



Foundations

of the

Faith

102

Laying a foundation for a lifetime of Christian growth and service

FOUNDATIONS OF THE **FAITH 102**

- 1. INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE**
- 2. GOD: HIS CHARACTERISTICS AND ATTRIBUTES**
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Introduction to the Bible

Lesson 1

Memorize: 2 Timothy 3:16

“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness”

2 Timothy 3:16

The Bible is the Word of God. It claims to be the truth, the message from God to man. Second Peter 1:21 says that men “moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.”

- The scriptures were written by approximately forty different men.
- They lived in several different countries.
- They lived at different times (1400 B.C. to A.D. 90).
- They wrote in three languages: Hebrews, Aramaic, and Greek.

Despite this vast variety, God moved the writers to focus on God’s glory in man’s redemption with one central figure; Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

1. The Old Testament (39 books)

A. The Pentateuch (5 books)

The first five books of the Old Testament were written around 1400 B.C. by Moses. They are often referred to as *The books of the law*, *The five books of Moses*, or *The Pentateuch*.

List them below in the order you find them in your Bible:

1. _____ The book of beginnings: creation, man’s sin, redemption, God’s nation.
2. _____ God delivers his people from Egypt.

- 3. _____ Priestly laws on holiness and worship through sacrifice and purification.
- 4. _____ God's people continually disobey and wander in the wilderness for forty years.
- 5. _____ Moses' great discourse to prepare the people to enter the promise land.

B. Historical (12 books)

The historical books were written around 1400 to 450 B.C. and describe God's dealings with his chosen people, Israel, the Hebrew nation.

List the books in order:

- | | | |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ | 12. _____ |

C. Poetic (5 books)

The following five books are poetic, describing in poetry and song God's greatness and His dealings with men.

List these books in order:

- 1. _____ The suffering and loyal trust of a man who loved God.
- 2. _____ Songs of praise and instruction.
- 3. _____ God's practical wisdom for daily living.
- 4. _____ The emptiness of an earthly life without God.
- 5. _____ A portrait of God's love.

D. Major Prophets (5 books)

A prophet is one who is commissioned by God to deliver his message to men. These books are called "Major Prophets" because they are generally longer than the writings of the "Minor Prophets." They were written from approximately 750 to 550 B.C.

List these books in order:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

E. Minor Prophets (12 books)

The last twelve books of the Old Testament were written from approximately 840 B.C. to 400 B.C.

List the books in order:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

II. The New Testament (twenty seven books)

The New Testament, or New Covenant, reveals Jesus Christ, the redeemer of men. In it we find:

- The life of Christ
- The way of salvation
- The beginning of Christianity
- Instruction for Christian living
- God's plan for the future

A. Historical (5 books)

The gospel (first 4 books)

- a. _____ The life of Christ, written especially for the Jews, revealing Jesus Christ as their long awaited Messiah.

- b. _____ The life of Christ, revealing Jesus as the obedient servant of God. The book was written to the Roman world.
- c. _____ The life of Christ, revealing Jesus as the perfect man, emphasizing his humanity. It is written by Luke, a Greek, to the world.
- d. _____ The life of Christ, revealing Jesus as the Son of God, stressing his Deity. The book was written to all men.

2. History of the church (1 book)

List it: _____ The beginning and spread of the Christian church. It could be called the “Acts of the Holy Spirit” and was written as an evangelistic tool.

B. Letters or Epistles (21 books)

These books were written to individuals, to churches, or believers in general. The letters deal with every aspect of Christian faith and responsibility.

List them in order:

1. Paul’s letters (13 books)

- | | | |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 5. _____ | | |

2. General letters (8 books)

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ | |

C. Prophecy (1 book)

The last book of the New Testament tells of future events:

- Return of Jesus Christ
- Reign of Jesus Christ
- Glory of Jesus Christ
- Future state of believers and unbelievers

The book is called _____

III. Christ in the Bible

A. The Old and New Testaments are to be seen together and portray Jesus Christ as the central figure.

Read the following verses and complete the following phrases:

1. Luke 24:27. Christ as seen in _____.
2. John 5:39. Jesus said the scriptures “bear witness of _____.

B. The key is Jesus.

5 Books of the Law	12 Historical Books	5 Poetic Books	17 Prophetic Books	4 Gospels	1 Acts	21 Letters	1 Revelation
Promises of Christ	Anticipation of Christ Types, experiences, Prophecies			Manifestation of Christ	The Church of Christ		Coronation of Christ

IV. Why is the Bible important?

When tempted by Satan, Jesus alluded to Deuteronomy 8:3 “Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.” (Matthew 4:4)

A. What does 2 Timothy say about the Bible?

(Circle the correct answer)

1. Some of the Bible is inspired by God.
2. There are a few parts which are not expired
3. All of the Bible is inspired by God
4. Only those parts which speak to us in a personal way are inspired by God.

B. How do the following verses show us the importance of God's Word?

1. 2 Timothy 3:15 _____

Hebrews 4:12 _____

C. What four things does God's word do?

1. Psalm 19:7a _____

2. Psalm 19:7b _____

3. Psalm 19:8a _____

4. Psalm 19:8b _____

V. Application

Based on what you have learned about the Bible, what should be your response?

God: His Character and Attributes

Lesson 2

Memorize: 1 Chronicles 29:11

“Thine, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Thine is the dominion, O Lord and Thou dost exalt Thyself as head over all.”

1 Chronicles 29:11

I. Introduction

In the religions of today’s world, there are many so-called gods and just as many opinions about what God (or god) is like. The Bible, on the other hand, claims to be the revelation of the one true God. The Bible never tries to prove God, it simply states, “In the beginning God” (Genesis 1:1).

