

LESSON TITLES

1. **GOD**
2. **INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE**
Chart: Three Dispensations
3. **OLD & NEW TESTAMENT**
4. **JESUS CHRIST OF NAZARETH**
5. **AUTHORITY IN RELIGION**
Chart: Where Are The Dead
6. **THE KINGDOM – PART I**
Chart: The Kingdom of Heaven
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Tract: The Model Prayer
8. **LOCAL CHURCHES OF CHRIST & CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP**
9. **THE REALITY OF SIN & THE PLAN OF SALVATION**
10. **THE APOSTASY & THE HOLY SPIRIT**
Charts: Gift of The Holy Spirit
Church History
Tract: Gift of The Holy Spirit

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

II Tim. 2:15

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INTRODUCTION TO FAITH

BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

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Jim E. Waldron

Scripture quotations are from the New King James Version, Thomas Nelson (unless otherwise noted)

Answers: 1) Yes 2) Someone, God 3) Made
4) Yes 5) Men & Women (people)
6) The Lord 7) Living 8) No
9) Zero 10) No 11) Zero
12) An intelligent builder and designer greater than man
13) God 14) God
15) Man is the offspring of God
16) The heavens
17) A fool

Introduction To Faith



BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

◆ LESSON ONE ◆

GREETINGS!

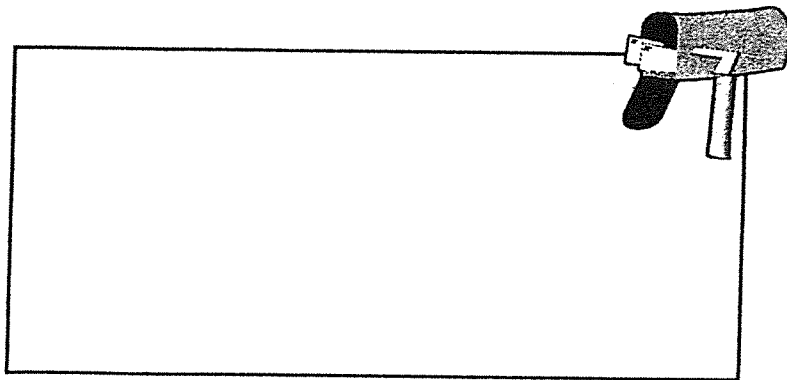
The little paper you hold in your hand is the first in a series of ten lessons on fundamentals of the faith found in the word of God. The lessons are simply a series of questions on the Bible with little comment. They are designed in this way in order that you might learn for yourself the basic message of God concerning His Son, Jesus of Nazareth, and His kingdom. There are also five charts with explanations in the series and lessons on the Holy Spirit and the Model Prayer.

I do hope that you will enjoy the study. The lessons are copyrighted to keep them from being changed but you may, if you desire, make copies. It is our desire that they be used by any and everyone at the least cost possible. JW



INSTRUCTIONS

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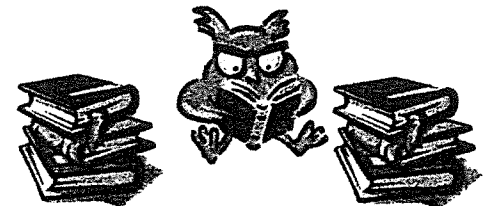


GOD

1. Is the existence of the Empire State building proof that there was a builder? _____
2. **Hebrews 3:4** - According to this scripture every house is built by _____; but he who built all things is _____.
3. **Romans 1:19-20** - God's invisible attributes, such as His eternal power, "are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are _____."
4. Is the existence of a sound recorder, or a camera evidence of a designer? _____.
5. Who designs and builds recorders and cameras? _____
6. **Proverbs 20:12** - Who designed the hearing ear and the seeing eye? _____
7. The World Book Dictionary, page 2021, says of spontaneous generation: "The supposed production of living organisms from nonliving matter, *abiogenesis*¹, *autogenesis*; (i.e.) worms from mud, maggots from decaying meat." Yet, Louis Pasteur, (1822-1895) French chemist and bacteriologist, destroyed the theory of spontaneous generation proving that living things arise only from _____ things.
8. Can life, consciousness, intelligence, and morality be created by dead matter such as rocks and dirt? _____
9. Indicate the numerical value of the creative power of dead matter. _____

10. Is time a creator or a worker of miracles? _____
11. Evolutionists or Darwinists estimate the age of the earth as 4.5 billion years, but $4,500,000,000 \times 0 =$ _____
12. Man is a living, conscious, thinking and moral being, therefore the adequate cause for man's existence, that is, his designer and maker had to be: (underline the correct answer) (1) The dumb, blind chances of evolutionary forces acting on rocks and dirt or (2) An intelligent builder and designer greater than man.
13. **Genesis 1:26-27** - According to this scripture who created man? _____
14. **Genesis 2:7** - Who gave man life? _____
15. **Acts 17:24-29** - What is man to God? _____
16. **Psalms 19:1-3** - What declares God's glory in all languages? _____
17. **Psalms 14:1** - According to this scripture what is a man who says there is no God? _____

¹*Abiogenesis* means the supposed transformation of inanimate (dead) matter into living matter. It is a synonym of *autogenesis* (World Book Dictionary, pp. 4 & 137).



THREE DISPENSATIONS

HEB. 9:15

HEB. 7:12

OLD TESTAMENT
(SACRED HISTORY)
ROMANS 15:4

NEW TESTAMENT
(THE PERFECT LAW OF
LIBERTY) JAMES 1:25

THE AGE OF
THE PATRIARCHS
ACTS 7:9

ADAM
NOAH
ABRAHAM

THE AGE OF THE LAW
OF MOSES
JOHN 1:17

THE AGE OF CHRIST'S
REIGN I COR. 15:25
KINGDOM OF CHRIST
(THE CHURCH)

JERUSALEM

• PENTECOST
MAY 28, A. D. 30
THE LAST DAYS

CHRIST
GAL. 4:4

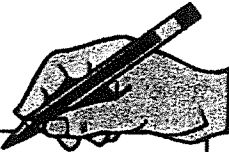
430
years

MT.
SINAI
(1446 B. C.)

CREATION

ANSWERS:

- 18) Empty space 19) Nothing 20) Deep (ocean)
- 21) Earth 22) One blood 23) Inhabited 24) Created
- 25) Spirit 26) Own image 27) One 28) Fornication
- 29) Woman 30) Jesus Christ 31) Abraham's
- 32) Jesus Christ 33) Virgin born 34) Jesus Christ
- 35) The Word 36) Flesh 37) Loved



INTRODUCTION TO FAITH BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

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Introduction To Faith



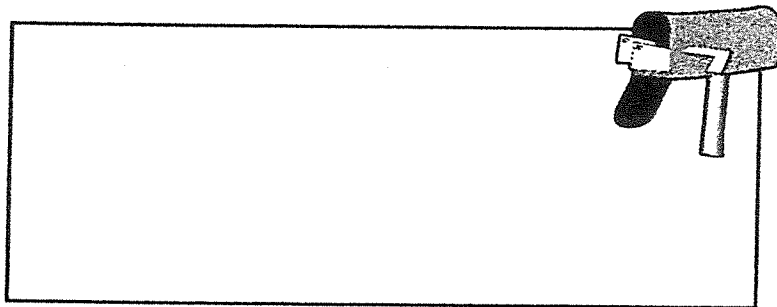
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◆ LESSON TWO ◆



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LESSON TWO

INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE

If the Bible is truly from God, we could expect it to give evidence of its supernatural nature.

18. **Job 26:7** - With the invention of the telescope (1608) man confirmed the absence of stars over an area above the northern hemisphere, but Job was inspired to say more than 3,000 years ago, God, "stretched out the north over _____."
19. **Job 26:7** - In recent times, man has formalized the law of gravity (Sir Isaac Newton, 1642- 1727) and has proven the earth is suspended in space, but Job was inspired to say more than 3,000 years ago, he "hangs the earth on _____."

20. **Proverbs 8:27** - In the time of Christopher Columbus (1451-1506) men were still debating about the curvature of the earth, but about 950 B.C. Solomon wrote, God "set a circle upon the face of the _____."
21. **Isaiah 40:22** - In 700 B.C. Isaiah wrote God "sits upon the circle of the _____."
22. **Acts 17:24-26** - Race prejudice has sought to label blood plasma, yet in very recent times medical science has shown that all races of men are basically one and have the same blood types; but God said 1900 years ago that He made all nations or races of men from _____.
23. **Isaiah 13:19-22** is an example of great historical prophecy. It tells of the ancient city of Babylon which reached its peak under its great king Nebuchadnezzar (605-562 B.C.). It was surrounded by massive double walls. It contained the famous hanging gardens and a temple building over three hundred feet high. Isaiah prophesied of its utter desolation 150 years before it reached its peak of beauty and then said, "It will never be _____", which is true until this hour.
28. **Matthew 19:3-9** - In Jesus' law of marriage, which is for all descendants of Adam and Eve (believers and unbelievers), He only allows divorce because of _____.
29. **Genesis 3:15** - The prophet foretold, the seed of _____ was to bruise Satan's head.
30. **Galatians 4:4-5** - Centuries later who was born of woman to redeem man? _____
31. **Genesis 22:15-18** - Through whose seed did God promise to bless all nations? _____
32. **Galatians 3:16** - Who is that seed of Abraham who came to bless all nations? _____
33. **Isaiah 7:14** - How was He to be born? _____
34. **Matthew 1:18-23** - Who was virgin born? _____
35. **John 1:1-3** - Who was in the beginning with God? _____
36. **John 1:14** - The Word became _____ and dwelt among us as the only begotten of the Father.
37. **John 3:16** - We know what motivated God to send Jesus to this world for it is written, "God so _____ the world that he gave His only begotten Son.

BIBLE PREVIEW

24. **Genesis 1:1-5** - In the beginning God _____ the heavens and the earth.
25. **John 4:24** - God is _____.
26. **Genesis 1:26-27** - Although man dwells in flesh, he is a spirit creature for God "created man in His _____."
27. **Genesis 2:24** - God's universal law of marriage says, the two "shall become _____."



that system until the dispensation of Christ when all humanity was brought under the law of Jesus (Isaiah 2:3; Matthew 28:18; Luke 24:47; Ephesians 1:18-21; Revelation 1:5; Romans 3:21-22; Acts 17:30-31).

The law of Moses, which was codified in stone at Sinai, was for Israel. Moses plainly told them the law given at Sinai had not been given to their fathers (the Patriarchs - Deuteronomy 5:2-6). For example, the fourth commandment was a law making the Sabbath a special sign between Israel and God (Exodus 31:13-16). It was not given to others.

Thus, the law of Moses became a partition wall between Israel and the Gentiles (other nations) from Sinai (1446 B.C.) until it was abolished as law at the cross (Ephesians 2:14-16). The Old Testament, which tells of the Age of the Patriarchs for Gentiles and the Age of Moses for the Jews, is a divine history book today for those things "were written for our learning" (Romans 15:4).

