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The logo consists of the letters 'EMM' in a bold, sans-serif font. The letter 'E' is stylized with a thick, curved line that starts from the left and sweeps under the letter, ending under the first vertical stroke of the 'E'.

EMM

God's Covenant With People
Lessons from
the
Second Book of the Taurat of the Prophet Moses
Zabur of the Prophet David
Other Prophets of God

COURSE TWO

God's Covenant with People

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Welcome to this course called: **God's Covenant with People**

You have been a good student! You have finished the first course which is called **The Beginning of People**. Now you are ready for the second course called **God's Covenant with People**.

In the first course you learned about Adam and Eve, and about the Prophets Noah, Abraham and Joseph. In the second course you will learn about the prophets Moses, Aaron, David, Solomon and others. You will also learn:

1. How God saved the People of Israel from Pharaoh, King of Egypt.
2. How God divided the Red Sea so the People of Israel could leave Egypt.
3. How God gave the People of Israel Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai.
4. How God took the people to Palestine.

Most of the lessons in this course are taken from the Taurat and the Zabur. Remember, the Taurat is the first five books of the Holy Writings from God. These Holy Writings are part of the Bible. The Zabur is found in the centre of the Bible. It contains 150 chapters. Most of these chapters are songs of praise and worship to God.

In the next course we will also study the Injil, which is the Gospel. The Injil is a record of the words and deeds of Jesus the Messiah.

The Bible has two parts. The first part is called the Old Testament. The second part is called the New Testament. The Taurat, the Zabur and the books of many other prophets are in the Old Testament. The Injil is in the New Testament.

As we study the Taurat and the rest of the Holy Writings from God, we learn that God works with people in history. In fact, the Holy Writings of God are a record of God's work with people and the way people act towards God.

Do each lesson in this course exactly as you did the lessons in Course One. We wish you great success in your study.

Here is a list of some of the important things in the Bible and the times when they happened.

- 2000 B.C. - God called Abraham to leave his home in Mesopotamia.
- 1700 B.C. - Joseph became great in Egypt. His father Jacob and all his children moved to Egypt.
- 1300 B.C. - Moses led the People of Israel out of Egypt. God appeared to them at Mount Sinai and gave them the Ten Commandments.
Later they entered Palestine.
- 1000 B.C. - David became King of Israel. God began to reveal the Zabur to him.
- 700 B.C. - The people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel were taken away into slavery by the people of Assyria.
- 580 B.C. - The people of the Southern Kingdom of Judah were taken into slavery by the Chaldeans. Later they returned to Palestine and rebuilt the temple in Jerusalem.
- 1 B.C. - Jesus the Messiah was born.
- 32 A.D. - The Church began.

NOTE: B.C. means “Before Christ”. Christ is the Greek word for Messiah. From this list you can see that Abraham lived about 2,000 years before the Messiah, and David lived 1,000 years before the Messiah. A.D. means the time after the Messiah.

Lesson 1

The Prophet Moses and Freedom

Before you do this lesson, read these verses from the Taurat: Exodus 12:21-42

Now read the lesson and do the test at the end. The lesson explains what you have read in the Taurat.

In the first course you learned that Jacob and his children moved to Egypt to escape the great famine. At first they had a good life in Egypt. They had many children and their numbers increased greatly. Each of Jacob's twelve sons became the father of a tribe. These twelve tribes are called the People of Israel because earlier God had changed Jacob's name to Israel.

God Called the Prophet Moses

After nearly 400 years a new Pharaoh ruled Egypt who did not know about Joseph. The new Pharaoh made the People of Israel into slaves*. When he saw that they were becoming too strong, he tried to kill all the boy babies (Exodus 1:16).

The Quran also tells us some things about the People of Israel. See Surat Banu Israel (also called Surat Isra' -17). God's Covenant with the People of Israel is mentioned several times in the Quran. See Surat Al-Ma'idah (5) ayat 13 and 14.

Moses was born just at that time. His mother did not want him to be killed. She took him to the river and put him in a special basket. Then she left the basket in the tall grass along the river and trusted God to take care of him. The daughter of Pharaoh found Moses when she was bathing in the river and took him to her home. Moses became her own son, and he lived in the house of Pharaoh (Exodus 2:1-10).

When Moses became a man he had to make a big decision. Should he always live with Pharaoh, or should he try to help his own people? He decided to try and help his people, who were slaves of Pharaoh. But when Pharaoh learned that Moses was helping the people of Israel, Pharaoh became very angry. For this reason Moses became afraid and ran away to the Arabian Desert. He took care of the sheep in the desert for 40 years. All these years God was preparing Moses to become a great prophet.

At last God appeared to Moses in a fire at a mountain called Mount Sinai. The fire was in a bush, but the bush was not burned. Moses came near to see, and then God spoke (Exodus 3:1-4). He said, "I am the God of your ancestors*, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob" (Exodus 3:6). Moses was afraid. God told him to go back to Egypt. He told him to lead all the People of Israel out of Egyptian slavery. God told Moses to take

the People of Israel to the land of Palestine which God had promised to Abraham many years before.