“Plunge yourself in the Godhead’s deepest sea; be lost in His immensity; and you shall come forth as from a couch of rest refreshed and invigorated. I know nothing which can so comfort the soul; so calm the swelling billows of sorrow and grief; so speak peace to the winds of trial, as a devout musing upon the subject of the Godhead.”

A. According to Psalm 89:7-8, list two things true of God:

B. What statement is made that point to the fact that there is only one God (Isaiah 43:10)?

C. What is it that God will not give to another (Isaiah 42:8)?

II. The Importance of Knowing God

A. Jesus equated “knowing God” to what (John 17:3)?

B. Rather than boasting in wisdom, might, or riches, what one thing does God say a man should boast about (Jeremiah 9:24)?

“A right conception of God is basic not only to systematic theology but to practical Christian living as well... I believe there is scarcely an error in doctrine or a failure in applying Christian ethics that cannot be traced finally to imperfect and ignoble thoughts about God.”

III. How Can One Know God?

A. What does Jesus say about the means for knowing God (John 14:8-9)?

B. What does Paul say about Christ in Colossians 2:9?

C. The writer of Hebrews says that God has spoken to us in His Son. How does he describe Him (Hebrews 1:3)?

IV. God's Attributes

A. An "attribute" is a quality or characteristic that is true about someone. Studying the attributes of God allows us to have a limited understanding of God's Person. Even though some concepts exceed the limits of our comprehension, our ideas concerning God needs to be as true as possible.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Holiness | 6. Omniscience |
| 2. Righteousness & Justice | 7. Omnipresence |
| 3. Sovereignty | 8. Omnipotence |
| 4. Externality | 9. Love |
| 5. Immutability | 10. Truth |
| | 11. Mercy |

Note: These are just a few of God's attributes.

B. God's Attributes Defined

First: Look up the Scripture listed with the following attributes, then write down the part of the verse that best describes the given attribute.

Second: Based on your understanding of each attribute, write out how that personally applies to you.

1. Holiness

God's attribute of holiness means that He is untouched and unstained by the evil in the world. He is absolutely pure and perfect.

a. Exodus 15:11 _____

b. Psalm 99:9 _____

Because God is holy, we are exhorted to be holy (1 Peter 1:16). We are to be set apart from sin unto God. Our lives are to shine as a reflection of God in an unrighteous world.

Personal Application: _____

2. Righteousness and Justice

Righteousness and *Justice* are derived from the same root word in the original language of the New Testament. The meaning is that of being “right” or “just”.

Righteousness designates the perfect agreement between God’s nature and His acts. Justice is the way in which God legislates His righteousness. There is no action that God takes in relation to man that violates any code of morality or justice.

*“There is no law **above** God, but there is a law in God.*

a. According to Psalm 119:137, God’s righteousness is displayed in His upright

b. According to Psalm 89:14, righteousness and justice are referred to as

How does your standard of what is right and just compare with God's standard?

Personal Application: _____

3. Sovereignty

The word sovereign means chief or highest; supreme in power; superior in position to all others.

a. Isaiah 46: 9-10 _____

b. Isaiah 45:23 _____

The idea of sovereignty is an encouraging one, for it assures the Christian that nothing is out of God's control and that His plans cannot be thwarted (Roman 8:28).

Personal Application: _____

4. Eternality

Since God is eternal, there has never been a time when God did not exist. He had no beginning and will have no end.

a. Isaiah 44:6 _____

b. Isaiah 43:13 _____

Being eternal, God is not bound by time, Having always existed, He sees the past and the future as clearly as He sees the present. With that perspective, He has a perfect understanding of what is best for our lives. Therefore, we should trust Him with all areas of our lives.

Personal Application: _____

5. Immutability

God never changes in His nature or purpose.

a. Malachi 3:3 _____

b. Hebrews 6: 17-18 _____

The Bible contains numerous promises for those who belong to Him. God can be trusted to keep His Word.

Personal Application: _____

6. Omniscience

God knows all things possible and actual. Nothing takes Him by surprise.

a. Job 34:21 _____

b. Psalm 139:1-6 _____

If God is omniscient, then He knew all of our sins (past, present, and future) at the time of our salvation. Yet, He still forgave us and receive us into His family forever. What does that say about the security of our salvation?

Personal Application: _____

7. Omnipresence

God is present everywhere in the universe.

a. Proverbs 15:3 _____

b. Psalm 139:7-12 _____

If God is everywhere, it is foolish to think we can hide from Him. However, it also means that a believer may experience the presence of God at all times and know the blessings of walking with Him.

Personal Application: _____

8. Omnipotence

God is all-powerful, having more than enough strength to do anything.

a. Jeremiah 32:17 _____

b. Revelation 19:6 _____

God's omnipotence is seen in:

*His power to create (Genesis 1:1)

*His preservation of all things (Hebrews 1:3)

*His providential care for us (Psalm 37:23-24)

What can you learn from Isaiah 41:10 about God's omnipotence?

"Do not fear, for I am with you; do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

Personal Application: _____

9. Love

God is love. His love is unconditional; it is not based on the loveliness or merit of the project.

a. John 3:16 _____

b. Romans 5:8 _____

Love expresses itself in actions. God is our example. He demonstrated His love for us in sending Jesus to die in our place (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Personal Application: _____

10. Truth

God is the only true God.

a. Psalm 31:5 _____

b. Psalm 117:2 _____

God’s truth is above all. He is truthful even if all men are found to be liars. Therefore, His words and His judgments always prevail (Romans 3:4).

In light of that, how should you view God’s Word and the truths contained in it?

