

Basic Bible Studies

Prepared by Melvin E. Weldon & adapted by Bret C. White

Students Name: _____

INTRODUCTION

This set of BASIC BIBLE STUDIES consists of thirteen (13) lessons dealing with the fundamentals of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. It may be used effectively in any class from high school level and up or as a correspondence course.

To teach the lessons one should be familiar with the scripture verses given, along with the comments and questions concerning them. You then simply take the scripture as they come in the lesson and discuss them with the students one by one except for lessons two and three. These two lessons are taught by relating the history as given in the lessons while showing on the maps where it transpired.

This set of lessons makes an ideal 26 week course with two weeks on each lesson. However some prefer to use it as a six month course. Students find it most profitable to immediately repeat the course for a second and third time.

LESSON 1

PROPER ATTITUDES FOR BIBLE STUDY

Matthew 13:1-23 The Parable of the Sower

1. A parable is a material illustration of a spiritual truth. For example: There are four types of people as seen by the four different ways that people may react to the word.

Jesus teaches this lesson in the parable of the sower. He pictures a man sowing seed into four types of soil and then shows that the result is the same as when the four types of people hear the word of God. (Read **Matthew 13:1-9**)

We study this parable in this first lesson because in it we see ourselves, depending on how we react to the word of God, which is the seed of the kingdom.

2. (Read: Verses 10-17) Here he explains that he spoke to them in parables because the people did not want truth.

To have "ears" (verse 9) is to be understood figuratively as meaning the willingness to listen and learn the truth. The "has" in verse 12 refers back to the "ears" in verse 9. Thus, verse 12 is saying that whoever has a willingness to learn, to him the truth will be given and he will have more abundance. On the other hand, if we do not love truth, we will even lose that which we have.

Therefore, to some the truth is given; to others it is not given. (verse 11) Some see and hear but do not understand. (verse 13) WHY? In verse 15, Jesus says it is because they do not want the truth. It was not because God did not want them to know the truth. Their eyes

were closed lest they should understand and be converted. If he had told them the truth plainly instead of in parables, they would have misunderstood and misrepresented him.

3. (Read: Verses 18-23) These tell of the four types of soil, which represent four types of people.

A. **The Path Soil**. Verses 4, 19 (The Indifferent)

The seeds that fell along the path never get below the surface so the birds devour them.

The wayside soil, then, represents the person who is completely indifferent, one who just does not want the truth. As a result, the truth will go in one ear and out the other without making any impression. The Devil is pictured as taking it away.

B. **The Rocky Soil**. Verses 5-6, 20-21 (The Quitter)

These seeds get below the surface but are very shallow. As a result, they spring up rapidly but due to the lack of moisture and deep roots the heat of the sun causes them to wither away.

This type of person accepts the truth readily but their convictions are shallow so that when the going gets a little rough they quit.

C. **The Thorny Soil**. Verses 7, 22 (The Unfruitful) (See: **Luke 8:14**)

These seeds would have produced had they not been choked out by thorns. They do not die, they just do not produce the fruit.

This type of person allows the cares, riches, and pleasures of life to choke out his spiritual life.

(a) The “cares” are the things in everyday life in which we get wrapped up until we have no time left for the things of God.

(b) The “riches” are the quest for the material. They sell out their soul for more things.

(See: **Luke 12:15-21; Matthew 16:24**)

(c) The “pleasures” are the desires to satisfy the lust of the flesh rather than please God. (See: **1 Peter 2:11**)

D. **The Good Soil** Verses 8, 23 (The Faithful)

This represents the good heart that wants to know God’s will and thus understands it, obeys it, and brings forth fruit according to their capacity.

RELATED SCRIPTURES:

2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-4

If one does not want to believe the gospel then the god of this world, the devil, will by deception (**Revelation 20:10**) blind their mind so that the truth will be hid from them.

EPHESIANS 4:17-20

When one lives “in the vanity of his mind”, which is according to the desires of his own heart, it causes blindness of heart, which in turn causes the understanding to be darkened, which in turn causes ignorance of the will of God and finally alienation from God. In time, when one is “past feeling”, the conscience is “seared” (**1 Timothy 4:1-2**) and they give themselves over completely to sin.

2 TIMOTHY 4:3-4

The American Standard Version translates verse 3 thus: *“For the time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine; but, having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts.”*

To have “itching ears” is to want to hear only what pleases us. These persons will select teachers who will justify them in their sins.

2 THESSALONIANS 2:2-3, 9-12

In this chapter, Paul is predicting the “rebellion” (verse 3) of the church from its original purity, because of their pleasure in unrighteousness and a lack of love for the truth.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON ONE

NOTE: BEFORE ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS, STUDY CAREFULLY THE SCRIPTURES AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THEM.

MATTHEW 13:1-23

1. In this parable, what does the seed represent? (See: **Luke 8:11**)

2. What kind of person does each of the four types of soil represent?

A. The Path.

B. The Rocky.

C. The Thorny.

D. The Good.

3. From verses 13-15, explain why the people did not understand the truth.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-4

4. Who is the god of this world who blinds the mind? (verse 4)
5. Do these verses teach that the truth will be hid from those who are not sincere in learning the truth?

EPHESIANS 4:17-20

6. What does it mean to live “in the vanity of their own mind” (verse 17) (See: comments)
7. When one walks in the vanity of his own mind, it causes blindness of _____.
8. Then what happens to his understanding? (verse 18)
9. According to verse 18, what is the result of ignorance of the will of God?
10. What does “*being past feeling*” mean? (verse 19)

2 TIMOTHY 4:3-4

11. What does it mean to have itching ears? (verse 3)
12. They will “*heap to themselves teachers after their own lust*” (verse 3) means what?

2 THESSALONIANS 2:2-3, 9-12

13. The “falling away” of verse 3 has reference to what? (See comment)
14. Which verse teaches that Satan has the power to perform signs and lying wonders in those who serve him?
15. What does he say in verse 10 is deceptive?
16. According to verse 10, why were they deceived?
17. According to verse 12, why did they “believe not the truth”?

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LESSON 2 FROM CREATION TO MOUNT SINAI

INTRODUCTION

To properly understand the New Testament which governs God's people today, we must have an understanding of its historical background which is found in the Old Testament.

Following the creation of man we read in the third chapter of Genesis of the beginning of sin, of the physical and spiritual death which resulted and how God immediately began to carry out His plans to prepare the way for Christ.

It should be kept in mind as you study the Old Testament that everything is designed to lead us to the Christ. Everything is meaningless if you lose sight of this fact.

I. ANTE-DILUVIAN PERIOD. (Means: Before the Flood)

GENESIS 4:1-5, 8, 25-26, 5:4

Cain is wicked and Abel is righteous. Finally Cain kills Abel thus destroying the righteous element. Then Seth is born to restore it. Then Adam and Eve had other sons and daughters.

NOTE: Man's body was perfect when it was created and placed in the Garden of Eden, Making possible:

- A. Intermarriage between brothers and sisters without being detrimental to the offspring. Such marriages were not only essential at this time but also perfectly all right.
- B. Longer life spans making it possible for them to live hundreds of years.

GENESIS 6:1-2, 5, 8

Because of the intermarriage between the sons of God (the righteous element) and the daughters of men (the wicked element) (verse 12), wickedness increased at a rapid rate. In this verse, he does not tell us about the righteous women but only about the righteous men, the sons of God. He says they married the wicked.

"The wickedness of man was great in the earth . . . every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." (verse 5) Not only was everything they did evil but everything they thought was continually evil. For this reason, God sent the flood to destroy wickedness and give righteousness another start.

Noah and his family were the only righteous people left at this time. For this reason, Noah was instructed of God to build an ark in which he and his family were saved when the flood came. (verse 8) (See **Hebrews 11:7**)

II. POST- DILUVIAN PERIOD (Means: After the Flood)

(From the Flood to the Call of Abraham – 427 years)

III. PATRIARCHAL PERIOD (Means: Father – rule: -- 215 years)

(From the Call of Abraham to the Going into Egypt)

GENESIS 12:1-3

The Call of Abraham contained two great promises:

A. *“I will make of you a great nation”.*

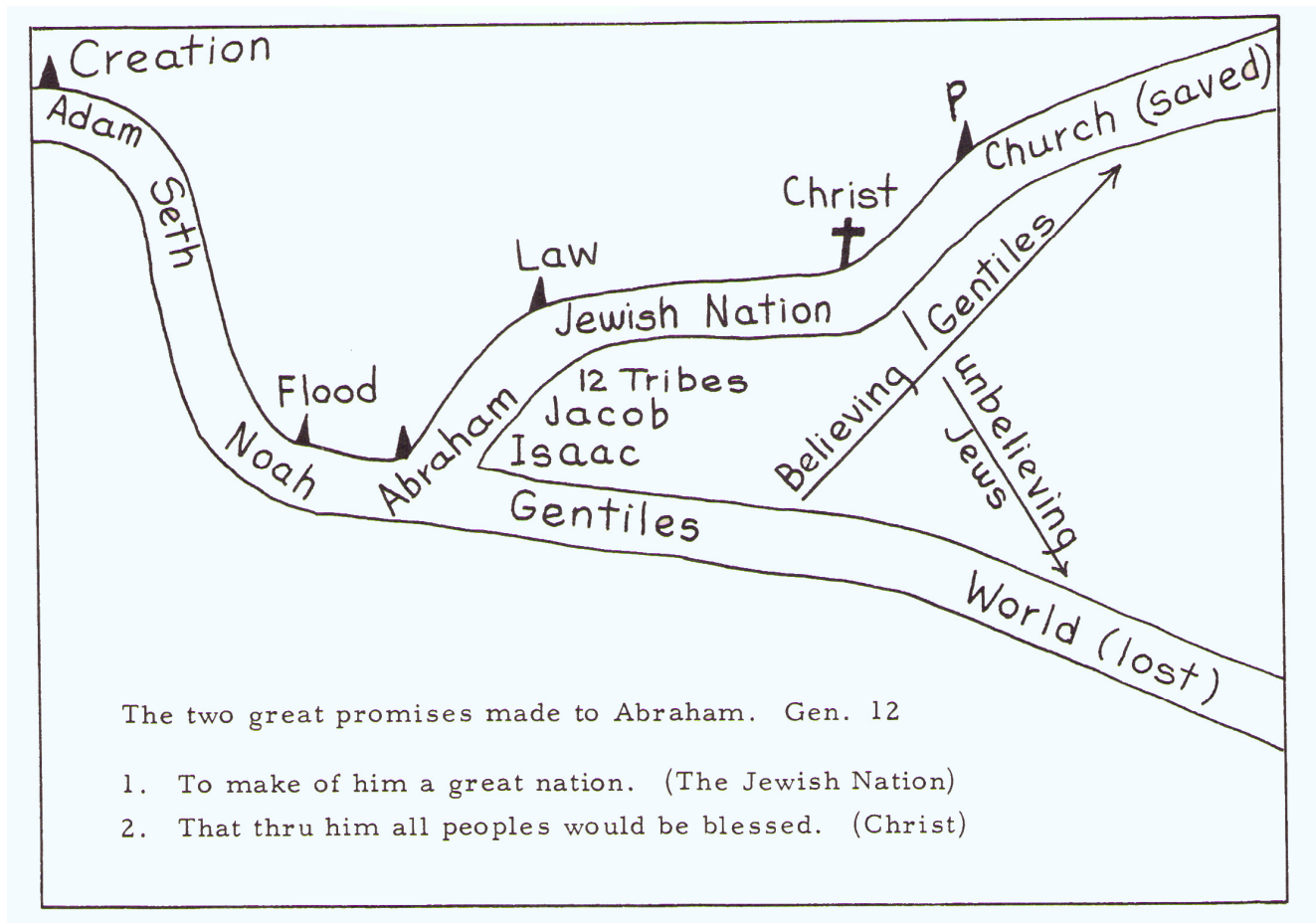
This was fulfilled in the Jewish Nation which later developed from Abraham.

To prevent wickedness abounding after the flood as it had done before, God selected one man, Abraham, and from him developed a pure nation by forbidding intermarriage with idolatrous foreigners, and by giving them special laws and special prophets in order that the name of God and true religion might be kept alive until the Christ could come. (See

Galatians 3:19)

B. *“in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed”.*

This was fulfilled in Christ who came through the seed of Abraham and is a blessing to all people who serve Him. (See **Galatians 3:29**)



THE STORY:

Abraham left Ur of Chaldea in Mesopotamia (locate on the map on the next page) and traveled some 900 miles to Canaan. There he waited twenty-five years for the birth of his promised son, Isaac. He married and had twin sons, Jacob and Esau. Of these two sons, God selected Jacob through whom the new nation would be developed.

NOTE: The selection of Abraham and the Jewish Nation WAS NOT TO SAVE THEM any more than the Gentiles but to use them in carrying out His plan to send Christ.

Descending from Jacob were twelve sons who developed into twelve tribes. Jacob's name was changed to "Israel" and his sons became known as the twelve tribes of Israel. Later in their history they are called "Jews" by which they are known today.