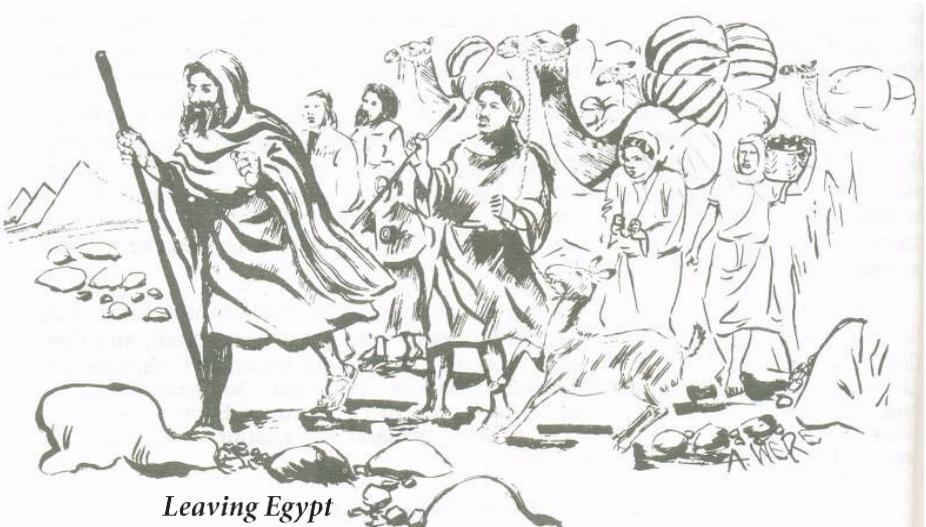
Pharaoh Refused God's Prophet

The Prophet Moses went to Egypt and told Pharaoh to let the People of Israel go. Pharaoh just refused and laughed. Then God began to punish Pharaoh. He sent ten disasters *, one at a time.

The Ten Disasters

The ten Disasters happened in this order.

1. The water of the Nile River turned to blood.
2. Frogs* filled the houses.
3. Gnats* came and troubled the people so that they could not sleep.
4. Flies filled the houses.
5. The cattle became sick and died.
6. Boils* came on the Egyptians and their animals.
7. A great hail* storm came.
8. Locusts* came and ate all the plants and trees.
9. Darkness covered the land for three days.
10. The first-born child of the Egyptians died.



Leaving Egypt

The People of Israel Left Egypt

After each of the first nine disasters, Pharaoh refused to let the People of Israel go. Finally God said: “Only one more punishment” (Exodus 11:1). God told the People of Israel that they must do something special to be safe during the last disaster.

Each father had to look for a perfect lamb*. The lamb had to be only one year old. It had to be without any spot on its skin, and in perfect health. After the lamb was found, the father had to cut its throat and catch the blood in a basin. With some grass the father put the blood around the sides of the door and above the door of the house. Then as evening came the whole family had to go inside and lock the door. They had to cook the meat of the lamb and eat it.

That night while the people were in their houses eating the lamb, God passed through the whole land of Egypt. If there was no blood around the door of a house, God took away the life of the first-born in that home, and the first-born of the cattle. But if the blood of the lamb was around the door, God passed over that house. No death came to the houses which had blood around the door (Exodus 12:23).

All this happened quickly. Even in Pharaoh’s house the first-born died (Exodus 12:29). For this reason the Egyptians cried in great sorrow and begged the People of Israel to leave. And the People of Israel left Egypt that night in a great hurry (Exodus 12:30-33).

The People of Israel called this event the Passover. That is because death passed over all the houses where blood was around the sides of the door. Even today the People of Israel around the world have a religious feast once a year which they call the Passover. The Passover feast reminds them that God delivered them from death and slavery in Egypt on the night of the tenth plague.

The Passover Was a Sign

Why did the People of Israel need to kill a lamb to be safe? Why did the blood need to be put around the door? Why did God use this way to save them from death and slavery?

You will learn the answers to these questions about the Passover in the Injil. But first you will read more about Moses and other prophets.

Here is a list of difficult words in this lesson.

Slave	-	person who is forced to work for another
Ancestors	-	fathers
Disasters	-	big troubles
Frogs	-	small jumping animals living in water and on land
Gnats	-	small flies that take blood from people
Boils	-	very bad sores on the body
Hail	-	balls of ice falling from the sky
Locust	-	insects that fly through the air, and when they come to earth they eat the plants
Lamb	-	a young sheep

Learn this verse: Psalm 106:1: “Give thanks unto the Lord, because he is good; his love is eternal.”

NOTICE

Now turn to the question papers in the back of the book and write answers for Lesson One. Do the same for each of the other lessons after you have studied them.

Lesson 2

God is One

Before you do this lesson, read these verses from the Taurat:

Exodus 19:16-25

Exodus 20:1-20

Now read the lesson and do the test at the end. The lesson explains what you have read in the Taurat.