Personal Application: _____

11. Mercy

God’s great mercy is the practical expression of His compassion to those who have opposed His will.

a. Psalm 145:8-9 _____

b. Psalm 130:3-4 _____

God's great mercy is contrasted with man's sin. His mercy is displayed in our salvation (Ephesians 2:4-5).

Personal Application: _____

V. Application

In light of the attributes of God discussed in this lesson, answer the following questions;

A. How will your prayer be affected? _____

B. How would you respond to a major trial in your life such as:

1. The death of a close relative (spouse, child)?
2. An accident that leaves you physically disabled?

The Person of Jesus Christ

Lesson 3

Memorize: John 1:1, 14

“In the beginning was the word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:1, 14

Jesus Christ is the central figure of all human history. There has never been anyone like Him. He is regarded as a great teacher, a religious leader, a prophet, the Son of God, even God Himself. The claims He made, as well as those that others have made about Him, have propelled Him into the center of endless controversies throughout man’s history. Wars have been fought about Him; countries have divided over Him; masses of His followers have given their lives for Him. Who is this man called “Jesus?”

Pontius Pilate unwittingly summed it up when he said, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ” (Matthew 27:22)? Before anyone can answer that question for himself, he must first understand who Jesus is. The lesson will introduce Him to you.

1. The God Who Became Man

Jesus Christ came into the world in human flesh. By coming into the world as a man, He voluntarily set aside the independent use of His divine attributes and took on the form of a man. He was fully human, a man in every way, except He was without sin. This is referred to as the 'incarnation.'

A. What does Philippians 2:6 say about Jesus before He was born?

B. According to Philippians 2:7, what did Jesus do?

C. Jesus was a man like us.

1. Describe Jesus' human growth and development as a youth
(Luke 2:40,52).

2. What was Jesus' response when He was tired (Mark 4:38)?

3. What was Jesus' response to the lack of food (Luke 4:2)?

4. How did Jesus feel after a journey (John 4:6)?

5. How did Jesus react when he was grieved (John 11:35)?

6. What did Jesus say about Himself (Luke 24:39)?

II. The Man Who is God

Even though Jesus took on the form of a man, He was still fully God. Consider the following marks of "Deity" attributed of Christ:

A. Attributes

Look up the following verses which describe these attributes of Christ:

Sovereign.....Matthew 28:18

Eternal.....1 John 1:1-2

Unchanging (immutable).....Hebrews 13:8

All-Knowing (omniscient).....Colossians 2:2b-3

Perfect or Sinless.....2 Corinthians 5:21

Holy.....Acts 3:14-15

Truth.....John 14:6

Christ demonstrated His power (omnipotence) in His earthly ministry in the following ways:

1. Matthew 8:23-37 Power over _____

2. Luke 4:40 Power over _____

3. Luke 4:33-36 Power over _____

4. John 11:43-44 Power over _____

What additional authority did Jesus claim and exercise (Mark 2:3-12)?

_____ (verse 10)

According to Mark 2:7, who alone can forgive sin? _____

If Jesus had the authority to forgive sins, and only God can forgive sins, then

who is Jesus Christ? _____!

B. Titles of Deity

1. Matthew 1:23 _____ (God with us)

2. Philippians 2:10-11 _____ (Sovereign)

3. John 8:58 _____ (Title reserved for God,
Exodus 3:14)

C. Statements of Deity (Write out the key statement)

1. Colossians 2:9 _____

2. Hebrews 1:1-3a _____

3. John 1:1, 14: Jesus Christ ("The Word") is _____

4. Titus 2:13 _____

III. The Christ Who Is Savior

According to John 3:17, Jesus is the Savior of the world. List the following titles that describe God's saving grace:

A. John 1:29 _____

B. John 6:35 _____

C. John 14:6 _____

IV. The King Who Comes to Rule

Jesus is not just a Person of the past. He is the destined King of kings and Lord of lords (1 Timothy 6:14-15) who will someday reign over all the earth.

A. What three things has Christ been given (Daniel 7:14)?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

B. What did Jesus tell followers in Matthew 25:31-32

C. When Christ ascended into heaven forty days after the resurrection, what were the apostles told (Acts 1:11)?

D. Describe the return of Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:7b-10).

V. Application

In light of who Christ is:

*God

*Savior

*King/Ruler

A. How can you best prepare for His second coming (2 Peter 3:14)?

B. What can you do this week to acknowledge who He is (Revelations 5:11-14)?

The Work of Christ

Lesson 4

Memorize: 1 Corinthians 15: 3-4

“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”

1 Corinthians 15: 3-4

The Scriptures tell us that, “He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness” (1 Peter 2:24).

1. Man’s Need for Christ’s Work

A. According to Romans 3:10-12, of what six things is every man guilty?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Romans 3:23 sums up the problem, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

B. To what is man a slave (John8:34)? _____

C. What is the end result of sin (James 1:15)? _____

D. Because we were dead in trespasses and sins, whom did we follow and what kind of children were we (Ephesians 2:1-3)?

E. Whose wrath will the 'sons of disobedience' experience (Ephesians 5:6)?

Will God Tolerate Sin?
<i>"Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the Law, to perform them"</i>
Galatians 3:10
As we studied in Lesson 3, God will assert His holiness and demands conformity to that holiness. Man is faced with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sin.....Romans 3:23• Having God as His enemy.....James 4:4b• Subjection to the power of Satan.....1 John 5:19• Being helpless to save himself.....Romans 5:6• Facing Death.....Romans 6:23• Condemnation and eternal separation from God...2 Thessalonians 1:9

II. The Cost of Christ's Work

A. Read Philippians 2:7-8

1. What are three things Christ did when He came to earth (verse 7)?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

2. In what way did Jesus humble Himself (verse 8)?

B. What happened to Jesus on earth according to Isaiah 53:3?

C. Forgiveness of sins requires what (Hebrews 9:22)?

D. What price did Christ pay to redeem us (1 Peter 1: 18-19)?

E. What did Jesus cry out on the cross? Why (Matthew 27:46)?

F. What did God do to Jesus on the cross (Isaiah 53:6)?

III. The Provisions of Christ's Work

Jesus Christ came to earth to pay the price for sin. That price was His own life, which He gave voluntarily (John 10:11, 17-19). His sacrifice was the only way to take away sin for all time (Hebrews 9:12).

