered by the Lord, and then complaining time and time again. Sad as it is, this spirit can at times arise in the hearts of God's people. God is worthy of something other than complaining. Yet, is it not remarkable that God is faithful and steadfast in their weakness and wavering?

What does this reveal? It reveals that the deliverance that God's people receive is never by their merit, but always by grace. How quickly the hand of the Lord is forgotten. Yet Moses speaks words of truth and comfort: "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will show to you to day:...The LORD shall fight for you" (Exodus 14:13-14).

Moses' faith is a faith in exercise. It is a faith that sees not the circumstances surrounding him, but the God whose hand is over the circumstances.

Review Questions

1. Pharaoh pursued the Israelites with _____ choice chariots.
 - a. 30
 - b. 60
 - c. 300
 - d. 600

2. Pharaoh pursued the Israelites, he overtook them by the sea, beside _____.
 - a. Pi-hahiroth
 - b. Paphos
 - c. Penuel
 - d. Philistia
 - e. Phut

3. The Lord commanded _____ to lift up the rod and stretch forth his hand that the sea may be divided.
 - a. Aaron
 - b. Phineas
 - c. Moses
 - d. Jambres

Exodus 15

4. "And _____ the _____, the _____ of Aaron, took a

timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. And _____ answered them, _____ ye to the _____ for he hath triumphed _____; the horse and his rider hath he _____ into the sea.”

5. Match the place with the description

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| _____ Shur | a. The children of Israel went to this wilderness after crossing the Red Sea. |
| _____ Marah | b. The children of Israel were in this place when Moses struck the rock. |
| _____ Elim | c. At this place they found twelve wells of water. |
| _____ Rephidim | d. They found water there, but it was bitter. |

6. The children of Israel ate manna in the wilderness for _____ years.

- a. 7
- b. 24
- c. 40
- d. 144

7. In Rephidim, the Israelites fought the _____.

- a. Philistines
- b. Canaanites
- c. Perezites
- d. Amalekites

Discussion Questions

1. In Exodus 14:19 to 20, we read of a pillar of cloud that came between the Egyptians and the Israelites. How did this cloud appear to the Egyptians, and how did it appear to the Israelites? How may this be compared to how believers and unbelievers view the gospel of God?

- Egyptians viewed the cloud _____

- Israelites viewed the cloud _____

- Believers and Unbelievers see the gospel _____

2. After deliverance from Pharaoh, through the sea, what did the Israelites do? Why is this a good thing to do?

3. In this section, there is a continual contrast in the attitude of the Israelites. For instance, in Exodus 15, they sing songs of praise to God, saying “he is become my salvation;” and yet in chapter 16, we find people murmuring “against Moses and Aaron.” Why is the murmuring against Moses and Aaron really a murmuring against God?

4. In their need, God provided manna for the children to eat. Regarding this manna, Jesus says, “I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world” (John 6:48–51). Compare the manna in the wilderness to Jesus Christ, the bread of life.

5. In Exodus 17:12, we read of Aaron and Hur. Explain their role in this section. How may we be like Aaron and Hur?

- Their roles _____

- How we may be like them _____