Three months after the People of Israel left Egypt they came to Mount Sinai in the desert. Earlier God had spoken to Moses from a burning bush at this same mountain. Now Moses and the people thought the mountain would be a good place to rest. But while they rested, God appeared to them. Earlier God had appeared to Moses only. But now He showed His will to all of the people.

Before we study this important event let us look quickly at what we have already learned. You remember that Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating the fruit from the tree in the garden. We learned that their children also sinned greatly. People everywhere turned away from God and tried to forget God.

Soon all over the world people prayed to idols* and false gods. They turned away from the one true God and trusted in false gods. Of course, there were a few people like Abraham who believed in the one true God, but most people prayed to idols.

But at Mount Sinai God revealed Himself to the People of Israel in a special way. They learned that there is one true God. Let us see how God taught them.

God is Most Great

First God told the People of Israel to get ready to listen to Him. They needed to wash their clothes. The men were to stay away from women. God also warned the people not to touch the mountain. Anyone who touched the mountain would die. For this reason Moses put a fence around the mountain so that no one would get near it. The people spent two days getting ready for God to reveal his will to them.

On the morning of the third day everyone gathered close to the mountain and God appeared. First there were great thunders, clouds, smoke, the loud sound of trumpets, fire and a terrible earthquake (Exodus 19:16-18). Everyone was afraid. God called Moses and told him to be sure that no one came near the mountain. God said that if anyone touched the mountain he would die! Then while everyone listened in fear, God began to speak.

The Ten Commandments

God gave ten laws to the People of Israel. These laws are called the Ten Commandments. They are found in Exodus 20:1-17.

1. You shall have no other gods except the one true God.
2. You shall not make for yourself images to worship.
3. You shall not use the name of the Lord your God in a careless way.
4. Remember the seventh day of the week and keep it holy.
5. Honour your father and mother.
6. You shall not kill.
7. You shall not do adultery*.
8. You shall not steal
9. You shall not tell a lie against anyone.
10. You shall not desire anything that belongs to another.

Only God is God

The first two commandments show us that God is One. The first commandment says: “Worship no god but me” (Exodus 20:3). The second commandment is: “Do not make for yourselves images*” (Exodus 20:4). Throughout the Old Testament these two commandments were the most important of all. If a man was found praying to an idol, his parents were supposed to bring him to the leaders of the nation and then everyone threw stones at him until he died.

Praying to false gods is a very serious sin. When we worship someone or something other than the one true God, we sin greatly. Jews, Christians and Muslims have always agreed that God is One.

In the third commandment God says: “Do not use my name for evil purposes.” (Exodus 20:7). This means that we must use God’s name carefully. We should only use God’s name when we worship and praise him or when we speak about him with great respect. Later the People of Israel respected God’s name so much that they washed their hands before writing his name.

God is Good

The fourth commandment shows us that we should rest one day in each week (Exodus 20:8-11). This shows us that God is very kind. He knows that our bodies get tired and that we cannot work all the time. On this day of rest we should also have a special time to worship God and thank him for all that he has done for us.

Most nations today respect this rule. In some countries people rest on Friday. In

other countries people rest on Sunday, and the People of Israel rest on Saturday. The last six commandments tell us how to act with other people (Exodus 20:12-17). These six commandments are the foundation of our modern laws and national constitutions*. Our laws today are based on the Ten Commandments because in our hearts we all know that these rules are right.

The People Were Afraid

But the people were afraid when they heard God. They moved farther and farther from the mountain because they were afraid that they would die. The people told Moses that they did not want to hear God (Exodus 20:18-19).

The People of Israel were afraid because they had seen that God was very great. God is powerful. God is One. There is no god but God. They saw that God is most great, and they were afraid.

They were also afraid of punishment. Some of them had told lies. Some had stolen. Others had wished for money or clothing of someone else. When they heard God, they all realized that they had sinned.

We usually think that we are good. But when we hear God's Word, we understand that we have sinned.

God Made a Covenant with the People

When the People of Israel heard God, they were sorry for their sin and they wanted to obey God. So they accepted God's covenant with them and promised right there in front of the mountain: "We will do everything the Lord has said" (Exodus 24:3). And God also made a promise for he said that the People of Israel would be his own possession and that he would bless them.

God made known to the Prophet Moses that God's covenant with the People of Israel was for all people. Everyone everywhere was welcome to become a part of the People of the Covenant. Circumcision was a sign to show that a person had accepted God's covenant. (See Numbers 15:14-16 and Exodus 12:48-49).
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God's covenant with the People of Israel was that they should obey him and become his own people. The people were glad because of God's covenant with them.

Here is a list of difficult words in this lesson.

Idol	- something, often made of wood or stone, that is worshipped
Adultery	- having sex relations with someone other than one's husband or wife
Image	- a likeness of something, often made of wood or stone
Constitution	- laws of the government

Learn this verse: Deuteronomy 6:5: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength."

Lesson 3

The Prophet Aaron and the Golden Calf

Before you do this lesson, read these verses from the Taurat: Exodus 32:1-24

Exodus 40: 16-38

Now read the lesson and do the test at the end. The lesson explains what you have read in the Taurat.

