

The Great Controversy — Study Guide

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References

References at the end of questions refer to page and paragraph in “Great Controversy.” Thus “19:2” gives reference to paragraph 2 on page 19. Each paragraph is considered a unit and is assigned to the page on which it begins, though it may run over to the following page. Because of a difference in the paging of two current editions—due to the larger number of illustrations in one edition — two sets of references are given. The second reference, in brackets, is to the 1926 and 1927 special and subscription editions. The reader may identify the edition he is using by noting the date of the last copyright registration, which is found on the back of the title page.

Chapter 12 — The French Reformation

1. Following years of war and bloodshed, in his attempt to put down the Reformation in Germany by force of arms, what was Charles V at last forced to grant? How did he end his days? 211:1 [243:1]
2. The Spirit of God can use as His instrument a youth of twenty, as Luther, or an aged man of seventy, as LeFevre. Each of these had manifested a remarkable zeal in seeking to obtain God’s favor by acts of supposed merit. Each dated his period of much useful labor from the discovery of the Bible. Each was a teacher in a prominent university, and by the gift of teaching passed on to his pupils the glorious light of truth that took the place of his former efforts to obtain salvation by works.
3. For what purpose did LeFevre come to study the Scriptures, and what did he find there? 212:2 [244:3]
4. What pupil was first and foremost in accepting and teaching the new faith? What had been his early experience? 213:2 [245:2]
5. What prominent people were among those influenced by Farel and LeFevre? 214:2 [246:2]
6. Where was established the first Protestant church in France, and what changes were thereby wrought in the community? 214:3-215:1 [246:3-247:1]
7. What learned noble of France was said to have been potentially a “second Luther”? How did he witness for Christ in life and in death? 215:3-218:4 [247:3-250:4]
8. How did persecution again further the work of the gospel? 219:1, 2 [251:1, 2]
9. In what different ways did two individuals contribute to the conversion of Calvin? 220:1-3 [252:1-3]

10. Compare the wisdom and effectiveness of advancing truth by “theological controversy” and by quiet house to house work. 221:4-222:1 [253:4-255:1]
11. What circumstances made possible the open preaching of the Protestant principles in Paris? For how long was this possible? 222:2-223:1 [254:2-255:1]
12. Describe Calvin’s last work in France? To what place did he go? 223:2-224:2 [255:2-256:2] What was the scene of his principal labors? 236:2 [269:1]
13. What “zealous but ill-judged movement” resulted in serious consequences for the Protestants in France? 224:3; 227:3 [256:3; 260:2]
14. What terrible price was France to pay for her “rejection of the gift of heaven?” 230:2, 3 [263:2, 3]
15. After Farel’s failure to plant the gospel in Geneva, what humble instrument did God use? 232:2, 3 [265:2-266:1]
16. What organized movement arose at this time to champion the cause of Rome? In what ways did they imitate the Reformers? What were some of the means that contributed to their success? 234:2-235:2 [267:2-268:2]

Chapter 13 — The Netherlands and Scandinavia

1. How early, and in what manner, had the Protestant principles found entrance into the Netherlands? 237:1 [271:1]
2. The statements regarding the Waldensian missionaries [238:1; 239:1 (272:1; 273:1)] should be linked with that which appeared earlier, particularly [71:1 (80:2)] The fruitage of the labors of these youth was manifest centuries later, among the descendants of those who received the gospel directly from them.
3. Why was the persecution of the followers of Luther in the Netherlands more severe than in Germany? Did the fact that the believers were persecuted in one place, while there was comparative freedom in other parts, mean that the gospel was hindered in the one more than in the other? 293:3 [274:1]
4. Who was the leading Reformer in Holland? How was he led to the study of the Scriptures? What were his educational qualifications? What was the field of his labors, and for how long did he bear witness? 238:3-239:2 [272:1-273:2]
5. What qualifications in Tausen as a child, led to a rare educational opportunity? What restriction was made in his choice of schools? How was he finally led to go to Wittenberg, and what risk did he run in doing this? On returning to Denmark, where did he begin his work? How effective were the efforts to silence his testimony? 241:1-3 [275:3-276:2]
6. Where did the brothers who led the Reformation in Switzerland receive their training? In what were they alike, and how did they differ in temperament? What

remarkable opportunity was furnished to bear witness before the nobility of Sweden, and with what result? 242:2-244:1 [276:3-279:1]

7. To what extent was the success of the Reformation due to the erudition and influence of its leaders and teachers? What essential qualifications marked them all? 243:3 [278:2]

8. What was the effect of her acceptance of Protestantism upon the future history of Sweden,

(1.) as to national strength,

(2.) as to the destiny of other nations? 244:2 [279:2]

Chapter 14 — Later English Reformers

1. What conditions limited the usefulness of Wycliffe's translation of the Bible into the English language,

(1.) as to accuracy of the text,

(2.) as to its circulation?

