



HOPE AGLOW MINISTRIES, INC.

Basic Doctrine Bible Study Course

By Alfreda Martin

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|
| 1. The Bible | 7. Heaven | 13. The Christian Life |
| 2. God | 8. Hell | 14. Future Events |
| 3. Creation | 9. Salvation | 15. Judgments |
| 4. Angels | 10. Born Again | 16. Rewards |
| 5. Satan | 11. The Holy Spirit | |
| 6. Man-His Fall-Sin | 12. The Church-Baptism-The Lord's Super | |

Dedication

This book is lovingly dedicated to my husband, EDWARD H. MARTIN, whose love, inspiration and encouragement have been a great help in the writing of these lessons.

Alfreda Martin

Introduction

This book is not intended to be an exhaustive, in-depth Study of GOD'S WORD. Rather, it was written to make plain the Way of Salvation; and to give the New Christian a basis of Bible knowledge on which to build his/her Christian life.

I trust that the LORD will be able to use this book of BASIC BIBLE STUDIES to lead SOULS to saving-knowledge of CHRIST; and to build-up Christians in the faith.

Sincerely,
ALFREDA MARTIN

Instructions

Please follow the Instructions at the beginning of each Lesson, **CAREFULLY**.

DO ONLY ONE LESSON PER DAY!

Do all the Review Work on **"POINTS TO REMEMBER"** and the **"MEMORY VERSES" DAILY**.

Do the Tests in the Test Section as instructed in each Lesson.

Do the Test without the aid of the Textbook (this is an **HONOR** System).

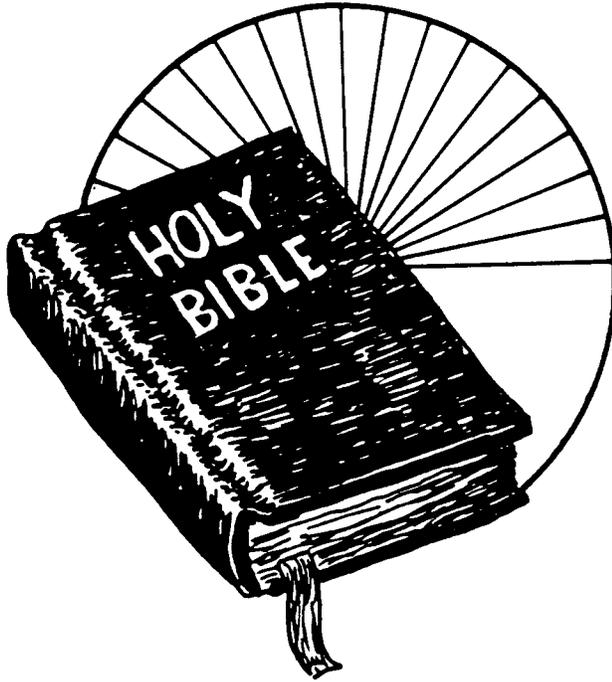
When finished with all the Tests, send entire Test Section to HOPE AGLOW MINISTRIES, INC., P.O. BOX 10157, Lynchburg, Va. 24506.

Your Tests will be graded and returned to you, with a "framable CERTIFICATE" of completion, from HOPE AGLOW MINISTRIES, INC.

GOD BLESS YOU AS YOU STUDY THESE LESSONS!

LESSON 1

The Bible



Prayer: “Dear Lord, as I begin this study on these great Bible truths in the Bible, help me to realize that I am studying God’s message to me and if I receive His message to me, I can become a child of God, and a strong Christian, in Jesus name. Amen.”

Read the Memory Verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE
(Psalm 119:105): **“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”**

“THE BIBLE: The one book that has had more impact on men and nations than all other books—Treaties, Documents, etc. combined, since the beginning of time.”

William Lyon Phelps

“Reading and studying God’s Word gets the person into the Word, but memorizing it gets the Word into the person, and there it becomes a major directive force in the spiritual unfolding and development of God’s new creation.”

By N.A. Woychuk

II Timothy 3:16: “**All scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for Doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.”

The Holy Scriptures were written, as GOD moved upon certain chosen men (approx. 40), over a period of some 1,600 years of time— patriarchs, like Moses, Prophets like Isaiah and Jonah; others, lowly fishermen like Peter and John. Some were educated scholars like Dr. Luke and the Apostle Paul. The various places and the different ages that God inspired these men to write, proves that it was impossible for them to have ever known each other, or to have conferred together, concerning the contents of the Bible; yet, **the Bible being 66 separate books, makes one complete BOOK.** There is one main theme running through the entire whole:— That theme from Genesis to Revelation, is GOD’S LOVE and CHRIST’S death to redeem a sinful people. Therefore, we can boldly say that the Bible is “GOD-BREATHED”.

The Bible is made up of 66 books, in two parts; the **Old Testament** and the **New Testament**. THE OLD TESTAMENT was written in “Hebrew” (the Jewish tongue). It contains 39 books. These Books were written before Christ’s Incarnation (coming to earth). THE NEW TESTAMENT was written in Greek; it contains 27 books. These books were written after the Birth, Life, Death, and Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ.

“The New is in the old contained— the old is by the new explained.”

There are many “proofs” that the Bible is no ordinary book.

ONE is that the Bible is always new to the reader. My husband and I read through the Bible **each year**, and every time there are new truths learned and new blessings received. Try reading any other book more than two or three times and it becomes boring and of no real help. Why? Because you already have exhausted its contents. Not so with the Bible. One can study it for a lifetime and only touch the edge of the depths of its truths.

Christ is called “the **Word**”. John 1:1: *“In the beginning was the word (Christ) **and the word was with God and the word was God.**”*

The Bible then is **Christ in written form. When Jesus Christ came to earth and took on human flesh, He was the “word” in human flesh. He always is the “living word”.**

The Bible is the “**tool**” that the Holy Spirit uses to **convict** men of sin and draw them to CHRIST. Hebrew 4:12: *“For the Word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit and of the joints and marrow. And is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*

Another proof that the Bible is **GOD’S Book** is by the fulfilled prophecies (that is that the Old Testament prophets predicted in exact detail things that would and did take place thousands of years later)– for example, the birth, life, death and resurrection of CHRIST were all foretold (prophesied) in the Old Testament down to the place where CHRIST was born - Micah 5:2 - that CHRIST would be born of a virgin - Isaiah 7:14 - that He would be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver - Zechariah 11:12-13 - His cry from the cross was quoted in Psalm 22, *“My God, why hast thou forsaken me.”* The resurrection of His body from the grave is foretold in Psalm 16:10. There is no way that these prophecies and their fulfillment (plus thousands of others) could have been known and written **except through the foreknowledge of God. Truly the Bible was God Breathed!!!**

You may think that the Bible is “old-fashioned”, out of date. NO!!! The Bible is in step with our times. Read it and you will see what is happening today!!

A microfilm packet containing Genesis 1:1 in sixteen languages and a complete Bible were deposited on the moon by Apollo 14 LEM, Commander Edgar Mitchell.

The Gideons presented the first three astronauts with New Testaments **which they took on the journey to the moon.** Commander Borman took along his personal copy of the Bible. The first ten verses of Genesis on Creation were read by the astronauts on Christmas Eve as the Bible passed or floated from man to man– that’s about as modern as you can get in this space age.

It is very important to own a good Bible. One with good readable print. Your copy of the Bible will be a life-long friend. Mark and underscore its precious promises.

The Bible is the only source from which we can find the answers to man’s three most important questions:

1. Where did I come from?
2. Why am I here?
3. Where am I going?

1. Where did I come from?

(Genesis 1:27): “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created He Him; male and female created He them.”

2. Why am I here?

(Eccles. 12:13): “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.”

3. Where am I going?

(John 14:2-3): “In my father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there, ye may be also.

WARNING: This book is habit forming. Regular use causes loss of anxiety, decreased appetite for lying, cheating, stealing, hating– sin in general. Symptoms are increased sensations of love, peace, joy and compassion.

LESSON 1 - THE BIBLE
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) **The Bible is the inspired, “GOD-BREATHED” message of God to men.**
- (2) **The Bible contains 66 books, 39 in the OLD TESTAMENT; 27 in the NEW TESTAMENT.**
- (3) **The OLD TESTAMENT was written before** the coming of Christ in human flesh.
- (4) The NEW TESTAMENT was written **after** the Birth, Life, Death and Resurrection of JESUS CHRIST.
- (5) The BIBLE was written by approximately 40 men, over a period of some 1600 years.
- (6) The “Central Theme” of the entire Bible, is the CROSS upon which CHRIST wrought redemption for sinful men.
- (7) The BIBLE does not **contain** the WORD of GOD, the BIBLE **IS** the WORD OF GOD!
- (8) The BIBLE is “the best seller” **every year.**
- (9) Memorizing scripture is a top priority to become a strong Christian.
- (10) There are many proofs that the BIBLE is no ordinary Book. Two of them are:
 - A. The Bible never grows old.
 - B. Fulfilled prophecies.
- (11) The first ten verses of Genesis (on creation) were read on the first moon flight.
- (12) There is a complete Bible and Genesis 1:1 in sixteen (16) languages on the moon.
- (13) Jesus Christ is called “The Word”.
- (14) Only the Bible (through the power of the Holy Spirit) has the power to change lives.
- (15) The Bible gives us the answers to man’s most important questions:
 1. Where did I come from?
 2. Why am I here?
 3. Where am I going?

