

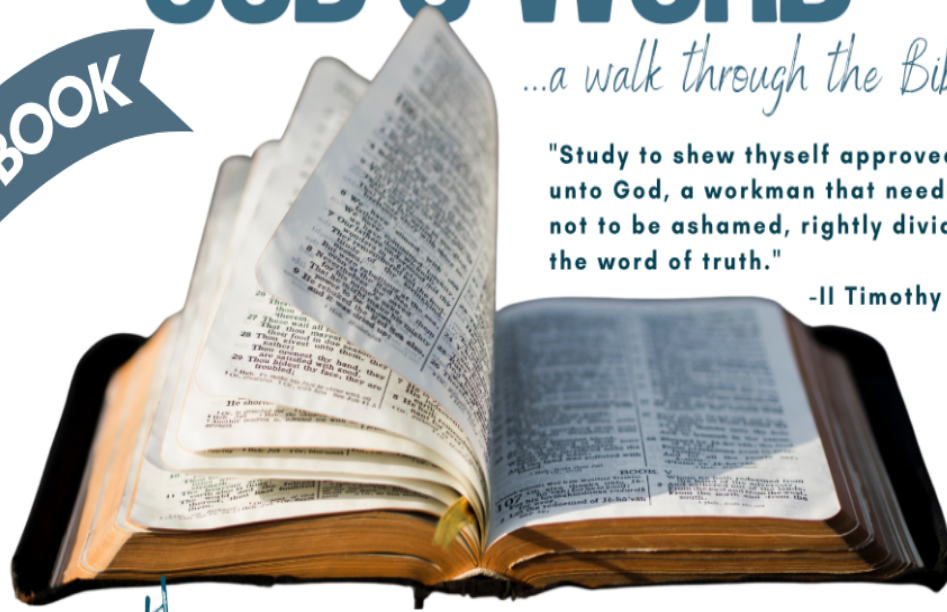
EXPLORING GOD'S WORD

WORK BOOK

...a walk through the Bible

**"Study to shew thyself approved
unto God, a workman that needeth
not to be ashamed, rightly dividing
the word of truth."**

-II Timothy 2:15



with Elder **FRANCINE WESTGATE**

LESSON 9

JOHN IN EXILE



JOHN, THE SHEPHERD, ANGEL, PASTOR OF THE 7 CHURCHES IN ASIA MINOR

This takes place at the end of the first century. Most historians estimate that John is about 85 years old when he writes to the 7 churches in the book of Revelation. He has been exiled from his churches to the isle of Patmos, a prison island, where all who are sent endure hard labor and brutal beatings.

FILL IN THE BLANKS: Revelation 1:19 KJV

Write the _____ which thou hast _____, and the _____ which are, and the _____ which shall be _____;

Historians believe that the seven churches were on a mail route (see the yellow arrow above).

List the seven churches that John wrote to in the book of Revelation (chapters 2 & 3)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

How many of the 7 letters end with “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches”? _____

THE DIVINE CAESARS



The top two statues are statues of which roman emperor?