At this early stage of human history, the people lived in tribes much as the Indians did in early America. The head man of an Indian tribe is called a chief, but the head man of these early tribes were called patriarchs – father-rulers. We call this the Patriarchal Period not because there were no patriarchs before it or after it but because some of the greatest ones lived during this time such as Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the twelve sons.

IV. EGYPTIAN BONDAGE PERIOD (215 years)

(From the Going into Egypt to Mount Sinai after the deliverance under Moses)

THE STORY:

In Canaan the young nation developed from one man, Abraham, to twelve boys and finally to seventy-five (75) persons.

Because of envy, the boys had sold one of their brothers, Joseph, into Egypt. They did not know what had happened to him and cared even less. The truth was that in time he rose to power in the Egyptian government. He was governor of the food administration.

Finally, a famine in Canaan forced Joseph's family to seek food from Joseph in the land of Egypt. Joseph forgave them of their ill treatment of him in years past and made arrangements for all his father's house and their families to move to Egypt.

The Israelites were blessed in Egypt for many years but in time Joseph died and later a new pharaoh (king) arose over Egypt who put them in bondage.

They were multiplying so rapidly that it endangered the security of Egypt. Pharaoh was afraid that sometime in war they might join Egypt's enemies and take over Egypt. He tried to prevent their rapid growth at first by hard labor, but the more he oppressed them the more they multiplied and grew. This method being unsuccessful, he gave a law that all the male children should be killed.

It was at this time that Moses was born and narrowly escaped death. It was this Moses that later led the Israelites out of Egyptian Bondage, across the Red Sea and to Mount Sinai, where the new nation received its first constitution, the Law of Moses, which governed the nation for 1500 years.

This map covers the Ante-Deluvian, Post-Deluvian and Patriarchal periods as recorded in the book of Genesis.



With this history in mind, let us now go back and read some scriptures which are related to it.

GENESIS 15:1, 5, 13-16

These incidents occurred in Canaan before the birth of Abraham's son, Isaac. In these verses the Egyptian Bondage and deliverance under Moses is foretold hundreds of years before it was fulfilled.

ACTS 7:1-20

This is a sermon by a Christian Jew to fellow Jews in hopes of converting them to Christ. In it Stephen, the preacher, gives us a good review of this early history from Abraham to Moses exactly as we have studied it here.

EXODUS 1:7-14, 22

The actual account of the bondage in Egypt.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON TWO

NOTE: BEFORE ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS, STUDY CAREFULLY THE SCRIPTURES AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THEM.

1. We should keep in mind that the Old Testament is designed to lead us to _____.
2. What is the first period of Bible history and what does it mean?
3. Why did man live so long and why was intermarriage even between brothers and sisters not detrimental during this early period of time?
4. What caused wickedness to abound so fast before the flood?
5. What is the second period of Bible history and what does it mean?
6. This second period extends from the _____ to the _____ which was _____ years.
7. What is the third period of Bible history and what does it mean?
8. What two great promises were made to Abraham? (Genesis 12)
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
9. What was the fulfillment of the first promise?
10. What was the fulfillment of the second promise?
11. Was the selection of Abraham and the Jewish Nation for the purpose of saving them any more than the Gentiles?
12. If not, what was the purpose?
13. Who were the great patriarchs?
14. What is the fourth period of Bible history?

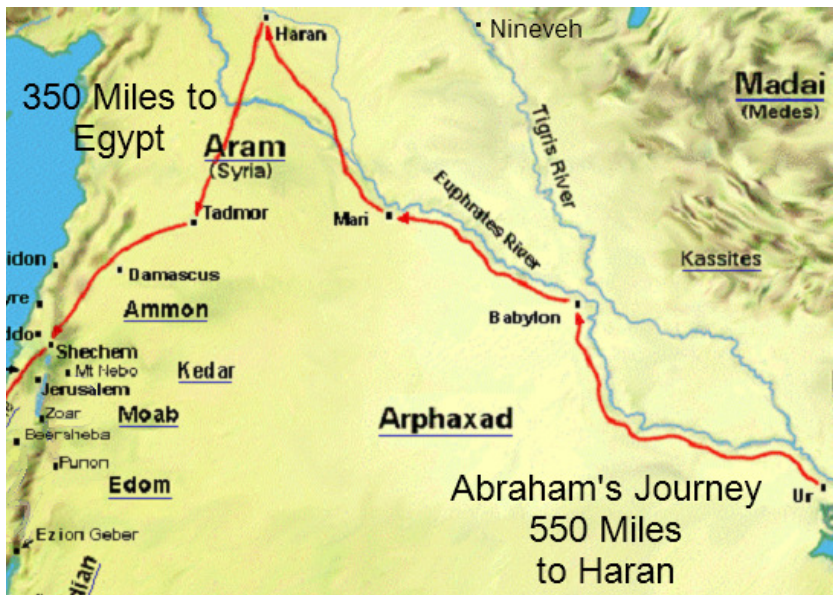
15. How did Joseph come to be in Egypt before his brothers?
16. Why did Joseph's brothers come to Egypt the first time?
17. Were the Israelites put in bondage as soon as they moved into Egypt?
18. Why did Pharaoh put the Israelites in bondage?
19. What was the first method used by pharaoh to prevent the rapid increase of the Israelites?
20. What was the second method Pharaoh used?
21. What great Bible character was born at this time?
22. After their deliverance, where did the new nation receive their law, which governed them for 1500 years?
23. "*your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs*" (**Genesis 15:13**) was a prediction of what event in Israel's history?
24. "*Afterwards shall they come out*" (verse 14) was a prediction of what event?
25. What two cities in Egypt were built by slave labor? (**Exodus 1**)
26. What man delivered the Israelites out of bondage?

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LESSON THREE FROM MOUNT SINAI TO THE CHRIST



1. Ante-Deluvian
2. Post-Deluvian
3. Patriarchal

INTRODUCTION

This lesson is a continuation from lesson two. The student should study and review that lesson carefully before studying this one.

The Story: To the United Kingdom.

At Mount Sinai the young Jewish Nation, consisting of some three million people, received their civil and religious laws from God. A very, very small part of these laws were the Ten Commandments which were given only to the Jews.

Before leaving Mount Sinai for Canaan, their new home, they were told to take a census, to number the fighting men over twenty years of age.

From Sinai, they moved to Kadesh Barnea on the border of Canaan. From here twelve men were sent in to spy out the land. Upon their return, ten of the men, because of their lack of faith, advised against trying to take the land. The other two spies, Joshua and Caleb, insisted that with the help of God they could take the land. The people accepted the advice of the ten spies and rebelled against God because of their lack of faith. As a result, God made them wander in the wilderness for forty years, at the end of which time the people were numbered again and Moses died. This was the **WILDERNESS WANDERINGS PERIOD**. Joshua then took leadership and led the people in for the Conquest of Canaan. (See **Numbers 1:1-3; 10:11-13; 13:1-2, 17-33; 14:1-34**)



4. Egyptian Bondage 5. Wilderness Wanderings



Following the **CONQUEST OF CANAAN PERIOD** came the **PERIOD OF THE JUDGES** during which time the land was ruled for some 305 years by military rulers under God who were called Judges.

The Story: From The United Kingdom To Christ

The period of the Judges was followed by the United Kingdom Period which lasted for 120 years under king Saul, then king David and finally king Solomon who each ruled the kingdom for 40 years.

When Solomon died, the kingdom divided between Israel on the North (ten tribes) and Judah on the south (two tribes). (See **1 Kings 12:1-2, 16-20**)

The Divided Kingdom Period continued for 253 years until the Assyrians took the northern tribes into captivity. (See **2 Kings 18:9-12; 19:1-7, 14-20, 32-37**)

When the northern tribes were taken captive, this left **JUDAH ALONE** in Canaan for 135 years during which time Babylon finally conquered Assyria and then came and took Judah into captivity. After conquering Assyria and taking the ten tribes which were there in captivity and then taking the two tribes which were still left in Canaan this put all twelve tribes of Israel in Babylonian captivity where they remained for seventy years. The **BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY PERIOD** lasted 70 years.

At the end of the seventy years in Babylonian captivity, Persia rose to power and conquered Babylon after which she permitted all the Jews to return to their homeland. This is known as the **RESTORATION OF THE JEWS PERIOD**. (See **Jeremiah 29:10; 2 Chronicles 36:11-23; Ezra 1:1-3**)

Upon the return of the Jews to their homeland the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt and the temple was restored after which the Old Testament Scriptures were completed. From the beginning of the restoration of the Jews to the finishing of the Jewish Scriptures is estimated to be about 92 years.

From the finishing of the Old Testament Scriptures to the birth of Christ was about 400 years. This is known to us as **BETWEEN THE TESTAMENTS PERIOD**. This was a period of time in which there were no inspired writings from God. The last two periods in the Bible are the **LIFE OF CHRIST** and **THE CHURCH** or **CHRISTIANITY**.

MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	
Isaiah	Hosea	Nahum
Jeremiah	Joel	Habakkuk
Lamentations (of Jeremiah)	Amos	Zephaniah
Ezekiel	Obadiah	Haggai
Daniel	Jonah	Zechariah
	Micah	Malachi

SUBJECTS OF THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

Now we want to go back and connect the history of the Bible with the books of the Bible. The student should learn the subjects of the books as given here.

NOTE: The periods of history are numbered in the ().

GENESIS	Ante-Diluvian Period (1) Post-Diluvian Period (2) Patriarchal Period (3)
EXODUS	Egyptian Bondage Period (4) The Deliverance The Giving of the Law
LEVITOCUS	Administration of the Jewish Law by the tribe of Levi.
NUMBERS	Wilderness Wanderings Period (5)
DUETERONOMY	Review
JOSHUA	The Conquest of Canaan Period (6) under the leadership of Joshua, one of the two faithful spies who later took Moses' place.
JUDGES	The Period of the Judges (7) during which the Israelites were ruled for some 305 years by military rulers known as Judges.
RUTH	Ruth was the great-granddaughter of King David. She was a Gentile who uniquely fits into the genealogy of Christ. She lived during the period of the Judges.
1 SAMUEL	This tells of King Saul who was anointed by Samuel the prophet and last of the Judges.
2 SAMUEL	This tells us about King David who was also anointed by the prophet Samuel.
1 KINGS	This tells us of King Solomon and the division of the kingdom. These last three books cover the United Kingdom Period (8).
2 KINGS	The Divided Kingdom Period (9) The Judah Alone Period (10) The going into Babylonian Captivity Period(11)
1 & 2 CHRONICLES	Review books of Israel's past history.
EZRA, NEHEMIAH & ESTHER	Restoration of the Jews Period (12) from the Babylonian Captivity.
NOTE	This concluded the books of Hebrew history.
JOB, PSALMS, PROVERBS, ECCLESIASTES & SONG OF SOLOMON	These are five books of Hebrew poetry.
ISAIAH through MALACHI	These seventeen books contain the writings of the Hebrew prophets. These were the inspired preachers which God sent to His chosen people to plead for them to repent and thus escape the punishment of God. Because the people rejected their pleadings the Babylonian Captivity was one of the results.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON THREE

NOTE: BEFORE ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS, STUDY CAREFULLY THE SCRIPTURES AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THEM.

1. At what place did the young Jewish Nation receive its laws?
2. What two kinds of laws were given the Israelites?
A. _____ B. _____
3. Where was Israel encamped when the twelve spies were sent into Canaan?
4. Name the two faithful spies.
5. What caused the Wilderness Wonderings?
6. Name in order the three kings of the United Kingdom.
A. _____ B. _____ C. _____
7. What happened to the United Kingdom after Solomon's death?
8. What was the northern tribes called _____ and the southern tribes _____?
9. Who was taken into captivity first, Judah or Israel?
10. Who took them into captivity?
11. What period follows this captivity and how long did it last?
12. Finally, both Judah and Israel were taken into _____ captivity.
13. Which country conquered Babylon and permitted the Jews to return to Canaan?
14. Which period follows the Restoration of the Jews?

15. This period covers the _____ years from the finishing of the Old Testament Scriptures to the _____.
16. Give the three things dealt with in the book of Genesis. A. _____
B. _____ C. _____
17. Give the three things dealt with in the book of Exodus. A. _____
B. _____ C. _____
18. Which book gives the history of the Wilderness Wonderings?
19. Which book deals with the administration of the law?
20. Which book tells about the Conquest of Canaan?
21. In which period did the history of the book of Ruth occur?
22. There were _____ Judges who ruled _____ years.
23. Name the three books which tell about the three kings of the United Kingdom: Saul, David and Solomon. A. _____ B. _____
C. _____
24. Name the three periods dealt with in II Kings. A. _____
B. _____ C. _____
25. What was the purpose of I and II Chronicles?
26. Which books have to do with the Restoration of the Jews?
A. _____ B. _____
C. _____

27. Name the books of Hebrew (Jewish) poetry. A. _____

B. _____ C. _____

28. Those books containing the writings of the Hebrew (Jewish) prophets are how many?

29. These prophetic books consist of _____ through _____,

30. Name in order the fifteen (15) periods of Bible history.

1. _____

9. _____

2. _____

10. _____

3. _____

11. _____

4. _____

12. _____

5. _____

13. _____

6. _____

14. _____

7. _____

15. _____

8. _____

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LESSON FOUR ENDING OF THE OLD TESTAMENT LAW

INTRODUCTION

One of the main problems which the early church had to face was that of Judaizers. These were persons who were willing to accept Christ and Christianity but they insisted that the Jewish law also be observed.

