

LEFT BEHIND!

"Man, it was the weirdest thing you ever saw. We were all in the gym watching a basketball game. It had gone into overtime, and everybody was yelling their heads off. Just as the referee started to throw the ball up –ZAP– our center disappeared! He was gone! Players from both teams had simply vanished. Everybody in the stands began screaming. People were missing there too."

"I was driving home in heavy traffic when some cars began going in all directions. They crashed into poles, buildings, and other cars. You won't believe this, but they didn't have any drivers!"

"You want to know what I think? I think we've been invaded from outer space. It's some kind of death ray. I've never been so scared in my life!"

Dear Friend, as amazing as it sounds, something like this is going to happen some day. Millions of Christians, all over the world, will suddenly disappear. It will be the greatest mystery of all time.

The news media will go ballistic. News reporters will be hysterical. Computer networks and phone lines will be hopelessly jammed with millions of calls from frantic people.



All of this will take place so quickly that the world will not know what has happened. Unsaved husbands and wives will wake up to discover that their Christian mates are gone. Parents will be frantically trying to locate missing children. Teenagers will be running down school halls desperately trying to find friends who have disappeared.

What in the world are we talking about? We are talking about an event called "the Rapture," which is clearly predicted in the Bible. The word "rapture" means "to snatch away" or "to take away." This is exactly what will happen when Jesus Christ comes to take His believers out of this world, to be with Him forever. The Bible says,

"For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in Christ [believers who have died] shall rise first:

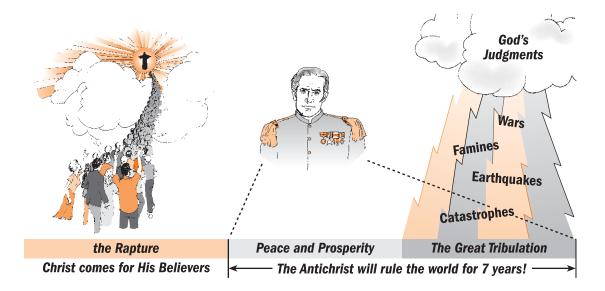
"Then we [believers] which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

1 Thessalonians 4:16,17

This will be a worldwide event which will take place without any warning. It could happen today! There are no unfulfilled prophecies which must take place before Christ comes. The Bible says that the Rapture will take place "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye." Every person in the world who has been born again into the family of God will be instantly changed and caught up to meet Christ in the air.

No matter where they are or what they are doing, every child of God will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. Airplanes whose pilots are believers will suddenly be left pilotless. Countless wrecks will occur on the highways. It is hard to imagine all the disastrous scenarios which will take place when Christ comes for His believers. There will be pandemonium throughout the world!

Actually, the Bible tells us that Christ's Second Coming will be in two parts. The first part is the Rapture when He comes FOR His believers. The second part will occur seven years later, when Christ returns WITH His believers, to rule and reign on this earth for a thousand years.



What will happen to those left behind? When Christ takes every Christian out of the world, what will the world be like then? The world will be more wicked than ever. Law enforcement people will be unable to control the situation. People will blaspheme God. They will steal, kill, rape and do whatever they want to do. Those who love wickedness will be glad that the Christians are out of the way.

The Antichrist appears.

About the time when the Christians are taken up to be with the Lord, an extraordinary man will appear on the earth. He will be brilliant, charming, and eloquent, with made-for-television good looks and charisma. People will not realize that he is an evil man.

The Bible calls this man "the Anti-christ." The word "anti" means "against." He is against God and against Christ. He is energized and controlled by Satan. What will the Antichrist do? He will deceive the world into serving him and worshipping him.

Through his lies and his miraculous powers, the Antichrist will gain control of the world. He will reign for seven years. The first half of the Antichrist's reign will be a time of prosperity in the world. But the last three and a half years of the Antichrist's reign will be the most terrible time that the world has ever seen. The Bible calls it "the Great Tribulation." (See Matthew 24:21,22.)

What will happen during the Great Tribulation?