LESSON 2

God



Prayer: "Dear God, as I study this very important lesson, help me to be able to understand this important truth. For Jesus sake. Amen."

Please read the memory verse for Lesson 1, "THE BIBLE", 4 times and review POINTS TO REMEMBER in Lesson One.

Read 5 times, slowly and thoughtfully, your Scripture verse for this lesson, and always include the location. It is like your address.

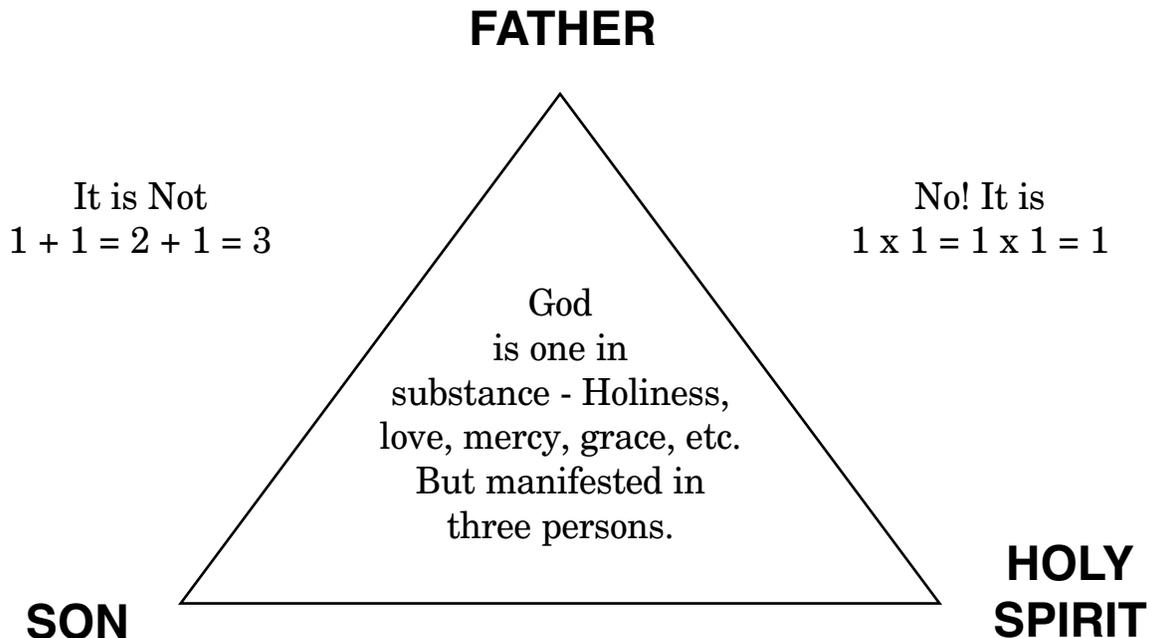
GENESIS = State

CHAPTER ONE = Town

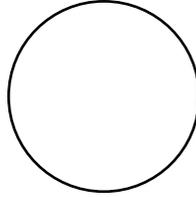
VERSE ONE = Street number

MEMORY VERSE
(Genesis 1:1): **"In the beginning GOD created the Heaven and the earth."**

The word, GOD, "ELOHIM" is a Uni-Plural Noun, meaning more than one (plurality), used about 2,500 times in the Old Testament; thus, the "Trinity" is shown in the first verse of the Bible. The trinity mean ONE GOD in THREE Manifestations. A helpful summary of the Trinity can also be found in the Athanasian Creed. Formed early in the existence of the Church, it contains a statement which still stands as a guide for believers today. It reads: "So the FATHER is GOD; the SON is GOD and the HOLY SPIRIT is GOD. And yet there are not three Gods, but one God...either confounding the persons nor dividing the substance."



THE FIRST WORDS OF THE BIBLE, “**IN THE BEGINNING,**”— WHEN WAS THAT?—
We don’t know! But look at the perfect circle.



Can you tell where it starts and ends? NO! **GOD** is the **ETERNAL SELF-EXISTING ONE**:—No beginning
← (TIME) → No Ending! The **ONE GOD, MANIFESTED IN “THREE”**: **GOD, THE
FATHER:—GOD THE SON, JESUS CHRIST:—GOD, THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

You say, “I can’t understand “ONE GOD in THREE” Manifestations.” Neither can anyone else. We just take these things by faith as (Heb 11:6) says: “*But without faith it is impossible to please HIM.*” However, **GOD HAS PUT MANY** illustrations of this uni-plural fact into Nature to help us to understand. Take for instance, Water - Ice - Steam; they are different forms, but all have the same substance. Have you ever thought of an egg as one but three? Shell - white part - yolk = one egg.

As you will see in a later lesson, **MAN is THREE IN ONE** also: **BODY - SOUL - and SPIRIT = ONE PERSON.** (I Thess. 5:23) “*And the very GOD of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray GOD your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our LORD JESUS CHRIST.*” (In Gen. 1:26) **GOD** said, “*Let Us make man in our Image, after our likeness.*”

“We know that the Bible is the Word of **GOD**, if for no other than that we have the **TRINITY** in it. The one thing the Child of **GOD** can do is to accept it by faith.” (“*Bible Doctrines*” by Cambron.)

(I) THE GOD OF THE BIBLE, HAS ALL KNOWLEDGE—OMNISCIENCE

The big word **OMNISCIENCE** means: Knowing all things. (Read John 2:24-25) “*But JESUS did not commit HIMSELF unto them because he **knew all** men, and needed not that any should testify of men: for HE knew what was in man.*”

(II) THE GOD OF THE BIBLE HAS ALL POWER—OMNIPOTENCE

By his power, **HE** spoke the worlds into being By **HIS** power, He is now holding the Universe together! Consider these verses, (Jer. 32:27) “*Behold, I am the LORD, the GOD of all flesh: is there anything too hard for ME?*” and (Luke 1:37): “*For with GOD, **nothing shall be impossible.***”

(III) THE GOD OF THE BIBLE IS EVERYWHERE PRESENT AT THE SAME TIME—OMNIPRESENT

We are limited by time and space—**GOD** has no such limitations. Reference (Isa. 66:1): “*Thus saith the LORD, The Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto ME? and where is the place of My rest?*”

“HOW CAN GOD BE EVERYWHERE AT ONCE?”

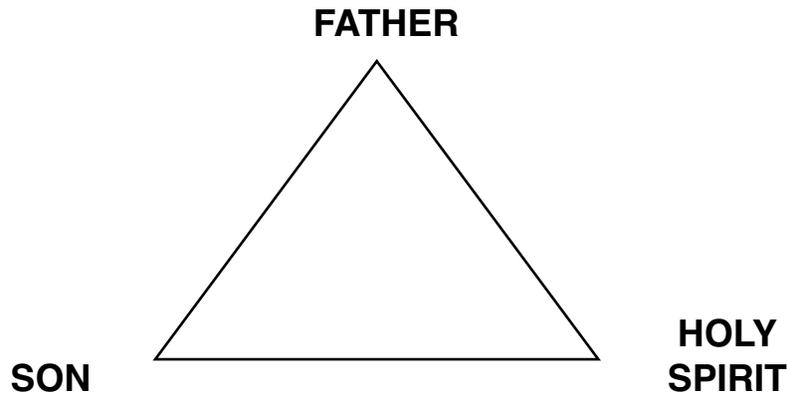
“Our nine-year-old son asked me to guess the fastest moving thing in the world. I guessed a rocket, a satellite? I was wrong both times, So I gave up, and my son said, “Light! It travels at the speed of 186,000 miles a second.” The Bible says that **GOD** is light. That means that the Spirit of God moves over the face of the earth at a speed of 186,000 miles a second. **HE** can read my thoughts and the thoughts of every other mind on earth; and be back again before my thought is even complete.” (C.H.M.) Jesus said, “I am the light of the world”.

“WHAT DOES GOD LOOK LIKE?”

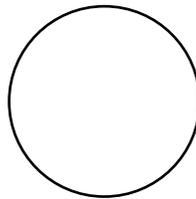
We don’t know, but Scripture speaks of **HIS** eyes, hands, feet, etc. Here’s a great promise **GOD** has given us that some day, when we (Christians only) go to be with **HIM**— “We **SHALL BE LIKE HIM**”— **AMEN!** (I John 3:2) “*...when HE shall appear, we shall be like HIM; for we shall see HIM as HE is.*”

LESSON 2 - THE BIBLE
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) The word “GOD” is the Hebrew word “ELOHIM”, meaning **PLURALITY** (more than one).
- (2) There is **ONE GOD**– manifested in **THREE**.
- (3) We call this the **TRINITY**: GOD the **FATHER** - GOD the **SON** - GOD the **HOLY SPIRIT**.



- (4) GOD is the **ETERNAL, SELF-EXISTING ONE**, like a circle no beginning, no end!



