

18. What is the testimony of Jesus according to scripture? **Revelation 19:10.**

19. Who, in the angel's words to John, have the testimony of Jesus? **Revelation 19:10.**

20. Who are John's brethren? **Revelation 22:9.**

Since the prophets are the ones who have it, the testimony of Jesus, or spirit of prophecy, is the spiritual gift of prophecy. The existence of this gift, along with the keeping of all the commandments of God, are two Biblical identifying marks of Christ's church in the last days.

21. What did Jesus say the church's mission was before the end of the world? **Matthew 24:14.**

22. How does Revelation describe the fulfillment of that prophecy? **Revelation 14:6.**

Symbolically represented as angels flying in the midst of heaven, God's remnant people will be seen carrying the gospel to all the world. Thus the characteristics we noted of the church in its early days are presented in Revelation as those which are to identify the church in the last days. There is only one church on the face of the planet that can fit these characteristics and that is the Seventh-day Adventist church.

Considering God's Sure Word...

Do you understand that the subject of the church is of major importance in the book of Revelation, and that there can only be one true faith?

Do you understand that the true church is identified by its observance of all ten of the commandments, its possession of the gift of prophecy, and a worldwide message?

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Lesson Twenty-eight:

Where does Jesus go to Church?

Name:

Date:

1. Is God responsible for religious confusion? **1 Corinthians 14:33.**
2. Does more than one true faith exist? **Ephesians 4:4, 5.**
3. What are the body of believers on earth called? **Colossians 1:18.**
4. When souls were baptized, they were added to what? **Acts 2:41, 47.**
5. The church of the living God is called what? **1 Timothy 3:15.**

As we begin this lesson, notice should be given to three specific characteristics of God's church in its early days.

- a. A respect for God's law (**Acts 24:14; 1 John 3:22**).
 - b. The presence of the gift of prophecy (**Acts 11:27, 28**).
 - c. Worldwide message and mission (**Matthew 28:19; Colossians 1:23**).
4. How long would Christ be with His people? **Matthew 28:20.**

We will now trace the history of God's people as it was foretold in prophecy.

5. What great wonder appeared in heaven? **Revelation 12:1.**

"Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?" **Song of Solomon 6:10.**

6. God has likened the daughter of Zion (His people, **Isaiah 51:16**) to what? **Jeremiah 6:2.**

In the Bible, the church is often symbolically represented as a woman (see **Ephesians 5:25-27; 2 Corinthians 11:2**).

7. What other wonder appeared in heaven? **Revelation 12:3.**

In Lesson 22 we saw that the "dragon" was primarily Satan, but that in a secondary sense it was Pagan Rome. Revelation 12 is dealing with the Christian church from the beginning of the first century to the end of the world. It was Pagan Rome who was in power at the birth of Christianity.

8. The woman brought forth a man child who was to do what? **Revelation 12:5.**

This child, who would one day rule the nations "with a rod of iron," was Jesus (See **Revelation 19:15**).

9. What did the dragon intend to do to this man child? **Revelation 12:4.**

Matthew 2:13-16 tells the story of how Satan tried to kill Jesus as a baby through Pagan Rome.

10. After Jesus went back to heaven (**verse 5**), what did Satan then do to the church? **Revelation 12:13.**

11. Where did the true church then have to flee? **Revelation 12:14.**

12. How long was the church in the wilderness? **Revelation 12:6.**

The 1260 years of papal supremacy extended from 538 to 1798 (see Lesson 22). Due to the corruption of the Roman church and its persecution against dissenters, the true church was forced to go into seclusion during this time. Although not recognized by the world, Christ's faithful followers, among the rocks of the mountains, maintained their loyalty to the truth. Foremost among those who resisted Rome's attacks were the Waldenses of the southern European Alps, who for hundreds of years preserved the pure Scriptures and honored the true Sabbath.

The church, however, was not to remain in obscurity for ever. Just as surely as it went into the wilderness, it would come out. Christ's church, the pillar and ground of the truth, had a mission which was to last even unto the end of the world. Therefore we must look for that church to visibly appear again after 1798 in order to complete its work. According to the prophecy, the emerged church was helped by the earth (**Revelation 12:15, 16**). We learned in Lesson 23 that the earth was symbolic of the western hemisphere or the USA. Yet among the hundreds of religious organizations in existence today, how are we to recognize and identify the true church? Fortunately, we are not left to guess. The word of God has supplied a clear description.

13. After the church emerged from the wilderness, after the 1260 years, what did the dragon do? **Revelation 12:17.**

A remnant is "Something left over....A small, remaining group of people." The American Heritage Dictionary. The "remnant of her seed" is therefore that which is left of Christ's true church after the 1260-year period and the general apostasy.

14. The first identifying mark of the remnant when they appear after 1798 is that they keep what? **Revelation 12:17.**

15. Should we look for them to be keeping all ten of the commandments, including the one about the Sabbath? **James 2:10.**

16. What will they do with God's commandments besides just doing them? **Matthew 5:19.**

17. The second identifying mark of the remnant is that they have what? **Revelation 12:17.**