Describe what Jesus' death accomplished:

A. 1 Peter 3:18

B. Romans 5:10

C. 2 Corinthians 5:21

D. Galatians 1:4

E. Ephesians 1:7

F. Romans 6:6-7

JESUS CHRIST: The Answer to All Man's Problems Concerning Salvation

Christ's work on the cross and resurrection are the only solutions to man's problems. That is why Peter could proclaim of Jesus Christ:

"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."

Acts 4:12

Refer to your answers in section one of this homework and note how Christ is the answer to each man's problems.

Man's Problem	The Solution in Christ	Scripture
A. Things man is guilty of: 1. None Righteous	"Through the obedience of the One the many will be righteous."	Romans 5:19
2. None Understands	"The Son of God has come, and has given us understanding."	1 John 5:20
3. None seeks God	"The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."	Luke 19:10
4. All turned aside	"You were...straying..but now you have returned to the Shepherd."	1 Peter 2:25
5. Have become useless	"These qualities,..render you neither useless nor unfruitful... in Christ."	2 Peter 1:8
6. None do good	"For we are His workmanship created in	Ephesians 2:10

	Christ Jesus for good works.”	
B. Slaves to sin	“Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.”	Romans 8:2
C. Facing Death	“He who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life.”	John 5:24
D. Facing wrath of God	“Justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.”	Romans 5:9

IV. The Motive for Christ’s Work

A. Why did God save men (John 3:16 and Romans 5:8)?

B. What attribute of God is demonstrated in His salvation of men (1Peter 1:3)?

Why does the author call His mercy great? (Hint: Romans 5:6,8)

V. The Resolution and Continuation of Christ’s Work

Christ’s death on Calvary finished His redemptive work for man (John 19:30). But

salvation's story does not end there. The grave could not hold Christ; He lives and continues the work He began for us.

A. How was Christ declared to be the Son of God (Romans 1:4)?

B. After Christ made purification of sins how was He exalted (Hebrews 1:3)?

C. We experience (spiritual) death through Adam's sin. What benefit do we gain through Christ's resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:21-22)?

The Bible refers to Christ's resurrection as "the first fruits." That is an Old Testament term that speaks of the "first fruits" of the harvest that were set apart for the Lord. When used in the New Testament, "first fruits" implies a pledge of more harvest to follow. Therefore, Christ's resurrection holds the promise of resurrection for others also (1 Corinthians 15: 20-22; 1 Peter 1:3).

D. Now that we have been drawn to God through Christ, what is Jesus able to do (Hebrews 7:25)?

E. What role does Christ have exclusively to Himself (1 Timothy 2:5)?

F. When Jesus was going to leave, what did He promise He would do (John 14:3)?

VI. Application

When some people are confronted with the reality of who Christ is, they realize they have made a terrible error in what they believed or how they lived. They are deeply convicted in their hearts in the same way as the men in Jerusalem were when their eyes were opened to the truth:

“Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Brethren, what shall we do?’”

Acts 2:37

What can you do?

In your heart.....

- Acknowledge that you have sinned and are not acceptable to God.

- Repent and call upon the name of Jesus to save you.
- Seek forgiveness through His blood shed for you.
- Acknowledge that He is the rightful ruler of your life.
- Thank God for His love and grace.

I have repented of my sins and called upon the name of Jesus Christ, receiving Him as Lord and Savior.

I have not received Christ, but I am still earnestly seeking.

The Person and Ministry of the Holy Spirit

Lesson 5

Memorize: John 14:16

“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He maybe with you forever.”

John 14:16

The Holy Spirit is God. The Bible identifies Him as one of three Persons existing as one God, that is, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. In this lesson, we will study who the Holy Spirit is and His presence and ministry in the believer’s life.

1. The Holy Spirit is a Person

A. Recognized as a Person

Personal pronouns like “He” and “Him” are used to refer to the Holy Spirit rather than “it”. List the number of times “He” or “Him” is used in John 14:17 to refer to the Holy Spirit: _____.

B. Attributes of Personality

1. Intellect. He possesses the ability to know and understand reality.

a. Romans 8:27: the Holy Spirit has a _____.

b. 1 Corinthians 2:10: The Holy Spirit searches _____.

_____.

c. 1 Corinthians 2:11: The Holy Spirit knows _____.

_____.

2. Emotion. He possesses the ability to experience emotion.

Record the emotion attributed to the Holy Spirit in Ephesians 4:30:

3. Volition. He possesses the ability to determine or act decisively.

List the decision or judgment in which the Holy Spirit demonstrates His attribute of volition:

a. 1 Corinthians 12:7,11 _____

b. Acts 13:2 _____

c. Acts 15:28-29 _____

II. The Holy Spirit is God

A. Attributes

Holy Spirit: Attributes of Deity		
Omniscient	All-knowing	Isaiah 40:13-14

Omnipresent	Present everywhere	Psalm 139:7
Eternal	Without beginning or end	Hebrews 9:14
Truth	Veracity; integrity	1 John 5:7 John 16:13

B. Statements of Deity

1. Write the key statement that shows that the Holy Spirit is God
(2 Corinthians 3:17)"

2. According to Acts 5:3-4, lying to the Holy Spirit is the same thing as lying to

_____.

III. The Work of the Holy Spirit

A. According to Psalm 104:30, the Holy Spirit is active in _____.

B. 2 Peter 1:20-21 tells us that the Holy Spirit was also active in _____

_____.

The Holy Spirit Bears Witness of Christ

- Attests that Jesus is the Christ.....John 15:26
- Will disclose or reveal Christ.....John 16:14
- Will not speak of Himself.....John 16:13

IV. The Ministry of the Holy Spirit in Salvation

One of the most important areas of the Spirit's work is with respect of God's plan of salvation.