Now there is but one law of God for all humanity: the New Testament of Jesus (Mark 16:15, Luke 24:47). This "law of Christ" (Galatians 6:1), or "perfect law of liberty" (James 1:25), gives God's will for the Age of Christ's reign (Matthew 7:21; John 12:48), including moral laws previously found in the Age of the Patriarchs and the Age of Moses (See I Timothy 1:9-11). Today, we keep those moral precepts, not because of Moses' law (the ten commandments), but because they are in Christ's New Covenant. Christians, therefore, have two great books made up of many little books. The Old Testament as a sacred history of God's dealings with mankind until the cross of Jesus, and "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:2), the New Testament.

It is in the New Testament that we read of Jesus, the Christ, fulfilling the Old Testament prophecies, thereby proving He was the Messiah; and founding His kingdom on Pentecost with about 3000 converts on the first day (Acts 2:36-41). The seeking of Jesus Christ as Savior and His kingdom must be the first priority in life (Matthew 6:33).



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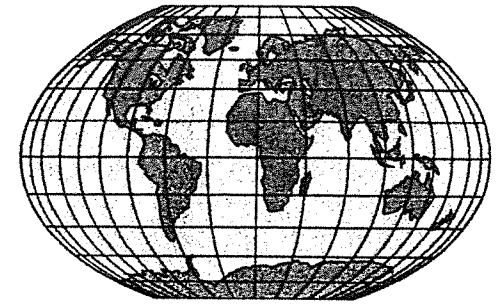
INTRODUCTION TO FAITH BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

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- ANSWERS:
 38) God 39) 430
 40) God had laws and commandments in Abraham's time
 41) Because of transgressions (sins)
 42) I will make a new covenant or testament
 43) Fulfill it 44) It is finished 45) Jesus
 46) After the death of the testator
 47) Tutor or schoolmaster 48) The law of commandments
 49) It was nailed to the cross
 50) Law 51) Death
 52) Perfect law of liberty

Introduction To Faith



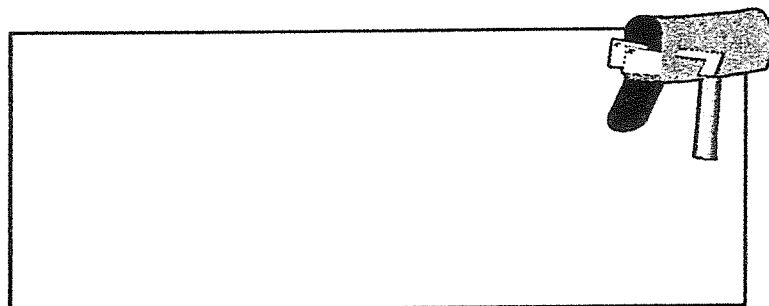
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◆ LESSON THREE ◆



INSTRUCTIONS

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LESSON THREE

OLD - NEW TESTAMENT

38. Exodus 20:1-17 (1446 B.C.) - Who personally spoke the law at Sinai?

39. Galatians 3:16-17 - How many years after the promise (concerning Abraham's seed) was the law given? _____
40. Genesis 26:5 - How do we know God had laws for mankind before He gave the law at Sinai? _____
41. Galatians 3:19 - Why was the law of commandments engraved on stones given to Israel at Sinai? _____
42. Jeremiah 31:31-32 - Eight hundred and fifty years after the law was given, what did God say? _____

43. Matthew 5:17-18 - Christ's work here on earth was not to destroy the law but to _____ it.
44. John 19:30 - Not until the time of His death did Jesus say " _____ " (cf. John 17:4).
45. Hebrews 9:14-15 - Who is the mediator of the New Covenant or New Testament? _____
46. Hebrews 9:16-17 - When does a testament come into force?

47. Galatians 3:23-28 - The law was a _____ to bring Israel to the point of faith in Christ, but after Christ had come the apostle Paul declared, "after faith has come, we are no longer under _____," that is, no longer under the Old Law.
48. Ephesians 2:14-16 - What did Christ abolish to make Jew and Gentile one? _____
49. Colossians 2:14-16 - When did Christ abolish the law of the commandments? _____
50. Hebrews 7:12 - When the priesthood of the Old Testament was changed of necessity there was "a change of the _____."
51. II Corinthians 3:7 - The law engraved on stones was called a ministry of _____, because its design was to condemn (cf. Deut. 27:26; Gal. 3:10).
52. James 1:25 - While the Old Testament is the Christian's divine book of history, the New Testament is called the " _____."



THREE DISPENSATIONS

There are three distinct periods of time portrayed in the word of God according to God's dealings with man (see chart in Lesson Two). They are the Age of the Patriarchs, (ancient fathers - see Acts 7:9); the Age of Moses' Law; and the Age of Jesus' Reign, often referred to as the Christian Age. This latter age being called in the scriptures "last days" (Hebrews 1:1-2) or "last times" (I Peter 1:20). During those three ages it has been God who has provided or given laws or rules of conduct for man. There is no such thing as a law of the heart, that is, no inbred or inherent law in man, nor has there ever been. Jeremiah made that clear when he wrote "O Lord I know that the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps" (Jeremiah 10:23). Man is a learning being. He must be taught to know a thing (see Isaiah 28:9, Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 6:44-45, Romans 10:17). Man has always learned from the speech or message of those things around him, such as the heavens, for there is no language where their voice is not heard (Psalms 19:1-3, cf. Romans 1:19-20), and he learned in various and sundry ways as God spoke in time past to the ancient fathers (Hebrews 1:1)

During the Age of the Patriarchs, God had a general law for all mankind even as it is written of the great patriarch Abraham: "because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws" (Genesis 26:5).

Just as Abraham was blessed for obeying those laws, so the people of Sodom and Gomorrah, during the same age, were cursed because of disobedience (Genesis 13:13; 17:20; Jude 7). During that age God extended his long suffering to people saying, "for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete" (Genesis 15:16). Over four hundred years later that Gentile nation, along with six others, was destroyed out of Canaan because of idolatry and corruption (Deuteronomy 7:1; 9:4; 12:31), which they committed in violation of Patriarchal laws.

The Gentiles such as the Amorites, Canaanites, Indians, Greeks, Chinese, Slavic and Germanic peoples, remained under Patriarchal law even after Israel was given the law of Moses at Sinai (Romans 3:1-2). The Patriarchal Age did not end for the Gentiles when Israel received the law at Sinai. However, many of the laws codified for Israel at Sinai were a part of the Patriarchal system. (Romans 2:14-16) Gentiles were kept under

80. **Isaiah 53:5-7 (700 B.C.)** - The prophet Isaiah predicted Jesus, the Messiah, would suffer for whose transgressions?

81. **I Corinthians 15:3-4** - After Christ was crucified and buried, when was he resurrected?

82. **Mark 16:15-16** - What great commission did Jesus give to His followers? _____

83. **I Peter 3:22** - Where is Jesus now?

84. **Revelation 1:5 (cf. Rev. 17:14)** - Jesus, the Lamb of God, now occupies what position of authority?



ANSWERS:
 53) With the father 54) All things were made through Him
 55) Us 56) By the power of the Holy Spirit 57) Form of God
 58) Servant, Man, Death, Death of the Cross
 59) He became flesh like God's people,
 To destroy the devil,
 Release us from the fear of death
 60) Bethlehem 61) I must be about my Father's business
 62) Carpenter
 63) James, Joses, Judas, Simon 64) Jordan River
 65) They shall be filled 66) Great is your reward in heaven
 67) That we will suffer tribulation
 68) The Kingdom of God and His righteousness
 69) Do unto others as you would have them do unto you
 70) The broadway 71) The way, the truth and the life
 72) We are not worthy to be Jesus' disciple
 73) Jesus Christ of Nazareth 74) Satan
 75) Four days 76) Raise all the dead
 77) At the last day 78) Christ, Judgement
 79) Every one 80) Ours 81) The third day 82) See text
 83) At the right hand of God
 84) The ruler over the kings of the earth

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INTRODUCTION TO FAITH


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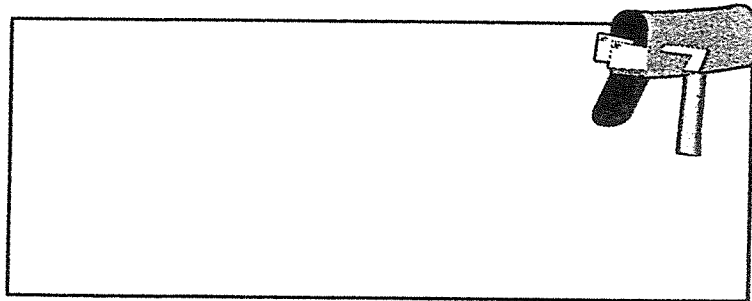
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◆ LESSON FOUR ◆



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JESUS CHRIST of Nazareth

53. John 17:5 - Where was Jesus before the world was?

54. John 1:1-3 - What part did the Word (Jesus) have in creation?

55. Genesis 1:26-27 - God said, "Let ___ make man." Observe the plural pronouns for the Persons of the Godhead.
56. Luke 1:26-35 - How was Mary of Nazareth, a virgin, able to bear a child?

57. Philippians 2:5-7 - This scripture speaks of Christ Jesus before coming to earth as "being in the _____."
58. Philippians 2:7-9 - This scripture tells us Jesus took the form

of a _____, came in the likeness of a _____, and became obedient unto _____, even _____.

59. Hebrews 2:14-15 Name three reasons why Jesus became a man. _____, _____, and _____.
60. Luke 2:1-11 - Where was Jesus born?

