

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND NATION

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1. An Introduction to History

Do you know what the word history means?

History is the story of how God has worked out His plan for men and nations. It is "His story" of man since the beginning of time. History, therefore, must be studied in terms of God's almighty control over the world.

The Holy Bible gives people information on how history began in the book of Genesis.

Copy Genesis 1:1 here. _____

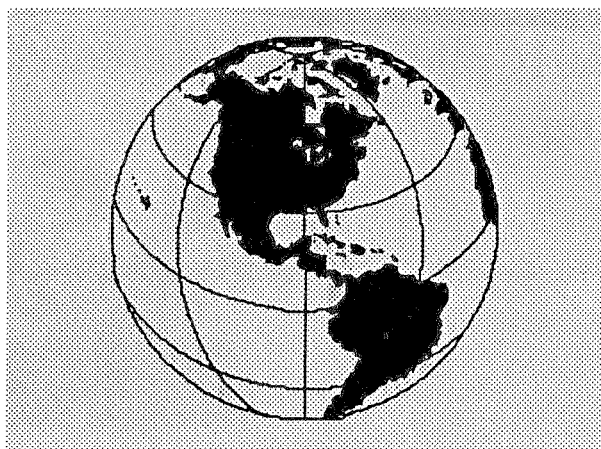
God does everything according to an orderly plan. Nothing in history happens without God's permission. God had an orderly plan when He created the earth and every living thing.



The Bible teaches us that God created man in an orderly way for a special purpose.

1. Copy Genesis 1:27. _____

2. Who made the earth and every living thing? _____



Have you ever asked yourself, "Why did God make the earth?" God made the earth as well as all things in it for His glory.

"For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth... all things were created by him, and for him."

Colossians 1:16

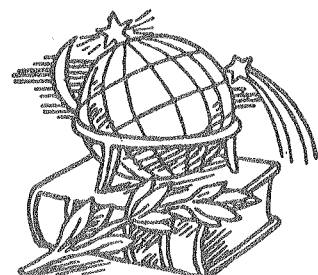
After God formed the earth, He decided that He should create people to live on it. The whole duty of man is to glorify God and keep His commandments. The Bible tells us to:

"Fear God and keep His commandments for this is the whole duty of man."

Ecclesiastes 12:13b

How can boys and girls glorify God in their daily lives?

The Bible, as well as all of history, is filled with stories of great men and women who were used by God to change the world for good.



Can you list the names of three people mentioned in the Bible that lived a life pleasing to God? If so, list the names below:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

God has a plan for your life. Memorize the Bible verse listed below:

**"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart;
and lean not unto thine own under-
standing. In all thy ways acknowledge
Him, and He shall direct thy paths."**

Proverbs 3:5, 6

This Bible verse tells us that God has a wonderful plan and purpose for our lives if we look to Him for direction.



Most boys and girls dream of being someone special. Maybe you want to be a mailman or fireman or nurse or missionary. God says that if we love Him, He has greater things for us to do than we can ever dream.

We will study the lives of many people in this book. You will learn that God has used people in very special ways. When you read of how God used these people, think of how He plans to use you. God is preparing you for something special, too.

A wise young person will use his time in school wisely so he is prepared to serve God properly.

In the next chapter we will study the lives of godly people who lived many years ago. This chapter will show us how God helps and blesses people who love and serve Him.