What valuable contribution was made by Erasmus? 245:1 [281:1]

2. A careful reading of this paragraph will not raise questions regarding the possibility of serious mistakes in the text of Scripture. The defects in Wycliffe's version were due to his working not from the original languages, but from a faulty translation of that language into the Latin. Since that time, several ancient manuscript have been discovered, and modern versions of the scriptures have been translated from those original Hebrew and Greek texts.

3. What cogent reasons did Tyndale give for the possession of the Scriptures by the laity? What purpose was formed in his mind to make this possible? Under what obstacles was he obliged to carry out this work? Where was his New Testament printed, and how did it find its way into England? How did the Bishop of Durham unwittingly help the cause? 246:2-247:1 [282:2-283:3]

4. What co-temporaries of Tyndale defended the truth, and magnified the word of God? According to Latimer, who was the most diligent bishop in all England, and how did he work? What was Latimer's final prediction? 248:1-249:1 [284:2- 285:1]

5. Upon the spot where many copies of Tyndale's Bible were publicly burned stands now the British and Foreign Bible House.

6. What earlier influences helped Scotland to maintain its freedom longer than did England? How was the torch of truth re-lit in the northern kingdom? 249:2-4 [285:2-286:2]

7. Who was Scotland's great leader in the Reformation? How did he interpret the command of God to obey their rulers? What wise counsel did he give to guide those who are confused because of differences of belief among spiritual leaders? How effective was his leadership in Scotland? 250:2-251:3 [287:1-288:3]

8. In the establishment of Protestantism in England, what erroneous principles of the papacy were retained? What was the result to dissenters? What noteworthy book was produced by a martyr for the faith, in jail? What four other books were productive of spiritual light? 251:4-252:3 [288:4-290:2]
9. What was the spiritual condition of England a century later? What reformers then arose? How was Charles Wesley led to realize the futility of his own works for salvation? 253:1-3 [290:3-291:1] From whom were the Wesleys descended? 253:1-254:2 [290:3-291:3]
10. How did the consistent Christian lives of Moravians influence John Wesley? 254:3-256:1 [292:1-293:2]
11. What were the results of Wesley's apprehension of the light of God's grace? On what different basis did he now maintain his former good works? What led to the name of "Methodists"? 256:1-4 [293:2-294:1]
12. How did Whitefield and the Wesleys regard the minor differences of doctrine between them? 257:3 [295:1]
13. What instances of divine protection from mob violence has Wesley recorded? Were the leaders alone subject to persecution? Did they have protection from the government? 258:1-259:2 [295:2-296:2].
14. What two popular errors did Wesley combat, and what arguments did he bring to bear against them? Are these same errors rampant today? 260:2-264:1 [297:1-301:1]
15. What remarkable success crowned the work of Wesley during his lifetime? What can be said of his influence beyond what was visible? Memorize the concluding sentence.

Chapter 15 — The Bible and The French Revolution

1. What is the significance of the following expressions, found in the prophecy of Rev. 11:2-11:
 "the holy city";
 "forty and two months" 266:2, 3 [304:3, 4]
 "the two witnesses" 267:1 [305:2]
 "prophecy . . . clothed in sackcloth" 267:2; 269:1 [307:1; 307:2]
 "the beast from the bottomless pit" 268:3 [306:3]
 "the great city" 269:2 [307:2]
 "dead bodies . . . three days and a half" 273:2-274:2; 287:1 [312:3-313:2; 328:1]
2. What warning is given against wresting the plain meaning of the Scriptures? 268:1, 2 [306:1, 2]
3. For what special sins do "Egypt" and "Sodom" stand typically? 269:2, 3 [307:2, 3]