61. Luke 2:40-49 - What impressive statement did Jesus at age twelve make to his earthly parents in the temple.

62. Mark 6:1-3 - What occupation did Jesus follow until he was 30? _____
63. Mark 6:3 - Name Jesus' four brothers. _____, _____, and _____.
64. Matthew 3:13-17 - Jesus was baptized in the _____.
65. Matthew 5:1-9 -What did Jesus say of those who are hungering and thirsting for righteousness? _____
66. Matthew 5:10-12 -What did Jesus say about those who are persecuted for his sake? _____
67. I Thessalonians 3:1-4 - What had Paul told the Thessalonians in advance about persecution? _____
68. Matthew 6:28-33 - What does Jesus expect us to seek first in this life? _____

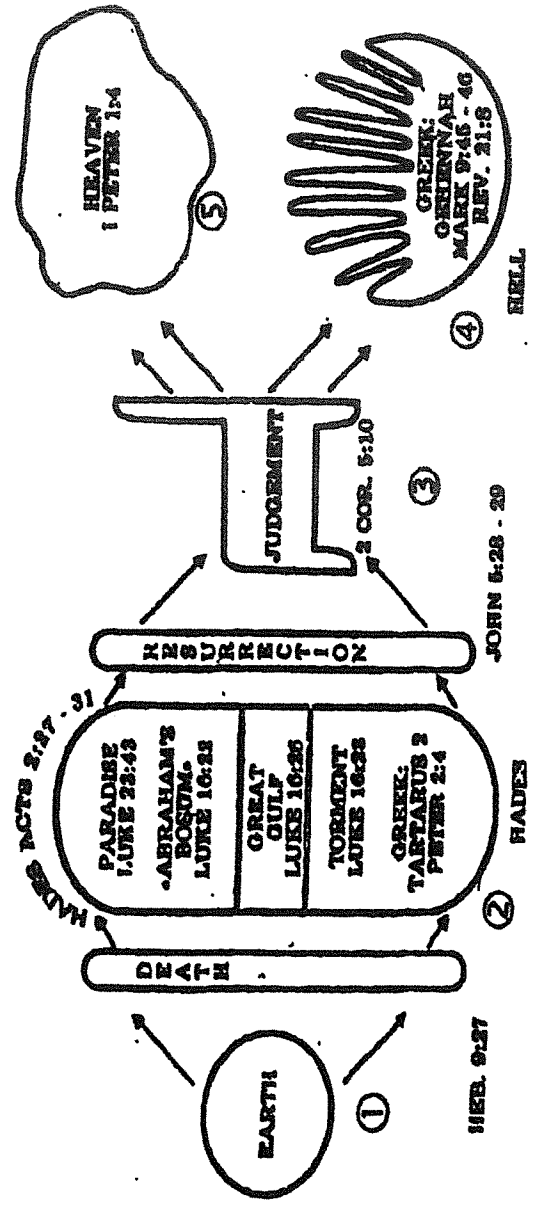
69. Matthew 7:12 - What is the golden rule of Jesus?

70. Matthew 7:13-14 - What kind of way leads to eternal destruction? _____
71. John 14:6 - If we would live eternally with the heavenly Father, we must know Jesus is what? _____
72. Matthew 10:34-39 - What is true if we love our parents more than we love Jesus? _____
73. Acts 4:10-12 - What is the only name under heaven in which there is salvation? _____
74. Luke 13:10-17 - To whom did Jesus attribute human suffering? _____
75. John 11:33-44 - How long had Lazarus been dead when Jesus raised him? _____
76. John 5:28-29 - What will Jesus do at the end of time?

77. John 6:40 - When will the righteous be raised?

- Note: There will not be 1000 years (365,000 days) between the raising of the righteous and the wicked. Both will be raised on the last day at the same hour for judgement. (cf. John 5:28-29; 6:44; Matthew 25:31-34, 46).
78. II Corinthians 5:10 - All of us will give an account of our own deeds before the judgement seat of _____. For "it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the _____." (Hebrews 9:27).
79. Hebrews 2:9 - When Jesus died on the cross, for whom did he taste death? _____

WHERE ARE THE DEAD? LUKE 16 (1983)



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- Answers:
- 85) Jesus of Nazareth
 - 86) Because the scriptures furnish us completely unto every good work
 - 87) They rest under a curse
 - 88) Depart from Me you who practice lawlessness
 - 89) By teaching the doctrine of men
 - 90) Tradition 91) Tradition 92) Rooted up, Both
 - 93) False christs, prophets
 - 94) Sheep's 95) Apostles
 - 96) Teachers 97) Do not add to God's word and do not take from it 98) God
 - 99) The oracles of God

Introduction To Faith

BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

◆ LESSON FIVE ◆

WHERE ARE THE DEAD?

By Perry Cotham

The chart that follows reveals the state of the dead. Point number 1 identifies the realm of this world where spirits live in a physical body. Some in this life are righteous children of God, having been saved from past sins by an obedient faith in Christ and through the grace of God (Romans 6:16-18; Mark 16:16; Acts 16:25-34; 2:36-38; Eph. 2:8; I John 1:7; Rev. 1:5; Acts 22:16). Others, such as children, are safe (Matt. 19:14). Still others are lost in sin (John 8:24; II Pet. 2:20,21). The first state of human existence terminates in death, when the body goes to the grave and the immortal spirit to Hades. Death is the door to the next world.

Point number 2 identifies *Sheol* (Hebrew) or *Hades* (Greek), the abode of all disembodied spirits. Here all souls are in a state of consciousness; the righteous are happy in Paradise and the wicked are miserable in Tartarus. While in this intermediate state the human spirit is separated from its body. In Hades the "gulf" is fixed. This state commences at death and terminates with the resurrection. When the third state begins, at the second coming of Christ, Hades will be destroyed (Rev. 20:14). (There is no such place as Purgatory.)

Point number 3 identifies the day of final judgement (Matt. 25:31-36; Rom. 14:12; Rev. 20:11-15). At that time all mankind will give an account of the deeds done in the body; judgement will be pronounced, and the execution of judgement will begin (cf. Matt. 7:21-23; Luke 12:47-48).

Point number 4 identifies hell (Gr. *Gehenna*), the eternal place of condemnation for all the wicked (Matt. 25:41,46; II Thess. 1:9; Mark 9:44-48; 12:40; Rev. 21:8). No one is annihilated after the judgement. The "eternal" (Gr. *aiorios*) life of the righteous in heaven will be endless; likewise, the "eternal" punishment of the wicked in hell will be endless.

Point number 5 identifies heaven, the eternal home of the righteous (Rev. 21:1 through 22:5; cf. 7:13-17; John 14:1-3; I Pet. 1:4). There the inhabitants will live in perfect peace and never grow old, for in God's presence there is "fullness of joy" and "pleasures for evermore" (Ps. 16:11).



AUTHORITY IN RELIGION

85. Matthew 28:18-20 - To whom has God given all authority?

86. II Timothy 3:16-17 - Why is His word the only authority we need in our faith and practice? _____
87. Galatians 1:6-9 - What happens to men or angels who pervert His word? _____
88. Matthew 7:21-23 - What will the Lord say to those who do not do the Father's will? _____
89. Matthew 15:9 - How is it possible to worship the true God in vain?

90. I Peter 1:18-19 - Christ redeemed us by His blood from a vain life received by _____ from our fathers.
91. Mark 7:9 - Yet, some men will reject the commandment of God in order that they may keep their _____
92. Matthew 15:13-14 - Jesus said, every plant which my heavenly Father has not planted will be _____, and if the blind lead the blind _____ will fall into the ditch.
93. Matthew 24:24 - Jesus told his disciples false _____ and false _____ would arise.
94. Matthew 7:15 - Jesus said beware of false prophets who come in _____ clothing.
95. II Corinthians 11:13-14 - The Holy Spirit also warned of false _____.
96. II Peter 2:1 - Peter warned: as there were false prophets among the ancient people there will be false _____ among you.

97. Deuteronomy 4:2, 12:32; Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:18-19 - What two things must men not do according to these scriptures? _____

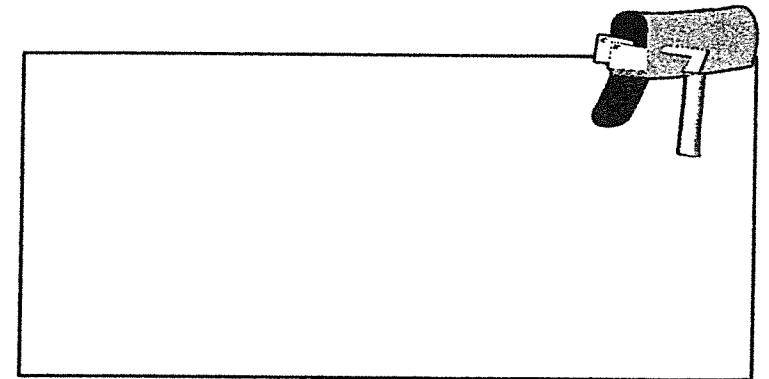
98. II John 9-11 - If a person does not abide in the teaching of Christ, whom will he be without? _____

99. I Peter 4:11 - "If anyone speaks let him speak as the _____"



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THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
HEAVENLY JERUSALEM

MT. ZION
GOD
CHRIST

AN INNUMERABLE
COMPANY OF ANGELS
HEBREWS 12:22

SPIRITS OF JUST MEN
MADE PERFECT
HEBREWS 12:23

THE CHURCH
HEBREWS 12:23

W

E

MATTHEW 8:11
EARTH



STUDENT NAME: _____

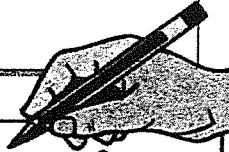
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INTRODUCTION TO FAITH
BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

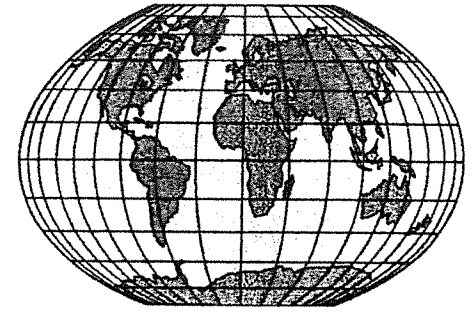
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ANSWERS:
100) Last (latter days) 101) Last days
102) Forty days, Kingdom 103) In clouds
104) At the right hand of the throne
of the Majesty in the heavens
105) Kingdom 106) Matthias
107) The Holy Spirit 108) To speak in other languages
109) Spirit 110) A kingdom which will never be destroyed
111) At His right hand 112) That the fruit of his
body (David's descendant) would sit on his throne
113) The day of Pentecost 114) Repent the kingdom
of heaven is at hand 115) The time is fulfilled,
the kingdom of God is at hand 116) Your kingdom come
117) Taste death

Introduction To Faith



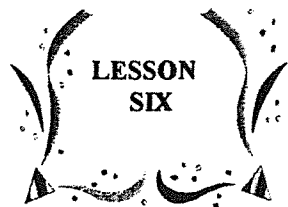
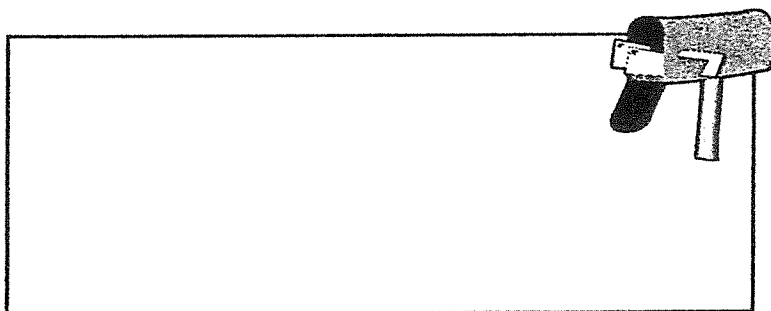
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◆ LESSON SIX ◆



INSTRUCTIONS

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LESSON SIX

THE KINGDOM Part 1

100. **Isaiah 2:2-4** - The prophet Isaiah about 750 B.C. foretold that the Lord's house into which men of all nations were to flow would be established in the _____ days.
101. **Hebrews 1:1-2** - The Holy Spirit revealed the last days spoken of by Isaiah, as that of the Christ, for He said, God "has in these _____ spoken to us by His Son".
102. **Acts 1:1-3** - After Christ was raised from the dead on a Sunday morning (April 9, 30 A.D.)*, He remained with the apostles _____ days and spoke to them about the _____.