We are living in an age when God is holding back His wrath and His judgments against sin, but this will change following the Rapture. During the Great Tribulation, especially the last three and a half years, God will be pouring out His wrath on all wickedness and unrighteousness.

Peace will be taken from the earth. Wars will break out everywhere. There will be terrible famines, earthquakes, and natural disasters. There will be disturbances in the heavens. At times the sun will be blotted out. Stars will fall to the earth. (See Revelation, chapters 6 and 8.)

Trees and all green grass will be burned up. The waters in all the seas will become as the blood of a dead man. Likewise, all rivers and fountains of fresh water will be turned into blood. (See Revelation, chapter 16.) The sun will be given power to scorch men with great heat. Demonic creatures, like scorpions, will be released from the bottomless pit. They will sting people causing torment for five months. The pain will be so unbearable that people will seek death but will not find it. Will people repent of their sins and turn to God? No, they will not. They will curse God.

We cannot imagine the horrors of the Great Tribulation. During this time, one half of the population of the earth will be killed! Worst of all, death is followed by hell. All wicked, unbelieving people will be forever separated from God in the lake of fire.

When will Christ come?

No one knows when Christ will come to take His believers out of the world. But Jesus did tell us what it would be like in the last days, just before His coming. He said, "As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the Son of Man" (Luke 17:26).

What was it like in "the days of Noah"? It was a time of great wickedness. The Bible says, "God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5). The Bible says that the earth was "filled with violence."

God was grieved in His heart, and He decided to destroy this wicked human race with a great flood. But there was one man on earth who found favor with God. Noah "walked with God" (Genesis 6:9).

God told Noah about the coming flood which would cover the entire earth. In order that Noah and his family might be saved, God told Noah to build a giant ship, called an "ark." The ark would be three stories high, with only one door and one window. It would be large enough for Noah, his wife, his three sons and their wives, pairs of all air-breathing creatures and the provisions they would need.

Noah and his three sons began work on the ark right away. It took them 120 years to build the ark. During this time, Noah was constantly preaching to the people, warning them of the coming catastrophe.

Finally, the ark was completed. Amazingly, pairs of all birds and animals began coming to the ark and going into it. The time for the flood had come. God told Noah and his family to get inside the ark.

But God delayed the flood another seven days. Why did God do this? He did it because He does not desire the death of sinners. It was as if God were saying, "I am giving the people seven more days before I close the door of the ark. I want them to have every chance to come in."

No doubt Noah stood in the open door with tears in his eyes and pleaded with the people to come into the ark. How many came in? NONE!

At the end of the seven days, the people saw an amazing thing happen. The huge door, probably weighing hundreds of pounds, began slowly closing, with no one touching it. God was closing the door!

Noah lived in the last days before a great catastrophe took place. The flood covered the tops of the highest mountains to a depth of over 20 feet. All who were outside of the ark perished. Jesus said, "...the flood came and destroyed them all" (Luke 17:27).

We too are living in the last days before another worldwide catastrophe the Great Tribulation. There is only one way of escape, and that is by taking Jesus Christ as your Savior.

There was only one door into the ark, and Jesus is the only "door" by which we can be saved. The Lord Jesus said, "I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved" (John 10:9).

The moment you trust Christ as your Savior, it is like going into the ark. God puts you "in Christ," and one day you will be with Him in Heaven forever.

The Greatest Thing...

Do you know what the greatest thing in the world is? It is knowing that you are a child of God and that you are ready to meet God—**at any time!** To know that, no matter when Christ may come, you are ready to meet Him.

When Christ takes His believers out of the world, some of those who

S GREAT FAGIS

1 Jesus Christ is coming soon to take His believers to be with Him. This coming could take place at any time. Jesus said, "Therefore be ready: for in such an hour as you think not the Son of Man comes" (Matthew 24:44).

2 There will be no second chance. Those who are left behind will face the horrors of the Great Tribulation.

3 There was only one place of safety during the great flood. That place was the ark. There is only one place of safety now—"in Christ."

are left behind will realize what has happened. Maybe they had friends or relatives who had told them about these end time events. But it will be too late then. Like Larry Norman's song says,

"I wish we'd all been ready! There's no time to change your mind. The Son has come, and you've been left behind. How could you have been so blind?"