- (5) **Man** is also a trinity– **BODY - SOUL - SPIRIT**. (I Thess. 5:23)“*And the very GOD of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray GOD your whole **spirit and soul** and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our LORD JESUS CHRIST.*”
- (6) GOD has all knowledge–**OMNISCIENCE**.
- (7) GOD has all power–**OMNIPOTENCE**.
- (8) GOD is everywhere at the same time–**OMNIPRESENCE**.
- (9) Some day we shall all be like **JESUS**.
- (10) For now, we must believe these truths by faith, “for without faith, it is impossible to please GOD.”

LESSON 3

Creation



Prayer: “Dear Lord, Help me to understand and believe that you are the creator of everything, including men; and that the theory of gradual evolution of matter and life are completely false and have no scientific or Biblical foundation. Thank you. Amen.”

Read the Scripture Verses for Lessons 1 and 2.
Review Points to Remember in Lessons 1 and 2.

Do the test page for Lesson 1.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(Isaiah 42:5): “**Thus saith God the Lord, He that created the Heavens, and stretched them out; He that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; He that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein.**”

(Genesis 1:1) “*In the beginning GOD created (made from nothing) the Heavens and the earth.*”

These creative acts are recorded in the first chapter of the Bible:

- (1) The creation of the Heavens and the earth, verse 1.
- (2) The creation of Animal life, verse 21.
- (3) The creation of Human life, verses 26-27.

The first creation: that of the Heavens and the earth— When was it? Some say millions or even billions of years ago. Many Bible scholars believe in a much younger earth— 6,000 years, based on the Bible records of man. Frankly, we cannot be positive as to the date of creation; that is one of GOD’S secrets that we’ll find out when we get to Heaven. As one preacher said, “GOD threw a handful of nothing out into space and said ‘stay there!’” We do know that the word “**Create**” means to **make something from nothing.**

Man today, with all his scientific knowledge, thinks he knows everything. However, God’s talk to Job (Job chapters 38, 39, 40) shows us how little knowledge on this subject is. **At your earliest convenience, read the entire book of JOB.** This is claimed to be the oldest written book in the Bible, written before the law was given to Moses. But for the purpose here, let’s read the 38th Chapter, Verses 1 through 37):

*“The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand thee, and answer thou me. **Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the***

***earth? Declare if thou hast understanding.** Who hath laid the measure thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner-stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together,*

and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it. And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors, and said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further; and here shall thy proud waves be stayed? **Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days; and caused the dayspring to know his place;** That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, that the wicked might be shaken out of it? It is turned as clay to the seal; and they stand as a garment. And from the wicked their light is withholden, and the high arm shall be broken, **Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea? or hast thou walked in the search of the depth?** Have the gates of death been opened unto thee? or **hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death? Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth? declare if thou knowest it all.** Where is the way where light dwelleth? and as for darkness where is the place thereof, That thou shouldest take it to the bound thereof, and that thou shouldest know the paths of the house thereof? Knowest thou it, because thou wast then born? Or because the number of thy days is great? **Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou**

seen the treasures of hail, which I have reserved against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war? By what way is the light parted, which scattereth the east wind and upon the earth? Who hath divided a water-course for the overflowing of waters, or a way for the lightning of thunder; To cause it to rain on the earth; where no man is; on the the wilderness, where in there is no man; to satisfy the desolate and waste ground; and to cause the bud of the tender herb to spring forth? Hath the rain a father? or who hath begotten the drops of dew? Out of whose womb can the ice? and the hoary frost of Heaven, who hath gendered it? The waters are hid as with a stone, and the face of the deep is frozen. Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion? Canst thou bring forth Mazzaroth in his season? or canst thou guide Arcturuss with his sons? Knowest thou the ordinances of Heaven? canst thou set the dominion thereof in the earth? Canst thou lift up thy voice to the clouds, that abundance of waters may cover thee, and say unto thee, Here we are? Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or **who hath given understanding to the heart? **Who** can number the clouds in wisdom? or who can stay the bottles of Heaven?**

How would you have answered GOD? (GOD has given us some of the facts, such as, there are three Heavens:-(starting at the top and going down):

The Third Heaven. GOD'S dwelling-place— above the planetary Heaven.

The Second Heaven. The Heavenly bodies—sun - moon - stars (perhaps, Satan's abode, since he was cast out of Heaven, and he is the Prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2).

The First Heaven. The atmospheric clouds where the birds fly, etc. Paul said that he was caught-up into the Third Heaven: (II Corinthians 12:2) "...such an one caught up to the Third Heaven."

It is to...the Second and Third Creative acts of GOD that we are going to give our attention (Genesis 1:1 through 26):

"In the beginning GOD created the Heavens and the earth. And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of GOD moved upon the face of the waters. And GOD said, Let there be light; and there was light. And GOD saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. And GOD called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. And GOD said, Let there be firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And GOD

*made the firmament, and divided the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so. And GOD called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day. And God said, Let the waters under the Heaven be gathered unto one place, and let the dry land appear; and it was so. And GOD called the dry land, **EARTH**; and the gathering together of the waters called **He Seas**; and GOD saw that it was good. And GOD said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree*

yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed was in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself after his kind: and GOD saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the third day. And GOD said, Let there be lights in the firmament of Heaven, to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years: And let them

be for lights in the firmament of Heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. And GOD made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: He made the stars also. And GOD set them in the firmament of Heaven to give light upon the earth. And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness; and GOD saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

As we have all heard, and no doubt, been taught in school, the mind of unGodly man, trying to figure-out and solve the mystery of “WHERE DID WE COME FROM,” has taken up the Evolution Theory, as expounded by the English Atheist Darwin. That is the theory that there is no GOD; but sometime, somewhere, something,—THEY KNOW NOT WHEN, WHERE OR HOW— some piece of protoplasm began to evolve (that is, to divide cells), and grow into even larger things— tadpoles - fish - monkeys - apes— Man (but there it stops; and for the last 6,000 years of recorded history, nothing has evolved into anything else— strange, isn’t it?).

Darwin, on his death-bed, said, “He had made-up the idea, and that he no longer advocated the theory of Evolution.” But Oh! The terrible damage that it has done, and the countless SOULS it has sent to Hell, through this teaching.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY!

Go back to GENESIS 1 and start where we left on the Fourth day of **Creation**.

Verse 20— Fish and birds were created.

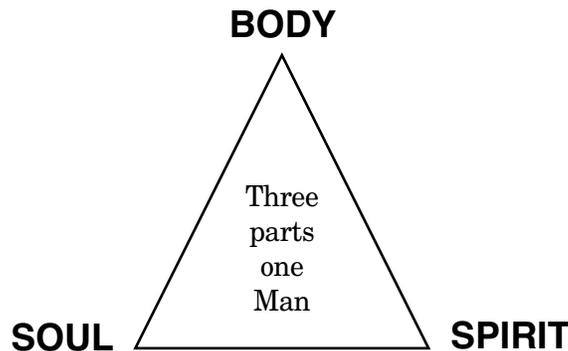
Verse 21— great whales, every living creature and fowl.

Verse 22— cattle, creeping thing, and the beast of the earth.

(Genesis 1:20-25) “And GOD said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of Heaven. And GOD created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and GOD saw that it was good. And GOD blessed them, saying, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters and the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth. And the evening and the morning were the fifth day. And GOD said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle and creeping things, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. And GOD made the beast of earth after his kind, and cattle after his kind: and it was so. And GOD made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and GOD saw that it was good.”

NOW— go back and **underline** the times GOD said,—“**After his (their) kind.**” How many did you find? ____? That simply means that dogs have puppies, not kittens; horses have colts, not calves, etc., etc. (I Corinthians 15:39) says: “*All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.*”

The sixth day was GOD's crowning act of creation– (Vs's 25-27) “*And GOD said, Let us make **man** in **OUR** likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over the creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So GOD created man in HIS own image, in the image of GOD created He him; male and female created HE them.*” Notice in Vs. 26, where GOD said, “*Let US make man in **OUR** image, after **OUR** likeness: **US– OUR– the TRINITY:***”



Notice Verse 7 of Chapter 2: How did GOD create **man**? HE formed him out of the dust of the ground– and breathed into his nostrils, the breath of life– and “*he became a living SOUL.*”

With the plant and animal creations, He just spoke– and they came into being: **not so with man.** He was formed out of the dust of the earth. NOW NOTICE– GOD did something HE did not do in all the other creations, including the Angels HE (GOD) breathed into his (man's) nostrils, the breath of life, and he became a **LIVING SOUL.** GOD imparted part of **HIMSELF (SPIRIT)** into man. GOD cannot die; therefore the spirit (soul) of man, which imparted by GOD, can never die. Herein lies the great difference between **animals** and **man.**

“There is no evidence that Primitive Man differed from Man today:–

- A. There is proof that Human Blood is one blood. World War II has proved this: the blood of a white man can be placed into the veins of a black man; and vice-versa– and give life.
- B. **There is a great difference between the constitution of man and animal. (Blood cannot be exchanged.)**
- C. Physically, man is an upright Being, while animals are on “all fours”.

THERE IS A GREAT GULF BETWEEN MAN AND ANIMALS:

MAN has a body - world consciousness - he can feel hot and cold - can see, hear, etc.