A. What special work does the Holy Spirit do (John 16:7-8)?

B. By whom are sinners born into God's kingdom (John 3:5-8)?

C. What work does the Spirit do when a person is saved?

1. Titus 3:5-6_____

2. 1 Corinthians 12:13_____

The baptism by the Spirit occurs only once - - at the time of salvation.

D. How does the Holy Spirit guarantee a believer's salvation

(Ephesians 1:13-14)?

The Sealing of the Holy Spirit
<p>A seal was an ancient device, usually a signet ring or cylinder seal engraved with the owner's name or with a particular design, used to seal goods, demonstrate ownership, attest a document's authenticity, or impress an early form of a trademark.</p> <p>The seal indicated ownership and security. It is the guarantee of future blessings. The presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives is God's promise of our inheritance in the future! What a wonderful assurance.</p>

V. The Ministry of the Holy Spirit in the Believer's Life

A. What is the relationship between the Holy Spirit and the believer (Romans 8:9)?

B. Is it possible to be a Christian and not be indwelt by the Holy Spirit?

C. What is another ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer

(1 Corinthians 2:12-13)? _____

D. What exhortation is given to all believers in regard to the Spirit?

1. Ephesians 4:30 _____

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:19 _____

3. Ephesians 5:18 _____

Being Filled with the Holy Spirit
To be filled with the Spirit is to “be under His total domination and control.” “To be filled with the Spirit involves confession of sin, surrender of will, intellect, body, time, talent, possessions, and desires. It requires the death of selfishness and the slaying of self-will.” “To be filled with God’s Spirit is to be filled with His Word. And as we are filled with God’s Word, it controls our thinking and action.”

E. How does a Christian keep from sinning (Galatians 5:16)?

F. When a believer is filled with the Holy Spirit, he (the believer) will exhibit the fruit of the Spirit. Examine Galatians 5:22-23 and list these qualities below:

1. _____ 6. _____

2. _____ 7. _____

3. _____

8. _____

4. _____

9. _____

5. _____

Note: Are you exhibiting those qualities in your own life?

VI. Application

In 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 the Apostle Paul writes:

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.”

A. What significance does that have for you?

B. What do you need to do to glorify God in your body?

The Church: Fellowship and Worship

Lesson 6

Memorize: Hebrews 10:24-25

“And let us consider how to stimulate one another to love, and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.”

Hebrews 10:24-25

I. The Church Universal

“The Church is not a physical building, but a group of believers; not a denomination, sect or association, but a spiritual Body. The Church is not an organization, but...a communion, a fellowship that includes all believers.”

A. Read Colossians 1:18 and Ephesians 5:23.

1. What is Christ's position in the church? _____

2. How is the church described? _____

B. At what cost did Christ purchase the church (Acts 20:28)?

C. How does a person become a member of the body of Christ?

1. Colossians 3:15. We are _____ into the body.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:13. We are _____ into the body.

II. The Local Church

The New Testament describes how believers came together in small groups to worship Christ, receive instruction from the Scriptures, meet on another's needs, pray and evangelize.

A. The Local Church Illustrated

1. Where did the believers meet before they had church buildings (Romans 16:5; 1 Corinthians 16:19)?

2. On what day of the week did they meet (Acts 20:7)?

3. List four things to which the early church was devoted (Acts 2:42):

a. _____ c. _____

b. _____ d. _____

B. The Local Church Organized

1. In Ephesians 4:11-12, God gave gifted men to the church.

a. List them: _____

b. God gave these gifted men to the church to equip the saints for what

purposes (verse 12)?

2. Elders/Overseers

a. The qualifications of an elder or overseer are stated in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.

b. What are two major responsibilities of an elder (1 Peter 5:1-2)?

1. _____

2. _____

c. What is the responsibility of believers to the elders (Hebrews 13:17)?

3. Deacons

The word “deacon” means “servant.” The deacons are to minister to the needs of the flock under the direction of the elders of the church. The qualifications of deacons are stated in 1 Timothy 3:8-13.

4. Members of the body

a. What does Hebrews 10:25 warn believers not to neglect?

b. Hebrews 13:7 instructs us concerning those who teach us God's Word.

What should be our response? (Circle the correct answer.)

1. That we should encourage others to come and hear them.

2. That we should not hope to have the kind of faith they have.

3. That we should observe their godly lives and follow their example of faith.

c. How should we act toward other members of the body (1 Corinthians 12:25)?

5. How should those who are appointed to preach and teach be supported?

a. 1 Corinthians 9:14 _____

b. Galatians 6:6 _____

III. Fellowship

The Bible uses the Greek word koinonia to describe fellowship within the body of Christ. That word means “participation with others in a common purpose.” The Latin equivalent is communion, pointing to the communion that is shared with other believers as well as with God.