Because of their efforts to bind the rites and ceremonies of the Jewish law upon Christian converts much of the writings of the New Testament epistles are designed to overcome this false doctrine. These epistles show that man could not be saved by the works of the law because he could not keep it perfectly; that it was designed only to prepare the way for Christ and that salvation is through faith in Christ and not by the works of the Jewish law. (See **Galatians 2:16; 3:10**)

It is important to keep in mind that although the law of the Old Testament has been fulfilled and abolished that this has no effect on the rest of the Old Testament scriptures. These Old Testament Scriptures consist of four parts: Law, History, Poetry and Prophecy. The last three of these were never binding on anyone. History simply tells what has happened. Prophecy told what was going to happen and poetry was devotional material. None of this was ever binding on anyone and is still as important today as ever in the past. Only the law, which was for Jews, was abolished.

THE ENDING OF THE OLD TESTAMENT LAW

GALATIANS 3:19

The question is: Why the law? What was the purpose of the Jewish Law? Then he answers: It was added because of sin (transgressions) until Christ the seed of Abraham should come. Moses was the mediator of the Jewish Law, as Christ is of the New Testament. A mediator is one who acts as a "go-between". He is needed because sin separates men from God.

GALATIANS 3:23-29

The word "faith" may be used to refer to our personal faith, the act of believing or it may be used to refer to the system of faith, Christianity.

The law was a schoolmaster to prepare the people for Christ but now that Christ has come we are no longer under it. In these verses, "faith" refers to Christianity and "law" refers to the Jewish system of the Old Testament. The law was a schoolmaster to prepare the people for Christ but now that Christ has come we are no longer under it.

EPHESIANS 2:11-16

Before the death of Christ, the Jews who were known as the Circumcision and the Gentiles known as the Uncircumcision were at enmity (enemies) with each other. The Jewish Law which caused the “*dividing wall of hostility*” was abolished at the cross of Christ, and believing Jews and Gentiles were both united in the body of Christ, the church.

(Ephesians 1:22-23)

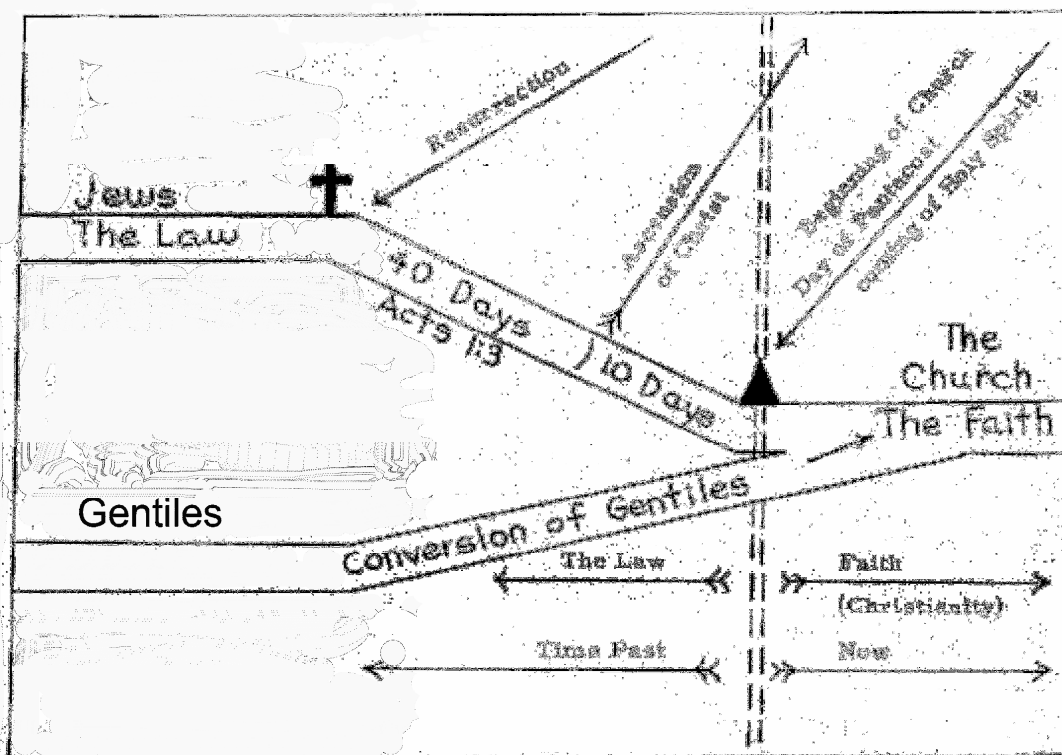
The time “before Christ” is spoken of as “time past” and as “that time” (verses 11-12) but the “now” in verse 13 is the time “since Christ”.

The word “both” in verse 14 refers to Jews and Gentiles. The “*dividing wall of hostility*” and the “ordinances” have reference to the Jewish Law.

COLOSSIANS 2:14, 16

The Jewish Law was against the people in that it pointed out their sins but could not provide forgiveness. (In Lesson Five, you will learn how forgiveness was made possible for these people.) Therefore, this law was taken out of the way and figuratively nailed to the cross.

The “pass judgment” in verse 16 is used in the sense of ruling over someone. For example, the Judges of Israel were rulers. Paul is telling Christians that since the law has been canceling out (verse 14), not to let anyone rule over them by insisting that they observe the ordinances of the Jewish Law such as not eating certain meats, observing drink offerings, keeping the yearly festivals called “holy days”, monthly festivals called “new moons”, or weekly Sabbath days which were observed each Saturday. This means that the Jewish Sabbath is no longer binding and therefore is not to be observed by Christians. (See **2 Corinthians 3:6-11**) Christians observe Sunday the first day of the week in memory of the resurrection of Christ which occurred on that day.



QUESTIONS ON LESSON FOUR

NOTE: BEFORE ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS, STUDY CAREFULLY THE SCRIPTURES AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THEM.

GALATIANS 3:19

1. What question is Paul asking when he says, “*Why then the law?*”?
2. Of what law is he speaking?
3. Why does he say the law was given?
4. How long does he say the law was to last?
5. To what does the “seed” refer?
6. Who is the mediator in verse 19?
7. What is a mediator?
8. Why was a mediator needed?

GALATIANS 3:23-29

9. The word “faith” may be used to refer to _____ or it may be used to refer to the _____ of _____ which is _____.
10. In verse 23, “faith” is used to refer to personal faith or the system of faith, Christianity. (Underline which one)
11. To what does “the law” refer in verse 23?
12. What was called “a schoolmaster”?
13. What does he say was the purpose of the schoolmaster?

14. What does verse 25 teach?

15. How does one get into Christ? (verse 27)

16. Quote the promise made to Abraham in Genesis 12:3 which is referred to here in verse 29.

EPHESIANS 2:11-16

17. In verse 11, the Jews are called the _____ and the Gentiles are called the _____.

18. What was the cause of the enmity or hatred between the Jews and Gentiles?

19. When does “now” refer to in verse 13?

20. Who were “afar off”?

21. “Both” in verse 14 refers to whom?

22. What is the “middle wall of partition” in verse 14?

23. What does the word “twain” mean in verse 15 refer?

24. To what does the “twain” in verse 15 refer?

25. What does the word “reconcile” mean in verse 16? (See Dictionary)

26. According to verse 16, “in what” does reconciliation take place?

27. What is the “one body” of verse 16 according to Ephesians 1:22-23?

28. Who, in verse 17, were “afar off” _____ and who were “nigh” _____?

COLOSSIANS 2:14, 16

29. What was the “handwriting of ordinances” of verse 14?

30. Why was it “against us” as he says in verse 14?

31. What happened to these ordinances?

32. What does “judge” mean as used in verse 16?

33. What were the “holy days”?

34. What were the “new moons”?

35. Does this verse teach that the weekly Sabbath is no longer binding?

36. If so, why is it no longer binding?

37. Which day do Christians observe?

38. Why do they observe this day?

Basic Bible Studies

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Students Name: _____

LESSON FIVE BEGINNING OF THE NEW TESTAMENT LAW

HEBREWS 9:15

Just as Moses was the mediator of the Old Testament, so Christ is mediator of the New Testament. By means of Christ's death, He redeemed those who had lived in ages past as well as those who are called by the gospel under the New Testament. The people of the Old Testament will be saved by the blood of Christ if they walked by faith and did what God required of them in their age just as we today will be saved by the blood of Christ if we walk by faith and do what God requires of us under the New Testament.

HEBREWS 9:16-17

Christ's new law is here pictured as a will or testament which could not become effective until after His death. Christ lived and died under the Jewish law and for this reason taught the Jews of his day to obey it. It was in his death that the first testament was removed making possible the establishment of the new one.

The reason why the thief on the cross didn't have to be baptized as we do is because he lived before the death of Christ and thus before the law of Christ requiring baptism became effective.

The apostles were to be guided by the Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit) in revealing the will of Christ, the New Testament. (See **John 16:12-13**)

Luke 24:46-47

During the 40 days after his resurrection and before His ascension to heaven (See chart Lesson Four), Christ promised that repentance and remission of sins in the name of Christ (the new law) would go forth from Jerusalem for the first time. We now inquire as to exactly when this thing happened, when this New testament became effective.

THE ASCENSION OF CHRIST FOLLOWING HIS RESURRECTION

ACTS 1:4

*"And while staying with them he (Christ) ordered them (apostles verse 2) not to depart from Jerusalem (because it was from here the new law was to go forth), but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me;" (See **John 16:12-13**)*

ACTS 1:9

“And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.” (This was the ascension of Christ which occurred forty days after His resurrection. Verse 3)

ACTS 1:12

After the ascension of Christ the Apostles returned to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Spirit which was to guide them into all truth.

ACTS 2 THE EVENTS ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST

ACTS 2:1

“When the day of Pentecost arrived, they (the Apostles) were all together in one place.” (Three of the great Jewish yearly festivals were: Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles. At these times all male Jews were required to go to Jerusalem to worship. It was on Pentecost, when Jews from every nation under heaven were assembled in Jerusalem, that these events occurred.)

ACTS 2:2-3

“And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.” (This tells of the coming of the Holy Ghost upon the Apostles. It sounded like a mighty wind but appeared to the eye as a fire.)

ACTS 2:4

“And they (the Apostles) were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues (languages) as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

ACTS 2:14

“But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. . . (Thus began the first gospel sermon in the name of Christ.)”

ACTS 2:36

To conclude his sermon, Peter said, *“Let all the house of Israel (the Jews) therefore (because of the evidence presented in the sermon) know for certain (no doubt about it) that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”*

NOTE: In Old Testament times before a person became a king he was anointed. In the Hebrew language of the Old Testament the word for anointed was MESSIAH. In the Greek language of the New Testament the word is CHRIST. So when Peter says that Jesus has been made both Lord and Christ he means that he has been made God’s anointed king.

ACTS 2:37

“Now when they heard this (that the man they had crucified was now God’s anointed king), they were cut to the heart (their conscience hurt), and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” (They now realized the crime they had committed and wanted to know what to do about it.)”

ACTS 2:38

“And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

SOME LESSONS WE LEARN FROM ACTS 2:38

1. Peter did not tell them to believe because they already believed as is evidenced by their being *“cut to the heart”*.
2. On the basis of their faith, they were told to repent which means the decision to abandon sin and live for God.
3. They were told to be baptized which was water baptism because it was a command. Holy Ghost baptism was a promise. Water baptism could be administered by man but Holy Ghost baptism could not.
4. This is the fulfillment of the promise of Jesus that from Jerusalem repentance and the remission of sins would begin to be preached in His name. (**Luke 24:46-47**)

THEREFORE:

This verse records the beginning of the New Testament law, the law of Christ which could not become effective until after His death. Everything before Acts 2:38 was the gospel preparation but everything afterward was the gospel in fact.

The New Testament then actually became effective on the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Christ in the year 33 A.D. in the city of Jerusalem.

ACTS 2:41

“So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.”

ACTS 2:42

“And they (this new community, the church, the kingdom over which Christ is the new king) devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching (the New Testament scriptures were revealed by the Holy Ghost to the apostles to give to the church) and fellowship (sharing possessions), to the breaking of bread (the Lord’s Supper) and the prayers.

ACTS 2:47

“. . . And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”
Christ’s church had its beginning on this day when the new law went forth and people obeyed it. When they obeyed they were saved and all the saved were added to the church. This is the one true church which belongs to Christ of which the Bible speaks.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON FIVE

NOTE: BEFORE ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS, STUDY CAREFULLY THE SCRIPTURES AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THEM.