Dear friend, if Christ were to come tonight, would you be taken up to be with Him or would you be left behind to face the horrors of the Great Tribulation? If the prayer below says what is in your heart, you can pray this to Jesus now. He would love to hear you pray this prayer to Him right now.

Lord Jesus, I know that I have sinned. I believe that You are the Son of God and that You died on the cross for my sins. Please come into my heart and forgive me of my sins. I am taking You as my Savior right now.

Memory Verse

"As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the Son of Man." Luke 17:26

My Prayer

"Father, I thank You that You have warned us about the coming catastrophe. I thank You for providing a place of safety for us. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son and that He died for my sins. I am trusting Him as my Savior."

Signed_

Date

AFWARD & ESAEV VAOME



God's hero-Noah

"By faith Noah being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his house [his family]...." Hebrews 11:7

Did you know that God has His "Heroes of Faith"? In Hebrews, chapter 11, God gives us brief histories of some of His "heroes of faith."

As to the dangers and difficulties these people went through, no two were alike, but they were all alike in that they took God at His word. That is what faith is—taking God at His Word.

They had another thing in common —**they loved God.** They loved God more than they loved the praise of men. They accepted rejection, ridicule, suffering, and even death because they believed the promises of God.

God warned Noah that He was going to send a great flood because of the wickedness of the people of that day. God told Noah to build a giant ship.

There were at least three facts that could have caused Noah to doubt God's word:

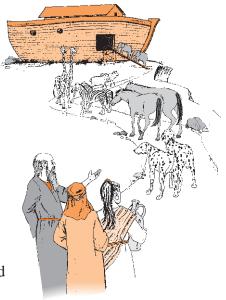
• It had never rained on the earth before this time. Nobody knew what rain was.

- Noah was hundreds of miles from the nearest ocean.
- How could he ever get pairs of all animals and birds to go into the ark?

It seemed like a foolish thing to do, but Noah believed God and he was "moved with fear." It is a good thing to be "moved with fear" when God warns you about something. Noah did something about it—he obeyed God

and started building the ark.

We can only imagine the ridicule that Noah suffered. The "scientists" of that day no doubt were saying, "We have checked our records and our books



of knowledge and it is impossible for water to come out of the sky."

But they were all wrong. The Bible says that "the fountains of the deep were broken up and the windows of heaven were opened." The rain poured continuously for forty days and nights.

The waters covered the highest mountains to a depth of over 20 feet. This explains why sea shells and other evidence of marine life have been found near the tops of some of the highest mountains in the world.

Noah was truly a hero of faith. He walked with God. He believed God, he loved God, and he obeyed God.

QUESTION PAGES INSTRUCTIONS



Turn to the Question Page as you finish each lesson. Fill in the answers for that lesson before going on to the next lesson.



When you have studied the lessons in this booklet and have completed both Question Pages, carefully detach these Question Pages from the booklet.



Print your name and address in the space provided at the bottom of each Question Page. Also, print your name and return address in the top left corner of the mailing face.



Fold the center Question Page and the back Question Page together with the school's address on the outside. Secure these pages with a piece of tape. Place a First Class stamp in the proper place and mail both pages.

Remember to write in your name and return address on each Question Page.

Send in your Question Pages **only** for **both** lessons!

uestion Page	WINNERS 1 LESSON 1
structions: Mark each statement <i>TRUE</i>	or FALSE F.
 When the Rapture takes place, millions of Christians all over the world will suddenly disappear. 	6. During the Great Tribulation, one half of the population of the earth will be killed.
2. There will be many warnings before the Rapture takes place.	7. The Antichrist will reign for twenty years.
3. When the Christians are taken out of the world, things will be much better.	8. During "the days of Noah," many people believed Noah and turned to God.
 4. When the Antichrist first appears, everyone will recognize that he is an evil man. 	 9. During the great flood of Noah's time, there was only one place of safety—in the ark.
5. The Antichrist will deceive the world into serving and worshipping him.	10. There is only one way to escape the Great Tribulation, and that is by taking Jesus as your Savior now.

