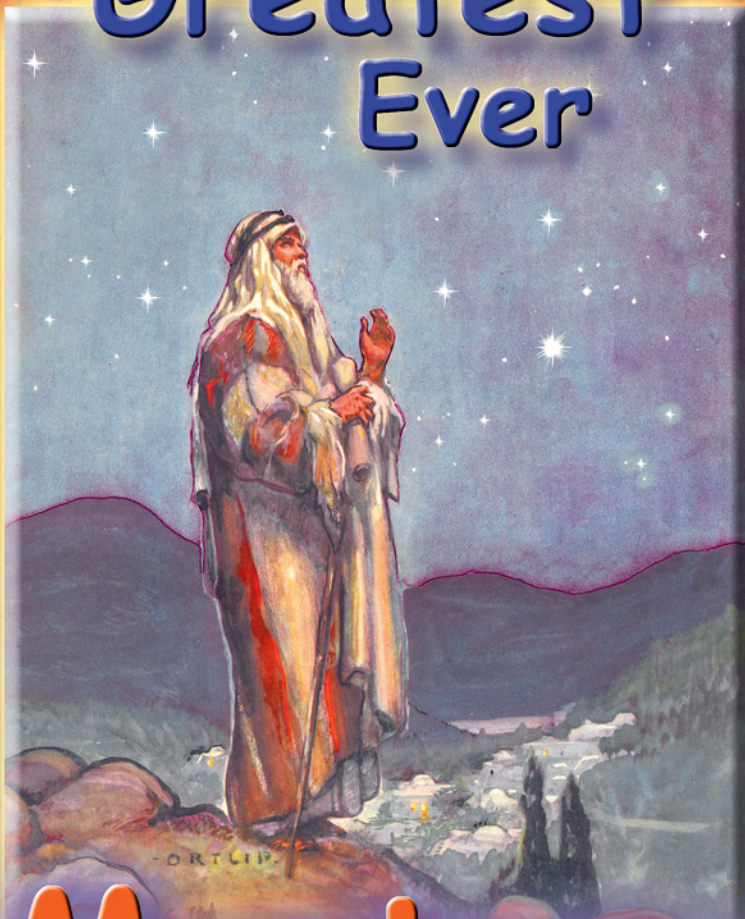


The
Greatest
Ever



Mystery

For Ages 8 through 12

March 1, 2008

Parents and Teachers:

All children love a **“mystery story,”** so why not try to teach them the greatest mystery planned by the Author God—our Heavenly Father? Although it has been a secret to most of the world for thousands of years, we are given many Scriptural clues to this most important Mystery. Now that we are close to its revelation to the world, we know approximately where we are on the time-line of the ***Divine Plan of the Ages.***

Even Adam and Eve were given a clue after they were condemned in the Garden of Eden. The clue was that one of Eve’s children would destroy the great deceiver Satan. To Abraham, of course, was given the hope that by his **“Seed,”** all of the world would be blessed—and that the Seed would be both **Heavenly** and **Earthly.** More details and clues were provided in the Tabernacle with its pictures of sacrifices—the High Priest, picturing (on the Day of Atonement), the head, Christ Jesus, and the Body as the Church. Most people do not understand that the heavenly part of the Seed had to die first as pictured by the Bullock—and that the Lord’s Goat would follow in its footsteps.

Still, the Prophets furnished many more clues, including the Prophet Isaiah. He prophesied about the dead coming back to life, the lame man leaping as a deer as well as no more war and the earthly government of God’s Kingdom in Israel (Isaiah 35:6, 10; 2:2-4). Jesus revealed more clues, but through parables, for example, that gathering “fish” really means gathering Christians. Finally, Apostle Paul actually revealed the Mystery—but still the world does not understand! (Colossians 1:26)

But **the Mystery has been solved!** Both Jesus and the Church are the Heavenly Seed which have to first die before blessing. They will bless all the families of the earth—beginning with the capital in Jerusalem, in Israel.