4. What two classes of Christians bore witness for Christ, and how did they suffer for their faith? 271:2; 273:1 [309:2-312:1]
5. In the “war against God” in France, what steps were taken against public worship? the Bible? the Sabbath? The sacraments of baptism, communion and marriage? the recognition of God? What was substituted to be worshiped, and how was it personified? 273:3-276:3 [312:3-316:3]
6. How is the church shown to have been responsible not only for the decline of religious liberty, but also for the part of the State in curtailing civil liberty? 276:4-277:2 [316:4-317:2]
7. How had the persecution of the Huguenots contributed to the poverty and wretchedness of the country? 278:1-279:2 [318:1-319:1]
8. What contrasts are drawn between the privileged classes and the poor peasants, and what were the causes for this condition? How did the result prove to be the opposite of what was expected? 279:4-281:3 [319:3-321:3]
9. When the commons had obtained the upper hand in the government, how did they abuse their power? 282:1-284:1 [322:1-324:2]
10. What fatal error was then, and is still, responsible for the cruelty, degradation and misery in this world? 285:2-286:1 [326:2-327:1]
11. What two great movements were started by God at this time, to thwart the plans of Satan that seemed to have succeeded, and to reveal to the world His own principles of love and of liberty? 287:2-288:3 [328:1-329:4]
12. In this chapter we have a demonstration of the fact that Satan’s malignant power is restrained by the Spirit of God, and it is only as men deliberately choose to follow the evil one, that this protection is withdrawn from them. This truth is being still more clearly demonstrated today. See 265:1; 274:2; 282:2; 285:4-286:1 [303:1; 313:2; 322:2; 326:4-327:1]

Chapter 16 — The Pilgrim Fathers

1. How did the issue over the wisdom of “compromise” divide the English Reformers? What were the arguments for and against? How did the church in power attempt to settle the controversy, and with what result to the minority? 289:1-290:2 [331:1-332:2]
2. In what spirit did the Pilgrims accept the hardships of exile, and how did “persecution and exile” open the “way to freedom”? 290:3-291:2 [333:1-3]
3. What vital principle of Protestantism, embodied in the Puritan covenant, was stressed by Pastor John Robinson? How may a failure to recognize this principle be shown to be a cause for many denominations today? 291:3-292:2 [333:4-334:3]
4. What principles of religious liberty were for a time violated by the Pilgrim fathers? Who was the first to urge absolute liberty of the individual conscience? How did he

define the duties of the magistrate? In what words did he protest against compulsory attendance at church? 292:3-294:2 [335:1-336:2]

5. Was the cause of religious liberty helped or hindered by the banishment of Roger Williams? 294:2-295:1 [337:1-3]

6. What principle of the Constitution of the United States is inherent in man, and therefore above human reason? 295:3 [338:2]

7. How remarkably were the settlement and the conditions of the New World affected by the offer of asylum to oppressed Christians of all lands? 296:1-4 [338:3-339:3]

8. What is the effect upon the church when she succeeds in obtaining special privileges in the State? 297:1 [341:1]

9. In what ways has Protestantism repeated the history of the church during the first centuries? Having again failed to crush out the truth through persecution, how has Satan worked to corrupt the churches established by the Reformers? 297:3-298:2 [340:2-341:2] Cf. 42:2,3 [46:3-47:1]

Chapter 17 — Heralds the Morning

1. List Testament characters who foresaw the coming of Christ, with its associated events. Which of them stressed the judgment? the resurrection? the great joy of the redeemed? the glory of the coming, and the physical phenomena seen in nature? 299:1-300:3 [343:1-344:3]

2. What positive words of Christ add certainty to the hope of His return? Who will accompany Him? 301:1 [345:1]

3. By the angels, by Paul and by John, what testimony is borne regarding the manner of Christ's coming? 301:2 [345:2]

4. How is the coming of Christ related to the restoration of that which was lost at the fall of man? 301:3-302:1 [345:3-346:1]

5. What special experiences have caused intense longing for Christ's return among His followers? 302:2-4 [346:2-4]

6. How were the reformers cheered in their work by the "blessed hope"? 303:1-4 [347:1-4]

7. What was the earliest of the promised "signs" of the nearness of the end? 304:1-305:2 [348:2-350:1]

8. Show that the dark day of 1780 fulfilled the prophecy as to time? Was it recognized by many who witnessed it, as fulfilling specific Scripture prophecy? 306:1-308:1 [350:2-354:1]

9. What was the spiritual condition of the church when the signs of Christ's coming began to appear? Show that this also was a subject of prophecy?. 309:1 [354:3-355:1]
10. What prophetic features of the "day of the Lord" constitute a mighty call to arouse from spiritual lethargy? 310:1-311:1 [355:2-356:3]
11. What message of warning was due at this time, and by what class of men was it given? 311:2-312:3 [356:4-357:4]
12. How many of God's people were looking for Christ at His first advent? What was the attitude of the religious leaders at that time to the prophecies of His coming? What classes of people were chosen to announce the birth of Jesus? What lessons are there in this experience for our time? 313:1-316:1 [358:1-361:2]