ANIMAL has a body - world consciousness - he can feel hot and cold - can see, hear, etc.

MAN has human-soul - self consciousness - he can be fearful - angry, happy, etc. - he has a personality, emotions and will to choose.

ANIMAL has animal-soul - he can be friendly - fearful - he has animal personality.

MAN, only man, has intellect; he can plan, invent, build, etc.

ANIMAL has instinct. Each animal has its own instincts, programmed into it for survival; i.e.: birds build nests; foxes dig holes, etc.

MAN has **spirit**; he has a GOD-consciousness. No matter where man is found he has an **in-dwelling consciousness that there is a higher Being; man must worship something, therefore, when he knows not the true GOD,** he worships the Sun, Moon, Animals, etc. In Japan where we were missionaries for 15 years - they worship 8 million so called gods.

ANIMAL has no spirit; has no GOD-consciousness. Have you ever seen an animal pray?

MAN– the Human race, reproduces after **his** kind including spirit, which is passed on, from one generation to another.

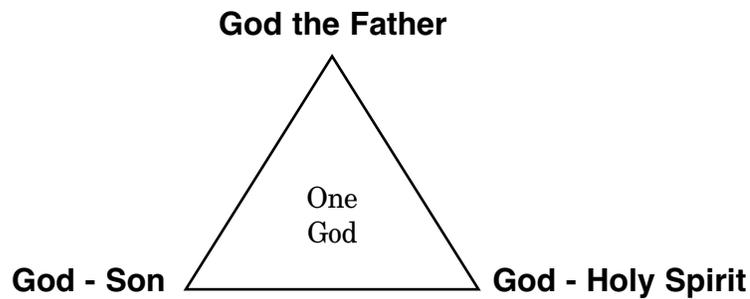
ANIMAL reproduces after his own kind; but has no spirit.

MAN's spirit lived on forever.

ANIMAL has no spirit– death is the end.

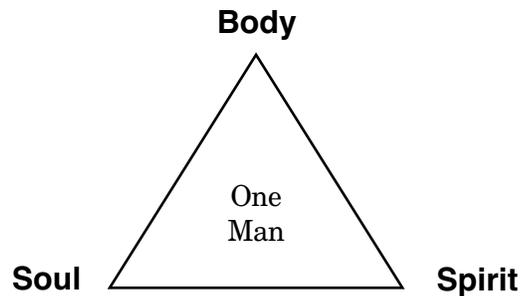
LESSON 3 -CREATION
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) There are three Creative Acts recorded in Gen. 1:
 - A. Creation of the Heavens and Earth.
 - B. Creation of Animal Life.
 - C. Creation of Human Life.
- (2) The word “CREATED” means, made from nothing.
- (3) The word “HEAVENS” is plural, denoting 3.
- (4) The Darwin Evolution theory, has no scientific basis.
- (5) 7 times, GOD said, “After his “their” kind,” when referring to reproduction of animals.
- (6) The crowning act of GOD’S creation, was on the sixth day, when GOD formed man our of dust of the earth.
- (7) GOD IS TRIUNE.



- (8) GOD said, “Let US make him after OUR own Image.”

- (9) Man is Triune:–



- (10) Only man was created with creative intelligence.
- (11) The Spirit of man, was imparted to him directly from GOD, and must live on forever; for the Spirit is part of GOD and GOD cannot die.

LESSON 4

Angels



Prayer: “Open my heart and mind to understand the greatness of your creation and your creation of angels and what they are and do. Thank you. Amen.”

Review the Scripture verses for Lessons 1, 2, and 3. Read each verse 4 times. Review the Points to Remember in Lessons 1, 2, and 3.

Do the test page for Lesson 2.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(Luke 2:13-14): “**And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men.**”

—Before we start, we ask you this question: Is MAN the only Creation for God in this vast Universe that he created? And what a Universe it is!! (Psa. 19:1) says: “*The Heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament sheweth HIS handiwork.*” In a previous lesson you learned that Heaven is plural; it is “HEAVENS”. It staggers our finite minds to think of the vastness of the Heavens and the earth! Is it God-like to have fashioned a Universe, with no other Creation in these Heavenly depths; to love and appreciate HIM and HIS Creation than man? God’s Holy Word gives us the answer: **THERE IS ANOTHER CLASS OF BEINGS ABOVE MAN. THESE BEINGS ARE THE ANGELS OF GOD—THE HEAVENLY HOSTS; THE TENANTS OF THE HEAVENS; THE INNUMERABLE COMPANY OF THE UNSEEN SERVANTS OF GOD.**

From the first Book of the Bible “Genesis”, to the last Book “Revelation”, Angels of GOD are prominently mentioned 180 times in the OLD Testament and 165 times in the NEW Testament. The Word of God always speaks of them as **Supernatural beings.**

The Bible teaches that Angels are a class of created beings above man. (Heb. 2:7) “*Thou madest him (man) a little lower than the angels;...*” **When were they created?** The Bible gives no definite answer to this, but we know they were a separate creation, probably long before earth was created as recorded in Genesis 1:1.

When GOD was speaking to Job out of the whirlwind, God gives us a hint of when Angels came into being.

(Job 38:4-7) *“Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? Or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? Or who laid the cornerstone thereof; **When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?**”* This shows they were in existence when God laid the foundation of the earth.

NOTE: They were called THE SONS OF GOD; but there is a different “Hebrew” word used here indicating that they were “sons of God” by Creation. We (Christians), on the other hand, become sons of God by the Redemptive work of CHRIST on the Cross. Upon accepting HIM as our personal SAVIOUR, we become “a NEW Creation”—thus, a son of God.

ANGELS ARE SEXLESS— “THEY MARRY NOT, NOR ARE THEY GIVEN MARRIAGE.” (Matt. 22:30) Therefore, they do not multiply, as the Human race does; but were all created at one time, **in the Beginning**. Their numbers are very large; Note (Rev. 5:11) *“And I beheld and I heard the voice of **many angels** round about the throne and the beasts and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands.”*

The question is often asked, “Do angels have bodies?” The Scripture states that they are spirits. (Heb. 1:14) *“Are they (angels) not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?”* We also know that they can appear in visible form, generally in the likeness of a human body. In Heb. 13:1 we read: *“Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.”*

There is no scripture to substantiate the art form of angels having wings with a halo about their heads; nor do human beings or children become angels when they die. From the Scriptural accounts, we can understand that the angels do have the faculty to appear in human form suddenly; and to disappear in the same manner. The nature of the angelic body is unknown, for it is unrevealed in Scripture. (There are fallen angels which we shall study about, later on.)

The **angels are active today** in Heaven and earth (each child of God has his own angel).

(Matt. 18:10) *“For I say unto you, that in Heaven, their angels do always behold the face of My father which is in Heaven.”*

Angels have a great deal to do in the “End Times”. Take an hour and read in one setting (if possible), the 21 great chapters of Revelation; and particularly notice the activity of the angels which is yet to come.

LESSON 4 - ANGELS
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) Angels are created beings, created before the (Gen. 1:1) account of creation.
- (2) Angels are Supernatural Beings made a little higher than men.
- (3) Angels are called “ministering spirits”—and are active in Heaven and Earth in this age.
- (4) Angels can take on the form of human bodies; and appear and disappear at will.
- (5) Angels are sexless—and do not marry.
- (6) Angels are the sons of GOD by creation.
- (7) Angels do not have wings and a halo.
- (8) At death, Christians do not become angels.
- (9) Angels play a great part in the “End Times”, as revealed in the Book of Revelation.
- (10) There are fallen Angels, who left their first estates.
- (11) Each Child of God has his or her own Angel.

LESSON 5

Satan-The Devil



Prayer: “O God! Before I study this lesson on Satan, I ask that the Holy Spirit will give me special wisdom; that I can understand the power of Satan and have victory over him through the power of Jesus Christ. I ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.”

Review the Scripture verses for Lessons 1, 2, 3, and 4. Are you beginning to know the verses by memory? That is one of the main purposes of these lessons, to get the “Word of God” into my heart and mind.

Review the “POINTS TO REMEMBER” in the preceding lessons.

Do the test page for Lesson 3.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(I Peter 5:8): **“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary, the devil as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”**

In our last lesson, we studied about Angels. We said that they were created by GOD, before “Genesis 1:1” - Creation; and that they were created in vast numbers.

There are some very special angels referred to in Scriptures, indicating that there are different grades and ranks in the Angelic Heavenly Hosts. We read of Michael, the Archangel, whose name occurs three times in the Books of Daniel, Jude and Revelation: then there is Gabriel, meaning “The Mighty One”. He is the one who brought the announcement to the Virgin Mary that she was the chosen one to bring the SON of GOD into the world. (Luke 1:26-27) “*And in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from GOD unto the city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a Virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, to the house of David; and the Virgin’s name was Mary.*”

There was another angel that was of great importance; this angel’s name was Lucifer, “the son of the morning”. We read about him in (Isa. 14:12) “*How art thou fallen from Heaven, O Lucifer, son of morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!*” In (Ezek. 28:12) “*...Thus saith the LORD GOD; thou sealest up the sun, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.*”

NOTE: (Ezek. 28:15) “*Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee!*” How did this happen? This mighty, glorious angel, Lucifer, son of the morning became a **REBEL**; and **SIN** became a **FACT**.