*A.D. 30 is used (instead of 33) because Dionysus Exiguus (sixth century, A.D.), a monk, who lay down the basis for the calendar,

missed the date of Christ's birth by about four years. Jesus was about 33 1/2 when he was crucified on what historians tell us was April 7, 30 A.D.

103. **Acts 1:9-11** - How did Christ return to heaven? _____
104. **Hebrews 8:1** - When Christ returned to heaven, where did he sit? _____
105. **Daniel 7:13-14** - Daniel about 550 B.C. was given a prophetic vision of the ascension of Jesus back to heaven, which took place ten days prior to Pentecost A.D. 30, where He was given dominion, glory and a _____
106. **Acts 1:23-26** (30 A.D.) - Who was chosen as one of the twelve apostles to replace the traitor, Judas? _____
107. **Acts 2:1-4** (30 A.D.) - On the Jewish feast day, Pentecost, which occurred ten days after Jesus' ascension, what came on the twelve apostles? _____
108. **Acts 2:4-8** - What were the apostles enabled to do? _____

(Note these were real languages spoken with understanding to real people, not a babel of nonsense).

109. **Acts 2:14-17** - Peter identified Pentecost with the last days quoting God, who had said, by Joel, "in the last days I will pour out of My _____ on all flesh."
110. **Daniel 2:40-44** - Daniel about 600 B.C. prophesied of four great empires in the region of the Mediterranean to succeed one another. The fourth one, described as being like iron and clay, was the Roman empire (27 B.C. to 476 A.D.). What did Daniel say God would establish during the reign of the Roman kings? _____
111. **Psalms 110:1-2** - Where did the eternal Father about 1000 B.C. say the Messiah, that is the Christ, would sit and rule? _____
112. **Psalms 132:11** (1000 B.C.) - What did God promise to David about 1000 B.C.? _____

113. **Acts 2:30-36** (30 A.D.) - When did Peter apply the prophecies of Psalms 110 & 132 in order to show Jesus, as Son of God and the Son of David, was the Ruler and the Christ exalted to the Father's right hand? _____

Note: For Jesus to be on the throne of God was for Him to be on the throne of David (Luke 1:32) for David's throne over Israel was in truth God's throne (See I Chronicles 28:5, 29:23).

114. **Matthew 3:1-2** - What was John, about 26 A.D., preaching about the kingdom? _____
115. **Mark 1:14-15** - What did Christ, about three years before Pentecost, begin to preach concerning the kingdom? _____
116. **Matthew 6:10** (27 A.D.) - Prior to Pentecost what were the disciples taught to pray concerning the kingdom? _____
117. **Luke 9:27** - Christ, about a year (29 A.D.) before His death promised His disciples, some standing here "shall not _____ till they see the kingdom of God."

THE KINGDOM THAT CANNOT BE SHAKEN

Hebrews 12:18-28

The church of Christ is God's kingdom on planet Earth. The inspired writer of the Hebrew letter tells us in 12:28 that first century Christians had not come to a physical mountain (that is, one which could be touched) like old Sinai, but had "...come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the first born who are registered in heaven, to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the New Covenant" Then He said: "...therefore since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear...."

The chart on the following page shows how people "...come from east and west and sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven," that is, with the spirits of just men made perfect (Hebrews 12:23). When we come into the church of Christ we also come into fellowship with God, Christ, and with innumerable hosts of angels.

Spirit came on the apostles and under His influence they began the kingdom of God on this earth with about 3000 "charter" members the first day (Acts 2). You, too, can be a citizen of this great spiritual empire.

Even though the Bible plainly declares that the disciples of Christ of the first century were added to the kingdom (Colossians 1:13; cf., Hebrew 12:28; Revelation 1:9), during recent years as western society has declined in morality and the older denominations have begun to disappear, there have been renewed efforts to pump life into that old doctrine of the devil called premillennialism. This term is made up of three parts: "pre" meaning before, "millennial" meaning 1,000 years, and "ism" referring to the doctrine that Christ's kingdom has not been set up, but will be set up in the future on this earth for 1,000 years. In fact, virtually every sound out of modern (fleshly) Israel in the Middle East is exploited on some TV programs or in some new tract or pamphlet by premillennialists to say that some prophecy is being fulfilled. Yet, this one thing they are ignorant of, God has cast out fleshly Israel (Galatians 4:28-31), though they can be grafted into the Spiritual nation of Israel if they do not continue in unbelief (Romans 11:1, 5, 23, 26; Galatians 3:26-29).

The thousand year reign named in Revelation 20:1-8 is not literal, but is a symbol of the long period of time that faithful disciples reign in life with Christ (Romans 5:17) from the end of the apostolic age (A.D. 98) until just prior to his second coming. From that time disciples have been and are being raised up (Ephesians 2:5-6; Colossians 2:12; 6:3-4) in place of those who suffered and/or died under the beast-like (Revelation 13:1-2) government of Rome which flourished from 64-98 A.D. This "resurrection" (Rev. 20:5) of souls (lives) of fallen saints in the lives of new disciples is like John the Baptist being raised up in place of Elijah (Malachi 4:5; Matthew 11:14; Mark 9:11-13; Luke 1:17).



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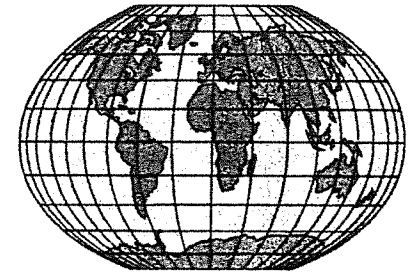
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ANSWERS:

118) Keys of the kingdom 119) With power 120) Holy Spirit
 121) Day of Pentecost 122) All enemies are made his footstool
 123) Delivers the kingdom, Death 124) What shall we do?
 125) Repent, Be baptized; Remission of sins, Gift of the Holy Spirit
 126) About 3000 127) Water and the Spirit 128) Inherit
 129) Translated 130) The kingdom of God and the name of Jesus
 131) The kingdom of God 132) The kingdom of God
 133) The kingdom of God and things concerning Jesus Christ
 134) Local churches of Christ 135) Kingdom
 136) Christ and God

Introduction To Faith



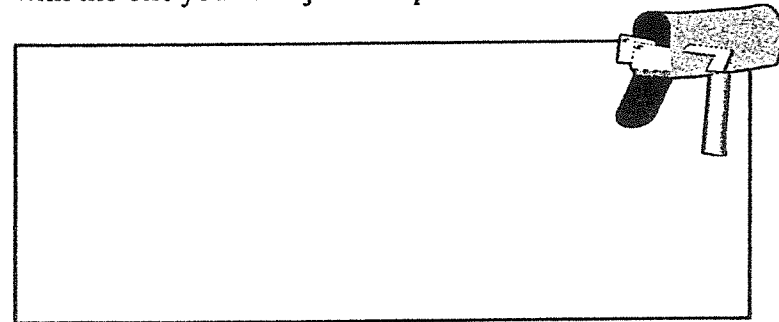
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◆ LESSON SEVEN ◆



INSTRUCTIONS

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LESSON SEVEN

THE KINGDOM Part Two

- 118. **Matthew 16:13-19** - What keys were promised to Peter about a year before Pentecost? _____
- 119. **Mark 9:1** - About one year (29 A.D.) before Pentecost Jesus promised that the kingdom would come in the life time of some of the apostles with what? _____
- 120. **Acts 1:8** - Jesus, immediately prior to His ascension and just ten days before Pentecost (30 A.D.), promised the apostles, "You will receive power when the _____ has come upon you."
- 121. **Acts 2:1-4 (30 A.D.)** - When did the Holy Spirit come with power? _____
- 122. **Acts 2:33-35** - Christ began His reign on Pentecost for Peter affirmed Jesus was exalted to the Father's right hand until what was accomplished? _____

- 123. **I Corinthians 15:24-26** - Concerning the general resurrection the Holy Spirit revealed, "then comes the end, when (Christ) delivers _____ to God the Father ... For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet, the last enemy that will be destroyed is _____."
- 124. **Acts 2:36-37** - When the Jews were informed that they had killed the Christ and that he was raised, what did they ask? _____
- 125. **Acts 2:38** - Name the two commands given by Peter and the two blessings promised? (1) _____ (2) _____
(3) _____ (4) _____
- 126. **Acts 2:39-41** - How many Jews, in Jerusalem on Pentecost 30 A.D., left Judaism and became members of Christ's one eternal kingdom. _____
- 127. **John 3:1-5** - In order to enter the kingdom of God those 3000 were born again of _____ and the _____.
- 128. **Matthew 25:34** - "Kingdom" in the New Testament sometimes applies to the eternal home of God's people (heaven) as in this scripture where Jesus says "Come _____ the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (cf. II Timothy 4:16; II Peter 1:11).
- 129. **Colossians 1:12-13** - Kingdom of heaven (used only by Matthew) and kingdom of God (Mark 9:1, Luke 9:27, John 3:5) most often apply to that universal nation of God's people (founded on Pentecost) into which all Christians (like the Colossians) have been " _____ "
- 130. **Acts 8:12** - After Pentecost what two things did Philip preach in Samaria? _____
- 131. **Acts 19:8** - Paul reasoned and persuaded about what in Ephesus? _____
- 132. **Acts 20:25** - What did Paul say he had preached in Ephesus? _____
- 133. **Acts 28:30-31** - What did Paul preach in Rome? _____

- 134. **Acts 14:23; Romans 16:16** - When the apostles preached the name of Christ and His kingdom in a city, what was established? _____
- 135. **Revelation 1:9** - John affirmed in the Revelation he was in the _____ and patience of Jesus Christ.
- 136. **Ephesians 5:5** - The scriptures speak of the kingdom as belonging to both _____ and _____.

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Jim E. Waldron

While Tiberius Caesar sat on the Imperial Throne of Rome and while Pontius Pilate was serving as governor of the Jewish state in Palestine, Jesus being about thirty years of age was immersed (baptized) by John in the Jordan River (Luke 3:21; Mark 1:9). Immediately upon being baptized He went into the wilderness and spent forty days and nights without food (Matt. 4) to steel Himself against the weaknesses of human flesh (Matt. 26:41). While there He had a remarkable encounter with the god of this world, Satan (II Cor. 4:4), who tempted Him to forget His mission to save humanity, but Jesus routed the Tempter, not with signs or new proclamations, but with the simple historical record, the written word (Luke 4:1-13).

Upon his return to the populated regions in Palestine he began to preach the good news of the empire of heaven, saying, "Repent ye for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 4:17). Again it is written: "Now after John (the one who had baptized Jesus) was delivered up (to prison) Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God saying, "The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:14-15KJV).