A. What is God’s desire for every local church (1 Corinthians 1:10)?

B. In Ephesians 4:2-3:

1. What will promote unity (verse 2)? _____

2. What is our responsibility (verse 3)? _____

C. Read Philippians 2:1-4. What is the key to maintaining unity within the body (verse 3)?

D. Scripture is clear that the believer enjoys fellowship with:

1. God the Father.....1 John 1:3
2. God the Son.....1 John 1:3
3. Holy Spirit.....2 Corinthians 13:14
4. Other believers.....1 John 1:7

However, with whom is true fellowship not possible (2 Corinthians 6:14-15)?

E. Fellowship within the body of Christ involves sharing in each other's lives. Below are some areas in which Christians should minister to one another.

1. Romans 14:19_____
2. Galatians 5:13_____
3. Galatians 6:2_____

4. James 5:16 _____

F. What has God given to each Christian to help him or her minister to others within the church (1 Peter 4:10-11)?

IV. Worship

The English word “worship” was originally spelled “worship”, meaning to acknowledge the worth of someone or something. We worship when we give honor to God for who He is. Worship acknowledges God’s Person, nature, attributes and works. It stems from a grateful heart and renders adoration, devotion and submission to God.

A. God seeks genuine worshippers.

Read John 4:23-24. How are we to worship God (verse 24)?

<p>If we are to worship God in truth (i.e., not in error), we must seek to know Him by learning about His attributes and actions.</p>

B. We worship God because only He is worth of our highest devotion. Read

Revelations 4:10-11 and answer the following:

1. What is God worthy to receive?

2. Why?

C. Worshiping God involves praise.

How did the psalmist say God should be worshiped (Psalm 66:4)

D. Worship God involves reverence.

1. What did Moses do when he worshiped God (Exodus 34:8)?

2. How is reverence for God revealed in the following verses?

a. Exodus 34:8 _____

b. Luke 7:1-7 _____

c. Revelations 1:17 _____

*“O come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving;
Let us should joyfully to Him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God,
And a great King above all gods,
In whose hand are the depths of the earth;
The peaks of the mountains are His also.
The sea is His, for it was He who made it;
And His hands formed the dry land.
Come, let us worship and bow down;
Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker”*

Psalm 95:1-6

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper, or Communion is one of two ordinances given to the church by Jesus Christ, the other being baptism. The Lord's Supper is an act of remembrance of Christ's death.

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 and write the answers to the following:

1. The bread is in remembrance of _____

2. The cup is in remembrance of _____

3. Every time you partake in Communion you proclaim the Lord's death (1 Corinthians 11:26). In light of that truth, what is the warning stated in 1 Corinthians 11:27-30?

V. Application

A. Are you a member of the body of Christ? _____

B. Are you a member of a local assembly of Christians? _____

C. What have you learned from this study to improve your worship of God?

Angels, Satan and Demons

Lesson 7

Acts 5:19

“But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the gates of the prison, and taking them out he said, ‘Go, stand and speak to the people in the temple the whole message

of this life.”

Acts 5:19

In the last years of the twentieth century there has been an increasing interest in angels as well as interest in Satan and demons. Articles, books, and television programs featuring angels, though often “warm and fuzzy” than theologically accurate, have helped generate interest in angelology. However, only the Bible can give us accurate information about angels.

1. The Creation of Angels

A. *The fact of their creation*

Angels are created beings. This means that they did not evolve from some lower or less complex form of life. This is reinforced that angels do not procreate. When they were created, they were created as angels.

Who created angels (Psalms 148:5)?

What does Matthew say regarding angels and marriage (Matthew 22:30)?

B. The time of their creation

The Bible does not undebatably state the time of their creation. They were present when the earth was created, so their creation had to have been prior to the creation of earth.

What does Job have to say about this (Job 38:6-7)?

C. The state of their creation

1. Holy

Originally all angelic creatures were created holy. God pronounced His creation good, and, of course, He could not create sin. Even after sin entered the world, God's good angels, who did not rebel against Him, are called holy. These angels stand in contrast to the evil angels who rebelled against God. The evil angels will be judged.

What does Mark say about angels and Jesus' return (Mark 8:38)?

What happens to the angels who rebelled against God (Matthew 25:41)?

2. Creaturely

Angels are creaturely, not the creator. Yet, they are distinct from human beings. Angels are limited in power, knowledge, and activity.

What is our role in the judgment of angels (1 Corinthians 6:3)?

Can angels understand scripture (1 Peter 1:11-12)?

2. The Nature of Angels

A. *They are personalities*

Personality means to have personal existence. The essential elements of personality are considered to involve intelligence, emotions, and will.

Angels can praise God (Luke 2:13)

Angels (in this case demons) display intellect (Matthew 8:29)

B. *They are spirit beings*

Angels are said to be ministering spirits (Hebrews 1:14). As spirit beings they are immaterial. Though God is a spiritual Being, this does not mean that angels are infinite in nature as God is; rather they are finite spirit beings.

They have appeared in dreams and visions (Matthew 1:20; Isaiah 6:1-8) and to people in a normal, conscious, waking state (Genesis 19:1-8; Mark 16:5).

C. They are immortal

The Lord taught that angels do not propagate baby angels (Matthew 22:30) and do not die (Luke 20:36). However, the wicked angels (demons) will be punished in a place of separation from God (Matthew 25:41; Luke 8:31).

3. The Ministry of Angels

Good angels are servants (Hebrews 1:14). God sends them to serve or help believers. They play an important role in God's plan for mankind.

A. In relation to God

They praise him (Psalm 148:102)

They worship him (Hebrews 1:6)

They serve Him (Psalm 103:20)

B. In relation to the church

They assist believers in this life (Hebrews 1:14)

They bring answers to prayer (Acts 12:5-10 summarize only)

They encourage believers (Acts 27:23-24)

They care for believers at the time of death (Luke 16:22)

1. The creation of Satan

A. *The time of it*

The scriptures declare that all things were created by God through Christ, and there is nothing that was not made by him (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17). However, Satan's time of creation (he was created as an angel) is not specified. Ezekiel 28:13 refers to Satan and the Garden of Eden; therefore, he would have had to have been created before God planted the garden in Eden.

