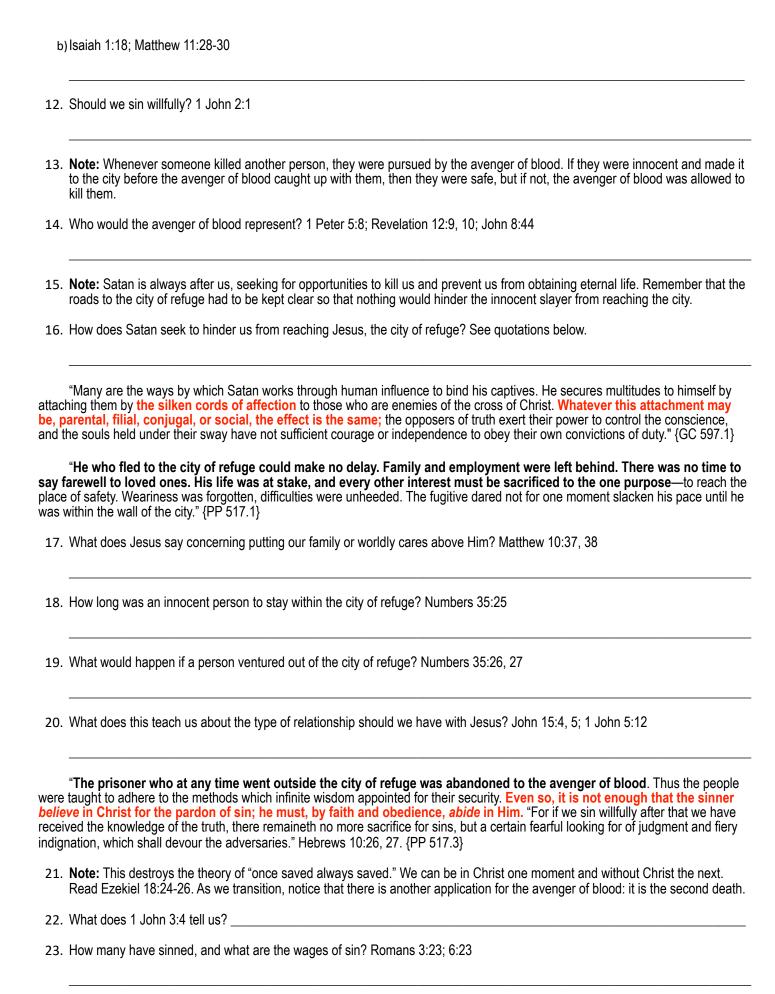


SAVED TO SERVE Pastor Andrew Henriques www.prophesyagain.com THE CITIES OF REFUGE

1.	In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study the cities of refuge which were given as a possession to the tribe of Levi. For context, read Numbers 35 & Joshua 20.
2.	How many cities of refuge were there? Numbers 35:6
3.	For whom were the cities of refuge made? Numbers 35:6, 11
which clea to de	"Six of the cities assigned to the Levites—three on each side the Jordan—were appointed as cities of refuge, to which the slayer might flee for safetyThis merciful provision was rendered necessary by the ancient custom of private vengeance, by h the punishment of the murderer devolved on the nearest relative or the next heir of the deceased. In cases where guilt was rly evident it was not necessary to wait for a trial by the magistrates. The avenger might pursue the criminal anywhere and put him eath wherever he should be found. The Lord did not see fit to abolish this custom at that time, but He made provision to ensure safety of those who should take life unintentionally." {PP 515.2}
4.	Were the cities of refuge only for the Israelites? Numbers 35:15
5.	What would happen to someone who intentionally slayed another person? Numbers 35:16-19
6.	How were the roads leading to the city of refuge to be kept? Deuteronomy 19:2, 3
	"The cities of refuge were so distributed as to be within a half day's journey of every part of the land. The roads leading to n were always to be kept in good repair; all along the way signposts were to be erected bearing the word "Refuge" in plain, characters, that the fleeing one might not be delayed for a moment." {PP 515.3}
7.	What happened when the innocent slayer arrived at the gate of the city of refuge? Joshua 20:4 Answer: They had to confess their fault.
8.	What had to happen before a person was officially declared innocent and worthy of remaining in the city of refuge? Numbers 35:12, 22-25
was the	"But while the guiltless were not to be rashly slain, neither were the guilty to escape punishment. The case of the fugitive to be fairly tried by the proper authorities, and only when found innocent of intentional murder was he to be protected in city of refuge. The guilty were given up to the avenger." {PP 515.3}
9.	Note: Let us now make present day applications for the city of refuge.
10	Who is our refuge? Psalm 91:2; Proverbs 18:10
11	What must we do to obtain refuge in Christ?
a) 1 John 1:9



- 24. **Note:** Since all have sinned, the law requires that we pay the penalty for sin which is death, even the second death. However, those who find refuge in Jesus by confessing their sins and abiding in Him, will have the blood of Jesus to declare them innocent! As we close, remember this point: the innocent slayer had to remain in the city of refuge until the death of the high priest. See Numbers 35:25, 28.
- 25. Where is Jesus right now, and what is He doing? Hebrews 8:1, 2; Romans 8:34

26. **Note:** So when Jesus calls our name in the judgment and finishes His work as High Priest, if we have all our sins confessed and are found abiding in Him, the devil will not have any power over us. We will be free in Christ from the penalty of the law (the second death), and we will enter into the New Jerusalem.

Meditate on these words:

"...We cannot with safety look away from our Saviour for one moment, for a dart of Satan will be hurled at our weakest points. In the exercise of a living faith in the merits of Christ alone are we safe. The helpless soul of the sinner must hang on Jesus. If he lets go his hold for one moment, he is in imminent peril of hurting his own soul and of imperiling the souls of others." {12MR 288.3}