Thus Jesus announced that the time for fulfilling the kingdom prophecies (cf. Daniel 2:44; 7:18; Isaiah 2:2-4) had come and God's mighty heavenly kingdom was at hand. In fact, it was so near that Jesus, about two years later, told the apostles that some of them would not die until they had seen "the kingdom of God come with power" (Mark 9:1). Therefore just a little over three years after Jesus began His ministry the kingdom of heaven was established. This was accomplished shortly after Christ's ascension back to heaven, for on Pentecost (A.D. 30) the Holy

Pliny the younger, imperial legate of the Roman province of Bithynia located in N.W. Asia Minor, wrote to the Emperor Trajan with a description of the Christian's worship. "They were in the habit of meeting on a certain fixed day before sunrise and reciting an antiphonal hymn to Christ as God, and binding themselves with an oath not to commit any crime, but to abstain from all acts of theft, robbery and adultery, from breaches of faith, from repudiating a trust when called upon to honor it. After this, it was their custom to separate, and then meet again to partake of food, but food of an ordinary and innocent kind" (From *Jesus and Christian Origins Outside the New Testament*, by F.F. Bruce, Eerdman Publishers).

About 52 A.D., Thallus, a freedman of Tiberius, wrote a history of the Eastern Mediterranean world from the Trojan War to his day. His history disappeared but was known by Julius Africanus. Julius Africanus describes the earthquake and the preternatural darkness which accompanied the crucifixion of Christ, and says that Thallus in Book three explained the darkness as an eclipse of the sun. (He also points out that this explanation was unacceptable because Jesus was crucified at full moon when no eclipse of the sun is possible) (*Jesus and Christian Origins Outside the New Testament*, F.F. Bruce).

Josephus, the Jewish historian, speaks of Jesus being condemned to the cross by Pilate and that "the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day" (*Antiquities of the Jews*, 18:3, 3). Josephus further speaks of James, the brother of Jesus who is called the Christ (*Antiquities of the Jews*, 20:9, 1).

"God is spirit and those who worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

John 4:24



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ANSWERS:
 137) Pattern or form 138) That of the apostles 139) Jesus Christ
 140) Elders 141) Overseers 142) List four or five 143) Deacons
 144) One 145) The church 146) One 147) One, Christians
 148) One, That the world may believe that God sent Christ
 149) Let there be no divisions among you
 150) The holy and the unholy (common)
 151) To break bread, Not to forsake the assembly
 152) The bread and the fruit of the vine 153) He preached
 154) Women 155) Singing 156) The fruit of our lips
 157) Hearts 158) Pray 159) On the first day of the week
 160) Bountifully and cheerfully
 Communion - Preaching - Singing - Prayer - Giving

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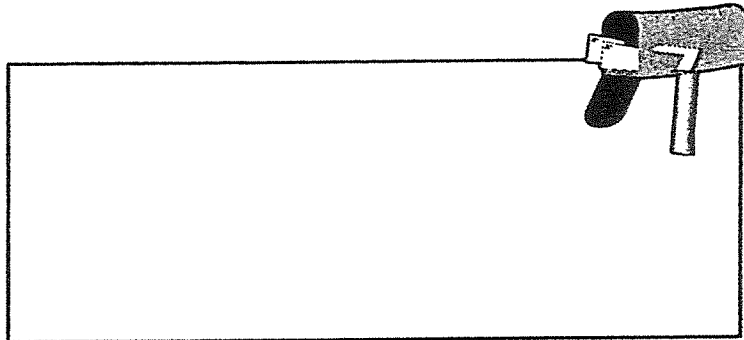
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◆ LESSON EIGHT ◆



INSTRUCTIONS

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LESSON EIGHT

LOCAL CHURCHES OF CHRIST

- 137. II Timothy 1:13 - To be the church of Christ, we must "hold fast" or "maintain" the _____ of sound words.
- 138. Acts 2:42 - In what teaching did the early church continue?

- 139. Ephesians 1:22-23 - Who is the head of the church of Christ?

- 140. Acts 14:23 - _____ were appointed to oversee local congregations.
- 141. Acts 20:28 - What are elders called in this text? _____
- 142. Titus 1:5-9 Name some qualifications of elders.

- 143. Philippians 1:1 - Servants of the church, listed here with the bishops or elders, are called _____

UNITY

- 144. Matthew 16:18 - How many churches did Jesus found? _____
- 145. Colossians 1:18, 24 - What is the body of Christ? _____
- 146. Ephesians 4:3-4 - How many bodies are there? _____
- 147. I Corinthians 12:20 - There are many members of the church, but how many bodies? _____ What are the members called (Acts 11:26) _____
- 148. John 17:20,21 - Jesus prayed for His followers, "That they may all be _____." Why? _____
- 149. I Corinthians 1:10-13 - What did Paul say concerning divisions or denominations? _____

CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP

- 150. Ezekiel 44:23 - God expects his people to know the difference between what? _____
- 151. Acts 20:7 - Why did the church at Troas assemble on the first day of the week? _____ What are Christians commanded not to do? (Heb. 10:25-31) _____
- 152. I Corinthians 11:23-26 - What two parts form the Lord's Supper?

- 153. Acts 20:7 - What did Paul do when the church assembled?

- 154. I Corinthians 14:34 - Who must not preach before the assembly?

- 155. Colossians 3:16 - What kind of music was authorized without instruments? _____
- 156. Hebrews 13:15 - With what are we to praise God? _____

- 157. Ephesians 5:19 - We are also to make melody in our " _____ to the Lord."
- 158. I Timothy 2:1-5 - What else should Christians do in worship?

- 159. I Corinthians 16:2 - When are Christians to give?

- 160. II Corinthians 9:6-7 - Give two words that describe a Christian's giving? _____

List the five acts of Christian worship:

1. I Corinthians 10:16 _____
2. II Timothy 4:2 _____
3. Hebrews 2:12 _____
4. Acts 4:31 _____
5. Luke 6:38 _____

SECULAR HISTORIANS WROTE ABOUT JESUS

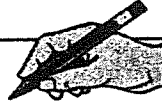
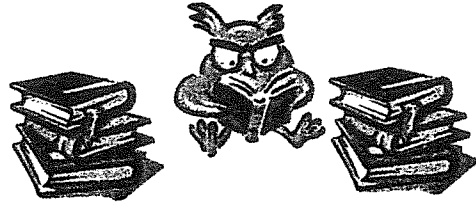
Compiled by Thomas E. Eaves, Sr.

The Roman author Suetonius (around A.D. 120) compiled biographies of the first twelve Roman emperors [Julius Caesar (died B.C.44) through Domitian (died A.D. 96)]. Writing about the emperor Claudius (A.D. 41-54) he stated "Because the Jews at Rome caused continuous disturbances at the instigation of Chrestus, (Chrestus, a common slave-name, was a popular misspelling of the name of Christ) he expelled them from the city" (Claudius 25:4) A Biblical account of this event is recorded by the physician Luke, "...He found a certain Jew named Aquila, a man of Pontus by race, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome" (Acts 18:2).

Tacitus in his Roman Annals (written between 115 and 117 A.D.) spoke of the Christians. "They got their name from Christ, who was executed by sentence of the Procurator Pontius Pilate in the reign of Tiberius" (Tacitus, Annals, XV. 44) (Over)

List the six steps to eternal salvation.

1. John 6:44-45 _____
2. Acts 16:31 _____
3. Acts 3:19 _____
4. Matthew 10:32 _____
5. Mark 16:15-16 _____
6. Revelation 2:10 _____



ANSWERS:
161) Sin is lawlessness or the transgression of the law
162) Unrighteousness 163) Sinned 164) Death
165) The son shall not bear the guilt of the father 166) A little child
167) In his heart 168) Youth 169) See text
170) Adultery in his heart 171) Fidelity or corrupt communication
172) He would be cut in two and appointed a place with hypocrites
173) Cast into the lake of fire 174) That they come to repentance
175) Seek and save the lost
176) Kingdom of God 177) Without it one cannot please God
178) A faith that works by love
179) The word of god which is preached by the gospel
180) Hearing, Word 181) It is dead
182) We will die in our sins 183) They must repent
184) Turning to God and doing works worthy of repentance
185) Because of pending judgement 186) Confess Jesus christ
187) Jesus christ is the Son of God
188) Arise and be baptized 189) A burial (immersion)
190) Christ 191) Buried, Raised
192) He was a saved man 193) Midnight
SIX STEPS:
1) Be taught, hear, learn 2) Believe 3) Repent
4) Confess Jesus before men 5) Be baptized
6) Be faithful unto death

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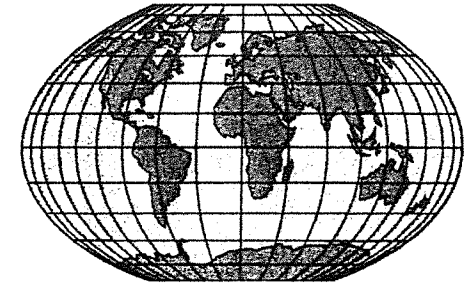
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“How sweet are Your words to my taste,
Sweeter than honey to my mouth!
Through Your precepts I get understanding;
Therefore I hate every false way.
Your word is a lamp to my feet,
And a light to my path.”

Psalms 119:103-105 (NKJV)

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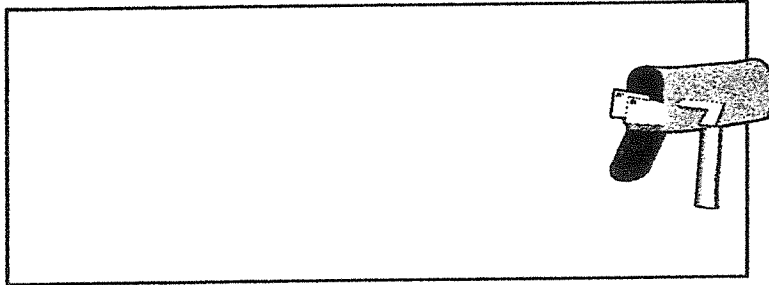
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◆ LESSON NINE ◆



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LESSON NINE

THE REALITY OF SIN

- 161. I John 3:4 - What is sin? _____
- 162. I John 5:17 - "All _____ is sin."
- 163. Romans 3:23 - What have all done to come short of God's glory?

- 164. Romans 6:23 - "The wages of sin is _____."
- 165. Ezekiel 18:1-4; 19-20 - What did God say about a son inheriting his father's sin or guilt? _____
- 166. Matthew 18:3 - To enter the kingdom one must become as _____
- 167. Matthew 15:19 - Where does evil arise in man? _____

- 168. Genesis 8:21 - "Man's heart is evil from his _____, not from his conception or his infancy."
- 169. I Corinthians 6:9-10 - List some sins that will keep men out of heaven. _____

- 170. Matthew 5:27-28 Jesus said, "Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed _____."
- 171. Ephesians 4:29 - The Holy Spirit says "Let no _____ proceed out of your mouth."
- 172. Matthew 24:45-51 What did Jesus say would happen to a disciple who would eat and drink with drunkards?