1. Who was the mediator of the Old Testament? (**Hebrews 9:15**)
2. Who is the mediator of the New Testament?
3. Did Christ also die for the people of the Old Testament?

4. What will determine whether one in the Old Testament will be saved or not? (**Hebrews 9:15**)
5. When can a will or testament become effective?
6. What is a "testator"? (verse 16) (See Dictionary)
7. Why did Jesus command the Jews of His age to obey the Old Testament law?
8. What does Hebrews 9:16-17 teach?
9. Why did the thief on the cross not have to be baptized as we do? (**Hebrews 9:16-17**)
10. What was the purpose of the coming of the Holy Ghost upon the apostles? (See **Acts 1:4; John 16:12-13**)
11. Jesus promised that _____ and _____
in the name of _____ would go forth from
_____ for the first time. (**Luke 24:46-47**)
12. Give the verse in Acts 1 which tells of the ascension of Christ.
13. Name the three great yearly Jewish festivals. A. _____
B. _____ C. _____
14. Upon whom did the baptism of the Holy Ghost come on the day of Pentecost as is evidenced by those who were speaking in tongues and performing the wonders and signs? (See **Acts 2:43; 5:12**)
15. According to Acts 2:4, 6, 8, 11, were the tongues languages that could be understood?
16. If persons had this power today, should they be able to speak foreign languages without studying them?
17. The word Messiah means _____ and comes from which language?

18. The word Christ means _____ and comes from which language?

19. When Peter said that Jesus is now both Lord and Christ, what did he mean? (**Acts 2:36**)
20. What does “they were pricked in their hearts” mean? (verse 37)
21. Why didn’t Peter tell his inquirers to believe on Christ? (verse 38)
22. What did Peter mean when he told them to repent? (verse 38)
23. Would you conclude from Acts 2:38 that all must repent to be saved but that all need not be baptized?
24. We know that the baptism of Acts 2:38 is water baptism because it is a _____ instead of a _____ as was Holy Ghost baptism.
25. What does “for the remission of sins” mean? (**Acts 2:38**)
26. According to Acts 2:38, when one receives the remission of sins, what else does he receive?
27. When exactly did the New Testament become effective?
28. What book, chapter and verse in the Bible records the beginning of the New Testament law?
29. According to Acts 2:41, which persons were baptized?
30. In what four things did those new converts remain steadfast?
A. _____ B. _____
C. _____ D. _____
31. When did Christ’s church have its beginning?
32. When the Lord saves a person, to what is he added? (**Acts 2:47**)

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LESSON SIX BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES

I. THE FOUR GOSPEL ACCOUNTS

- A. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
- B. These four books tell of the life of Christ from four different points of view. They were written to furnish evidence for faith in Jesus. (**John 20:30-31**)
 - 1. MATTHEW wrote to the Jews to convince them that Jesus was the long expected Messiah as was foretold by the Jewish Prophets. In this book we see Jesus as king.
 - 2. MARK appealed to the Romans by stressing the Super-human Power of Jesus. His Deity is demonstrated by his miracles. He tells what Jesus did rather than what he said. In this book we see Jesus' power.
 - 3. LUKE appealed to the Greeks and emphasized the humanity of Jesus. He shows Jesus' sympathy for the weak, the suffering and the outcast. Jesus was Divinity and humanity combined. (**Philippians 2:5-11**) In this book we see the human aspect of his life.
 - 4. JOHN appealed to all men and emphasized the Deity of Jesus proving him to be the Son of God. He gives the things Jesus said rather than the things he did. He was the manifestation of God in the flesh, said John. (**John 1:1, 14; 14:8-9**) In this book we see the Divine aspect of his life.

II. THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

- 1. After one considers the evidence of the divinity of Jesus and believes him to be the Son of God, he should then want to know how to obey him.
- 2. The two main purposes of the book of Acts: tells of the beginning of Christ's church and tells not only how but shows by example how people became Christians and were saved from their sins. They should all be studied carefully.

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. Acts 2:36-38, 41-42, 47 | People on Pentecost |
| B. Acts 8:1, 4-5, 12 | People of Samaria |
| C. Acts 8:35-39 | Ethiopian Eunuch |
| D. Acts 9:1-11, 17-18; 22:12-16 (*) | Saul of Tarsus, who became the Apostle Paul |
| E. Acts 10:1-5, 44-48 | Cornelius |
| F. Acts 16:23-33 | Philippian Jailer |
| G. Acts 18:8 | Corinthians |

(*) NOTE: Saul (later known as Paul) believed, repented, confessed (9:6) and prayed for three days yet was still a sinner when after the three days he was baptized to “wash away his sins.” (**Acts 22:16**)

If one can be saved simply by accepting Christ, or praying, or repenting, why couldn't Saul? He had to be baptized to wash away his sins.

III. THE TWENTY-ONE LETTERS (EPISTLES)

- A. These letters were written to congregations of the church of Christ located in different cities and sometimes to individual Christians for the purpose of telling them how to live the Christian life.
- B. The Apostle Paul wrote the first fourteen (14) letters -- Romans
1. On the map, locate Rome, Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus, Philippi, Colossae and Thessalonica to whom Paul addressed his letters.
 2. Timothy and Titus were evangelists (preachers) to whom Paul wrote letters. Philemon was a member of the church at Colossae to whom Paul wrote a letter.
 3. Hebrews is a letter written to Christian Jews to encourage them to abandon the Jewish law of Christ, the New Testament. In this book he shows that the Christian System is far better than the Jewish System. (**Hebrews 7:19, 22; 8:6; 9:23; 10:34; 11:16, 35, 40**)
- C. The rest of the Epistles were written to Christians in general and bear the names of the writers: James, Peter, John and Jude.



IV. THE BOOK OF REVELATION reveals the victorious future of the church.

NOTE: Each of the New Testament books may contain some of all the subjects listed but their main purpose for being written is as stated.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON FIVE

NOTE: BEFORE ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS, STUDY CAREFULLY THE SCRIPTURES AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THEM.

1. For what main purpose was the four gospel accounts written?
2. What was the particular purpose of the book of Matthew?
3. The book of Mark appealed to the _____ and emphasized the _____ of Jesus.
4. How does Mark demonstrate Jesus' Deity?
5. The book of Luke appealed to the _____ and emphasized the _____ of Jesus.
6. The book of John emphasized the _____ of Jesus proving him to be the _____ of _____.
7. Jesus was the manifestation of _____ in the _____.
8. In which book do we see Jesus as king?
9. In which book do we see Jesus' power?
10. In which book do we see the human aspect of the life of Jesus?
11. In which book do we see the divine aspect of the life of Jesus?

12. What are the two main things in the book of Acts?

A. _____

B. _____

13. What two things were the people on Pentecost told to do in order for their sins to be forgiven? (**Acts 2:38**)

A. _____ B. _____

14. The people on Pentecost who gladly received the words of Peter did what? (**Acts 2:41**)

15. When the Samaritans believed Philip's preaching, what did they do? (**Acts 8:12**)

16. What did Philip preach to the Eunuch? (**Acts 8:35**)

17. When they came to a certain water, what did the Eunuch want to do? (**Acts 8:36**)

18. What confession did the Eunuch make before Philip baptized him? (**Acts 8:37**)

19. Why was it necessary that "they went both into the water" to do the baptizing?

20. What was Saul doing three days later when the preacher arrived? (verse 11)

21. What did Ananias the preacher tell him to do in order to be saved? (**Acts 22:16**)

22. What statement in Acts 22:16 besides the command to be baptized indicates that Saul was not saved on the road to Damascus when he accepted Christ and repented nor after three days of praying while in the city waiting for Ananias but that he was still lost and in his sins until he was baptized in water?

23. Cornelius is described as a _____ man, and one that _____
_____ with all his house, which gave much _____ to the people, and
_____ to God always. (**Acts 10:1-2**)

24. In what element did Peter command them to be baptized in the name of the Lord?
(Acts 10:47)

25. After the Philippian Jailer heard the word of God and believed in Christ, what did he and his family do the same hour of the night?

26. What three things did the Corinthians do? **(Acts 18:8)**

A. _____ B. _____

C. _____

27. How many epistles are there in the New Testament?

28. What is an epistle?

29. For what purpose were the epistles written?

30. How many of the epistles did Paul write _____ and which ones? _____
thru _____.

31. In what cities did the following people live? (Locate them on the map)

A. Colossians

E. Romans

B. Corinthians

F. Thessalonians

C. Galatians (Which Country?)

G. Philippians

D. Ephesians

32. What does the book of Revelation reveal?

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LESSON SEVEN SIN AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

Genesis 2:7, 15-17

Adam was told that the consequences of sin would be death. Thus we are introduced to the subject of death the basic meaning of which is SEPARATION. That this is its meaning is clearly seen in the following places where the word is used in both the Old and New Testaments.

There is a spiritual as well as a physical death. In both, a separation takes place. In physical death, the spirit (soul) separates from the body but in spiritual death the spirit (soul) separates from the fellowship of God. It is highly important that we understand the difference in these two deaths.

I. EXAMPLES OF PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL DEATH

ECCLESIASTES 12:7 Example of physical death – separation of spirit from body.

ISAIAH 59:1-2 Example of spiritual death – separation from the fellowship of God.

EPHESIANS 2:1, 5-6 Example of both spiritual death and spiritual life.

Since death is a separation, then life must be the opposite – fellowship, togetherness, union. Sin separates us from God but by the forgiveness of sins we are reconciled and brought back “together”.

1 TIMOTHY 5:6 Example of both physical and spiritual death in the same verse. A person may be dead and alive at the same time – dead spiritually (a sinner) but alive physically. Cause of physical death to all men – Adam’s Sin.

GENESIS 3:3-6, 22-24 Adam’s sin caused the human family to be driven away from the tree of life in the garden of Eden. Away from the tree of life, man starves to death and thus dies physically.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:21-22 These verses do not speak of being lost and saved but of all dying physically because of Adam’s sin and all bodies being raised from the grave because of Christ. All will be raised from the dead whether lost or saved.

II. CAUSE OF SPIRITUAL DEATH TO ALL MEN – PERSONAL SINS

EZEKIEL 18:20 *“The soul (person) who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.”*
We die spiritually and are thus separated from God when we sin personally and not before.

NOTE: IF we are born with the guilt of Adam’s sin, as some teach, then we would already be spiritually dead. Wouldn’t we? But how can one die spiritually if he is already dead spiritually? How can one be separated from God if he is already separated? Yet this verse teaches that one dies spiritually when he sins – as a result of his own sins, not Adam’s. The very fact that one dies when he sins is evidence that he was alive before and therefore not guilty of Adam’s sin!

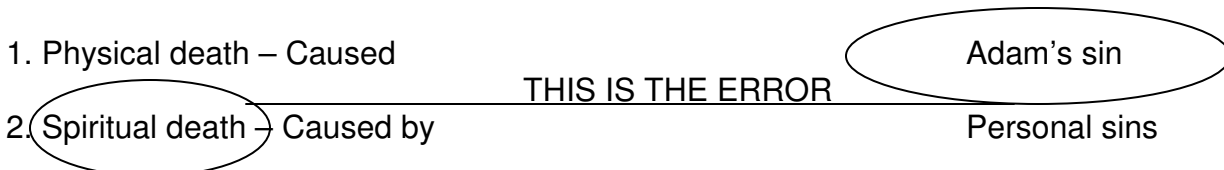
Every accountable person becomes a sinner and is in need of a savior.

ROMANS 3:9-10, 23, 6:23

1 JOHN 1:8, 10

III. APPLICATION OF THE LESSON

THE MISTAKE: Applying the guilt of Adam’s sin to us in the spiritual realm. This misunderstanding of the effects of Adam’s sin results in a multitude of false doctrines which are well known today.



.....

The false doctrines resulting from a misunderstanding of the effects of Adam’s sin fall into these two categories: 1. Those resulting from the belief that the guilt of Adam’s sin is passed on, and 2. Those resulting from the belief that as a consequence of Adam’s sin, man’s free choice and will has been totally destroyed. These groups are listed as follows:

GUILT

1. Original Sin
2. Infant Baptism
3. Sprinkling for Baptism
4. Immaculate Conception
5. Mariology

CONSEQUENCES

1. Total Depravity
2. Unconditional Election (Predestination)
3. Miraculous Operation of the Holy Spirit in conversion.
4. Perseverance of the Saints

FURTHER EXPLANATION OF THESE DOCTRINES:

1. DOCTRINE OF ORIGINAL SIN

This is the false idea that the guilt of Adam's sin passed on to us at birth. This would mean that we were born sinners, separated from God and lost.

Other false doctrine in turn have resulted from this one.

2. INFANT BAPTISM

This is a false doctrine which began to be practiced in the hopes of removing this guilt of Adam's sin.

3. SPRINKLING FOR BAPTISM

This is a false doctrine which began to be practiced in the case of sick people and infants and finally became an accepted substitute for baptism for everyone.

4. IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

If children are born sinners as a result of Adam's sin, then Jesus would have been born a sinner. To get out of this dilemma the doctrine of immaculate conception was originated. The doctrine says that when Mary was conceived, before she was born, a miracle was performed making her sinless by freeing her from the guilt of Adam's sin, so that later she could give birth to the Christ without the guilt of Adam's sin passing on through her.

5. MARIOLATRY

This is that false system of doctrines which have exalted Mary to a position of Mediatrix between God and man so that Mary is the one whom many pray to rather than to God through Christ. Study: **1 Timothy 2:5, 1 Peter 2:5**

CONCERNING THE SECOND GROUP OF DOCTRINES:

1. TOTAL DEPRAVITY

This is the false doctrine that as a consequence of Adam's sin, the nature of man is totally corrupted (not necessarily guilty, but weakened and wholly inclined toward evil) so that he cannot repent and come to God without a miraculous operation from God.

2. UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION (PREDESTINATION)

Believing in total depravity it was reasoned that since man could not respond, if he is to be saved it must be the result of the unconditional election of God. This necessarily results in the unacceptable conclusion that if man is lost it is all God's fault.

It is true that God has predestined two groups: 1. The faithful in the church to be saved, and 2. The unbelievers of the world to be lost. But it is by our own free will that we choose our group and thus determine our destiny. The idea above opposes this truth.

3. MIRACULOUS OPERATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN CONVERSION

This is the false doctrine designed to overcome what was thought to be the total depravity of man's heart.

God commands us to believe, repent and be baptized all of which we can do without miraculous aid. But those believing in total depravity, instead of obeying the gospel, pray for a miraculous operation of the Holy Spirit in order that they might be saved.

Contrary to this is the fact that Saul of Tarsus had been praying for three days and nights but when the inspired preacher came to him, he told him to get up and be baptized in order that his sins might be washed away. (**Acts 22:16**)

4. PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS

This is a false doctrine that if God by unconditional election saves a person, that person can never be lost. On the other hand some reject the unconditional election doctrine but still cling to this idea of once in grace always in grace insisting that if a person is saved it is impossible for him to sin so as to fall from grace and be finally lost. See **1 Corinthians 9:27, Galatians 5:3-4, 2 Peter 2:20-21**.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON SEVEN

1. What was Adam told would be the consequences of his sin?
2. What one word gives the basic meaning of death?
3. Name two kinds of death. (A) _____ (B) _____
4. What separates in physical death?
5. What separates in spiritual death?
6. Ecclesiastes 12:7 is speaking of: (A) Physical, or (B) Spiritual death? (underline which)
7. Isaiah 59:1-2 is speaking of: (A) Physical, or (B) Spiritual death? (underline which)
8. Ephesians 2:1-2 is speaking of: (A) Physical, or (B) Spiritual death? (underline which)
9. What does "quicken" mean? (**Ephesians 2:1**)
10. As "separation" describes death, give a word which describes life.
11. In 1 Timothy 5:6 the "DEAD" is (A) Physical, or (B) Spiritual, and the "LIVES" is (A) Physical, or (B) Spiritual. (Which)
12. According to Genesis 3:22-24, what was there in the Garden of Eden which made possible continued physical life?
13. Does the human family still suffer physical death as a result of Adam's sin?
14. Does 1 Corinthians 15:21-22 teach that we die physically or spiritually because of Adam? (underline which)

15. Does 1 Corinthians 15:22 teach that all (both good and bad) will die because of Adam and that all likewise will be raised from the dead because of Christ?
16. What word in 1 Corinthians 15:21 means the same thing as “made alive” in verse 22?
17. Does “made alive” in verse 22 mean to be saved?
18. Ezekiel 18:20 says, “*The soul who sins shall die.*” Does a person die physically when he sins? What kind of death is this in this verse?
19. If it were true that a person were already spiritually dead, could he die spiritually when he sins as this verse says he does?
20. According to Ezekiel 18:20, does a person become guilty of sin and die spiritually?
21. What is the doctrine of original sin?
22. Why did infant baptism begin to be practiced?
23. What became a substitute for baptism in the case of infants?
24. What was the false doctrine of immaculate conception?
25. What was the purpose of this doctrine?
26. To what does “Mariolatry” refer?
27. What is the doctrine of total depravity?
28. According to the doctrine of unconditional election, who is to blame if a man is lost?
29. According to truth, what has God predestination?
30. What is man’s part in this plan?
31. What is the purpose of the doctrine of a miraculous operation of the Holy Spirit in conversion?
32. What is the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints?

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LESSON EIGHT COMING INTO GRACE

INTRODUCTION

Theoretically there are two ways by which one could be saved: 1. By sinless perfection throughout life, or 2. By the grace of God providing forgiveness. The Old Testament is representative of the first and the New testament is representative of the second. "The law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." John 1:17. Since, 1. The law demanded sinless perfection and 2. since man could not live it, and 3. The law provided no forgiveness within itself (Hebrews 10:1, 3-4) it made salvation impossible without the blood of Christ which came later. (See Hebrews 9:15 in Lesson 5). Therefore, a new system – Christianity- was given to provide forgiveness thus making possible our salvation.

It is by belief of the gospel of Christ and obedience to its requirements that we come into grace and thus receive pardon for all our sins. This lesson shows us how.

ROMANS 3:20-23 Faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and our savior is the basic requirement on man's part.

One is trying to be saved by law when they expect to get to heaven because they are "good enough". This cannot be done because we can never be good enough "for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God". But "now" the means whereby man can be made righteous by forgiveness has been revealed in the gospel as was predicted by the law and prophets of the Old Testament.

JAMES 2:17, 19-22, 24 There are two kinds of faith: Dead and Perfect. We are saved by faith after it is perfected by our obedience. Dead faith will not save because it will not obey.

HEBREWS 11:30 As an example, the walls of Jericho fell by faith after that faith had been perfected by the Israelites marching around the walls of Jericho just as God had commanded them.

In like manner, we are saved by faith after we obey the Lord's commands.

Since we are saved by faith after it has been perfected by obedience, we now inquire as to what we must do in order to perfect it.

ACTS 17:30-31 Repentance, which is a change of mind, is the first step in perfecting faith.

Just as sure as Christ arose from the dead, just that sure the judgment is coming and for this reason all men everywhere are commanded to repent.

2 CORINTHIANS 7:10 This verse speaks of two kinds of sorrow: godly and worldly. The sorrow of the world might be defined as being sorry for getting caught at something or sorry for the consequences but godly sorrow is sincere sorrow for sin as such. Repentance, the decision to abandon sin and live for God, must be caused by godly sorrow.

ROMANS 10:10 Confession of faith in Christ is required.

MATTHEW 10:32-39 Jesus knew that some would confess Him and that others would not. He predicted that as a result of this confession in some cases a man's foes would be those of his own household.

But if one is willing to "take up his cross" and follow Christ, he is worthy to be a Christian. The cross here is a symbol of suffering. To take up one's cross means to be willing to suffer as a result of being a Christian. This is not speaking of suffering for any other reason.

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."
(verse 39) We must choose between this life and the future life. To chose this one is to lose the next one; but, if we are willing to suffer as a Christian now, then we may gain future life.

MARK 16:16 Baptism in water for the remission of sins is the final step in perfecting our faith to become a Christian.

ACTS 2:38; 8:12, 36-38; 10:47-48; 22:16

Faith
in
Christ

- 1. Repent of Sins
- 2. Confess faith in Christ
- 3. Baptized in Water

1.

Dead Faith
James 2:17,
19-20

A. How? Buried in Water

2.

Perfect Faith
James 2:22,24

B. Who? Responsible Person

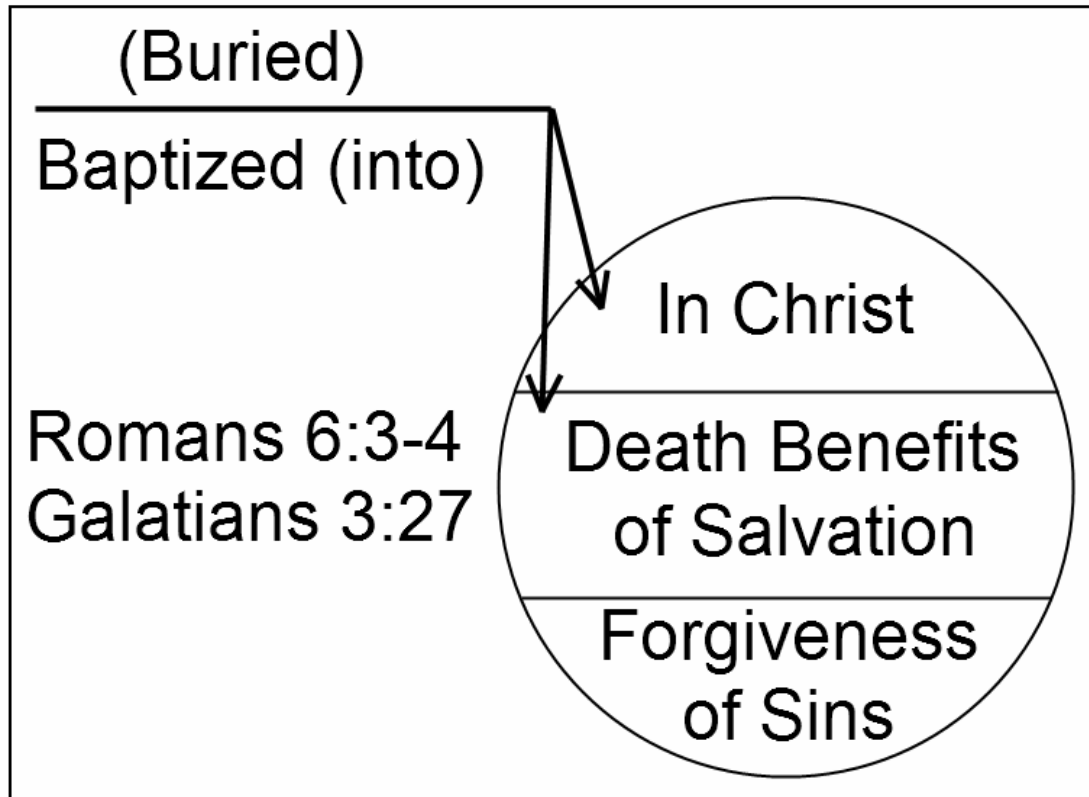
C. Why? "For the forgiveness
(removal) of Sins".

I. THREE QUESTIONS CONCERNING BAPTISM

ROMANS 6:3-4 HOW is one baptized? We are BURIED by baptism into Christ and into His death.

COLOSSIANS 2:12 To be baptized “into His death” means to be baptized into the benefits of His death. Salvation is in Christ because the death of Christ brought the benefits of salvation. Since we are buried by baptism “into His death”, it is at this point that one receives the benefits of the death of Christ.

Christ died “for the forgiveness of sins”. (**Matthew 26:28**) So when we are buried by baptism “into His death”, we receive the remission of our sins (Acts 2:38), which are the benefits of His death.



JOHN 6:44-45 WHO CAN BE BAPTIZED? Only a responsible person. Jesus says no person can come to Him unless the Father draws him (verse 44). One is drawn by hearing and learning (**Romans 10:17**), and then they come to Christ on their own accord (verse 45). Infants cannot be taught or come to Christ on their own accord, therefore, they cannot be scripturally baptized.

ACTS 2:38; 9:1-11, 18; 22:12-16 WHY IS ONE BAPTIZED? “For the forgiveness (removal) of sins.” to “wash away your sins.” If one’s sins were forgiven before baptism, they could not be baptized for their remission as the Bible teaches because they would have no sins to be removed.

Christ shed His blood “For the forgiveness (removal) of sins.” (**Matthew 26:28**), the same reason for which we are baptized. If we are baptized after we are saved or because we are saved, as many teach, then it would mean that Christ died because we were already saved. Can you believe either of these?

QUESTIONS ON LESSON EIGHT

NOTE: BEFORE ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS, STUDY CAREFULLY THE SCRIPTURES AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THEM.