B. *The characteristics of it*

1. Satan possessed wisdom and beauty (Ezekiel 28:12)
-
-

2. Satan inhabited the garden of Eden (Ezekiel 28:13)
-

3. Satan had an unparalleled function. He belonged to the order of angelic creatures. They were associated with guarding the holiness of God (Genesis 3:24)
-

4. Satan had unparalleled perfection. He was perfect in the sense of being completely sound and having total moral integrity (Ezekiel 28:15).
-

2. Satan's Sin

A. *The origin of Satan's sin*

The Bible says that sin was found in him (Ezekiel 28:15). The Details of his sin are found elsewhere, but the origin is expressed here.

B. *The nature of his sin*

The Bible calls Satan's sin as arrogance, conceit, or puffed up (1 Timothy 3:6).

What are the five "I will" phrases uttered by Satan in Isaiah 14:13-14?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

3. The activities of Satan

A. *In relation to Christ*

The animosity between Satan and Christ was first predicted after the sin of Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:15). The enmity between spiritual descendants of Satan and the family of God was predicted here.

The principle attack of Satan against Christ is found in Matthew 4:1-11. Satan attempted to cause our Lord to deviate from the path and purpose for which he had come into the world.

Satan tempted Christ in three main areas:

1. Independent of God's will (Matthew 4:3-4)

2. Pride of life (Matthew 4:5-7)

3. Lust of the eyes (Matthew 4:8-10)

B. *In relation to God*

The principle tactic Satan uses to attack God is to offer the world a counterfeit program. This was evident when he originally sinned and wanted to become like God. The counterfeit was first attempted on mankind when Satan offered Eve the chance to be like God, knowing good and evil (Genesis 3:5).

C. *In relation to unbelievers*

What power does Satan have over the unbeliever (2 Corinthians 4:4)?

Can Satan thwart the potential belief in God of a non-believer? (Luke 8:12)?

Who's domain does the unbeliever live in (Colossians 1:13)?

D. *In relation to believers*

Just as Satan tempted the Lord, he also tries believers. His goal is to get us to commit evil. There are at least three areas in which Satan tempts believers:

Pressures of society (1 Thessalonians 3:5)

Cover our selfishness (Acts 5:1-11) summarize only

Immoral thoughts/actions (1 Corinthians 7:5)

Satan accuses and opposes believers in various areas of their lives. There are three areas in which he does this:

He opposes our witness to the Gospel (Matthew 13:38-39)

He spotlights our sin (Revelation 12:10)

He squelch's our testimony (1 Peter 5:8)

1. Demons

The origin of demons

Demons are fallen angels who rebelled against God with Satan. Satan is designated as the prince of demons (Matthew 12:24) indicating he is their leader. Satan has a well organized rank of angels (demons) who serve his purpose.

The confinement of some angels

The Bible indicates two groups of fallen angels. One group has the freedom to carry out Satan's plans and the other group is confined. Of those who are confined, some are temporarily so, and others are confined until judgment.

What does the Apostle Paul say about active demons in Ephesians 6:12?

What does Luke say about confined demons (Luke 8:31)?

Revelation 9:1-15 describes angels who are temporarily confined (summarize)

What does Jude 6 say about permanently confined angels?

2. Characteristics of demons

They possess the same attributes of personhood of that of angels (described above). However, their purpose is to serve Satan and attempt to thwart God's plan.

A. *Their immoral nature*

The following three verses describe demons evil nature:

Matthew 10:1

Luke 7:21

Luke 4:33

B. *Their powers*

At times demons can possess superhuman strength as they work through human beings. The demon possessed man of the Gerasenes was able to break shackles and chains (Mark 5:3) and the sons of Sceva were unable to subdue the demon possessed man in Acts 19:16.

3. What do demons do?

A. *In relation to God*

They oppose the plan of God. Having chosen to rebel against God and side with Satan, demons continue to oppose the purposes of God in this world.

Daniel 10:10

However, we must realize that God uses demons to accomplish his will. Since they are creatures, demons are accountable to God and can be used by him as he may desire (1 Samuel 16:14; 1 Kings 22:22).

B. *In relation to people*

1. Affliction

Demons are able to inflict physical diseases such as blindness, muteness, and seizures (Matthew 9:33; 12:22; 17:15-18). They are also able to inflict mental disorders (Mark 5:4-5; 9:22; Luke 8:27-29; 9:37-42).

2. Perversion

The fact that demons are called unclean spirits shows that whatever they do perverts what is clean, noble, and right. Demons want people to turn aside from the plan of God and follow Satan's plan (1 Timothy 4:1-3; Deuteronomy 32:17; Psalm 106:37-39).

3. Possession

Demon possession is the direct control by demon(s) of an individual by residing in him/her. All people, believers and unbelievers, are influenced and affected by demon activity, but not all are possessed.

The term "to be possessed by a demon" or "to be demonized" is found thirteen times in the New Testament, all in the gospels (Matthew 4:24; 12:22; Mark 5:15-18; Luke 8:36; John 10:21).

It is generally accepted that demons cannot possess a believer of Jesus Christ since the Holy Spirit indwells the believer. However, Christians should be aware

of their adversary and cloth themselves with the full armor of God (Ephesians 6:13-18). All angels (including demons and Satan) will be judged by God and held accountable.

Future Things

Lesson 8

Memorize I Thessalonians 4:16

“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the arch angel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.”