NOTE: Depending on the ages of the children, a “Detective Box” may be prepared with a magnifying glass, small pad of paper (for notes from discussion), pen, letter stickers, stars, a small square of sandpaper (for pasting over sand of seashore).

A **Promise** is Forever!


A **Promise** is forever
And God has made it clear
That He will keep His **Promises**
So we need never fear.
(1 Kings 8:56)

His precious Son has **Promised**
To God and to his friends
That he, too, keeps his **Promises**
And his love never ends.
(John 15:9)

The *Little Flock* has **Promised**
That she will faithful be
To her beloved Bridegroom
Throughout eternity.
(Luke 12:32; Revelation 2:10)

The Ancient Worthies **Promised**
To love and to obey;
And that is just one reason
We have the truth today.
(Hebrews Chapter 11)

A **Promise** is important
For everyone to hold;
So make the words you're saying
Just as good as **gold!**
(Ecclesiastes 5:4-5; Hebrews 10:22)



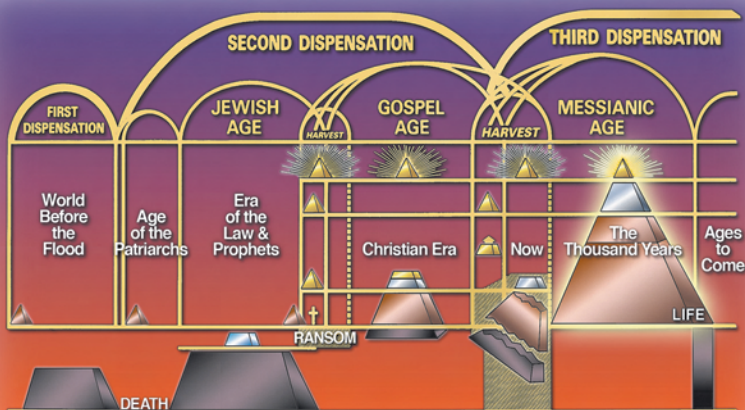
Oh, a **Promise** is a **Promise**—
On that you can depend.
Believe the precious **Promises**,
For they will be your friend.
(2 Peter 1:4)

1. What is a **MYSTERY**?



2. Who is the Author of the greatest ever **MYSTERY** in the universe?

3. What shows the **time-line plan** of the **MYSTERY**?



(Where are we now on the time-line? Draw a star ★ on the time-line.)



4. Where was the first **CLUE** about the **MYSTERY** given?

(Genesis 3:15)

5. Since the first **CLUE** is a promise that “the *Seed of the Woman* will **bruise the serpent’s head**” —the *Seed* would be one of Eve’s:



6. “**Bruise the serpent’s head**” meant the one who tricked Adam and Eve would be destroyed. He is called:

7. To **whom** did God give this other **CLUE**:

“In your *Seed* all the families of the earth will be blessed...” ?

(find the Bible verse)

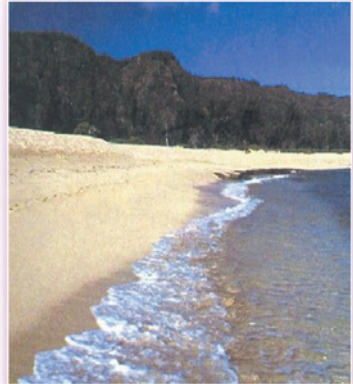


8. The **CLUE** was repeated: "I will multiply your **Seed** as the **stars of heaven**, and the sand upon the **seashore**."
How many parts to the **Seed** are there?

(Genesis 22:17)



How many **stars**?



How much **sand**?

9. Draw a line between the right connections:



STARS

Church

World

Heaven

Israel

SAND



(use a magnifying glass)

10. Lots of **CLUES**
about the **MYSTERY**
are found in the:



11. What further **CLUE** does the High Priest show about the **MYSTERY Seed** which will “*ble**s**s* all the families of the earth”?