1. Theoretically, what are the two ways by which one might be saved?

A. _____

B. _____

2. Name the three things which combine to make it possible for one to be saved by the Jewish law.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

3. What indicates that one is trying to be saved by law?

4. What is the basic requirement on man's part to come into the grace of God and receive pardon?

5. What are the two kinds of faith? (**James 2**)

6. Can one be saved by a dead faith?

7. Is obedience essential to perfect our faith in order that we might be saved? (**James 2:22**)

8. Did the walls of Jericho fall by faith? (**Hebrews 11:30**)

9. Did they fall by faith before or after obedience?

10. Are we saved by faith?

11. Are we saved before or after obedience?

12. What is the first step in the perfection of our faith?

13. What is repentance?
14. Why does Paul say we must repent? (**Acts 17:31**)
15. What are the two kinds of sorrow? (**2 Corinthians 7:10**)
- A. _____
- B. _____
16. Which of these is the cause of genuine repentance?
17. When one repents, what do they decide to do?
18. After repenting, what is the next step in the perfecting of our faith?
19. What does one confess in becoming a Christian?
20. When one confesses Christ, who may become His enemies? (**Matthew 10:36**)
21. What does it mean to “take up one’s cross” and follow Christ? (verse 38)
22. What did the Eunuch confess in becoming a Christian? (**Acts 8:37**)
23. What is the third step in the perfecting of our faith in becoming a Christian?
24. Which does Jesus say in Mark 16:16 (circle one)
- A. Whoever believes is saved and then baptized.
- B. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.
25. In Mark 16:16, does Jesus place baptism before or after salvation? (**See: Acts 2:38; 8:36-28**)
26. In what element is one baptized for the forgiveness of their sins – water or Holy Spirit? (**Acts 2:38; 8:36-38**)
27. What does it mean to be buried by baptism “into His death”?
28. At what point does one receive the benefits of the death of Christ? (**Romans 6:3-4**)

29. How is one baptized?

30. Who can be baptized?

31. According to John 6:44-45, Jesus says no person can come to Him unless

32. How does the Father draw a person?

33. From these scriptures, tell why an infant cannot be scripturally baptized.

34. According to Acts 2:28, what is the purpose of baptism?

35. What does “for the forgiveness of sins” mean?

36. Which is true? Peter told them to be baptized (**Acts 2:38**)

A. Because their sins were already forgiven, or

B. In order that their sins might be forgiven.

37. Which is true? Jesus said His blood was shed (**Matthew 26:28**)

A. Because our sins were already forgiven, or

B. In order that our sins might be forgiven.

38. Is the purpose of baptism in Acts 22:16 and in Acts 2:38 any different?

39. Was the purpose of Jesus’ death (**Matthew 26:38**) and the purpose of water Baptism (**Acts 2:38**) the same?

40. Reviewing: What are the three requirements to perfect our faith in becoming a Christian.

A. _____ B. _____ C. _____

Basic Bible Studies

Prepared by Melvin E. Weldon & adapted by Bret C. White

Students Name: _____

LESSON NINE THE CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

The previous lesson must be understood thoroughly in order to properly understand this lesson. Since the saved were added to the church (Acts 2:47) we now seek to learn what the church is to which they were added.

I. WHAT IS THE CHURCH? (In Its Universal Sense)

A. The meaning of the word "church".

1. The word "church" as used today may have reference to any group of religious people, regardless of what they may believe, teach or practice.
2. In the Bible, however, the word translated "church" meant "called out". It came from the Greek word "ekklesia" (*ekklesia*) which means "to call out". It referred to any group of people who had been "called out" or called-together for any purpose. The word itself had no religious significance whatsoever.

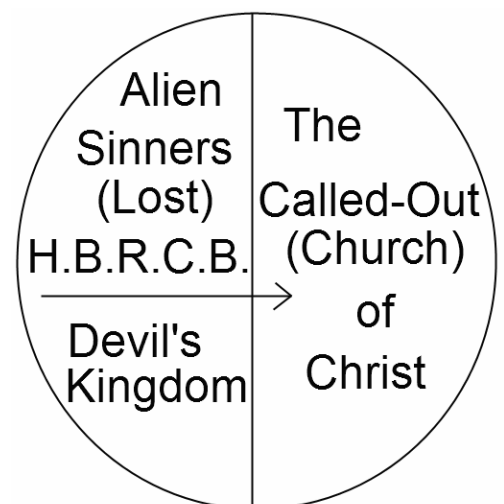
FOR EXAMPLE:

ACTS 7:37-38 The Israelites, who had been called out of Egypt and were in the wilderness on their way to the promised land, are spoken of as "the church in the wilderness". (See Lesson 3) this was 1500 years before Christ said He would build His church.

B. The Church from a spiritual point of view.

Although the word church originally had no spiritual significance, in time it took on such as it came more and more to be applied in the spiritual realm. When Jesus spoke of the church He referred to people who were to be "called out" of sin and so the word came to have this application in the New Testament. But to understand the church in this sense, we must understand the following facts:

1. First, we must understand that there are two rules in the spiritual realm: The Devil and Christ.



2. Alien sinners are in the Devil's Kingdom.

Our personal sins separate us from the fellowship of God. (See lesson 7). In this condition we are spoken of as lost. In order to be saved, we must be forgiven of our sins and translated into the kingdom of Christ, the church. (**Colossians 1:13**). This is why the saved are added to the church. (**Acts 2:47**)

3. Jesus came to deliver us out of the Devil's kingdom, and save us. To be saved, we must be "called out"

A. One is called when they **(H)ear** the gospel. (2 Thessalonians 2:14)

B. After being "called" by the gospel, one comes "out" by **(H)elieving** in Christ, **(R)epenting** of sins, **(C)onfessing** of faith and being buried in **(B)aptism** for the forgiveness of sins as a responsible person. (See Lesson 8)

WHAT THEN IS THE CHURCH OF CHRIST? (Universal Sense)

1. It is that group of persons whatever they may be who have been "called out" of sin through faith in Christ and in obedience to the gospel of Christ.

2. It is not an organic union nor an earthly organization.

3. Being a member of the church and being faithful to it afterwards are two different things entirely. One is a member of the church by virtue of having been "called out" just as one is a child by virtue of having been born but this says nothing about them being good or bad afterwards.

II. TWO ASPECTS OF THE CHURCH

A. THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL

1. This is the sense in which we have just described the church – the universally unorganized body of believers in Christ whose sins have been forgiven.

2. This is the one true church of which the Bible speaks.

SEE: **EPHESIANS 1:22-23; 2:16; 4:4; 5:23-25.**

B. THE CHURCH LOCALLY.

1. Membership in the church universal to which we are added when we were saved (Acts 2:47) is essential but not sufficient.

It is the Lord's desire when we have been saved and have come into His fellowship to join ourselves to a local congregation of fellow-Christians who like us have been "called out", so that they: 1. May aid each other to be faithful to their Lord, 2. And by working together may be more effective in doing the work which the Lord would have His people do.

HEBREWS 10:23-26 This teaches us the necessity of the public assembly.

In this assembly not only do we worship God but we encourage each other (verse 25) to *“hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering”* and thus stir, stimulate or provoke to greater *“love and good works”*.

To “neglect” or “forsake” the assembly means to miss the assembly by willful intent and would not apply to one who was providentially hindered.

ACTS 20:28; 1 PETER 5:1-3 Each congregation of Christians is to be organized with Elders who have been appointed to oversee and feed the flock. (**Titus 1:5-9**)

HEBREWS 13:17 The Christian as a member of the local congregation must submit to the spiritual authority of the Overseers of the local congregation.

So then, a Christian is not to be a member “at large” roaming around independently, but must be affiliated with a local congregation of God’s “called out” people.

This does not mean that a Christian should not visit other congregations of the church but it does mean that we should assume our responsibility where we are a member and if we move we should place our membership with the next congregation and assume our responsibility where we place membership.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON NINE

NOTE: STUDY CAREFULLY THE SCRIPTURES GIVEN AND THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE LESSON SHEETS BEFORE ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS.

1. To what does the word “church” have reference as it is used today?
2. In the Bible, however, the word translated “church” meant what?
3. Why were the Israelites called a church? (**Acts 7:38**)
4. How long was this before Christ said He would build His church?
5. Did the word for church originally have any spiritual significance?
6. When the word church is used in the spiritual; sense, to whom does it refer?
7. In order to be called out of the Devil’s kingdom, how is one called? (**2 Thessalonians 2:14**)
8. After one has been called, what four steps do they take in order to get out of the Devil’s kingdom?

9. Can one be called out of sin and not be a member of the church?
10. Can one be saved and not be a member of the church?
11. Does the fact that one has been born again and is a child of God necessarily mean that they are faithful?
12. If one becomes unfaithful do they cease to be a member of the church?
13. What is the church universal?
14. Does the Bible teach that there is one true church?
15. When does one become a member of the one true church?
16. To what must we join ourselves after we become a member of the church universal?
17. What are the two basic purposes of the local congregation as given in the lesson?
18. What persons must compose the local congregation to which we affiliate ourselves?
19. Are we commanded to assemble with fellow-Christians?
20. Our public worship should stimulate us to greater _____ and _____ . (**Hebrews 10:24**)
21. Is the local congregation to be organized?
22. Elders are to be appointed to _____ and _____ the flock.
23. Does the individual Christian have the responsibility to submit to the spiritual authority of these Overseers? (**Hebrews 13:17**)

Does the Bible approve the idea of a Christian being a member “at large”?

Basic Bible Studies

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Students Name: _____

LESSON TEN CHRISTIAN DUTIES

INTRODUCTION

After a person has been called out of sin and then joined themselves to a local congregation of fellow-Christians, they must then concern themselves with what God expects of them as a Christian.

NOTE: The student is encouraged to study carefully each scripture in the lesson, but in teaching it, the instructor should choose only the verses they feel are most needed. This will keep the lesson from being too long.

I. TO STUDY GOD'S WORD, THE BIBLE

- 2 Timothy 2:15 To be approved of God
- 1 Peter 2:2..... Spiritual food
- 2 Peter 3:18..... Necessary for spiritual growth
- Acts 17:11..... To prove the truth
- 1 Thessalonians 5:21 To prove all things
- Ephesians 4:14-15..... To prevent deception

II. TO SHARE OUR BLESSINGS

2 Corinthians 8:2-5, 7-9, 12

To encourage the Corinthians to give, he reminded them of the liberal giving by the churches of Macedonia. He says they were liberal because of their great joy in being Christians in spite of the fact that they were suffering great persecution and besides this, they were in deep poverty. (verse 2) He says they gave willingly what was actually more than they were able and begged the apostle to take the gift so they could have a part in helping others. But the key to their liberality was the fact that they first gave themselves to the Lord. (verses 3-5)

As we grow in other things we are to grow in our liberal giving. (verse 7) But we must remember that our giving must be motivated by love and not force. The amount of our giving proves the sincerity of our love for God. (verse 8)

God does not expect of us that which we do not have, but when we do give of that which we possess it must be done willingly. (verse 12)

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Here he shows that giving is like sowing and reaping. We reap according to our sowing. Each person must decide for themselves what they will give and it must not be done grudgingly. (verses 6-7) Furthermore, we have the promise that if we do our part and are faithful in giving that God will do His part in supplying our needs so that we will be able to do more and more. (verse 8)

Malachi 3:8-10

The people were accused of robbing God because they were failing to give ten percent. As a result, they were being cursed and were suffering the consequences of their unfaithfulness. They were challenged to prove God by giving as they knew they should so God in turn could bless them.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

Early Christians were told to give on the first day of the week. Christian works then are supported by Christians thus giving as God has prospered them.

III. TO COMMEMORATE THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST BY OBSERVING THE LORD'S SUPPER ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK

Matthew 26:26-29

A. This is the use of figurative language.

This bread and fruit of the vine (verses 26-27; see **Luke 22:18**) did not become the literal body and blood of Jesus as some teach, but simply represented them. Such a literal interpretation would make Jesus a literal grape vine (**John 15:1,5**) and Herod a literal fox. (**Luke 13:32**)

B. All Christians are to partake according to verse 27. Weymouth's translation reads: "*Drink from it, all of you.*"

1 Corinthians 11:23-30 Paul gives further instructions.

A. To be observed in memory of the death of Christ. (verse 24-26)

B. Must not be observed "unworthily". (verse 27) This word refers not to the worthiness of the person who partakes of it, but the manner in which the person partakes. The unworthy manner is the failure to keep in memory His death when one partakes of the Lord's Supper – "not discerning the Lord's body." (verse 29)

WHEN IS THE LORD'S SUPPER TO BE OBSERVED???

Hebrews 10:25-26

From this we learn that Christians are not to miss the public assemblies of the church. We are not to fail to "go to church" as we would say it today.

John 20:1-2,9,19

The resurrection of Christ took place on Sunday, the first day of the week. Notice in v. 19 that afterwards the disciples assembled on the first day of the week, which was the resurrection day. The Jews of the Old Testament worshipped on Saturday, the seventh day, which was their Sabbath but the disciples of Christ observed the first day of the week in commemoration of the resurrection of their Lord.

