ASSIGNMENTS FOR STUDY OF PATRICK AND HIS LEGACY

J. Parnell McCarter
ASSIGNMENT # 1

On the following pages are maps of the places where Patrick was born and had his ministry. Circle on the maps the area where Patrick was born and where Patrick landed in Ireland.
ASSIGNMENT # 2

Reading:

Chapter 1 : Patrick's Birth, Boyhood, and Youth- Carried Off by Pirates

Assignment on the Reading (each question is worth 20 points on the 100-point scale):

1. What was Patrick's name among the people of his own tribes?
2. Where was he born?
3. What office did his father hold in the Christian church?
4. What officer did his grandfather hold in the Christian church?
5. Who captured Patrick while in youth and escorted him away from his home?
ASSIGNMENT # 3

Reading:

Chapter 2: Patrick's Captivity in Ireland- His Conscience Awakens- Prolonged Anguish

Assignment on the Reading (each question is worth 20 points on the 100-point scale):

1. What had been Patrick's spiritual condition before his capture?
2. What did Patrick become once he reached Ireland?
3. What body of water separated his new residence in Ireland from his home in Britain?
4. Amid which mountains in Ireland did Patrick ruminate about his great change in circumstances and the sovereign God who brought it about?
5. Amidst all of Patrick's tribulations in Ireland, what troubled Patrick most?
ASSIGNMENT # 4

Reading:

Chapter 3 : Patrick Finds Peace- Unconscious Preparation for Future Work- Escapes from Ireland

Assignment on the Reading (each question is worth 20 points on the 100-point scale):

1. In what did Patrick find peace?
2. Approximately how long did Patrick remain a slave in Ireland, before his escape?
3. How did Patrick get from the mountains of Antrim where he was a slave to the shore of Ireland?
4. How did Patrick get from Ireland to the British shore?
5. What was the greatest lesson Patrick had learned while a slave in Ireland?
ASSIGNMENT # 5

Reading:

Chapter 4 : Patrick Finds Peace- Unconscious Preparation for Future Work- Escapes from Ireland

Assignment on the Reading (each question is worth 20 points on the 100-point scale):

1. With what should we compare in Patrick's life that is analogous to Moses' years of solitude in Midian and Luther's years in the Augustinian convent?
2. Once Patrick was returned to his home, what did he do with his old friends who scoffed at Christianity?
3. What did Patrick's parents think of his plan to return to Ireland to bring the people the gospel of Christ?
4. How much formal preparation and training does it seem Patrick had before returning to Ireland?
5. How did Patrick respond when accused of being unlearned?
ASSIGNMENT # 6

Reading:

Chapter 5: Patrick Goes to Ireland- The Greatness of His Mission- Its Opportuneness- Year of Patrick’s Arrival- He Precedes Palladius- Palladius Sent from Rome to Counteract Him

Assignment on the Reading (each question is worth 14.3 points on the 100-point scale):

1. At what age did Patrick arrive back in Ireland to preach the gospel?
2. How many years did Patrick then labor in Ireland preaching the gospel?
3. In approximately what year did Patrick arrive in Ireland to preach the gospel?
4. Which Pope sent Palladius to be the bishop of Ireland?
5. What year does Prosper say Palladius was sent to Ireland by the Pope?
6. It appears Patrick had already Christianized much of Ireland by the time Palladius had arrived in Ireland. How did the Christians of Ireland receive Palladius and the Romish Church which he represented?
ASSIGNMENT # 7

Reading:

Chapter 6: Patrick Crosses the Sea- Begins His Ministry- Manner of His Preaching- Effect on the Irish

Assignment on the Reading (each question is worth 20 points on the 100-point scale):

1. What is Innes Patrick?
2. In what region of Ireland did Patrick begin his gospel ministry there?
3. What happened at Downpatrick in Patrick's ministry?
4. What was then the common tongue of Ireland along with the North of Europe?
5. What was the name of the priests that had religiously ruled pagan Ireland?
ASSIGNMENT # 8

Reading:

Chapter 7 : Patrick's Barn- His Tour- Sin Country District- Sin Towns- Conversations-
Sermons- Toils and Perils- Efforts on Behalf of Slaves- Was He Ever at Rome?