- 173. Revelation 21:8 - What is going to happen to unbelievers, murderers, fornicators, idolaters and all liars? _____
- 174. II Peter 3:9 - What does God desire for man? _____
- 175. Luke 19:10 - Why did the Son of man (Jesus), come to this world?

THE PLAN OF SALVATION

- 176. John 3:1-5 - Jesus said, "unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter the _____."
- 177. Hebrews 11:6 - Why is faith important?

- 178. Galatians 5:6 - What kind of faith justifies?

- 179. I Peter 1:23-25 - What is the seed of the new birth?

- 180. Romans 10:17 - "So then faith comes by _____ and hearing by the _____ of God."
- 181. James 2:17-26 - Why won't faith alone justify?

- 182. John 8:24 - What will happen if we do not believe Jesus is the Christ? _____
- 183. Luke 13:1-5 - What must men do besides believe? _____
- 184. Acts 26:20 - Name two things repentance requires.

- 185. Acts 17:30-31 - Why must men repent? _____
- 186. Romans 10:9-10 - What must man do with his mouth?

- 187. Luke 1:31-32; Matthew 3:17; John 1:34,49; Matthew 16:16; Acts 8:37 - What was confessed in these verses?

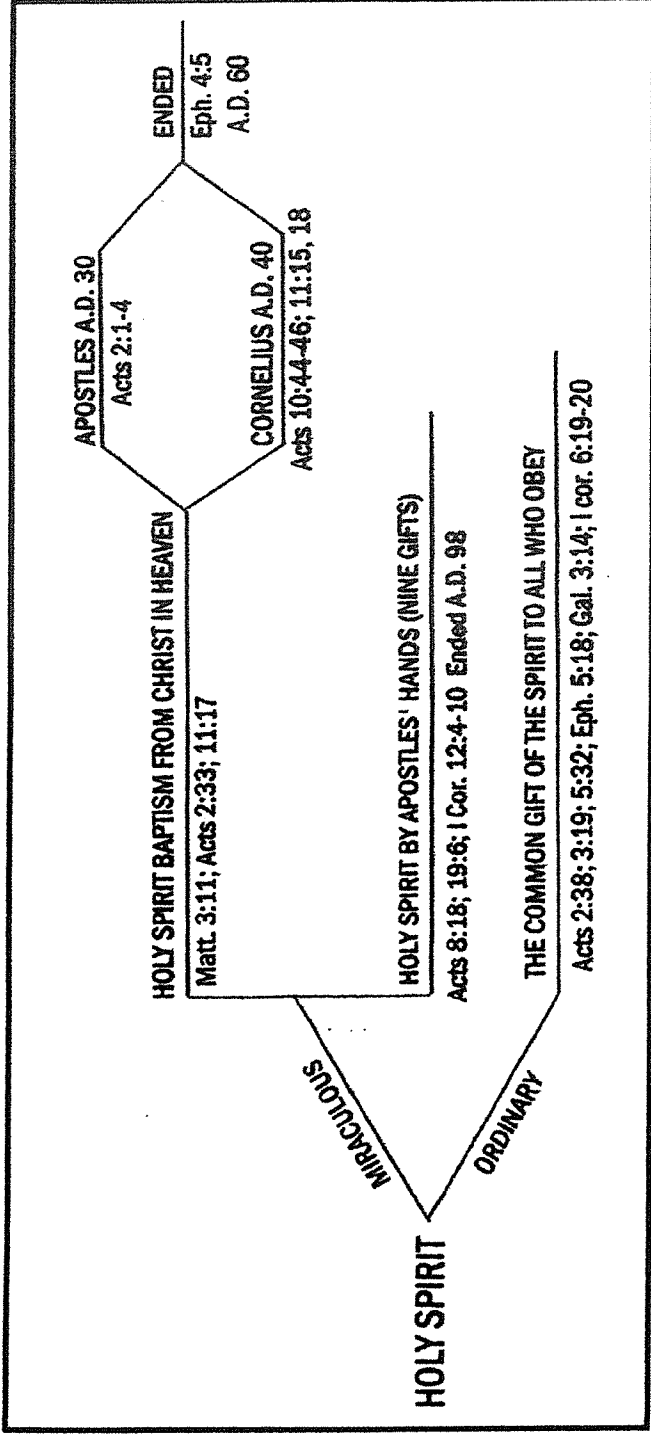
- 188. Acts 22:16 - What was Paul told after he believed and repented?

- 189. Romans 6:3-4 - What is the form of Bible baptism?

- 190. Galatians 3:26-27 - Baptism puts one into _____.
- 191. Colossians 2:12 - Shows that our baptism is a picture of Jesus' burial and resurrection for we are "_____ with Him in baptism, in which we are also _____ with Him."
- 192. Acts 8:26-39 - Why did the Eunuch go on his way rejoicing? _____
- 193. Acts 16:25-34 - The baptism of the Jailer at _____ shows the urgency of one's obedience to the gospel.



THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



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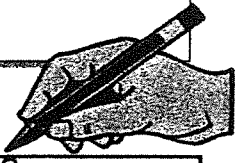
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- ANSWERS:**
- 194) Depart from the faith
 - 195) Forbidding to marry and commanding to abstain from certain foods
 - 196) From the elders or overseers
 - 197) As the rise of the man of sin
 - 198) Take note of them and avoid them
 - 199) Repent, Judge
 - 200) Do not receive them into our house nor greet them in the Lord's name

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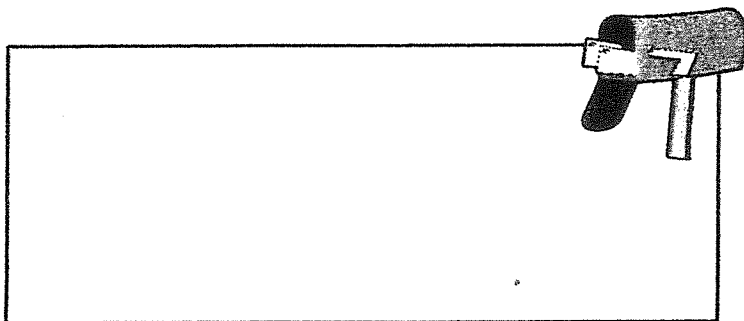
COURSE

◆ **LESSON TEN** ◆

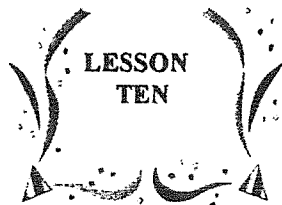


INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the question and the reference before writing the answers. After you have finished, go to the back page to check your answers. When you are satisfied that you understand the lesson, mail it to the address below and the next lesson will be sent to you along with the one you have just finished. We congratulate you on completing this course. After you return this lesson you will receive a certificate.



Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you." I Tim. 4:15-16



LESSON TEN

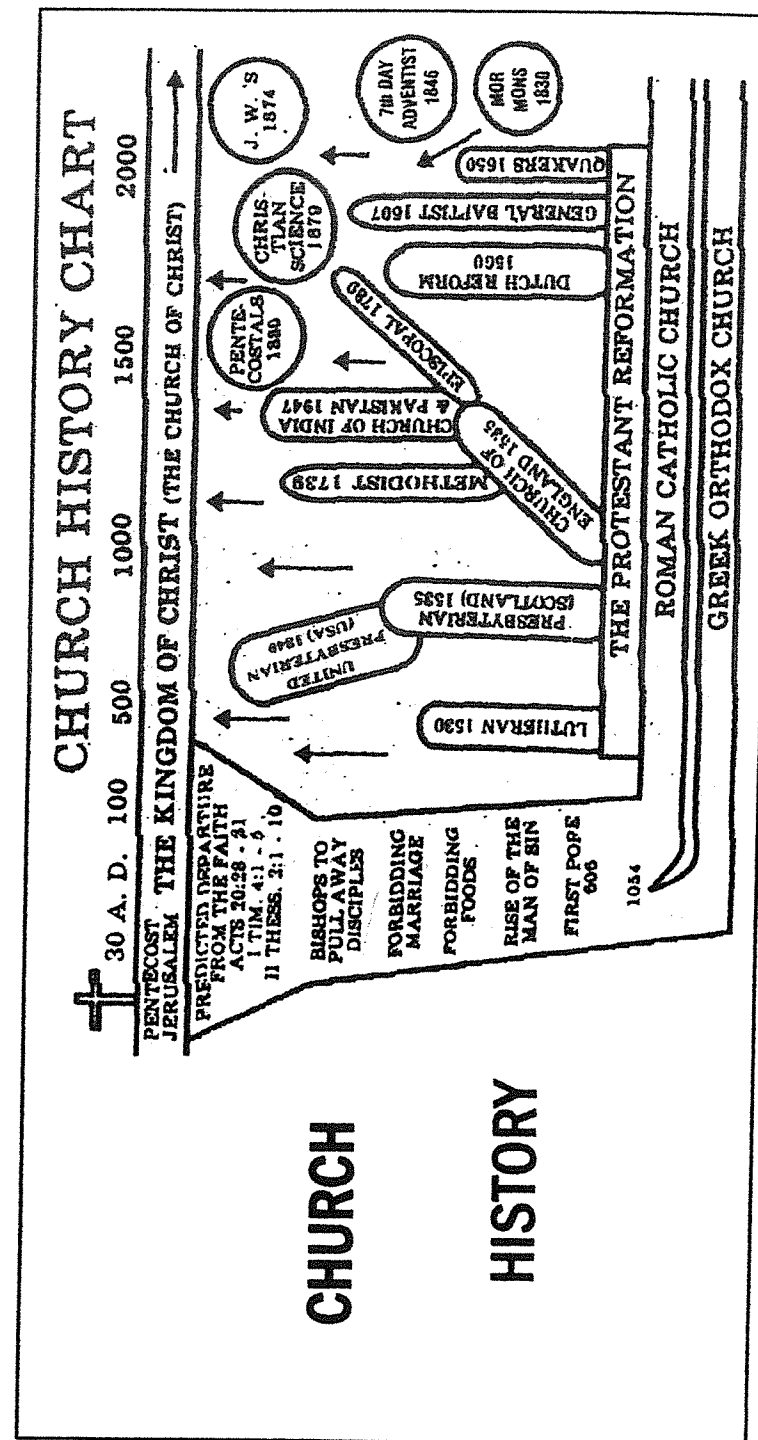
THE APOSTASY

194. I Timothy 4:1-2 - What did Paul say would happen to some in later times? _____
195. I Timothy 4:3-5 - Name two false doctrines about marriage and food by those who would depart from the faith.