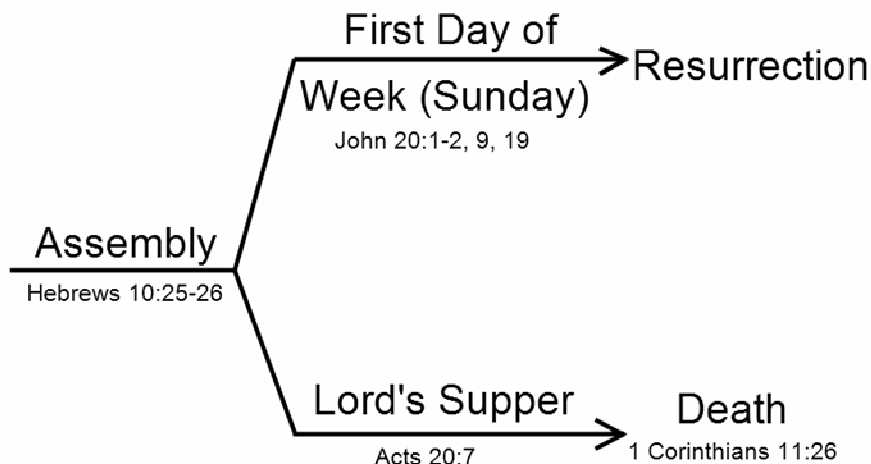
Acts 20:7

The observance of the Lord's Supper which was referred to as the breaking of bread was a vital part of this first day of the week assembly. In fact it says they came together "to break bread" and the presence and preaching of the great apostle Paul in their midst was only incidental to it.

1 Corinthians 11:26

The assembly of Christians on the first day of the week commemorates the resurrection of Christ which occurred on that day and the observance of the Lord's Supper on that same occasion commemorates his death.

The death and resurrection of Christ is the foundation of the Christian Religion. It is vital therefore that these facts be kept vividly before us. The means the Lord has seen fit to use, is water baptism and the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week. In baptism we are buried and raised, thus portraying the death and resurrection. In the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week this image is painted in the mind fifty-two times a year. To go to church on Sunday and not observe the Lord's Supper destroys the imagery and symbolism just as sprinkling for baptism destroys it.



IV. TO COMMUNICATE IN PRAYER

Prayer is a special privilege granted to Christians whereby they may communicate with their heavenly father. God is the source of their power and prayer is their key to that power. One should make prayer a vital part of their everyday life not only in behalf of themselves and the glory of God but also for others.

James 1:5-8 We must pray in faith.

1 John 3:22 We must be keeping His commandments.

1 John 5:14 God's answer will be "according to His will". We must be willing to accept His answer whether it is "yes" or "no". Remember, He knows best!

2 Corinthians 7:14 (O.T.) Humility is required.

Jeremiah 29:13 (O.T.) Whole-heartedness is essential.

Matthew 6:9-13 This is commonly known as the Lord's prayer. In reality, it is the disciples' prayer. It is the model prayer, which Jesus gave his disciples. It is a good way for the beginner to learn to pray, not that they should memorize and quote the prayer but learn to pray in the five general areas given by Jesus. As one becomes more proficient in prayer they will be able to pray more specifically on these and other subjects.

In this model prayer, Jesus taught His disciples to: 1. Praise and honor God, 2. Pray that men may serve God (the kingdom for which He told them to pray has come since He gave them this prayer. (**Colossians 1:13**), 3. To pray for the necessities of life, 4. To pray for forgiveness, 5. To pray for power to overcome sin.

Ephesians 1:16-20 Paul prayed for the Ephesians that they might increase in knowledge and wisdom, that they might realize what God has in store for the saints, how glorious it will be and of the tremendous power available to help them obtain this inheritance. He says the same power that raised Christ from the dead is available to us if we would but realize it and use it.

V. TO PRAISE GOD IN SONG

Ephesians 5:19-20

Colossians 3:16-17

VI. TO EVANGELIZE THE WORLD

Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-16, Acts 8:3-4,12 Those who have taught and baptized are then to be taught to go out to teach and baptize others. Thus the gospel is propagated.

VII. TO SERVE OTHERS

Matthew 23:11-12 The servant is the greatest among you.

Luke 6:27-38 Basically, love is the “will to do good”. This is the attitude we must have even toward our enemies. We must not always demand our rights and seek vengeance but go the second mile of the way to seek peace; give the other person the benefit of the doubt and even suffer wrongfully if necessary. Our attitude is not to be one of fault finding and judgment but merciful and forgiving. We are to do unto others as we would have them do to us.

Luke 10:25-37 *"You go, and do likewise."*

Romans 12:18-21 *"If possible . . . live peaceably . . . never avenge yourselves . . ."*

Galatians 6:2,10 *" . . . do good to everyone. . ."*

Titus 2:7,14 *" . . . zealous for good works."*

James 1:27 *"Religion that is pure . . . to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."*

VIII. TO GROW IN THE CHRISTIAN GRACES TO SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Hebrews 6:1 Leaving the first principles we are to go on to perfection which is spiritual maturity.

2 Peter 1:3-11 Through faith we begin the Christian life but growth adds the Christian graces.

Galatians 5:22-24 As the Christian yields to God's will, the fruit of the spirit is developed in them.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON TEN

NOTE: Study carefully the scriptures given and the instructions on the lesson sheets before answering these questions.

1. According to 2 Timothy 2:15 why is it necessary to study? _____

2. We are to desire the word of God as _____ desire _____ (**1 Peter 2:2**)

3. In what two things are we to grow? (**2 Peter 3:18**)

A. _____ B. _____

4. For what two reasons were the people of Berea "more noble"? (**Acts 17:11**)

A. _____

B. _____

5. According to Ephesians 4:14, ignorance of God's word causes one to be "tossed to and fro, and carried about with every _____ of _____"

6. Speaking the truth in love will help us to _____ up. (verse 15)

7. In 2 Corinthians 8:2, he says they were liberal because of their _____ and in spite of their _____ and _____

8. In verse 5, he says that first they did what? _____

9. What is the first requirement in acceptable giving? (verse 12) _____

10. In 2 Corinthians 9:6, he compares giving to _____ and _____

11. If we do our part, then God is able to supply our needs so that we may abound to _____

12. What did Malachi accuse the people of doing? (3:8-10)_____

13. As a result, what had happened to them?_____

14. What were they challenged to do?_____

15. On what day were the early Christians encouraged to give for the church treasury?
(1 Corinthians 16:1-2)_____

16. Why this day?_____

17. When Jesus said, "This is my body", what did he mean?_____

18. Does verse 27 teach that all Christians are to partake?_____

19. According to 1 Corinthians 11:26, the Lord's Supper is to be observed in memory of
what?_____

20. To observe the Lord's Supper "unworthily" refers to what?_____

21. What does "forsake the assembly" mean? (**Hebrews 10:25**)_____

22. The early Christians assembled on the _____ day of the _____ which was
the same day as the _____ of Christ. (**John 20**)

23. Which day of the week is the first day?_____

24. Did they assemble on the first day of the week to: A. Hear Paul preach, or B. To observe
the Lord's Supper (break bread) (**Acts 20:7**)

25. The first day of the week assembly commemorates what? _____

26. The observance of the Lord's Supper commemorates what? (**1 Corinthians**

11:26) _____

27. According to James 1:5-8, we must pray in _____

28. According to 1 John 3:22, in order for our prayer to be answered, we must keep his

_____ and do those things that are _____

29. God answers prayer according to his _____ (**1 John 5:14**)

30. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall _____

themselves, and _____, and _____ my face, and turn from

their _____ ways, then will I _____ from heaven, and

will _____ their sins, and will _____ their land." (**2 Chronicles**

7:14)

31. "And ye shall _____ me, and _____ me, when ye

shall _____ for me with _____" (**Jeremiah 29:13**)

32. Name the five general subjects in the prayer, which Jesus gave to his disciples.

(**Matthew 6:9-13**)

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

33. In Paul's prayer for the Ephesians (1:18-19), what three things did he want them to know?

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

34. In singing praises to God, it must come from the _____ (**Ephesians 5:19**)

35. In the great commission, we are commanded to teach all _____
(**Matthew 28:19**)

36. What must those who are baptized be then taught to do? (**Matthew 28:20**)

37. The early Christians went everywhere _____ (**Acts 8:4**)

38. How can a Christian be great? (**Matthew 23:11**) _____

39. The love for enemies required by Jesus is basically the _____

_____ (**Luke 6:27-38**)

40. Does Jesus encourage the Christian to demand his rights? (**Luke 6**) _____

41. When the man asked, "Who is my neighbor?", what was he trying to do? (**Luke 10:25-**

37) _____

42. What does it mean to "avenge yourselves" or "get revenge"? (**Romans 12:18-21**)

43. We are to bear one another's _____ and as we have opportunity, do good
unto _____ but especially to the

_____ (**Galatians 6:2,10**)

44. Christians are to _____ of _____
(Titus 2:7,14)

45. Helping widows and orphans in need is essential to _____ religion.
(James 1:27)

46. According to Hebrews 6:1, we are to leave the first principles and go on unto _____

47. List the seven Christian graces which we are to add to our faith after becoming a Christian.

- A. _____ B. _____
- C. _____ D. _____
- E. _____ F. _____
- G. _____

48. ACCORDING TO Galatians 5:22-23, the fruit of the spirit is:

- A. _____ B. _____
- C. _____ D. _____
- E. _____ F. _____
- G. _____ H. _____
- I. _____

49. List the eight Christian duties studied in this lesson.

- A. _____ B. _____
- C. _____ D. _____
- E. _____ F. _____
- G. _____ H. _____

Basic Bible Studies

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LESSON ELEVEN CHRISTIAN LIVING

I. A CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT

The natural man wants to have his own way. They want to do whatever they want without being hindered. But in becoming a Christian, we are to crucify self and submit to God. By so doing, the government of our life is then changed.

MATTHEW 6:24, 33; 16:24 Man must decide whether he will be ruled by God or the desires of the flesh. God will not take second place. He is either first in our lives or not at all. To do this, we must “deny self” and take up our cross, which means to suffer whatever is necessary as a result of being a Christian.

ROMANS 8:1, 5-7, 12-18 To live according to the flesh is to fulfill the desires of the lower nature but to live according to the spirit is to allow God to rule our life. The “set on the flesh” loves the things of the world while the mind set on the Spirit, which brings life and peace, loves the things of God and is thus governed by His will.

1 JOHN 2:15-17 The things of this world are classified in three categories which may be defined as:

- | | | |
|----------------------|------|--------------------------------|
| A. Lust of the flesh | (or) | The Desire to Enjoy (Appetite) |
| B. Lust of the eyes | (or) | The Desire to Possess |
| C. Pride of Life | (or) | The Desire to Achieve |

Every temptation that anyone has ever had springs from at least one of these basic desires. It should be said, however, that these desires are not sinful within themselves but when we love them more than God and seek first to satisfy them, then we are walking after the flesh and God has ceased to govern our lives.

II. WE ARE TO PERFECT HOLINESS

We are made righteous, when, by forgiveness, the guilt of sin is removed but we are made holy as the affections of the heart are changed and the power of sin is controlled in

our daily lives. Therefore, righteousness is our legal status before God while holiness is the development of godliness in the inner man.

EPHESIANS 4:23-24 Righteousness and true holiness was man's original condition until sin destroyed it. Now, by means of the new birth and Christian growth, they are re-created.

2 CORINTHIANS 6:17-18; 7:1 Christians will be a separate people because of their interest in the things of God rather than the things of the world.

As the Christian looks to the promises of God and is led by the Spirit they escape the corruption that is in the world through lust and thus perfects true holiness of character as they reverence God. God is not content that we be made righteous, but that we also become holy. This is our spiritual growth.

III. PRINCIPLES GOVERNING CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

The Christian should recognize that some things are (1) wrong within themselves, while other things are (2) wrong because they are misused.

But the true Christian who is interested in perfecting holiness does not concern themselves with only what is, or is not sinful. They realize that there are some things they cannot do, not because they are sinful within themselves, but because (1) they will either lead them into sin and away from God, or (2) that the influence of their actions will also cause others to stumble.

We cannot classify all things as either black or white for there are varying shades of grey. The gray is the DANGER ZONE in the realm of Christian conduct and should not be practiced. A Christian is miss-using their liberty when they justify themselves and do what they want without concern as to where it will lead them or what effect their conduct will have on others? Of course, almost anything can be dangerous to some people; therefore, it is a matter of judgment as to whether there is enough danger involved to cause one to abstain or not. Each person must proceed with great caution and concern. (See: **1 Thessalonians 5:21; Romans 12:2; Hebrews 5:14**)

GALATIANS 5:13 Do not miss-use your liberty in Christ.

1 CORINTHIANS 8:1, 4, 7-13 These early Christians had a problem as to whether it was wrong to eat meats which had been offered in sacrifice to idols. Some thought that to eat such meat would make one guilty of idolatry simply by eating the meat. Paul said such was not true and that Christians who recognize this truth would not sin in eating the meat, BUT that they should not do it because of the effect it would have on others. Paul placed it in the gray zone of Christian liberty, but taught that it would become a sin if the liberty was miss-used and the practice became a stumbling block to others. (See: **Romans 14:19-21**)



QUESTIONS ON LESSON ELEVEN

NOTE: Before answering these questions, study carefully the scriptures and comments.