Assignment on the Reading (each question is worth 16.7 points on the 100-point scale):

1. What was special about Sabhal Padriuc, that is, Patrick's Barn?
2. What is the Confessio?
3. Was the conversion of Ireland to Christianity immediate, or gradual and progressive?
4. Which biographer of Patrick first suggested Patrick visited Rome?
5. Who was Fiacc?
6. To what church office was Patrick ever ordained?
ASSIGNMENT # 9

Reading:

Chapter 8: Patrick's "Day of Tara" - Conversion of Ireland, etc.

Assignment on the Reading (each question is worth 14.3 points on the 100-point scale):

1. Patrick planted the Celtic Christian church in Ireland. This church was distinct from the Roman Catholic Church and in competition to it. Columba lived circa 521-597 AD. What was Columba's role in the Celtic Christian church?
2. Where did Columba base his educational and missionary activities?
3. A Druid was one of an order of priests which in ancient times existed among certain branches of the Celtic race, especially among the Gauls and Britons. The Druids superintended the affairs of religion and morality, and exercised judicial functions. They practiced divination and magic, and sacrificed human victims as a part of their worship. They consisted of three classes; the bards, the vates or prophets, and the Druids proper, or priests. Their most sacred rites were performed in the depths of oak forests or of caves. What had the pagan bards of Druidism taught concerning a Messiah?
4. What was the great annual festival of Tara called, which implies it shared aspects of the pagan religion of the Phoenicians?
5. What was the effect of the "day of Tara"?
6. Who was Connal?
7. Why can we say that Patrick’s ministry was not equivalent to the Protestant Reformation, but was still marked by the weaknesses characteristic of the ‘wilderness years’ of the church?
ASSIGNMENT # 10

Reading:

Chapter 9 : The Three Hundred and Sixty-Five Churches

Assignment on the Reading (each question is worth 11.1 points on the 100-point scale):

1. In the times that preceded the Council of Nice (325 AD), what form of church government was common, which is characterized by the local church presided over by a bishop and a board of elders (presbyters)?
2. In the middle of the third century, who was the bishop of Carthage, that pastored the single congregation at Carthage?
3. How many churches did Patrick found in Ireland?
4. The Irish Church in Patrick's day was the Cyprianic Church over again as regards the number of its bishops. In Pro-Consular Africa alone there were 164 bishops. How many bishops ministered in these churches founded in Ireland by Patrick?
5. How many presbyters in Ireland assisted these bishops in the churches Patrick founded?
6. Which church in Ireland in times later than Patrick’s became the metropolitan church of Ireland, to whom the bishops in Ireland would look for supervision and guidance?
7. How did the monasteries of Patrick's days differ from the monasteries in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries?
8. Who did Patrick customarily address on entering a district?
9. What year do the Bollandists estimate to be the year of Patrick’s death?
ASSIGNMENT # 11

Reading:

Chapter 10: Ireland After Patrick

Assignment on the Reading (each question is worth 14.3 points on the 100-point scale):

1. What was happening spiritually in much of Europe in the years immediately following the life of Patrick?
2. What other institution grew up next to each church that Patrick planted?
3. How did scholarship in Ireland (and Britain) in the 8th century compare with that in the rest of Europe?
4. Which Archbishop of Armagh in 12th century was one of the earliest perverts to popery among the Irish clergy, and one of the main agents in the enslavement of his native land?
5. What was the primary and paramount study in the Irish colleges formed in the time of Patrick and in the centuries immediately after him?
6. Which Pope claimed Ireland as part of Peter's patrimony by a bull dated 1155?
7. Which English king bought sovereignty over Ireland for a penny a year on each house in the English kingdom?