196. Acts 20:17,28-30 - From what group would some false teachers arise? _____
197. II Thessalonians 2:1-9 - How is the rise of the Papacy described in this text? _____
198. Romans 16:17-18 - How are we to deal with false teachers who cause division in the body of Christ? _____
199. Acts 17:30-31 - God commands all to _____ because He has appointed a day in which he will _____ the world.
200. II John 9-11 -How are we to deal with those who bring to us teachings which are not found in the New testament doctrine of Christ?

CHURCH HISTORY

Even in the life time of the apostles they began to tell of the coming apostasy of some disciples from the faith (I Timothy 4:1-5, II Peter 2:1). Paul showed that even some who were bishops of the church would lead in this departure from the truth (Acts 20:28-31). The chart that follows shows the apostasy, the protestant reformation, and the need for calling men, not only out of general unbelief, but out of the darkness of denominationalism into the kingdom of Christ and God (Ephesians 5:5).



2. We must "visit orphans, and the widows in their trouble" (James 1:27), and we must also remember such in our prayers. (cf. Psalms 146:9, Deuteronomy 10:18).

3. Let us pray for the sick and suffering (James 5:13).

VI. PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS:

In doing this we must hold up a forgiving heart before the Lord. Jesus said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:14-15).

1. The Holy Spirit tells us "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

2. We are told "confess your trespasses to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much" (James 5:16).

VII. PRAY FOR DELIVERANCE FROM THE EVIL ONE:

God loves and protects His people, but He allows them to be tested. As it is written, "my son do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom he receives" (Hebrews 12:5-6). See the example of Abraham (Genesis 22:1-19) and Job, of whom it is written, you have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord - that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful" (James 5:11, See also Job 1:8-12, 2:4-10, 23:10).

VIII. ACKNOWLEDGE THE SOVEREIGNTY AND GLORY OF THE FATHER:

Jesus said to the Father, for Yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever" (Matthew 6:13). Again it is written, "to Him be glory ... throughout all ages, world without end" (Ephesians 3:21). The living creatures (seraphim) of the Revelation and the twenty-four elders representing the saints of the Old and New Testaments do not rest day or night saying: "You are worthy, O Lord to receive glory and honor and power" (Revelation 4:11). In our prayers we should praise the Father by ascribing to Him now such wonderful words.

IX. PRAY IN JESUS NAME:

As noted above our prayers are to be lifted to the Father through our high priest, Jesus. As it is written: "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us

hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:14-16). Shortly before our Lord returned to heaven (as noted above) He told the disciples concerning prayer, "in that day you will ask in My name" (John 16:26). In the governments of men one approaches a representative before he can see the president or prime minister. Even in the villages of tribal people they observe a protocol for one to speak to the village head. How much more ought we to respect our eternal Creator's Son as our intercessor. The remembrance of the Savior as our mediator can be at the beginning or ending of the prayer, but let us not fail to acknowledge Him.

X. SAY: "AMEN":

This word is from the Hebrew with a root meaning of "confirm". It means to confirm the truth or assent to it. The general sense being "so let it be", "truly" or "indeed". In the New Testament the apostle Paul shows an expectation of the congregation saying "amen" at the public giving of thanks (1 Corinthians 14:16).

CONCLUSION

I. MEMORIZE THE TEN POINTS IN THE OUTLINE.

II. IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTICE ABOUT PUBLIC PRAYER

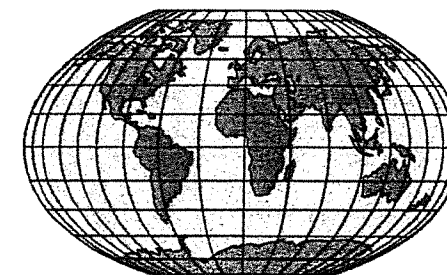
1. The model prayer was brief.
2. One should not use prayer as a time to preach.
3. One should speak loud enough to be heard by all.

Tract: THE MODEL PRAYER

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Introduction To Faith



THE MODEL PRAYER

THE MODEL PRAYER

Jim E. Waldron

INTRODUCTION

In the early days of our Lord's preaching work He gave a model prayer to His disciples. He said, "In this manner, therefore pray. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen" (Matt. 6:9-13).

I. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

1. Observe, this prayer was a model for His followers before His death and resurrection. Matthew tells us that the Lord said, "In this manner, therefore pray." On another occasion Luke tells us that the Lord said, "When you pray say . . .," then the prayer followed (Luke 11:1-4). Just before the Lord uttered the prayer in Matthew He warned in 6:7 against "vain repetitions." The Lord was not giving a prayer for continuous recitation over and over, but as a model.
2. Please notice also, the prayer was given before Pentecost (See Acts 2), thus they were told to pray for the kingdom to come. Later when the kingdom was founded in Jerusalem on the first Pentecost after Jesus resurrection with about 3000 on the first day (Acts 2:33-41), the time had come to pray for the kingdom to spread all over the earth. Not too long after Pentecost Philip, the evangelist, was at Samaria preaching the kingdom and both men and women were being immersed into it (Acts 8:12). At the time John wrote the Revelation he affirmed he was "in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ" (Revelation 1:9).
3. Again, the Lord closed the prayer in Matthew with "amen," being with them personally. Later as He spoke of the time He would be back in heaven with the Father He said to His disciples, "In that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you" (John 16:23); and again, "in that day you will ask in My name..." (John 16:26). Now we send up our prayers and petitions to the Father in the name of Jesus for He is our mediator. Even as it is written, "for there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (I Tim. 2:5). It is blasphemy to say that Mary is a mediatrix. Also, clergymen who address their prayers directly to Jesus show an ignorance of Christ's statement that prayer was to be addressed to the Father in His name.

The example of Stephen in Acts 7:59 is not applicable to our own prayers, because the circumstances were very different, as Stephen was granted a personal view of the Lord Jesus standing at the throne.

Jesus is also our high priest (Hebrews 8:1). In Christ's kingdom there is no clergy caste who must intercede for the people, for all are priests, even as it is written, "Jesus Christ ... has made us ... priests" (Revelation 1:6). That is, in the church of Christ, which is Christ's kingdom on this planet, we have the priesthood of believers. It is again written, "you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood ..." (I Peter 2:9). We are royal priests because we serve as priests in His kingdom. As such we may approach the throne of God directly through Jesus (Study Hebrews 4:14-16).

II. TEN SIMPLE POINT OUTLINE:

1. Address the Father.
2. Honor the Father's name.
3. Pray for the kingdom.
4. Pray for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.
5. Pray "give us this day our daily bread."
6. Pray for forgiveness.
7. Pray for deliverance from the evil one.
8. Acknowledge the sovereignty and glory of the Father.
9. Pray in Jesus name.
10. Say, "Amen."

BODY

I. ADDRESS THE FATHER:

"Our Father in heaven." He is our God and Lord and we may so address Him (Acts 4:24); but He is more to the Christian. He is our heavenly Father. We all have fleshly fathers and we have given them respect by calling them father in the physical sense (Hebrews 4:9), but only the true and living God is our spiritual Father. It is sinful and ungodly for men to exalt to themselves the title of father in a spiritual sense for it is written, "Do not call anyone on earth your Father, for one is your Father, He who is in heaven" (Matt. 23:9). Priests usurp God's title of "father" because of tradition, but the Lord Jesus said, "all too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition" (Mark 7:9).

II. HONOR THE FATHER'S NAME:

"Hallowed is your name." This word means to treat as holy. The seraphim (special angels) around God's throne say, "holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty," day and night (Revelation 4:8, Isaiah 6:3). The Levites in the time of Nehemiah spoke of God saying, "blessed be Your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise" (Nehemiah 9:5-6).

III. PRAY FOR THE KINGDOM:

As noted in the introduction Christ's kingdom has come as He promised in Mark 9:1 and fulfilled according to Acts 2:33-41. The Holy Spirit gave further confirmation of its existence in the first century through the pen of the apostle Paul. He affirmed of himself and the Christians in Colosse: God "has delivered us out of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of His love" (Colossians 1:13). We must now pray for the kingdom to fill the earth for it is written, "since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear" (Hebrews 12:28).

1. As we pray for the kingdom we must send up "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and ... thanks" (I Timothy 2:1) on behalf of all men. There is a special need for such in our time as there are 6.1 billion people on our planet who need to know Jesus. Let us pray that the good news of God's kingdom may cover the earth in our generation. All men need to know the pure and unperverted gospel of our Lord (See Galatians 1:6-9).
2. As Jesus commanded, "pray the Lord of harvest to send laborers into the harvest" of souls (Matthew 9:37-38). For God "desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (I Timothy 2:4).

IV. PRAY FOR GOD'S WILL TO BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN:

We must pray for kings, presidents and prime ministers to do God's will so, "that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence" (I Timothy 2:2). We also must pray for God's will to be done in our own lives. Our Master said of Himself, "for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of Him who sent me" (John 6:38).

V. PRAY "GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD":

We should not pray for riches, but for our needs as did the wise man who said, "give me neither poverty nor riches lest I be full and deny You, and say, who is the Lord or lest I be poor and steal, and profane the name of my God" (Proverbs 30:8-9). For "Godliness with contentment is great gain ... but those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition" (I Timothy 6:6-9). Concerning material needs we must keep on "giving thanks for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 5:20).

1. While praying for our own needs let us remember the hungry in our own country and those in lands stricken by famine, drought and war.

lous. In deed, the Christian is expected to so learn Christ through the word that he will be so filled (See again Gal. 4:19). Paul in his letter to the Colossians shows in practical terms how this is accomplished; "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom" (Col.3: 16). As was noted the Holy Spirit does not literally or actually dwell in the body of the Christian, but He dwells by means of His thoughts, His concepts, His wisdom, which rules the mind and life of the saint by means of His word.

Whenever the indwelling of the Spirit of God in a Christian (Rom. 8:11) is explained to a new convert or anyone else for that matter, it should not be so complicated as to render the matter unintelligible or impractical to him or her. The scriptures maintain that God (2 Cor. 6:16); Christ (2 Cor. 13:5) and the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:11) live in His people. Yet, the crux of the matter boils down to this practical question, how does the Godhead work in those who have been sanctified? Now the scriptures plainly say that He does so work, as Paul said to the saints in Philippi, "for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure" (Phil. 2:13).

Is it by an illumination on the subconscious that comes directly from the Spirit? Is it an inner feeling that is better felt than told? Or is it by an internal nudge through some unknown Divine operation? It is not! Because we are plainly told that the man of God is made "complete" or perfect through the scriptures and that they "thoroughly" equip him "for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Again we are told, that God by "His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us to glory and virtue (2 Peter 1:3). Seven times in the book of Revelation the Lord Jesus says one should use his ears to hear the Holy Spirit (Rev. 2:7,11,17,29; 3:6,13,22; cf., 13:9). And the scriptures are very clear as to the manner in which God works in His children. As it is written, "the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe" (1 Thess. 2:13). The Greek word in this reference for "works" comes from the same word from which we get the word "energy." In other words God energizes in His people by means of His divine word. The "living and powerful" (Heb. 4: 12) word of God in a believing active Christian is like uranium energizing in a nuclear reactor.