After the People of Israel promised to obey God, God called Moses into the mountain to explain more about the Ten Commandments. Moses was very happy as he climbed the mountain to listen to the words of God.

The people in the camp were also happy. They knew they had often disobeyed God in the past. But now God had appeared to them at Mount Sinai and they had accepted God's covenant with them. They were glad that God had chosen them to be his own people. They wanted to obey God and they were glad to accept the blessing of God.

The People Sinned

The people waited patiently for Moses to come down from the mountain. One week, two weeks, three weeks passed. Still Moses did not come back. They thought that perhaps he had died. Four weeks passed and five weeks. The mountain looked cold and empty and the people wanted to travel again. They thought that God was no longer with them and that Moses was dead.

So the people came to Moses' brother Aaron, who was the leader when Moses was away. They said: "Make us a god to lead us" (Exodus 32:1). They gathered together many gold earrings and Aaron melted the gold in fire and made a calf out of the gold.

The Quran also tells of how the People of Israel broke their covenant with God by worshipping the golden calf (Surat Al-A'raf (7) ayah 148 and Surat An-Nisa' (4) ayat 155 and 160)

The people set the golden calf up in the middle of the camp and shouted: "Israel, this is our god, who led us out of Egypt!" (Exodus 32:4). Soon most of the people had turned from worshipping the true God and were praying to the golden calf.

We Also Sin

How could this terrible thing be? How was it possible for the people to turn away from God so quickly? If we examine ourselves carefully and honestly we can understand quite well why the People of Israel turned away from God so quickly.

For example, perhaps you are a student. Perhaps you want to join a certain school, but you are afraid of the entrance test. So you pray to God to help you.

When you take the test, you make a very high mark. But then you say to yourself: “I did very well because I am excellent.” Instead of giving thanks to God, you become proud. This is not right. Who gave you your good mind? Who helped you to study well? To whom did you pray for help? Without God you have nothing at all! Whom should you thank when you do good work? God, of course!

How often we thank ourselves instead of God! And that is exactly what happened to the People of Israel. God helped them greatly, but they did not thank him. Instead they prayed to something which they made with their own hands.

God is Merciful

When God saw what the people were doing, he was ready to burn up all of them immediately. God will not accept idols and false gods. He would not accept false gods in Moses’ time and he will not accept them today. But Moses prayed to God to forgive the people, and God answered that prayer. God had mercy on them, yet many were punished with sickness and died.

The Prophet Aaron and the Tent of the Lord’s Presence

Truly God is merciful! While the People of Israel were still at Mount Sinai, God forgave Aaron for making the golden calf. In fact, God chose Aaron to be the leader of all the priests*. God also chose Aaron’s sons to be priests.

God told Moses to build a tent* for worship (Exodus 40:16-38). The tent was called the Tent of the Lord’s Presence. Inside there were two rooms. The first room was called the Holy Place. The second room was called the Most Holy Place. Around the tent was a court. A curtain* separated the court from the desert.

A number of objects were placed in the Tent of the Lord’s Presence. An Altar* for burning offerings and a Wash Basin were placed in the court. In the Holy Place there was a Table for bread, a Lampstand, and a Gold Altar. In the Most Holy Place the Covenant Box was kept.

Each of these objects had deep meaning. The Tent of the Lord’s Presence and the objects inside the Tent helped the people to understand the right way to worship God. Following is an explanation of some of these truths about worship.

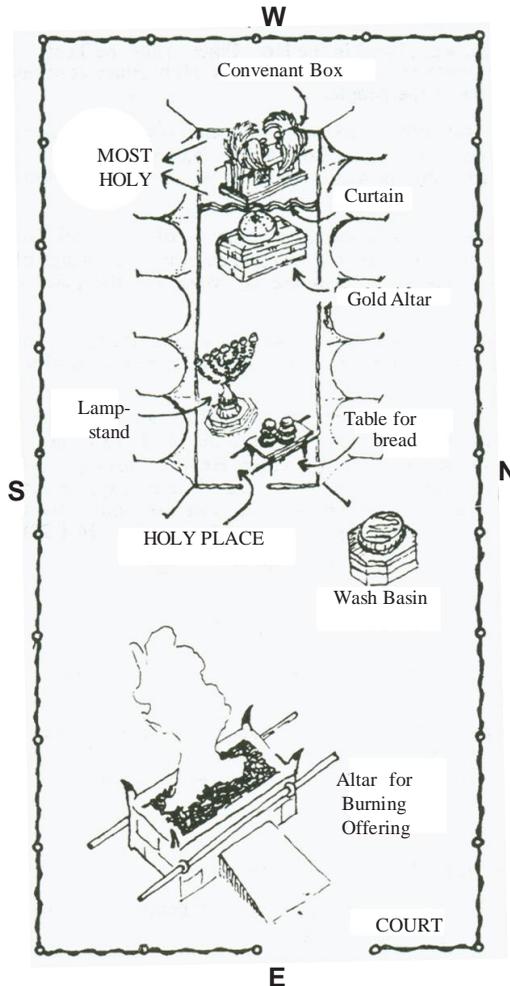
The Altar for Burning Offerings

The Altar for burning offerings was in the court outside the Holy Place. When anyone needed to be forgiven for his sins, he brought a lamb or a goat to that altar. He placed his hands on the animal and then the priest killed it. The priest took the blood and put some on top of the altar. They poured the rest of the blood at the bottom of the altar.