1. What does the natural man want?
2. What two things must the Christian do to change the government of their life?
3. Jesus says one cannot serve _____ and _____. (**Matthew 6:24**)
4. What is the Christian to seek first? (Matthew 6:33)
5. Jesus says that to follow Him, one must “_____ _____ and take up his _____ and follow me” (Matthew 16:24)
6. What does it mean to take up one’s cross?
7. What does it mean to “live according to the flesh”? (**Romans 8:5-7**)
8. What does it mean to “live according to the Spirit”? (**Romans 8:5-7**)
9. What does the “mind that is set on the flesh” love? (**Romans 8**)
10. What does the “mind that is set on the Spirit” love? (**Romans 8**)
11. What two things will the “mind that is set on the Spirit” bring us? (**Romans 8:6**)
12. Sin is classified into how many categories in 1 John 2:15-17?
13. Define the following: (**1 John 2:15-17**)
 - A. Lust of the flesh
 - B. Lust of the eye
 - C. Pride of life
14. Are these desires sinful within themselves?
15. What does it mean to “love the world”?
16. How is man made righteous?

17. What is removed when one is made righteous?
18. We are made holy as what happens?
19. Concerning the difference between righteousness and holiness, righteousness is our _____ before God while holiness is the development of _____.
20. We are to come out from the world and be _____ says the Lord.
(2 Corinthians 6:17-18)
21. We are to “_____ ourselves from every _____ of _____ and spirit, bringing _____ to _____ in the _____ of God
(2 Corinthians 7:1)
22. Besides being made righteous, God wants us also to become _____.
23. Give two reasons why something is wrong.
- A. _____
- B. _____
24. Give two reasons why some things should not be practiced by Christians even though they may not be sinful within themselves.
- A. _____
- B. _____
25. In the “gray zone” of Christian conduct, the word of God does not tell us exactly what we can or cannot do but it is a matter of human _____. Each person must proceed with great _____ and _____.
26. In Galatians 5:13, he warns Christians not to miss-use their _____.
27. What was the problem Paul was dealing with in 1 Corinthians 8?
28. What was Paul’s advice and why?

Basic Bible Studies

Prepared by Melvin E. Weldon & adapted by Bret C. White

Students Name: _____

LESSON TWELVE CHRISTIAN BLESSINGS

NOTE TO TEACHERS: There may be too many scriptures in this lesson to be used in a one hour session so it is suggested that you use only those you consider most appropriate.

INTRODUCTION

It is important that we earnestly believe that the love of God desires only what is best for us, that the wisdom of God knows exactly what is best, and that the power of God is able to give it to us if we will but cooperate with Him.

God is not a dictator who commands in order to exert His supreme authority, but a loving father who in tenderness commands for our own good.

God's wisdom knows what is best for us even though in many cases God's ways are not our ways. God says, *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."* (**Isaiah 55:8-9**)

Happiness is based on external circumstances while blessedness is based on our attitudes. Man seeks happiness in the ideal circumstance while God who loves us seeks that which is even better for us – blessedness. To accomplish this, God seeks to develop in man right attitudes. This is why we misunderstand God's ways. We want Him to change our circumstances while He would have us change our attitudes toward our circumstances.

To be blessed then depends on two things: 1. Man's doing his part and, 2. God's doing His part.

I. THAT WHICH GOD EXPECTS OF US AS CHRISTIANS IN ORDER THAT WE MAY ENJOY BLESSEDNESS

A. **THE RIGHT ATTITUDE TOWARD GOD**, which is complete trust even in the midst of suffering and adverse circumstances.

ACTS 16:25 Having been beaten and cast into the dungeon prison of a strange city and innocent of any crime, Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises to God. They refused to allow adverse circumstances and unjust persecution to destroy their blessedness.

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7; 1:21-23 On another occasion while on death row in a Roman prison, he was still able to *“rejoice in the Lord always.”* He said the *“Lord is at hand”, therefore, “do not be anxious about anything”,* for even in death we will gain. In fact, he said it was difficult to decide whether he would choose life or death. For the sake of others, he desired life, but for his own sake, he preferred death so he could be with Christ, which he said would be *“far better”*. This attitude brings blessedness.

LUKE 22:42 The attitude of Christ was complete submission to the will of God even to death.

1 PETER 2:20-23; 5:10, MATTHEW 5:10-12 To follow Christ, we must be willing to suffer. Furthermore, to be acceptable to God, our suffering must be for doing good and not the result of our own faults, Christ has set this example for us.

ROMANS 8:16-18 We can be joint-heirs with Christ only if “we suffer with him”, and yet the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed.

B. THE RIGHT ATTITUDE TOWARD OTHERS.

Hatred, grudges, ill-feelings and the unwillingness to forbear or forgive are cancerous growths that will not only destroy our happiness and inward blessedness but will also destroy our physical health and hope of eternal life. Since it takes this toll on us, God in His love commands that we forgive again and again those who trespass against us.

COLOSSIANS 3:12-15 These are the attitudes toward our fellow-man which will result in blessedness.

C. THE RIGHT ATTITUDE TOWARD POSSESSIONS.

Man tends to depend on things rather than God. Here again he seeks happiness in the wrong place. In God’s great love for us, He warns us of this great deception and condemns our loving possessions more than God, who is the true source of our blessedness.

LUKE 12:15-21 The basis of true blessedness is not in the abundance of the things which we possess. Therefore, we must beware of an excessive love for the things of this world, which is covetousness, lest we lose our souls.

1 TIMOTHY 6:6-11 “Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment”. This is true blessedness. These verses do not teach that one’s contentment should cause them not to better themselves materially, but it does condemn the covetous spirit which makes gold it’s God. God knows that the love of money will cause us to err from the faith, be pierced through with many sorrows in this life and finally suffer eternal destruction. For our own good, He warns us!

II. GOD’S PART IN OUR BLESSEDNESS

A. Forgiveness of Sins
Colossians 1:13-14
Acts 2:38-39

B. Divine Providence
Romans 8:28
1 Peter 5:7

C. Privilege of Prayer
Matthew 7:7-11
Philippians 4:6-7

D. Power of the Indwelling Spirit
Acts 2:38; 5:32
Ephesians 1:18-19; 3:16,20
Galatians 5:22-23

E. The Hope of Heaven
1 Peter 1:3-5
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Revelation 7:13-17
Revelation 21:3-4

QUESTIONS ON LESSON TWELVE

NOTE: Before answering these questions, study carefully the scriptures and comments.

1. What are the three things about God, as dealt with in this lesson, that are important for us to believe? Use English Standard version.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

2. According to this lesson, what is the purpose of God's commands to us?

3. Happiness is based on _____
while blessedness is based on _____
_____.

4. Man seeks _____ in the _____
_____ while God seeks his _____.

5. Therefore, God seeks to develop in man _____.

6. What were Paul and Silas doing after being unjustly cast into prison? (Acts 16:25)

7. Did they allow these adverse circumstances to destroy their blessedness?

8. While in a Roman prison, Paul was still able to say, "_____ in the Lord always."
(**Philippians 4:4-7**)

9. Was Paul filled with anxiety while in prison?

10. What was Paul's attitude toward death? (**Philippians 1:21-23**)
11. What was Jesus' attitude when facing death? (**Luke 22:42**)
12. To follow Christ, we must be willing to _____.
(**1 Peter 2:20-23; 5:10**)
13. Acceptable suffering must be the result of _____
rather than for our own _____.
14. "Blessed are those who are _____ for _____ sake,
. . . "Blessed are you when others _____ you and _____ you and utter all
kinds of _____ against you _____ on my account. _____ and be
_____, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who
were before you." (**Matthew 5:10-12**)
15. We can expect to be joint-heirs with Christ only if we are willing to _____
with Him. (**Romans 8:16-18**)
16. Unwillingness to forbear or forgive are _____
that will not only destroy our happiness and inward blessedness but will also destroy our
physical health and hope of eternal life.
17. Why does God's love command us to forgive others?
18. In Colossians 3:12-15, we have listed the _____ toward
our _____ which will result in _____.
19. Man tends to depend on _____ rather than _____.
20. By so doing, he seeks happiness in the _____ place.
- 21 Jesus says that true blessedness is not in the _____ of the things
which man _____. (**Luke 12:15-21**)
22. What is "covetousness" which Jesus condemns?
23. Now there is great gain in _____ with _____
(**1 Timothy 6:6-11**)

24. 1 Timothy 6:6-11 condemns the _____ which makes _____ it's _____.
25. Acts 2:38 commands _____ and _____ and promises the _____ of sins and the gift of the _____.
26. We have the assurance that *“all things work together for _____, for those who are _____ according to his _____.”*
27. Does God’s idea of what is good always agree with our ideas of what is good?
28. *“Casting all your _____ on him, because he _____ for you.”*
(1 Peter 5:7)
29. *“Ask, and it will be _____ to you; _____, and you will _____; _____, and it will be _____ to you.”* **(Matthew 7:7-11)**
30. What reason does Jesus give for expecting good things in answer to our prayers?
(Matthew 7:7-11)
31. The word “anxious” means to be full of _____. **(Philippians 4:6-7)**
32. According to Philippians 4:6 why does Paul say a Christian need not be anxious?
33. As a result of one’s absolute faith in God, they can enjoy *“the _____ of God, which _____ all _____.”* **(Philippians 4:7)**
34. According to Acts 5:32, what does God give to them that obey Him?
35. Paul prayed that Christians might know *“what are the _____ of his _____ inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who _____, according to the working of his _____.”* **(Ephesians 1:18-20)**
36. *“He may grant you to be strengthened with _____ through his _____ in your _____,”* **(Ephesians 3:16)**

37. "Now to him who is able to do far _____ than all that we _____ or _____, according to the _____ at _____ within us," (**Ephesians 3:20**)

38. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit in our lives produces fruit according to Galatians 5:22-23.

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| A. _____ | D. _____ | G. _____ |
| B. _____ | E. _____ | H. _____ |
| C. _____ | F. _____ | I. _____ |

39. According to 1 Peter 1:3, what is the basis of our hope?

40. Our future inheritance is described as "an inheritance that is _____, _____, and _____, kept in _____ for you," (1 Peter 1:4)

41. We need not grieve for dead Christians as we do for those who have no _____. (**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**)

42. When Jesus comes, what will happen first" (verse 16)

43. These verses deal only with what will happen to Christians but according to John 5:28-29, will the wicked be raised at the same time?

44. According to 1 Thessalonians 4:17, what will happen after the resurrection?

45. When or how does one "wash his robes, and make them white in the blood of the Lamb"? (**Revelation 7:14**) (See: **Acts 22:16, Romans 6:4**)

46. In heaven, God "will wipe away every _____ from their eyes, and _____ shall be no more, neither shall there be _____ nor _____ nor _____ anymore, for the _____ things have _____ away." (**Revelation 21:4**)

Basic Bible Studies

Prepared by Melvin E. Weldon & adapted by Bret C. White

Students Name: _____

LESSON THIRTEEN REVIEW QUESTIONS

INTRODUCTION

This lesson is designed to test the student's knowledge of the subject studied as well as providing a guide for final review discussion.

It is suggested in answering these questions that the student not refer back to the previous lessons but that they answer them from memory. In those cases where scripture verses are cited, the student may refer to them to aid them in answering the question.

.....

LESSON ONE

1. In the parable of the sower, what reason did Jesus give for some people not understanding the truth?
2. Give one word in each case to describe what kind of person each of the four types of soil represent.

A. Path _____

B. Rocky _____

C. Thorny _____

D. Good _____

3. What does it mean in 2 Timothy 4:3 to have “itching ears”?
4. In 2 Thessalonians 2:5, what did Paul predict would happen to the church before the second coming of Christ?

LESSON TWO

1. What are the first four periods of Bible history?
2. Give the two great promises made to Abraham when God called him.
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
3. How was the first promise fulfilled?
4. How was the second promise fulfilled?
5. The great patriarchs were _____, _____, _____, and his _____ sons.
6. Was the selection of Abraham and the Jewish nation for the purpose of saving them any more than the Gentiles?
7. What man delivered the Israelites out of Egyptian bondage?

LESSON THREE

1. In the Bible, the word translated “church” means what?
2. After one has been called by the gospel, what four things are necessary to get out of the Devil’s kingdom?
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____
 - D. _____

3. What makes one a member of the one true church of which the Bible speaks?
4. Does membership in the church universal make us members of a local congregation?
5. Is membership in a local congregation essential to our faithfulness?
6. Can one obey Hebrews 13:17 if they are not a member of a local congregation?

LESSON TEN

1. When the Israelites in the Old Testament were not giving a tenth as they were commanded, they were accused of _____ God.
2. By observing the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week, what two important events are commemorated?
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
3. To observe the Lord's Supper "*in an unworthy manner*" means what?
(1 Corinthians 11:27)

LESSON ELEVEN

1. What does it mean to "*live according to the flesh*"? (**Romans 8:1, 5**)
2. What does it mean to "*live according to the Spirit*"?
3. Give two reasons why some things should not be practiced by Christians even though they are not wrong within themselves?
 - A. _____
 - B. _____

4. What is meant by the “gray zone” of Christian conduct?

LESSON TWELVE

1. It is important for us to believe that the _____ of God desires what is best for us; that the _____ of God knows what is best; and that the _____ of God is able to perform what is best.
2. How does the natural man seek happiness?
3. How does God seek our blessedness?