TAPE the Question Page with one-side sticky tape in two places as shown. Do not cover any barcodes or postage with tape. Cut out the Question Page and FOLD with the Teacher's address on the outside. Please DO NOT STAPLE.

Name (Please print)	Birthday		AgeGrade (OMIT IF ADULT)
Parent/Guardian (OMIT IF ADULT)			
Mailing address			
City	State		Zip

What are the most important things you learned in this lesson?



The Antichrist Is he living today? When will he take control of the world?

Dear Friend,

The stage is set. A Great Dictator with unusual ability and power is about to appear on the world scene. The Bible clearly predicts that, in the last days, a "superman" will take over rulership of the world.

Who is this Great Dictator? The

Bible calls him "the Antichrist" or "the Beast." The word "anti" means "against." The Antichrist is against Christ, against God, and against all the people of God.

How Does the Antichrist Gain Control of the World?

The Antichrist gains control of the world through three means: 1) Political power, 2) Supernatural power, and 3) Religious power. Let us consider these. • **Political power.** The Antichrist will emerge first as the leader of a powerful confederation of ten European nations. At first he will not appear to be an evil man at all. He will be a man of great ability and charisma. He will be a military genius, as well as the greatest politician the world has ever seen.

The Antichrist will do the seemingly impossible! He will bring peace between Israel and the Arab nations. He will make a treaty with Israel, in which he will guarantee their security

and safety. He will likewise satisfy the demands of the Arab nations. The world will marvel at his political ability. But the Bible calls him "the Beast." • **Supernatural power.** For some time now, comic strips, movies, and television programs have been preparing the world for the idea of a "superman." One reason why these comic strips and programs are so popular is that people like the idea of a "superman" who can solve their problems instantly.

The Antichrist will be a real "superman." Just as Jesus had supernatural powers because He was God's Man, so the Antichrist will have supernatural powers because he will be Satan's man. Satan will give his power to the Antichrist.

• **Religious power.** Not everyone will follow the Antichrist at first. Millions of people all over the world are very religious, and they will be skeptical of the Antichrist and his claims. But Satan has a plan to deceive them. In the book of Revelation, we are introduced to a second "beast." This man will be a great religious leader. The Bible calls him "the False Prophet."

The False Prophet will have power to perform great miracles. Some people think that every miracle comes from God and those who perform them are servants of God. This is not true! Just because someone can perform miracles does not mean that he is from God. Satan has great power, and he can give miraculous powers to those who serve him.

The False Prophet will be able to call down fire from the sky! Imagine what will happen when this is flashed by television all over the world. People everywhere will accept him as the prophet of God.

Satan will use the False Prophet to deceive people into worshipping the Antichrist and following him. Satan



craves our worship. He wants to be worshipped as God. Those who worship the Antichrist or his image will, in reality, be worshipping Satan Himself. The False Prophet will work to bring all the religions in the world into one world-wide religion worshipping the Antichrist.

The Antichrist will be assassinated!

At some time during the Antichrist's rapid rise to world rulership something will happen which will shock the entire world.

The unthinkable will happen—the Antichrist will be assassinated! He will receive a fatal head wound. Perhaps some assassin's bullets will blow off part of his head.

Amazingly, this is not the end of the Antichrist. When everyone thinks that he is dead, he will suddenly reappear **alive and miraculously healed!**

Again we see Satan's hand in this. He is the great imitator. Just as God raised the Lord Jesus from the dead, so Satan will raise his man, the Antichrist from the dead. The news media will go ballistic! At first people will not believe that the Antichrist could possibly survive his deadly wound. But when he appears on worldwide television, people will see for themselves that he is indeed alive and miraculously healed.

The world will be electrified! Those who had doubts about him will now be convinced that he is indeed a real superman. People will begin to worship him. The Bible says, "They worshipped the dragon [Satan] which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast [the Antichrist], saying, Who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" (Revelation 13:4).

The Antichrist will reign seven years.