The fat of the animal was burnt up on the altar. The person was forgiven.

Many of the people trusted these sacrifices to take away their sins. Even Aaron, the leader of the priests, offered sacrifices for himself. Once a year he sacrificed a bull* for himself and his family (Leviticus 16:6).

In the Injil you will learn that these sacrifices are signs to show us God's plan to save us from sin. These signs help us to understand the meaning of the sacrifice of Jesus the Messiah on the cross.



Plan of the Tent of the Lord's Presence

Even today many people sacrifice a sheep, a goat or a chicken when they want to be forgiven. But Christians do not offer animal sacrifices. This is because God forgives all our sins through the sacrifice of Jesus the Messiah.

The Holy Place and the Most Holy Place

A second altar was placed in the Holy Place inside the Tent. This was the Gold Altar. Here the priest burned incense* in the Holy Place continually. This was a sign of the prayers of the people.

In the Most Holy Place there was a wooden box covered inside and outside with gold. It was called the Covenant Box. A few objects were kept inside the Covenant Box. One of these objects was a stone on which the Ten Commandments were written.

On top of the box was a special cover made of pure gold. On each end of the cover there were figures of angels facing each other. The wings of the angels were spread out above the cover. This special cover was the place of God's mercy (Exodus 37:6).

God allowed His glory to appear especially above the Covenant Box. This was a sign to the People of Israel that God is present with the people who have accepted his covenant.

A curtain was placed between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. That way no one could see God's glory or go into the Most Holy Place. However, once a year Aaron the priest was allowed to enter. He took burning incense and the blood of a bull and a goat into the Most Holy Place. There he sprinkled* the blood on the cover of the Covenant Box. Then he repeated before God all the sins of the people. And God who is merciful accepted the people (Leviticus 16:1-28).

The Tent Was a Sign

The curtain between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place showed the people that they could not fellowship* with God freely as Adam and Eve had done before they sinned. The curtain reminded the people that their sin separated them from God. Even the sacrifices did not make it possible for the people to enter the Most Holy Place.

But more than 1000 years later a wonderful thing happened. The Injil shows us that Jesus the Messiah gave himself as a sacrifice for our sins. When that happened the curtain between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place was torn in two pieces.

Here is a list of difficult words in this lesson.

Priest	-	a person who prays for the people and leads in their religion
Tent	-	a house made of cloth
Curtain	-	a cloth fence
Altar	-	a place where a sacrifice can be burned
Incense	-	something which smells very good when burned
Bull	-	a male cow
Sprinkle	-	to throw in small drops or amounts
Fellowship	-	deep friendship and friendly talking together

Learn this verse: 2 Chronicles 7:14: “If they pray to me and repent and turn away from the evil they have been doing, then I will hear them in heaven, forgive their sins and make their land prosperous again.”

Lesson 4

God Loves His People

Before you do this lesson, read these verses from the Zabur: Psalm 78:1-72

Now read the lesson and do the test at the end. The lesson explains what you have read in the Zabur.

At Mount Sinai God made a covenant with the People of Israel. The people promised to obey God (Exodus 19:8). God promised the People of the Covenant: “You will be my chosen people” (Exodus 19:5). God never broke this covenant. God was like a father to all the people who accepted His covenant. They were his people indeed.

The Long Safari* to Canaan (Present day Palestine)

After the surprising things at Mount Sinai, God led the People of Israel through the Sinai Desert and into Canaan. Although the safari from Egypt to Canaan usually took only 11 days, the People of Israel spent nearly 40 years travelling to Canaan.

The safari to Canaan took a long time because the People of Israel often turned away from God. We read about this safari in the Taurat. We can also read it in the Zabur. (Psalms)

In the Zabur, chapter 78, we read about some of the important events in the life of the People of Israel. It tells about their safari through the desert and also about some important experiences during their later life in Canaan. Let us look at parts of this chapter from the Zabur.

Verse 12: God brought the People of Israel out of slavery in Egypt. We learned about that in lesson 2 of this course.

Verse 13: When the People of Israel were leaving Egypt, they came to the Red Sea. Pharaoh was sorry that he had let them go and decided to attack them with his army. The people were trapped between Pharaoh’s army and the Red Sea. But God sent a great wind which divided the waters and made a path for the people. They passed safely through the divided sea. When Pharaoh tried to follow them through the sea, the water suddenly returned and covered Pharaoh and his army. All were destroyed.

Verse 14: God led the people through the desert with a cloud. At night the cloud became a fire. When God wanted the people to rest, the cloud stood still. When God wanted them to travel, the cloud moved.

Verse 15-16: Sometimes the people became thirsty. Several times God provided water from a rock.