Read (Isa. 14:12-15) “*How art thou fallen from Heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, ‘I WILL ascend into Heaven. I WILL exalt my throne above the stars of GOD: I WILL sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I WILL ascend above the heights of the clouds; I WILL be like the most HIGH. Yet thou shall be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.’*”

Read again the above passage and underline the words "I WILL". How many times did Lucifer make this statement?_____ Notice, he states, " I WILL be like the most HIGH!" **He wanted to be GOD!** This was the origination of sin. He fell by pride. GOD disposed him, and he became **SATAN**, the prince of power of the air—a powerful (next to GOD) wandering spirit, without a fixed habitation. He also led with him, an innumerable number of angels in his rebellion against GOD; these are called "fallen angels". There is much Demon activity in the world today: the devil and his host of fallen angels are responsible for the awful actions of crime, hunger, war, pain, etc. This is the result of Lucifer's and later, man's sin. GOD is now ruling only in the hearts of the believers. To be sure, GOD has a master time-schedule plan for this world; and it is coming to pass. The next great Event is the "SECOND COMING OF CHRIST" for HIS church (the believers).

What is the devil (Satan) doing now? As our Scripture Verse says, "He is going about seeking whom he may devour." He is also, the accuser of the saints before GOD. (Rev. 12:10b) "*...for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our GOD day and night.*"

He and his host of demons are doing their utmost to keep anyone from being saved by the blood of CHRIST. But if someone does get saved through the power of the HOLY SPIRIT, then it is his task to keep that person from becoming a effective Christian, loving and serving GOD.

In order to live the Christian life, we must put on the whole Armour of GOD in order to withstand the fiery darts of Satan. (Ephes. 6:10-18) "*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the LORD, and in the power of HIS might; Put on the whole armour of GOD, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of GOD, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness: And your feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of Salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.*"

The question arises "WHY" if GOD knows everything and all the future (and HE does) -- why then didn't HE just destroy Satan when he first sinned? GOD could have -- He had the right and the power to destroy him. But what about the myriads of angels looking on: how would they know if GOD was being just or unjust: and what of GOD'S own nature of love, long-suffering, etc? He could not violate HIS own nature. So Satan has been allowed this time to prove his awfulness.

However, the day is coming when Satan will be put away **forever**. After the Church Age and during the 7 year Tribulation period, Satan will be very active. After the Tribulation, **before** the 1,000 year Millennial Reign of CHRIST, Satan will be bound in the bottomless pit (Rev. 20:1-3) "*And I saw an angel come down from Heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled; and after that he must be loosed for a little season.*"

At the end of the 1,000 years, verses 7, 8, and 9 tell us: "*And when the thousand years are expired, Satan will be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city; and fire came down from GOD out of Heaven, and devoured them.*"

BUT NOW, -- Verse 10: "*And the devil that deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are; and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever.*"

Goodbye Devil -- AMEN AND AMEN!!

LESSON 5 - THE DEVIL
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) The name of Satan, before his sin and fall, was **LUCIFER**.
- (2) He was one of GOD’s created angels (a very special one).
- (3) He was perfect in his way, until iniquity was found in him.
- (4) He wanted to be GOD! FIVE (5) times he states, “I WILL”.
- (5) He led a vast number of angels in a rebellion against GOD.
- (6) He was cast out of his former habitation.
- (7) He has power next to GOD.
- (8) He is now the devil, the enemy of GOD. He is the “prince of power of the air.”
- (9) He is now trying to devour whomsoever he can– to keep anyone from being saved.
- (10) He hinders Christians in their Christian lives.
- (11) In the End, he will be cast into the lake of fire forever and ever. AMEN and AMEN!

LESSON 6

Man - His Fall - Sin



Prayer: “My dear Heavenly Father, before I start this lesson, quiet my heart and mind; HOLY SPIRIT, help me to understand the great significance of the facts contained in this lesson. I ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.”

Review the Scripture verses for Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5; and without looking at the lessons, see if you can repeat from memory, the verses for lessons 1 and 2.

Review the “POINTS TO REMEMBER” in all preceding lessons.

Do the test page for Lesson 4.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(Romans 5:12): “Wherefore, as by one man, sin entered into the world, and death by sin: and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”

We have discussed in an earlier lesson, the fact that man is GOD’s ultimate Creation; and that man received breath (spirit) directly from GOD and is therefore, an eternal Being. The spirit of man is the seat of his intelligence, (I Cor. 2:11) “What man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?...” Also, when Scripture speaks of the “heart”—GOD is not speaking of the physical muscle in the body, but rather, the seat of conscience. (Heb. 10:22) “Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience...”

GOD created man (Adam), then later took a rib from his side and made him a Help-meet and called her name “Eve” which means “the mother of all living”. (Gen. 2:20-25) “And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an Help-meet for him. And the LORD GOD caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept; and HE took one of the ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD GOD had taken from the man, made HE a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, ‘This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore, shall a man leave his father and his mother and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.’ And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and they were not ashamed.

NOTICE: Eve was taken from Adam's side: not from his head, to rule over him: not from his feet to be trampled under him, but from his under his heart, to be loved, cherished and protected by him. This is also a beautiful picture of CHRIST and HIS bride (the Church)—the "Church" was born from the wounded side of CHRIST. (Eph. 5:28-33) *"So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the LORD, the church. For we are members of HIS body, of HIS Flesh, and HIS Bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery; but I speak concerning CHRIST and the church. Nevertheless, let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband."*

What was Adam's and Eve's condition, standing, etc., in GOD's sight, right after Creation?

(1) We know Adam was an adult with great knowledge, for he gave names to all the cattle, to all different fowls and birds of the air, to every creeping thing, and to all the beasts of the field— Think about that! Could you give names to 100 things without associating them with something similar?— Try it! (2) We know that Adam and Eve had fellowship with GOD, HIMSELF, for GOD walked with them. (Gen. 3:8) *"And they heard the voice of the LORD GOD walking in the garden in the cool day; and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD GOD amongst the trees of the garden."* (3) *They lived in the beautiful Garden of Eden.* (4) *They could eat all the fruits of the Garden except the tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil. Adam's responsibility was to dress and keep the beautiful Garden.* (Gen. 2:15)—*"And the LORD GOD took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and keep it."* Also (Gen. 1:28)—*"And GOD blessed them, and GOD said unto them, 'Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.'" Does this sound like the monkeys and cavemen that the evolutionists have our ancestors coming from?*

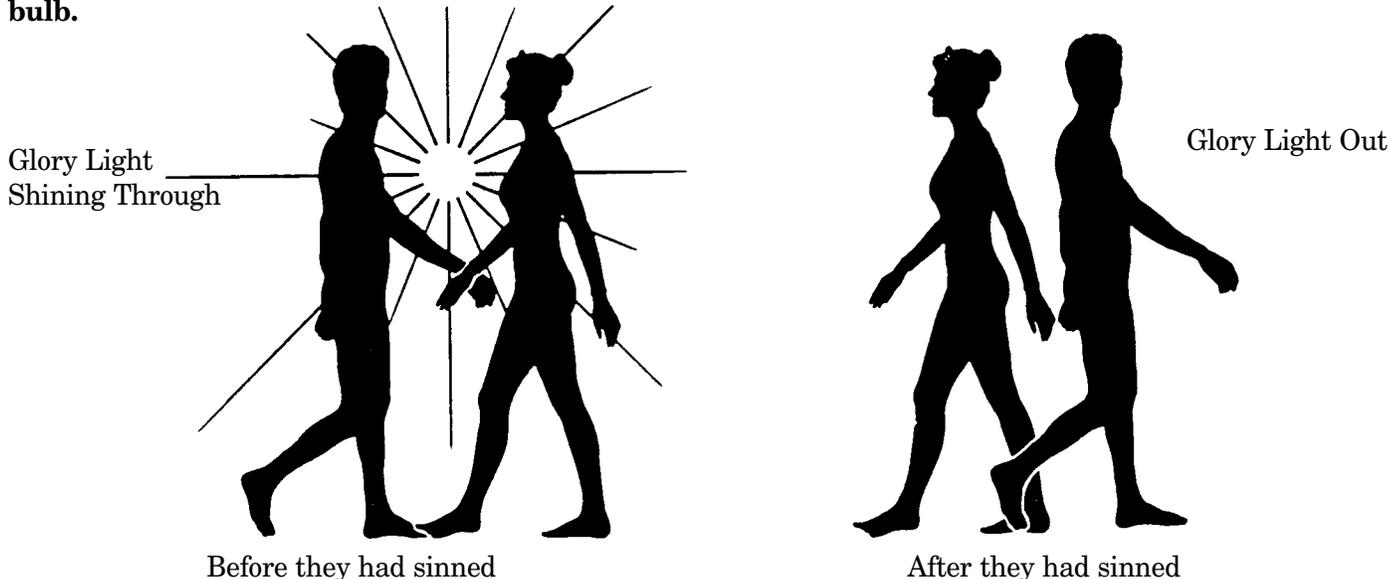
Adam, the first man, was made a living SOUL, (I Cor. 15:45) *"And so it is written, The last man Adam was made a quickening SPIRIT."*

Eve is the Mother of all human beings. (Gen. 3:20) *"And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the Mother of all living."*

Many places in the Bible, it talks of the Shekinah GLORY OF GOD, which means a Covering of Glory. In Heb. 1:3, it speaks of the **Brightness** of HIS glory, (Heb. 1:3) *"Who being the brightness of HIS glory, and the express image of HIS person, and upholding all things by the Word of HIS power, when HE had by HIMSELF purged out sins, sat down on the right hand of the MAJESTY on High."*

Perhaps— Adam and Eve, in their perfect state, had a Covering of Glory, for in Gen. 2:25, it states that *"they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed."*

When I taught "Child Evangelism", I illustrated the fall of man this way: I had a pair of figures put up on the flannelgraph board, a man and a woman with Glory Light shining out from them, **like a turned on light bulb.**



The word “keep” really meant to “guard”. GOD must have warned Adam about Satan because what else would Adam have to “keep the garden for?” There were no other human beings. There were no wild animals; so it meant that Adam was to guard against Satan and the fallen angels.