During the first half of his reign, the Antichrist will be gaining control of all things. During the last half of his reign, he will be "the great Dictator"! The Antichrist will reveal his true nature he is Satan's man, the most evil person of all time. **This man may be alive somewhere in the world today!**

The last three and a half years of the reign of the Antichrist is called "the Great Tribulation." We cannot imagine the horrors of this time. Jesus said, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be" (Matthew 24:21).

During this terrible time, the False Prophet will make a huge image of the Antichrist. He will demand that all people worship this image. Wonder of wonders, he will give life to this image. The Bible says, "And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast... and cause that as many as would not



worship the image of the beast should be killed" (Revelation 13:15).

The False Prophet will try to kill every person who dares to believe on Jesus Christ or refuses to worship the image of the Antichrist. There is no middle ground. If you are not for the Antichrist, you will be considered as being **against** him. This will mean death for anyone who refuses to worship the Antichrist or his image.

The Mark of the Beast!

But how will the false Prophet know who are the true believers in Christ? He will devise a way to expose and identify those who believe in Christ. He will require that all Beast-worshippers receive a mark in their forehead or on their right hand. This mark could be a tattoo or an implant of a tiny computer chip that permanently identifies a person as a worshipper of the Antichrist.

This may sound far-fetched, but right now things are taking place that are setting the stage for these events. Have you noticed the unusual markings on almost all products that are sold? These strange markings are known as the "Universal Product Code." They are being used worldwide to permanently iden-



tify all products. At checkout counters, the product is pulled past an optical scanner which reads the markings and flashes the information to a computer.

Everyone is familiar with plastic credit cards which enable people to buy without using cash or checks. Credit cards are coded with an identification number for each person. The problem with plastic credit cards is that they can be lost or stolen. The misuse of credit cards costs companies untold millions of dollars each year.

One solution to this problem is tattooing the person's unique identification number on his hand. This can be done instantly and painlessly using a laser beam. With this solution, there is no way a person's identification number could be lost or stolen.

During the reign of the Antichrist, everyone will be required to have a permanent identification number on the right hand or forehead. This will be "the mark of the Beast." Without it no one will be able to sell or buy anything. The Bible says, "He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: that no man might buy or sell, save he that has the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name" (Revelation 13:16,17).

There will be no middle ground. Those who refuse to accept the mark of the Beast will be killed. Those who accept the mark of the Beast will escape the wrath of the Antichrist, but God's wrath will be poured out on them. The Bible says, "...the same shall drink the wine of the wrath of God... and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone... for ever and ever" (Revelation 14:10).

God is "not willing that any should perish."

God wants all people to have an opportunity to take Christ as Savior. During the reign of the Antichrist, God will send 144,000 evangelists into all the world preaching the gospel. These special servants of God will be protected by Him.

The Bible tells about a great multitude of people from all nations who will hear for the first time that God loves them so much that He gave His Son to die for their sins. They will immediately trust the Lord Jesus as their Savior. They will refuse to worship the Antichrist or accept his mark. They will be killed, but they will live with Jesus forever in Heaven. (See Revelation 7:9-17.)

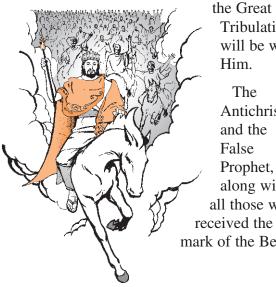
According to the Bible, those who have heard the gospel and refused to receive Christ as their Savior will be lost. They would not believe God's truth, so now they will be deceived by Satan's lie. (See 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12.)

A Bible teacher had been teaching these truths about Christ's coming, and a man said to her, "If what you say is true, and you are suddenly caught up and disappear, then I'll believe!"

The teacher replied, "No, you will not! You have heard the gospel today and you rejected it. At that time you will believe the lies of the Antichrist and be damned with him." That man took the Lord Jesus as his Savior right then!

Satan's final destination.

The terrible reign of the Antichrist will end suddenly when the Lord Jesus Christ returns to the earth with great power and glory. The believers who have been with Him since the Rapture, and all those who were saved during



Tribulation. will be with

Antichrist along with all those who mark of the Beast

or worshipped his image will be cast into the lake of fire. This is also Satan's final destination. (See Revelation 19 and 20.)