To repeat, it is not a literal indwelling, nor is it an actual indwelling in conjunction with the word, but it is by means of the word, which, as noted, is the instrument of the Spirit's operation on the mind of man. The understanding and acceptance of this fact brings an overwhelming reality to the mind of the obedient believer that the Holy Spirit so rules his life, through the all powerful word that he (the believer) "may be filled with all the fullness of God" (Eph. 3:19).

This begins when a sinner is sanctified by the blood of Christ at the time he obeys the gospel (See John 17:17, Acts 3:19, 1 Cor. 6:11). This is the reason the apostle Paul asked the saints at Corinth, "Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have from God ...?" (1 Corinthians 6:19). It is certainly right to admonish Christians young and old to keep their bodies pure because God dwells in them as His temple, for Paul tells us "you were bought at a price, therefore glorify God in your body and your spirit which are God's (1 Cor. 6:20).

As the scriptures speak of "our common salvation" (Jude 3), even so this indwelling of the Holy Spirit, through faith, (to repeat) is not miraculous. It is the ordinary and common gift of God to all, who through faith keep His word, even as Peter testified of "the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him" (Acts 5:32). Again Peter said to the mass of people on Pentecost, "Repent, and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). Observe in this text the receipt of the gift of the Holy Spirit was contingent upon the hearers obeying the primary steps of faith, which was not the case with the apostles (Acts 2:1-4), nor the household of Cornelius (Acts 10:44-48).

Thus the Holy Spirit today lives in the obedient child of God by means of the word of faith which has been preached to us (1 Peter 1:22-25). Do you desire (cf. Luke 11:13) the Holy Spirit to work in your life, then read His word, believe it, obey it and keep on obeying it. To use a term from Isaiah be "willing and obedient" (Isa. 1:19), then the Spirit by means of His word will live in you and effectively work in you (1 Thess. 2:13). It will be like a fire in your bones, as it is written, "is not My word like a fire? Says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?" (Jer. 23:29; cf. 20:9). **"The Greek text has "dia tes pisteos," "through the faith."**

INTRODUCTION TO FAITH

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GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE HOLY SPIRIT UNDER CHRIST'S RULE HAS BEEN GIVEN IN THREE WAYS:

I. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Just ten days after His ascension back to heaven, Jesus, on Pentecost (A.D. 30), from the right hand of the Father's throne, personally sent down the Holy Spirit on the twelve, as Peter affirmed that day, "He (Jesus) poured out this which you now see and hear" (Acts 2:33). This was not to make them His apostles, for He had done that already (Luke 6:13). It was in order for the Holy Spirit to teach them, "all things" of God; to bring to their "remembrance all things," which Christ had said to them (John 14:26); to "guide them into all truth" (John 16:13); and to provide them "power" (Acts 1:8). Through which power, they were to do many "signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit" to confirm the word of God (Hebrews 2:3-4, cf. Mark 16:17-20). This was the baptism of the twelve in the Holy Spirit, which Christ had promised to them (Acts 1:4-5). Not all the 120 spoken of in Acts 1:15 were baptized in the Holy Spirit, but only the apostles, as the reading of Acts 1:26, 2:1, 2:14, 37, 42, 43 shows. When the twelve received the power from on high they did not string together a babel of non-sense or spout a few Hebrew words in vain repetition as those who claim the power of Pentecost do today. The apostles spoke real tongues, or languages, of real people, even as those who heard that day affirmed, "we hear, each in our own language in which we were born" (Acts 2:8).

According to the inspired record, baptism of the Holy Spirit occurred only one other time and that was about ten years later on the first Gentile converts in the house of Cornelius at Caesarea (Acts 10:44-48). It was not to make them apostles, nor did they receive this special gift in order to guide them into all truth. That, as noted, had been promised to the apostles; but these Gentiles did have in a miraculous manner "the gift of the Holy Spirit ... poured out on (them) also" (Acts 10:45), directly from the hand of Christ Jesus. This was done in order to prove to the Jews that the Gentiles, as well as they, were to have the gospel.

Later the believing Jews at Jerusalem called upon Peter to give an account of his conduct in Caesarea. As the record shows (Acts 11:1-18) he gave an orderly and detailed description of the events, which had lead up to his decision to command baptism in water for the Gentiles at Cornelius' house (See Acts 10:47-48). Not only this, but Peter did not indicate in any way that such a miraculous gift, of the Holy Spirit directly from Jesus, was a common occurrence. In fact he did the opposite for he had to go all the way back to Pentecost, approximately ten years before, to find a like example. He said, "the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning" (Acts 11:15). He didn't say, as on us "last night," "last week," "last month" or "last year" as many claim today.

On the day of Pentecost there had been two baptisms: (1) Holy Spirit baptism on the twelve (Acts 2:1-8), and (2) the baptism of about 3000 (2:38-41) in water. This latter baptism was according to the authority of Christ, as given in the great commission, even unto the end of the world (Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 8:36-38). Again there were two baptisms at Cornelius' house according to Acts 10:47: Holy Spirit baptism and water baptism. Yet, twenty years after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Caesarea, around A.D. 60, Paul affirmed by the Spirit Himself that there was "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Ephesians 4:5). Holy Spirit baptism had ceased to be given by that date and it does not occur today. There is now one baptism (that commanded in the great commission), not two.

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT BY THE APOSTLES' HANDS

The church at its beginning had only the Old Testament scriptures (cf. Acts 17:11). When a congregation was begun it had no written account of Christ's life, the Acts or any of the twenty-one letters, which are in our New Testament. Therefore, Jesus at the beginning, in a miraculous way, set certain positions among the disciples to provide for the young churches until they could have the faith and the knowledge of Him in unified form. As it is written, "He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors (elders), and teachers, for the equipping of the saints, for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness by which they lie in wait to deceive" (Ephesians 4:11-14). Later some of these, such as evangelists (2 Timothy 4:1-5), elders (pastors) (1 Titus 1:5-9), and teachers (2 Timothy 2:2) were set in the churches by means of the word. Yet, as noted, at the first, such positions in the early church were done in a miraculous manner by the Lord, until the knowledge of Jesus, and the faith in unified form, could be given. The Savior also arranged for the Holy Spirit to distribute certain miraculous gifts among the disciples, as it is written, "there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:4).

There were nine of these gifts: (1) wisdom, (2) knowledge, (3) faith, (4) healings, (5) miracles, (6) prophecy, (7) discerning of Spirits, (8) various kinds of tongues or languages, and (9) the interpretation of such tongues (1 Corinthians 12:7-10). These were distributed among the disciples in the first century by the Holy Spirit, not directly, but through the apostles, for the record says, "Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given..." (Acts 8:18). Simon had seen Philip, the evangelist, perform miracles, wonders and signs (Acts 8:5-8); but he had not seen him impart what Peter called, "the gift of God" (Acts 8:20), which produced such miraculous powers among the first century Christians. Philip was able to perform miracles himself because the apostles had earlier laid their hands on him (Acts 6:5-6); but he could not pass that power to others as the apostles did. The statement by Luke, at the time of the apostles' arrival among the Samaritan disciples concerning their receipt of the Holy Spirit: "For as yet He had fallen on none of them" (Acts 8:16), shows they had received no miraculous manifestation of the Spirit prior to the apostles' arrival. We must note, Philip and the other six brothers chosen with him to serve widow's tables in Jerusalem were men filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:3,5) before the apostles laid hands on them, but it was not a miraculous gift of the Holy Spirit. The miraculous manifestation of the Spirit came on the seven after the apostles had laid their hands on them (Acts 6:6-8, cf. 1 Corinthians 12:7).

The sending of two apostles, Peter and John, to impart such spiritual gifts among the disciples at Samaria after Philip had converted them, illustrates the apostolic practice of providing rapid leadership for the new congregations. Paul's inquiry about certain disciples receiving the Holy Spirit at Ephesus, their "re"-baptism for the right purpose, and his subsequent imparting of the Holy Spirit to them (Acts 19:1-6), confirms this practice of the apostles among the first century churches. These were temporary gifts until the perfect gift: God's completed revelation to man, could be given, that is, the unified form "of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God" (See again Eph. 4:11-14).

Paul wrote to the church at Corinth about A.D.57 speaking of this complete or perfect gift: "whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which (not He who) is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away" (1 Corinthians 13:8-10). Daniel, in speaking of the seventy weeks determined on the Jews, said one thing the Messiah (Jesus) would do, was, "to seal up vision and prophecy" (Daniel 9:24). This He did with the death of John (c. A. D. 98) and those upon whom the apostles had laid hands. Zechariah had also foretold that God would "cause the prophets and the unclean spirits to depart from the land" (Zechariah 13:2). This took place with the close of the apostolic age. Today there are no prophets of God (See Zechariah 13:3). The masses don't have to depend on a part of God's word in this man and apart

in that. Today all men may have God's complete (perfect) revelation, the Holy Bible.

Since, the apostles were distributors of these nine miraculous gifts, when they died and those on whom they had laid hands died also, the age of miracles closed. We walk by faith, hearing the word of God and believing the signs that have been written (John 20:30-31). We are not a wicked and adulterous generation that keeps on demanding signs (Matthew 12:38-39) after God has confirmed His word and closed vision and prophecy.

III. THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH FAITH

The apostle Paul affirmed that "we are all sons of God through *faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:26-27); and it is through this same faith, which we make our own by obedience, that we receive the promise of the Spirit. As it is written, "that the blessings of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through *faith" (Galatians 3:14). Again as the same apostle speaking of Jesus to the Ephesians said, "in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise" (Ephesians 1:13). Again the apostle to the Gentiles told the Corinthians God "has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a deposit" (2 Cor. 1:22). The Holy Spirit does not literally dwell in the Christian as demons used to invade the bodies of certain individuals (Mark 1:23-26), but He dwells in the heart of the Christian just as Christ does; that is, through faith. For it is written, "that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith..." (Ephesians 3:17; cf. Romans 8:9-10). Again, Paul testified to the saints in Colosse "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Col. 1: 27). He also spoke to the wayward Galatians of his travail "in birth again until Christ is formed in you" (Gal. 4:19).

The word of God is the instrument of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17) to operate on the mind of man. For faith comes through hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17). It is the word, which is "the power of God unto salvation" (Rom. 1: 16), and the medium for man's sanctification, as it is written, even of the apostles, "sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth" (John 17:17).

As noted earlier Philip, Stephen and the other five brothers who were chosen to care for widow's tables in Jerusalem were "full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom" prior to the apostles laying hands on them (Acts 6:3-6). How was this possible? It was possible because they had accepted the word of faith and were continuing to be obedient to it (cf. Acts 2:38-42). That is, they were keeping the command which was later recorded in the letter to the Ephesians: "be filled with the Spirit" (Eph. 5:18). This latter text implicitly teaches that the children of God in general were and are filled with the Spirit in a manner that is not miracu-