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Week #6 (Resubmission)

October 15, 2017

Define the following terms in one well-developed paragraph. One line sentences are not acceptable. Define or explain, and respond accordingly.

1. Biblical context - Give example
2. Monarchy - Give example
3. Northern Kingdom - List Tribes
4. Southern Kingdom - List Tribes
5. Palestine - List countries that are a part of the Palestine Area
6. Babylon - Explain
7. Role of King Cyrus in Jewish history.
8. Role of King Darius I in Jewish history.
9. Alexander the Great (Who was he? What was his objective? What was his fate?)
10. Greek city-state.

Biblical Context - The most important reason to study the bible in context is to obtain a correct understanding of the scriptures. When scriptures are taken out of context, there is the temptation to make the bible say what we want instead of what is originally meant. Misunderstanding the scripture also leads to the misapplication of scripture to our lives and to the errant teaching to others. For example, some have taught that slavery was biblical because the practice can be found in the bible. However, the New Testament does not teach Christians to enslave one another.

Monarchy - Monarchy is a form of government in which a group, generally a family representing a dynasty, embodies the country's national identity and its head, the monarch, exercises the role of sovereignty. The United Jewish Monarchy formed by King Saul, King David and King Solomon found itself the subject of a great divide

after Solomon's death, as the kingdom separated and formed into two nations, Israel to the north and Judah to the south.

Northern Kingdom - The Northern Kingdom was comprised of Asher, Dan, Ephraim, Gad, Issachar, Manasseh, Naphtali, Reuben, Simeon, and Zebulun. Led by their rulers, who were exponentially wicked, the people of the 10 tribes sank into a terrible plight of idolatry and materialism. Despite the fact that the vast majority of the two tribes kept the Torah, and the presence of such great prophets as Elijah, Elisha, Hosea, Amos and Jonah, the people were almost beyond salvation. This kingdom existed for about 200 years, but was later conquered by Assyria in 721 B.C.E.

Southern Kingdom - The tribes of Judah and Benjamin made up the Southern Kingdom. Many of the Jews living in Judah were carried off to exile in Babylonia. The kingdom extended in the north as far as Bethel, while in the South it ended in the dry area known as Negev. Its eastern and western boundaries were the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. Jerusalem was its capital and it lasted until it fell to Babylonia in 587 B.C.E. Jerusalem was overrun and the Temple that King Solomon had built was destroyed 10 years later.

Babylon - Babylon, is the most famous city from Mesopotamia. The many references the bible makes to it are all unfavorable. In the book of Genesis, the 11th chapter, it is featured in the story of the Tower of Babel. The Hebrews claim the city was named for the confusion which ensued after God caused the people to speak different languages so they would not be able to complete their tower to heaven.

Babylon also appears in the books of Daniel, Jeremiah and Isaiah and most notably the book of Revelation.

King Cyrus - King Cyrus, who had become ruler of Persia, conquered Babylonia in 539 B.C.E. and issued a decree permitting Jews to return to Judah from exile within one year and for the Temple to be rebuilt. He There were some who did, settling in and around Jerusalem though most remained in Babylonia, Egypt or Asia Minor. He showed interest in the rebuilding of the Temple by sending back with them the sacred vessels which had been taken from the first Temple and a considerable sum of money with which to buy building materials.

King Darius I - King Darius I appointed the Jewish leader Zerubbabel to be governor of Judah, who would preside over the rebuilding and dedication of the temple in Jerusalem. His reign followed that of King Cyrus and is presented as a good king who helped the Israelites in several ways. He decreed that Jewish workers be paid from royal treasury and that the builders would be given whatever was needed for the burnt offerings. Anyone attempting to destroy the Temple or disobey the decree would be impaled by a beam from his own house which would be made a pile of rubble.

Alexander the Great - Establishing rule over Greek city-states such as Athens, Sparta and Corinth, Phillip of Macedon consolidated a power platform from which his son, Alexander the Great was able to launch a campaign of rapid expansion, that

extended to the lands at the eastern end of the Mediterranean sea, to include acquiring control over Judah and Egypt. To Alexander, Palestine was, as to many before him, a corridor leading to Egypt. He defeated Darius III, who was then ruler of Persia and acquired control over Judah. Eight years after this defeat, Alexander died and his generals divided his domain into three empires, the Ptolemaic, the Macedonian and the Seleucid.

Palestine - Countries that were a part of the Palestine Area included Egypt, Syria and Arabia. Palestine was a part of the region known as Canaan and later where the kingdoms of Israel and Judah were located. In 721 B.C.E., Palestine was overrun by the Assyrians and the Philistines were subdued completely. The end of the region known as Palestine came in 604 B.C.E. destroyed the remaining towns and sold the inhabitants into slavery.

Greek city - state - The Greek name for a city-state was "polis". Each city-state, or polis, had its own government. Some city states were monarchies ruled by kings or tyrants. Others were oligarchies ruled by a few powerful men on councils. The city of Athens invented the government of democracy and was ruled by the people for many years.