Dear friend, if you are unsaved, the Lord Jesus is still patiently knocking at the door of your heart. He wants to come in and give you a new life. Will you invite Him to come in?

Find a quiet place where you can be alone with Jesus. If the prayer below says what is in your heart, the Lord Jesus would love for you to tell Him this right now!

"Lord Jesus, I don't want to be left behind when You come. I know that I have sinned and I am willing to turn from my sins. I believe that You are the Son of God and that You died on the cross for my sins. Please come into my heart. I am taking You as my Savior right now."

1 During the Great Tribulation, the Antichrist will reign over the entire world. He will have supernatural powers because Satan will give his power to him.

2 The Antichrist will require all people to receive "the mark of the Beast." Those who refuse will be killed.

3 Many people will hear the gospel for the first time and receive Jesus as their Savior. They will be killed but will live forever in Heaven with Jesus. The Bible savs. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord..." (Revelation 14:13).

VITISE SECTION

Memory Verse

"Whoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:15

My Prayer

"Father, Your word says that You are 'longsuffering to us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.' I don't want to perish. Thank You for giving Your Son to me to be my Savior. I do take Him as my Savior right now."

Signed.

Date



God's hero-Abel

"By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous...." Hebrews 11:4

The first children born to Adam and Eve were two sons, Cain and Abel. Cain farmed the land while Abel took care of the sheep. Cain and Abel had been taught the true way in which to worship God at that time. They were to offer a lamb as a sacrifice for their sins.

The lamb was slain; its blood was poured out. The lamb's body was burned as a burnt offering to God. The lamb was a type or picture of Jesus Christ, the Savior, who would one day come to die for the sins of all men. From the very beginning God taught men that without the shedding of blood there could be no forgiveness of sins.

God wants us to understand that we are not saved by what we do for Him, but by what He has done for us in the Person of His Son.

In the course of time, both Cain and Abel brought their offerings to God. Cain was a farmer and he brought the fruit of the ground for his offering. No doubt he brought beautiful vegetables and fruit, but God rejected his offering.

Cain was coming to God in his own way instead of God's way. Cain was saying, "Lord, see what I have done for You! Here are some beautiful fruits of my work." God did not accept Cain's offering. Cain was very angry because God did not accept his offering. (See Genesis, chapter 4.)

Abel brought a lamb as an offering to God for his sins. The lamb was killed. Its blood was poured out. Abel was saying, "Lord, I thank You for making a way for me to be forgiven of my sins and to be accepted by You." God accepted Abel's offering.

Since the time of Cain and Abel, there have always been these two kinds

of worshippers: (1) True worshippers, like Abel, who come to God, trusting in the Lord Jesus and His blood which was shed for them, and (2) False worshippers, like Cain, who try to come to God in their own way. But God has never accepted anyone outside of Christ, and He never will.



Question Page	WINNERS 1 LESSON 2
Instructions: Mark each statement TRUE	T or FALSE F.
1. The Antichrist is against Christ, against God, and against all the people of God.	6. The Antichrist will be assassinated but Satan will raise him from the dead.
2. The Antichrist will gain control of the world through political power, supernatural power, and religious power.	7. The "mark of the beast" will permanently identify a person as a worshipper of the Antichrist.
3. Every miracle comes from God and those who perform them are servants of God.	8. The "mark of the beast" will be on the right hand or the forehead.
 4. Satan will use the False Prophet to deceive people into worshipping the Antichrist and following him. 	 9. During the reign of the Antichrist, a great multitude of people will hear the gospel for the first time, receive Christ as their Savior, and be saved.
5. Those who worship the Antichrist or his image will, in reality, be worshipping Satan himself.	10. Those who have heard the gospel and refused to take Christ as Savior will be deceived by Satan's lies and be lost.
What are the most important things you	learned in this lesson?
Name (Please print) Parent/Guardian (Omit if adult)	Birthday/ /AgeGrade (OMIT IF ADULT)
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▲ Put instructor's address above.

Мимева 1-Воок 1-Lessons 1-2