HEAD: 
=

BODY: 
=



12. God gave special **CLUES** in the Tabernacle of Israel about the *Heavenly Seed*.



a. What happened to the Bullock?
(check one box)

- It had to pull a wagon
- It had to be sacrificed
- It had to be ridden by a cowboy or cowgirl

b. The same thing happened to the Lord's

after the High Priest put his hands on it.



13. Isaiah prophesied about many **CLUES**:

(See Isaiah Chapters 35 & 2)



* the _____ coming back to life;

* a lame man leaping as a _____;

* no more _____!

* the Capital of Kingdom in **Jerusalem**, which is in: _____.



14. In the Old Testament, who else spoke for God and gave more **CLUES** about the **MYSTERY**?



15. In the New Testament, Jesus also taught about the **MYSTERY** and gave many more

CLUES. He told stories that painted word pictures. These stories are called:



(Matthew 13:3)



16. As an example, Jesus taught about gathering **fish in a net**, but he was really talking about gathering:
-



17. Who explained the hidden **MYSTERY** that most people still don't understand!
-

(Colossians 1:26)

"...the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints..."

Colossians 1:26

MYSTERY SOLVED!!!



18. The *Seed of Blessing* has two parts:

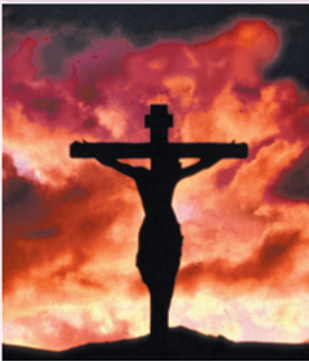
a. The *Heavenly* part is first

_____ & _____

(Galatians 3:29)

b. The *Earthly* part of the *Seed of Blessing* is first

(Micah 4:2; Zechariah 8:23)



19. The *Heavenly Seed of Blessing* had to first:



20. In the Kingdom, the *Heavenly & Earthly Seed of Blessing* will “bless all the families of the Earth” from its capital:

Follow The Golden

Follow *The Golden Thread of Prophecy*. See where the

Genesis 1:26-31

1. Adam and Eve were created perfect.
2. Adam and Eve disobeyed God and the penalty of death began.
3. God **Promised** Eve that her **Seed** would one day put an end to that old deceiver, Satan, and **The Golden Thread of Promise** begins!
4. The flood came upon all but faithful Noah and his family who carry on the **Promise**.
5. Abraham is tested and proved that he loved God supremely. He is given an **oath (Promise)** by God that his **Seed** will bless all the families of the earth.
6. Isaac is a faithful son who inherits the **Promise** given to Abraham.
7. Jacob is a faithful son who next inherits the **Promise** given to Isaac.
8. Jacob is told that the **Seed** would come through the tribe of Judah.
9. Jacob dies and his twelve sons inherit the **Promise** given to him.
10. Israel is given the Law to protect the **Promise** and guarantee that the **Seed** would be fulfilled through Judah.
11. Moses became the mediator of this Law Covenant—**Promise**.
12. The Tabernacle is constructed with its characters, structure and ceremonies for a **schoolmaster** to lead Israel to the **Promised Seed**.
13. Judges were given to Israel to help them to be faithful—another protection to bring forth the **Promised Seed**.