Now, let’s look at the saddest event in human history: the disobedience and fall of man that caused the separation between GOD and man. Read (Gen. 2:15-17): “*And the LORD GOD took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD GOD commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the Garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die!”* Note the last statement, “*For in the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die!*” GOD was not talking of immediate physical death (although that was also part of the curse), but **HE was speaking of spiritual death, which is separation from GOD**– spiritual connection was broken; the **light went out**. They were naked; they pitifully tried to cover themselves with fig leaves– something man has been vainly trying to do, down through the Centuries– (cover his spiritual nakedness and hide from GOD). Note illustration on preceding page.

Take your Bible and slowly read the entire third chapter of Genesis. In reading this account, coming right after chapters 1 and 2, it would appear that mankind fell immediately after his creation, and that he fell at Satan’s temptation. This is not necessarily so, for by careful reading, you will note that Adam was given this only restriction **before** Eve was created, (Gen. 2:16) “*And the LORD GOD commanded the man, saying “Of every tree of the Garden, thou mayest freely eat; But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof; thou shalt surely die.”* So Adam must have communicated this information to his wife, long before; for you notice she added something to GOD’S order, she said, “*Neither shall ye touch it.*” (Gen 3:3.) It was also before Adam gave names to all things (a lengthy task).

We know that Adam and Eve were accustomed to talk and have fellowship with GOD, in the cool of the evening. So the time between the Creation and the fall is unknown.

Adam and Eve were given **just one thing they were not to do!** One restriction– one tree forbidden them– the fruit tree of knowledge of good and evil. GOD wanted them to have knowledge; HE created them with minds and intelligence; but they were not to gain by disobedience. **WHY did GOD place Adam and Eve under the position of testing?** GOD doesn’t want robots! HE wanted Adam and Eve, and each person born thereafter, to love and obey HIM because they wanted to. **Man was created with the freedom to choose. Today you are free to choose GOD’S way** or Satan’s. **You also have the freedom of choice!!**

Wasn’t the freedom to love and obey GOD, a simple and enjoyable way of life? **YES! But**, remember the last lesson on Satan, the devil. He doesn’t come to us with horns, tail and a pitchfork. If he did, we could recognize him and flee from him. No– Scripture says (in II Cor. 11:14): “*And no marvel, for Satan, himself, is transformed into an angel of light.*” – he comes as an **angel of light**.

He seemingly illuminates your mind with good suggestions, something to make you happy; it feels good, etc.

My husband often uses this outline when teaching about Satan.

- (1) Satan gives the cup that sparkles. (Go ahead, you’ll enjoy it; there’s nothing wrong with that.)
- (2) He gives the cup that stupefies the mind; it gets dulled. The bodily appetites crave more and more. You no longer know right from wrong!
- (3) He gives the cup that **kills**: “A” (spiritually) in keeping you from accepting CHRIST; “B” (physically) your body is racked with disease. Romans 6:23– “*the wages of sin is death*”.

The serpent, the most subtle of the beasts, was used to bring Satan’s temptation to Eve. “Old Serpent” is one of the names of the devil. (Rev 20:2) “*And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years.*” We do not know that this was the first time the devil had tried to bring about the fall of man. I rather doubt it. Satan remembered that at one time, he had this same glorious fellowship with the Creator. But he sinned; he fell, and now, had become the Arch enemy of GOD; therefore, his fiendish desire was and is to get man away from GOD. Remember what Satan’s sin was: “I WILL!” be like the most HIGH: I WILL exalt my throne above the Throne of GOD.”

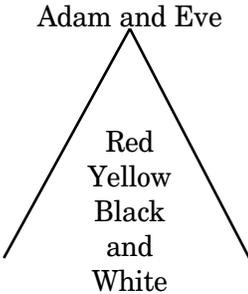
He wanted to be GOD! Now look at the temptation he is putting forth to Eve.

(Gen. 3:1-5) “Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD GOD had made. And he said unto the woman, ‘Yea, hath GOD said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the Garden?’ And the woman said unto the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the Garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the Garden, GOD hath said, ‘Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.’ And the serpent said unto the woman, ‘Ye shall not surely die: For GOD doth know that in the day ye eat, thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.’”

- (1) **First, he puts doubt in her mind as to the truth of GOD’s WORD, “Yea, hath God said?”** (This is a trick he had used down through the Ages.)
- (2) Verse 3:–We see the first **addition** to Scripture. Eve adds: *“Neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.”*
- (3) Verse 4: We have the first recorded lie, *“And the serpent said unto the woman, ‘Ye shall not surely die’.* Now in Verse 5, Satan is putting the same temptation to sin, that he had fallen by, **remember**, he wanted to be GOD!! Verse 5: *“For GOD doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”* (Adam and Eve, if **you** disobey GOD, you will be doing it because you want to be as **GOD!**)

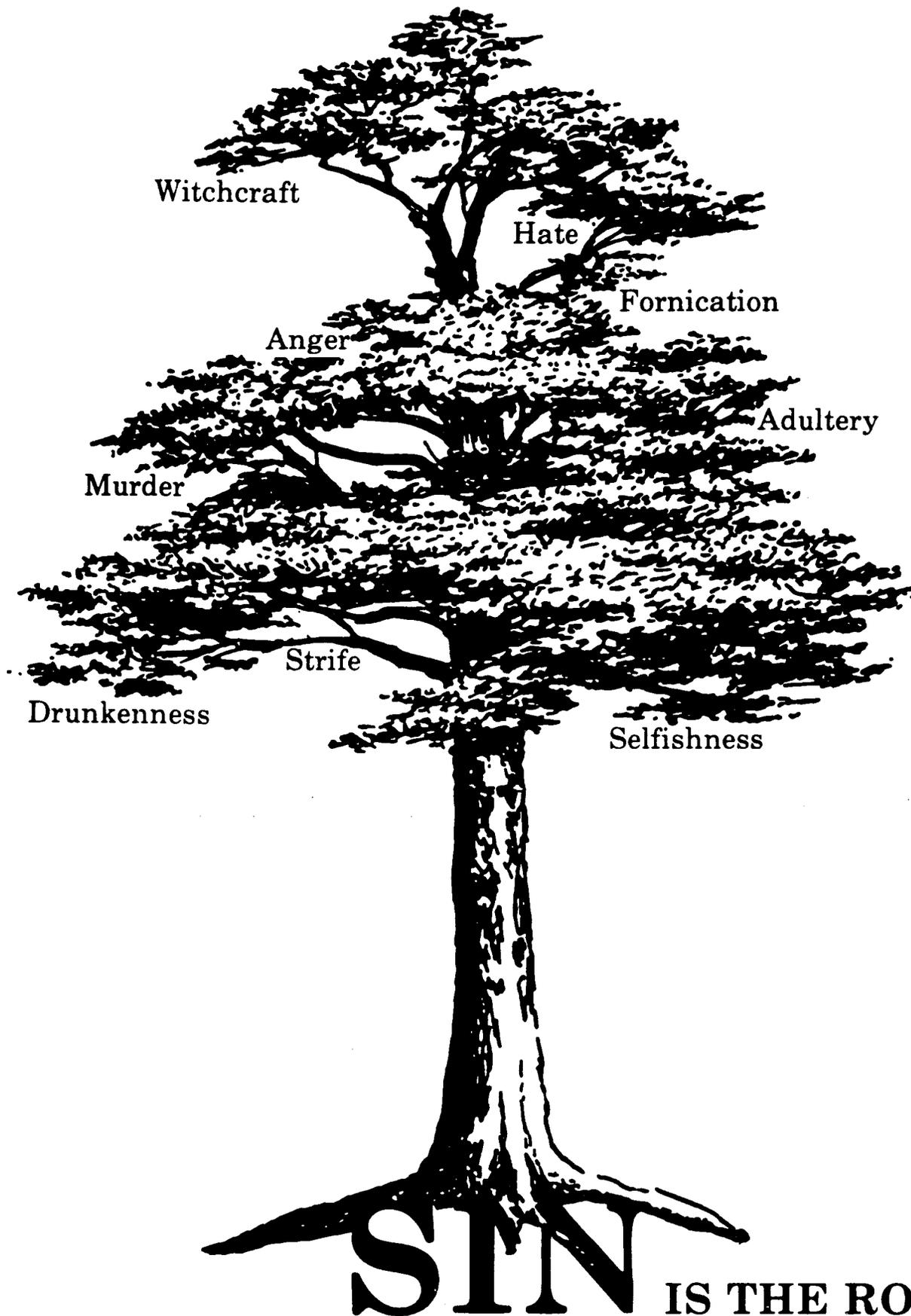
I think one of the saddest verses in the Bible, is the next, Verse 6– *“And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, when took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also to her husband with her; and he did eat.”* And they instantly died spiritually– Verse 7, *“And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew **that they were naked;**”*– the light went out. What does our memory verse say? (Rom. 5:12) *“Wherefore, as by **one man,*** (Adam, as the head of the Race), *sin entered into the world, and death by sin;– (spiritual and later, physical death) by sin, **and so death passed upon all men, for that all have SINNED!!”** Also (Rom. 3:23) *“For **all have sinned and come short of the glory of GOD.**”* As we inherit Adam and Eve’s physical likeness, so do we inherit their sinful nature.*