Verse 17-25: The people became hungry in the desert. So God sent food from heaven called manna. The manna was white and covered the ground every morning except Saturday which was the day of rest. The people gathered the manna and ate it. It tasted like honey.

Verse 26-29: Later the people complained* about the manna. They wanted meat. So God sent birds into their camps for the people to eat.

Verse 40-42: The People of Israel often spoke against God. They did not believe that God could give them the land he had promised to Abraham their father. There were many great cities and strong nations in the land. Some people wanted to go back to Egypt. For this reason God became angry with them. For punishment they had to live in the desert for 40 years.

All of the grown people, except Joshua and Caleb, who had left Egypt died in the desert. Even the Prophet Moses died in the desert. He could not enter Canaan.

The People Enter Canaan

Verse 55: After Moses died, Joshua became the new leader of the people. Slowly Joshua led the tribes of Israel into Canaan. Great battles were fought with the cities and nations living in Canaan. After many years of war, the land became safe for the People of Israel. Each of the tribes received a share of the land. Only the tribe of Levi was without land because it was to be the tribe of priests.

The Kings

Verse 70-71: In Canaan the people became rich. Finally they chose a king. Their first king was called Saul. At first King Saul respected God, but later he turned away from God. For this reason, God did not let Saul be king anymore and chose David to be the new king. David was a shepherd when God called him to be king. David became both a prophet and a king.

David's son, Solomon, was very wise and rich. He became king after King David died. King Solomon wrote many proverbs which are in the Bible. He built a great temple for God in Jerusalem. The temple was at the same place where the Mosque of Omar stands today.

During this time the queen from the country of Sheba visited Solomon. She saw that many things in Solomon's house were covered with gold. Silver was everywhere.

To get so much silver and gold, Solomon taxed the people. He taxed them too hard, and they made a revolution* after he died. After the revolution the People of Israel became two nations: Israel and Judah. Each nation had its own king. The story of these kings is found in the books of Kings and Chronicles in the Bible.

The People Lose Their Freedom

Israel became very evil, and finally the people of Assyria made them into slaves. They were lost among the people of the East. Only Judah was left in Palestine.

Sometimes Judah followed God. Other times the people did evil. Sometimes they even burned their children as sacrifices to the idol Molech. God punished them by sending the Chaldean army against them. The Chaldeans took most of the people to Mesopotamia as slaves. The Chaldeans also destroyed Jerusalem and the temple.

In Mesopotamia the people admitted their sins and turned to God again. After 70 years God let them return to Palestine. The kings of Mesopotamia were very kind. They let the people build a new Jerusalem and a new temple.

Later Palestine became part of the Roman Empire. The Romans were the rulers of Palestine when Jesus lived.

The People of God Have Faith

Although the People of the Covenant were a small nation, God never forgot the covenant which he had made with them at Mount Sinai. God loved them.

Although they sinned much, God never forgot them. He wanted their faith to grow so that they could show the whole world that God loves people.

Here is a list of difficult words in this lesson.

Safari	-	trip
Complain	-	to say that something is wrong or to find fault with something
Revolution	-	to change the government completely.

Learn this verse: Psalm 25:10: "With faithfulness and love he leads all who keep his covenant and obey his commands."

Lesson 5

The Prophets Tell about the Messiah

Before you do this lesson, read these verses from the Zabur: Psalm 22:14-18.

Also read these verses from the book of the Prophet Isaiah: Isaiah 53:3-12

Now read the lesson and do the test at the end. The lesson explains what you have read in the Zabur and the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

We have read the books of the Taurat about the sin of mankind, and we have learned that mankind needs a Saviour. We learned that God promised to send a Saviour. Also we have seen signs in each lesson which point to the work of the Messiah who is the Saviour.

The first verse in the Taurat that tells about the Messiah is Genesis 3:15. Here we read that he would be the son of a woman. By this we know that he would be a man. In the story of Abraham we learned that the Messiah would be from the children of Abraham and Sarah. This is all we know so far about who he is.

In this lesson we will study what God revealed about the Messiah to other prophets. It is very important that we understand who the Messiah is.

God's Promise to David

King David was born in Bethlehem. It was not an important town in Palestine, but God revealed that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. He revealed this through the Prophet Micah (Micah 5:2).

King David followed God with all his heart. David became a great prophet and God made a wonderful promise to him. God said: "I will make one of your sons king and will keep his kingdom strong.... and I will make sure that his dynasty* continues forever" (2 Samuel 7:12-13). God repeated this promise to the Prophet David and other prophets many times. In this way the People of Israel knew that the Messiah would be a son of David and that he would rule forever.

The Prophet David was surprised and thankful. He wrote many songs of praise to God, which are found in the Zabur. Some of these songs are about the Messiah.

God's Promise through Isaiah

The Prophet Isaiah lived about three hundred years after the Prophet David had died. God also revealed to the Prophet Isaiah many wonderful things about the Messiah. Let us look at some of the things which Isaiah wrote about the Messiah.