1. church age

Events surrounding the end of the

A. *Increasing apostasy (desertion of faith)*

The presence of apostasy is not indicative of the end of the church age, but the increase of it is. We may expect apostasy to become increasingly widespread as we draw nearer to the tribulation days.

What warning does Paul give to Timothy about apostasy (2 Timothy 3:1-4)?

B. *Doctrinal characteristics of apostasy (1 Timothy 4:1)*

There are at least five characteristics to note:

1. The denial of the trinity (1 John 2:22-23)

2. The denial of the incarnation of Christ (2 John 7)

3. The denial of the return of Christ (2 Peter 3:4)

4. Denial of salvation by faith through grace alone (Ephesians 2:8-9)

5. Denial of the deity of Christ (John 8:24)

2. The rapture of the church

A. *The concept of the rapture*

Rapture is a state or experience of being carried away. The English word comes from a Latin word, *rapio*, which means to seize or snatch or the actual removal from one place to another. In other words, it means to be carried away in spirit or in body. The rapture of the church means the carrying away of the church from earth to heaven.

What does Paul say about the rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:17)?

B. *The components of the rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)?*

1. The return of Christ (v. 16 a)

2. A resurrection (v. 16 b)

3. A rapture (v. 17)

4. A reunion (v. 17)

5. A reassurance (v. 18)

3. The Tribulation

A. *Its uniqueness*

In describing the Great tribulation period, Jesus said it will be a time “such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall” (Matthew 24:21). It will be a time of trouble unique in the history of the world. There are two characteristics that distinguish the tribulation from all other hard times the world has faced:

1. It will be worldwide, not localized, as stated in the promise of deliverance (Revelation 3:10).
2. It is clearly detailed in the book of revelation.

B. *The beginning of the Tribulation*

The tribulation period will begin with a signing of the covenant involving the “Federated States of Europe” and the Jewish people. This treaty will set in motion the events of the seventieth week (or seven years) of Daniel’s prophesy (Book of Daniel).

C. *The judgments*

Revelation 6-19 describes the Tribulation in detail. There are three series of judgments:

1. The seals (Revelation 6:1-17 summarize only)

2. The seven trumpets (Revelation 8-9 summarize only)

3. The seven bowls of the wrath of God (Revelation 16 summarize only)

-
-
4. The tribulation ends with what is known as the battle of Armageddon (Revelation 16:16).
-
-

4. The Antichrist

The Bible often divides the seven year Tribulation into two equal parts. The last of Daniel's seventy "weeks" of seven years is divided in the middle by a significant event (Daniel 9:27). In the book of Revelation the two halves of the Tribulation are designated either by "time and times and half a time" (Revelation 12:14) or "forty-two months" (11:12; 13:5), or 1,260 days (11:3; 12:6), each of which works out to three and one half years.

A. *Slaying the two witnesses*

The antichrist must eliminate opposition from two individuals (Revelation 11:3-13) who have been plaguing him. The two witnesses had a fantastic ministry during the first part of the Tribulation period. They performed many signs and wonders and were indestructible for three and a half years.

B. *Demanding worship*

Having rid himself of all religious opposition, the beast will issue an edict: "worship me." What do the following verses say about this?

Daniel 9:27

Matthew 24:15

2 Thessalonians 2:4

C. *Controlling commerce*

The antichrist will control all commerce. What does Revelation 13:16-17 say about this?

5. The second coming

- A. At the completion of Armageddon, the Lord will return to earth to judge and reign. What do the following verses say about this? (Revelation 19: 11-16)

Who is the one riding the horse? V11 _____

What will Christ do to the disobedient nations? V15 _____

Where does this event take place? V15 _____

When does it take place? _____

Why does it take place? _____

6. The millennium

- A. *The length of the millennium*

Six times in Revelation 20:2-7 the length of the millennium is stated to be 1,000 years. The repetition of this figure underscores its literalness and its importance.

B. The government of the millennium

The government of the messianic millennium will be a theocracy. This is the same form of government God used in Israel in Old Testament times; only in the millennium the Lord Jesus Christ will be will personally and visibly reign over the affairs of all mankind (Daniel 7:14).

C. The center of government

The topography of the earth will be changed by the time the millennium begins to function and the city of Jerusalem will be the center of government (Isaiah 2:3).

D. The rulers of the government

David will apparently be a regent in the millennium kingdom. A number of prophecies speak of David's important place in the kingdom (Jeremiah 30:9; Ezekiel 37:24-25). Additionally, Old Testament believers will be resurrected at the second coming of Christ and will be under his authority.

7. Future judgments

In the program of God, there are several judgments in the future. It is not accurate to speak of one great judgment day to come, for these future judgments will occur at different times.

A. Judgment of believers works

What do the following verses tell us about this?

I Corinthians 3:10-15 (summarize only)

II Corinthians 5:10

B. The judgment itself

The site of this judgment is the bema of Christ. Only believers will stand in judgment, for Paul made it clear that it related to those who have built on the foundation of Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 3:11-12). The nature of the believer's works will be examined in this judgment to distinguish worthy works from useless works.

C. The outcome of judgment

The outcome will be either reward or deprivation of reward. It's important to understand that salvation is not the issue.

Judgment of Satan and fallen angels

Satan and his angels will be judged at the conclusion of the millennial kingdom (Matthew 25:41; revelation 20:10). They will be confined to the lake of fire for eternity (Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10).

Judgment of the unsaved

At the conclusion of the millennial reign of Christ, unbelievers of all time will be raised and judged. Their judgment will take place before a Great White Throne (revelation 20:11-15) and Jesus will be their judge (John 22, 27). The Book of Life will be opened and will not contain the name of anyone in that judgment. Everyone who appears in this judgment will be cast into the lake of fire for eternal punishment.