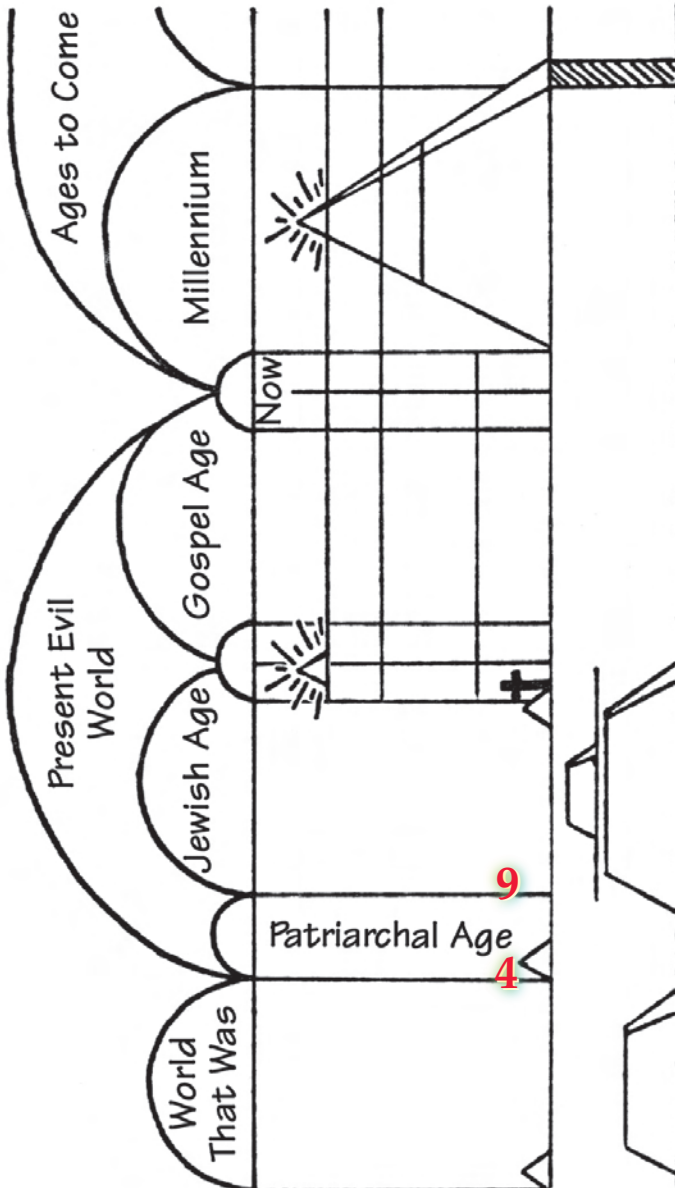
Thread of Promise

MYSTERY leads! Provide a scripture for each step.

- _____ 14. Israel demands a King instead of Judges.
- _____ 15. Saul becomes the first King.
- _____ 16. Saul loses faith and David becomes King over Israel in his place.
- _____ 17. David is from the tribe of Judah and the **Seed of Promise** passes through his Son.
- _____ 18. David's Son, King Solomon built the Temple which replaced Israel's Tabernacle.
- _____ 19. Israel is given many prophecies through major prophets such as Isaiah and Jeremiah and minor prophets such as Hosea and Zephaniah. They warn Israel to be faithful or they will lose the right to the **Promise**.
- _____ 20. John the Baptist, the last prophet of Israel, declares that Jesus is the Lamb of God who will take away the sin of the world.
- _____ 21. Jesus fulfills the Law, is obedient to God in every way, establishes his church and is faithful even unto the death of the cross. He becomes the **Head** of the Church.
- _____ 22. Jesus is the **Promised Seed**.
- _____ 23. The *little flock*, the Church, the *body* of Christ is prepared throughout the Gospel Age to become part of the **Promised Seed**.
- _____ 24. Israel is being regathered and being prepared as part of the **Earthly Seed** — to be a light to the Gentile nations.
- _____ **Romans 4:16** 25. When all the members of the Church prove *faithful unto death* and are raised to glory with Jesus, then the **MYSTERY** will begin to be revealed to the world. Soon all the **Seed—Heavenly** and **Eartly**—will bring blessings to all the families of the earth!

Write the numbers from *The Golden Thread* lessons where they belong on *The Chart of the Ages*.

(Two have been supplied for you.)



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