In Isaiah chapter 7 verse 14 we read: "Well then, the Lord himself will give you a sign: a young woman who is pregnant* will have a son and will name him 'Immanuel' ". There are two important ideas in this verse.

1. First, the "young woman" is understood to be the virgin Mary. For a virgin to have a son is impossible because a virgin is a woman who has never had sex with a man. But God said this would be the sign to tell who the Messiah would be. The Messiah would be born of a virgin!
2. The Messiah's name would be Immanuel. In the Hebrew language the word Messiah means "God with us". So the Messiah was to be "God with us."

God also revealed to the Prophet Isaiah other names for the Messiah: "Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal* Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). Isaiah also wrote that the Messiah would be a righteous king who would rule the world with justice, wisdom, and in the fear of God (Isaiah 11:1-5). The People of Israel listened to the Prophet Isaiah and they waited with hope for the Messiah to come.

God also revealed that the Messiah would help the sick and the poor. He would free people from sin and bring joy to those who were sad (Isaiah 61: 1-2). His work would be to save people. For this reason many people waited eagerly for the Messiah to come.

The Messiah Will Give His Life

In the Zabur the Prophet David also wrote that something terrible would happen to the Messiah. Read Psalms 22:14-18 very carefully. This is a prophecy* about the Messiah. David was describing the terrible, shameful death of a man. This man's bones are stretched and his strength is dried up. His hands and feet are torn. Wicked men are laughing. They take his clothing and divide it. They decide who can have his coat by gambling*.

In Isaiah chapter 53, we see that God told Isaiah the same thing about the Messiah. Read verses 3 to 9. The Prophet Isaiah wrote that the Messiah would not be accepted by mankind. He would be hurt by men and die. He would not fight to save his life. He would go to his death like a lamb. He would die with the wicked people and be buried in a rich man's grave*. But in all this suffering Isaiah saw hope. God showed Isaiah that the Messiah would give his life so that our sins could be forgiven.

The Messiah Will Rise from the Dead

There is another truth that is just as wonderful as the one about forgiveness. Many of the prophets said that the Messiah would be a king who would rule forever. People did not understand this because they also read that he would give his life.

God revealed to David that he would not let the Godly One (Messiah) stay in the place of the dead (Psalm 16:10). This was hard to understand. How could the Messiah die and yet not stay in the place of the dead?

A thousand years later when Jesus rose from the dead, he made the meaning of these prophecies clear to his followers.

Who Is the Messiah?

Here is a list of what we have learned about the Messiah.

He will be a man (Genesis 3:15).

He will be from the People of Israel (Genesis 17:19).

He will be of David's family (2 Samuel 7:12-13).

He will be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14).

He will be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)

He will be "God with us" (Isaiah 7:14).

He will be a righteous King (Isaiah 9:6-7).

He will rule forever (2 Samuel 7:13).

He will save people (Isaiah 61:1-2).

He will bring forgiveness of sins (Isaiah 53:5).

He will not be accepted by mankind (Isaiah 53:3-9).

He will suffer and die with the wicked (Psalms 22:16-17).

He will be buried in a rich man's grave (Isaiah 53:9).

He will rise from the dead (Psalms 16:10).

There are many more things that God revealed to Moses, David, Isaiah and other prophets about the Messiah. But this short list is enough to show us who he is.

Both Muslims and Christians believe that the Messiah came to confirm* the Taurat which God had revealed to the Prophet Moses (Quran Surat Al-Ma'idah (5) ayah 49), (Luke 24:44). When we study the Injil we will see that all of the signs and the prophecies which we have read about the Messiah in the Taurat and the Zabur happened.

In the next course we begin the study of the Injil (Gospel). The Injil is the record of the teachings and deeds of the Messiah.

Here is a list of difficult words in this lesson.

Dynasty	-	one king after another from the same family
Eternal	-	lasting forever
Pregnant	-	when a woman has a child within herself
Prophecy	-	the words or message which God gives to his prophets
Gamble	-	choosing or deciding something by luck; for example, taking pieces of paper which are specially marked from a box
Grave	-	the place where a human body is put after death
Confirm	-	to make a promise come true

Learn this verse: Isaiah 9:6: “A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be our ruler. He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.”

TESTS

Please write your name and
address on the bottom of the test
and mail to:

Lesson 1 Test : God's Covenant with People

1. The new Pharaoh who did not know Joseph
 - (a) made the People of Israel into priests.
 - (b) made the People of Israel into slaves.
 - (c) made the People of Israel rulers in Egypt. _____

2. When Moses was in the desert taking care of sheep,
 - (a) God was preparing him to be a soldier.
 - (b) God was preparing him to be a great prophet.
 - (c) God was preparing him to be Pharaoh. _____

3. God sent
 - (a) four disasters against the People of Pharaoh.
 - (b) nine disasters against the People of Pharaoh.
 - (c) ten disasters against the People of Pharaoh. _____

4. God told the People of Israel
 - (a) to kill a lamb.
 - (b) to kill a cow.
 - (c) to kill a camel. _____

5. God told the People of Israel to put the blood
 - (a) on the floor of their houses.
 - (b) on the roofs of their houses.
 - (c) around the doors of their houses. _____

Write "True" or "False" after each of the following sentences.