Adam and Eve from whom have descended all the races of the world.



It was later at the tower of Babel that the languages were confounded. Acts 17:26: *“And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth.”*

We do sins because we are sinners by nature. Sins are the fruit. (hate, anger, murder, drunkenness, selfishness, etc.)



LESSON 6 - MAN - HIS FALL - SIN
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) The spirit of man was given directly from GOD, and is the seat of his intelligence. Animals have no GOD spirit.
- (2) Man was created with the **power of choice**.
- (3) Eve was taken from under the heart of man.
- (4) GOD gave them only one test of obedience– **not** to eat of the tree of good and evil (no where in the Scripture does it say it was an apple).
- (5) The serpent was used of Satan to plant doubt in Eve’s mind– “Yea, hath GOD said?.”
- (6) Satan tempted Eve with the same sin he fell by– “Eat and ye shall be as gods.”
- (7) Eve ate first; then Adam. But Adam, as the head of the Human Race, is declared responsible– (Rom. 5:12) “Wherefore, as by one man, sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”
- (8) When they disobeyed GOD, and sinned, they instantly died spiritually (were separated from GOD). The light went out.
- (9) The Curse that came upon them, also included the gradual dying of the physical body.
- (10) Adam and Eve’s fallen nature has been passed on down through the generations; so we all stand as sinners before an angry GOD.
- (11) SIN is the ROOT– Sins are the fruit of our fallen nature.

LESSON 7

Heaven



Prayer: “Dear Lord, help me as I study this lesson on Heaven, to realize that Heaven is a real place for real people, and also it is a prepared place for prepared people. Help me to get excited about spending eternity there with You; and also, to try to help other people to prepare to go to Heaven, by accepting JESUS CHRIST as their personnel SAVIOR. I ask this in JESUS’ Name.—Amen.”

Review the Scripture verses for Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Can you quote the verses for Lessons 1, 2 and 3, without looking? Keep trying.

Review the “POINTS TO REMEMBER” for all preceding lessons. Do the test page for Lesson 5.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(John 14:2): “**In my father’s House are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU.**”

Where is Heaven? Remember we told you that there are actually three Heavens— as Paul says in II Cor. 12:2-4): “*I knew a man in CHRIST, above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: GOD knoweth) such an one caught up to the third Heaven. And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: GOD knoweth;) How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.*” Paul was caught up to the Third Heaven. So if there is a Third Heaven, there must also be a first and second Heaven. REVIEW Lesson #3.

- (1) **First Heaven** is the Atmospheric Heaven, where the clouds, birds, are.
- (2) **The Second Heaven** is the Starry or Planetary Heaven. Most Bible scholars believe that it is Satan’s abode, as in (Ephesians 2:1-2) is says that Satan is “the prince of the power of the air.”
- (3) **The Third Heaven** is the abode of GOD. The throne of GOD where JESUS now sits on the right hand of GOD, making intercession for the saints upon the earth. **It is this Third Heaven that we are studying in this lesson.**

In our Memory Verse, John 14:2, JESUS said, He was going to prepare a place for us— that has been nearly 2,000years ago. What a beautiful place it must be!

But our question was – **WHERE is Heaven?** From the account in Isaiah 14, (the record of Lucifer’s, now **Satan**, sin of wanting to be GOD) the 13th verse reads: “*For thou hast said in thine heart, “I WILL ascend into Heaven, I WILL exalt my throne above the stars of GOD; I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north.”*” We always say “Up to Heaven”; and **North** is always up. The North Pole is at the top of the earth: here is a quote from Curtis Husdon in his book, “**Heaven**”: “*Heaven is real; it is a fixed location in the sides of the North, beyond the highest star. I am told that the farthest star man has been able to locate through his most powerful telescope, is 500 million light years away. Light travels a little more than 186,000 miles per second. That means if you could go 186,000 miles per second it would take 500 million years to reach the last star that man has been able to locate. Heaven is somewhere out BEYOND the highest star, “In the sides of the North,” according to Isaiah 14.*”

Next, what is Heaven like? I think that can best be answered by using the Scripture itself - the last two chapters of the Bible. (Revelation 21 and 22):

CHAPTER 21:

“And I saw a new Heaven and a new earth, for the first Heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I, John, saw the Holy City, new Jerusalem, coming down from GOD our of Heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of Heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of GOD is with men, and HE will dwell with them, and they shall be HIS people, and GOD Himself shall be with them, and be their GOD. And GOD shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away. And HE that sat upon the throne said, ‘BEHOLD, I make all things new’. And HE said unto me, ‘WRITE: for these words are true and faithful.’ and HE said unto me, ‘It is done. I AM ALPHA AND OMEGA, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all and I will be his GOD, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murders, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.’ And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying ‘Come hither. I will shew thee the bride, the LAMB’s wife.’ And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewd me that great City, the HOLY JERUSALEM, descending out of Heaven from GOD, having the glory of GOD; and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as a crystal; And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: On the east three gates;

on the north three gates; on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the LAMB. And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the City, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. And the City lieth four-square, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the City with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forth and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper; and the City was pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the City were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, every several gate was one pearl; and the streets of the City were pure gold, as it were transparent glass. And I saw no temple therein; for the LORD GOD ALMIGHTY and the LAMB are the Temple of it. And the City had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of GOD lightened it, and the LAMB is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day; for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie; but they which are written in the LAMB’S Book of Life.”

CHAPTER 22:

“And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of GOD and of the LAMB. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse; but the throne of GOD and the LAMB shall be in it; and HIS servants shall serve HIM: And they shall see HIS face; and HIS Name shall be in their forehead. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of sun; for the LORD GOD giveth them light: and they shall reign forever and ever. And he said unto me, ‘These sayings are faithful and true; and the LORD GOD of the holy prophets sent HIS angel to shew unto HIS servants the things which must shortly be done. BEHOLD, I COME QUICKLY: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy book.’ And I, John, saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen. I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, ‘See thou, do it not; for I am they fellow-servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of his book: worship GOD.’ And he saith unto me, ‘Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book;

for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still, and he that is righteous; let him be righteous still; and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am ALPHA AND OMEGA, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that do HIS commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the City. For without are dogs and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. I, JESUS, have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the Offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And the SPIRIT and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth, say, Come. And let him that is athirst come, and whosoever will let him take the water of life freely. For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of the book. If any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, GOD shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the Holy City, and from the things which are written in this book. He which testifieth these saith, ‘Surely I come quickly, Amen. - Even so, come LORD JESUS. The grace of our LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOU ALL. AMEN.’”

WHAT WILL BE IN HEAVEN?

1. God, Himself
2. Fountain of the Water of Life
3. The LAMB's Wife (The Church)
4. GOD's Light
5. Walls of precious stones
6. Gates of pearls
7. The LAMB (Jesus)
8. Pure River of Water of Life
9. The tree of life that bears
12 manner of fruits
10. The Throne of GOD and
the LAMB (Jesus)
11. Those who believe in Christ

WHAT WILL NOT BE IN HEAVEN?