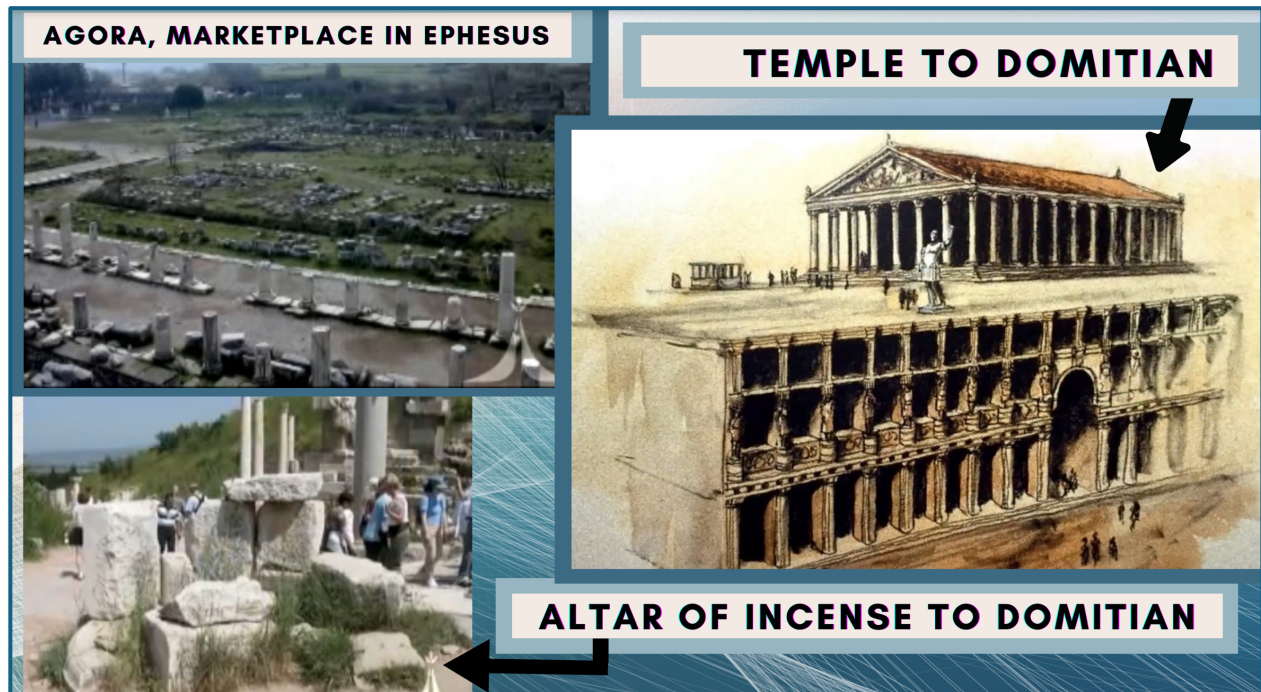
How long is the arm of the statue with the man standing beside it?

How tall was the statue with the man standing in front of it in the picture?

Roman emperors believed they were gods, or a god incarnate. They required the citizens to worship them.

1. What appeared in the sky when Julius Caesar died?
2. How many witnesses said they saw a comet?
3. Who said the comet was Julius Caesar ascending to his place in heaven among the gods?
4. What were poets, oracles, and pagan prophets hired to do for the Caesars?
5. For Augustus Caesar's inauguration, how many days did the celebration last?

JOHN AND DOMITIAN



Agora/Marketplace/Center of Commerce

Agora was the marketplace in Ephesus. It was the epicenter of buying and selling. To buy or to sell, they had to offer incense to Domitian. Historians aren't sure what the mark was that the buyers and sellers took, whether a colored dye on the skin, etc. to show that they offered incense to the Caesar so that they could operate in the marketplace.

Temple to Domitian

Domitian had a large temple or house of worship built where the citizens would go to worship him (Domitian). Worship of Domitian was required, not recommended.

- Domitian became paranoid because some of the Caesar's which preceded him had been assassinated.
- Domitian was cruel. He buried people alive.
- Domitian made his wife call him "My lord and my god."
- Domitian exterminated whole groups of people, Christians. Anyone he thought was a threat.
- Domitian carried a scroll that only he was worthy to open because of his godlike status.
- Domitian had Olympic games in his name, i.e. horse races with 4 different colored horses.
- Spectators at the game had to wear all white.

THE VISION OF JOHN



The Greek word apokalypsis translates to "revelation" in English.

- What does apocalypse/apokalypsis mean?

Review the letters of John to the churches in Revelation chapters 2 & 3 to answer the questions:

- Which church did John's letter call lukewarm?
- Which church did John's letter say that they left their first love?
- Which church did John tell would be persecuted, put in jail, and have tribulation ten days?
- Which churches did the letters call "Nicolaitanes?"

Describe John's vision of the ONE on the throne in heaven? (Read Revelation chapters 21 & 22)

John's vision and letters were recorded to tell the churches **not** to bow to Domitian, but to stand strong against temptation, persecution, and tribulation. In our world today, Domitian can represent the things we bow to, the things we give-in-to because of peer pressure, the fear rejection, anxiety, etc. What things have you bowed to or gave-in-to that might be considered a "Domitian"?