6. Each of Jacob's twelve sons became the father of a tribe. _____
7. Pharaoh tried to kill all the boy babies of the People of Israel. _____
8. The Prophet Moses refused to help the People of Israel. _____
9. Pharaoh let the People of Israel leave Egypt after the first disaster. _____
10. Death came to the first-born in the houses with blood around the door. _____

Lesson 2 Test: God's Covenant with People

1. When the People of Israel came to Mount Sinai, God said that
 - (a) the people should not touch the mountain.
 - (b) the people should go far away from the mountain.
 - (c) the people should come up into the mountain. _____
2. The People of Israel spent
 - (a) two days getting ready for God.
 - (b) six days getting ready for God.
 - (c) ten days getting ready for God. _____
3. When the People of Israel heard God
 - (a) they wanted God to continue speaking to them.
 - (b) they wanted to go back to Egypt.
 - (c) they were afraid that they would die. _____
4. God gave the People of Israel
 - (a) ten commandments.
 - (b) five commandments.
 - (c) three commandments. _____
5. The first two commandments
 - (a) show us that God is very kind.
 - (b) show us that God is One.
 - (c) tell us how to act with other people. _____

Write "True" or "False" after each of the following sentences.

6. Jews, Christians and Muslims believe that God is One. _____
7. The fourth commandment shows that we should rest one day each week. _____
8. Many of our modern laws are based on the Ten Commandments. _____
9. When the People of Israel heard God, they came closer to the mountain. _____
10. The People of Israel accepted God's covenant with them. _____

Lesson 3 Test : God's Covenant with People

1. When Moses was away
 - (a) Aaron was the leader.
 - (b) Abraham was the leader.
 - (c) Isaac was the leader._____
2. The idol which the People of Israel worshiped at Mount Sinai was
 - (a) a wooden goat.
 - (b) a golden calf.
 - (c) a stone bird._____
3. The Most Holy Place and the Holy Place were separated by
 - (a) a wall.
 - (b) a curtain.
 - (c) the altar of sacrifice._____
4. The box in the Most Holy Place was called
 - (a) the Altar for burning offerings.
 - (b) the Gold Altar.
 - (c) the Covenant Box._____
5. When someone wanted to be forgiven, he had to
 - (a) bring a living animal as a sacrifice.
 - (b) pay money to the priests.
 - (c) do many good works._____

Write "True" or "False" after each of the following sentences.

6. Aaron told the people not to make the golden calf. _____
7. The Altar for Burning Offerings was in the Holy Place. _____
8. The Incense which the priests burned was a sign of the prayers of the people. _____
9. Christians do not offer animal sacrifices. _____
10. God allowed his glory to appear especially above the Covenant Box. _____

Lesson 4 Test: God's Covenant with People

1. Canaan was the land which God promised to
 - (a) Adam.
 - (b) Abraham.
 - (c) Noah._____

2. The journey to Canaan took a long time because the People of Israel
 - (a) returned to Egypt several times.
 - (b) turned away from God.
 - (c) got lost in the desert._____

3. The first king of the People of Israel was
 - (a) David.
 - (b) Moses.
 - (c) Saul._____

4. Who built a great temple for God in Jerusalem?
 - (a) King Solomon
 - (b) King David
 - (c) King Saul_____

5. Who wrote many Proverbs?
 - (a) King Solomon
 - (b) King David
 - (c) King Saul_____

Write "True" or "False" after each of the following Sentences.

6. The People of Israel lived in the desert for 40 years. _____
7. The Prophet Moses led the People of Israel into Canaan. _____
8. The tribe of Levi did not receive land in Canaan. _____
9. After King Solomon died, the People of Israel divided into two nations. _____
10. Although the People of Israel sinned much, God never forgot them. _____

Lesson 5 Test: God's Covenant with People

1. The Bible tells us that
 - (a) mankind is perfect.
 - (b) mankind needs a Saviour.
 - (c) mankind can save itself. _____

2. The first verse in the Taurat that tells about the Messiah is
 - (a) Genesis 17:19.
 - (b) Exodus 20:2.
 - (c) Genesis 3:15. _____

3. The word "Immanuel" means
 - (a) God with us.
 - (b) Prince of Peace.
 - (c) Saviour. _____

4. God said that the Messiah would be born in
 - (a) Jerusalem.
 - (b) Bethlehem.
 - (c) Egypt. _____

5. God said that the Messiah would be from the family of
 - (a) Isaiah.
 - (b) Moses.
 - (c) David. _____

Write "True" or "False" after each of the following sentences.

6. The Messiah will die with the wicked. _____
7. The Messiah will be buried in a poor man's grave. _____
8. The Messiah will rise from the dead. _____
9. The Messiah will bring forgiveness of sins. _____
10. The Messiah will be an angel. _____

This is the second in a series of courses called: **The People of God.**
These are the four courses included in **The People of God** series:

**The Beginning of People
God's Covenant with People
God Loves People
The People of Faith**

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