1. No tears
2. No death
3. No crying
4. No pain
5. No fearful ones
6. No unbelieving ones
7. No abominable ones
8. No murderers
9. No whoremongers
10. No sorcerers
11. No idolaters
12. No liars
13. No darkness

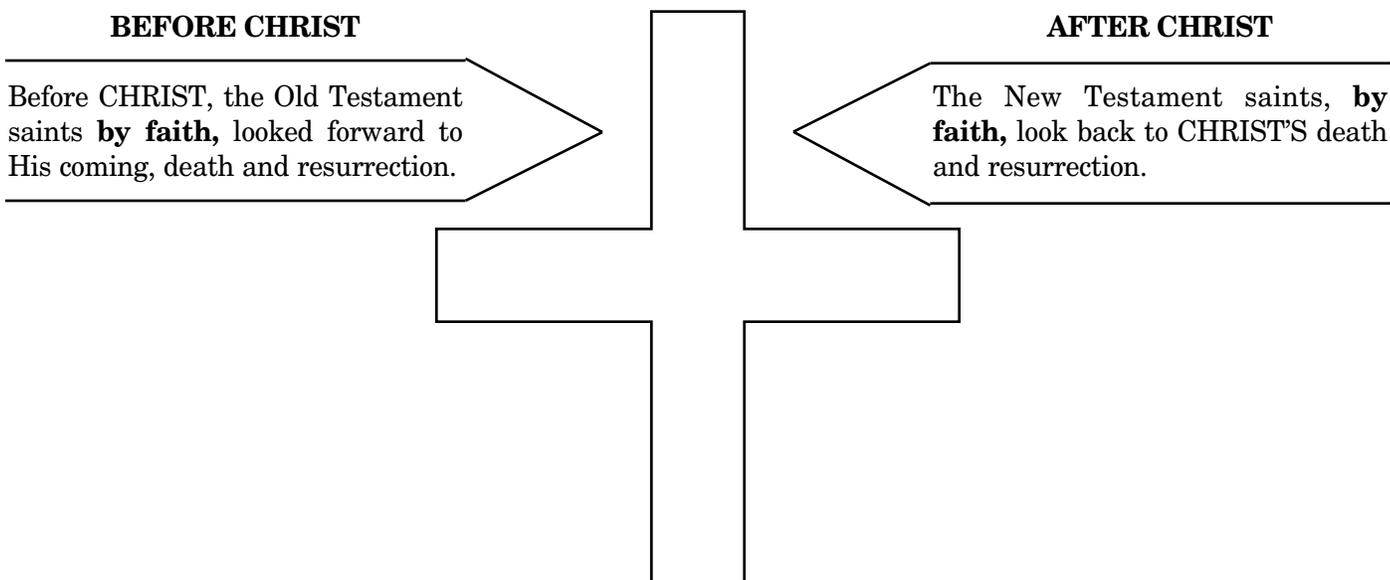
WHO WILL BE IN HEAVEN?

(Revelation 21:27) "...but they which are written in the LAMB'S Book of Life." Only those who have accepted JESUS CHRIST as their personal Savior (John 3:36) - "*He that believeth on the SON, hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the SON shall not see life; but the wrath of GOD abideth on him.*"

In the Old Testament (before CHRIST'S birth, death, and resurrection), there was a place in the heart of earth, called **Paradise**. There was a great gulf fixed between Paradise and Hell, as told in Luke 16, which we will study more thoroughly in our next lesson. But into Paradise went the souls and spirits of the believing dead. They, by faith believed in CHRIST, looking **forward** to HIS first Coming and death on the Cross:—with this Hope they sacrificed the blood of animals, as their faith in the **Coming** of the LAMB of GOD. Their bodies of course, went back to the dust from whence they come, to await the resurrection of their bodies, which is a future Event.

After the death, burial and resurrection of CHRIST, the period we call LAW, was ended, and we entered the period of GRACE, or the CHURCH Age. Now, when believers die, they go directly to Heaven to be with CHRIST. (Phil. 1:21-23) "*For to me to live is CHRIST, and to die is gain. But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not. For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with CHRIST, which is far better.*"

The Old Testament Paradise and its believers have been moved into the Third Heaven. Christ and the Cross are the "Central Events" of all history.



Now Paul says, "To die is to be with Christ." We know that CHRIST is at the right-hand of GOD, the FATHER, in the Third Heaven. (II Corinthians 5:8) says, "...to be absent from the body, is to be present with LORD."

There are some other things you may be wondering about Heaven; such as, will we recognize each other in Heaven? I think the Scriptures indicate so, for on the Mount of Transfiguration, Moses and Elijah, who had died long before, were still recognizable and their names were still Moses and Elijah.

(I Corinthians 13:12) says that we will have more superior knowledge than what we have now. "*For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face; now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.*"

It also seems that the redeemed in Heaven know what is going on here on earth. In Luke 15:7, it says: "*I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in Heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.*" This couldn't mean the rejoicing is among the angels, for remember, we said angels can never know the joy our salvation brings.

Hebrews 12:1 says: "*We are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses*" – (saints in Heaven watching what is going on in the earth).

Will we have a body if this physical body goes back to the ground? The Bible teaches that when a believer dies, his soul and spirit leave the body and go immediately to be with CHRIST. Based on II Corinthians 5, that soul and spirit occupy a temporary body between death and resurrection while awaiting the resurrection of their body. (I Thessalonians 4:16). We don't know just what the body will be like, but I John says, we shall be like JESUS: "*Beloved now are we the sons of GOD, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when HE shall appear, we shall be like HIM; for we shall see HIM as HE is.*" That's good enough for me.

Who is going to Heaven? Go back to the beginning of our lesson and note, "*They which are written in the LAMB'S Book of Life.*"—only those who have accepted CHRIST as their own personal Savior. (John 3:36) "*He that believeth not the SON, shall not see life: but the wrath of GOD abideth on him.*" (Romans 10:13) "*For whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved.*"

If you are not sure that you are saved and going to Heaven, settle the matter right now by acknowledging to GOD that **you are a sinner. You cannot save yourself.** Call on the NAME of the LORD and accept CHRIST's death as your own; then by faith, you will become a child of GOD and will spend eternity with HIM in Heaven.

If you have just accepted CHRIST **NOW**, fill in the following information:

Date _____

Your Name _____

The above date is your spiritual birthday.

LESSON 7 - HEAVEN
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) Heaven is a place where Redeemed SOULS spend Eternity with CHRIST!**
- (2) Heaven is a Prepared Place for a prepared people.**
- (3) There are three Heavens mentioned in the Scriptures: (1) Atmospheric; (2) Planetary; (3) Third Heaven - GOD’s Abode.**
- (4) We always “Go Up” to Heaven.**
- (5) In Heaven, JESUS is everything that is wonderful and good.**
- (6) In Heaven there is nothing that defiles or hurts.**
- (7) The Redeemed SOUL and spirit, go directly to Heaven, upon physical death.**
- (8) There is recognition in Heaven.**
- (9) There is knowledge of what is going on in the earth.**
- (10) Only those whose names are written in the LAMB’S BOOK OF LIFE, will go to Heaven.**

LESSON 8

Hell



Prayer: “Oh Lord, Impress on my mind and heart the reality of this awful place called Hell. Help me to make my own salvation sure and then to help others to also find the way through Christ. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

Review the Scripture verses for Lessons 1-7. How many verses can you quote from memory?

Review—by reading over at least once all the “POINTS TO REMEMBER” in the lessons you have studied thus far. Do the test page for Lesson 6 in the test section.

Read the Memory verse 5 times. Also read Luke Chapter 16: 19-28.

MEMORY VERSE

(Psa. 9:17): “**The wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God.**”

In the New Testament, the word Hell is used to translate two words.

(1) Hades— Generally meaning “the place of the dead.”

(2) Gehenna— “The place of retribution for evil deeds.”

It is interesting to note that Hell was not prepared for man, but rather for “the Devil and His Angels.” Matt. 24:51.

Wouldn’t you think that most people would go to Heaven, and only a few to Hell, but that is not the case (Matt. 7:13, 14): “*Enter ye in the strait gate, for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*”

Do you know that Jesus spoke more of Hell than he did of Heaven? He knew the awfulness of Hell; that was the reason he was willing to die on the cross to keep us from going there for eternity.

Many people say, “A loving God would never send anyone to Hell.” That’s true! God gave His only begotten Son to keep us from going to Hell. **The sinner sends himself there, over the love of God, and the death of Christ.**

We believe that babies and small children go to Heaven, because the blood of CHRIST covers them until the age of accountability (until they know right from wrong). Children reach the age of accountability at different ages. As soon as they can understand that they do wrong things and that CHRIST died for them, they can be saved. David said at the death of his child, “He cannot come to me - but I can go to him.”

As we did in the lesson on Heaven, we will list the things that **will** and **will not** be in Hell.

SOME THINGS THAT WILL BE IN HELL:

- (1) A **literal eternal fire** that is never quenched.
- (2) The **Devil** and His Angels.
- (3) The **wicked** of all ages.
- (4) The skin worms that never die.
- (5) A body that cannot die, but suffers torment for eternity. Read Luke 16:23, 24.
- (6) **Remembrance**, that is never wiped away.
- (7) Craving for evil habits and passions, that can never be satisfied.
- (8) The terrible weeping and wailing of the damned.

SOME THINGS THAT WILL NOT BE IN HELL:

- (1) **No one who has ever accepted Jesus as his/her personal Savior will be in Hell.**
- (2) **Not one drop of water will be in Hell.**
- (3) **There will be no “light”; only darkness forever.**
- (4) **There will be no babies, for all babies are covered by the blood of Jesus Christ.**
- (5) **There will be no laughter.**
- (6) **No hope.**
- (7) **No second chance.**

HELL IS LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE EARTH. READ LUKE 16:19-26.

Friend; there are only two places– **Heaven and Hell**. You must choose **NOW** while there is still time.

John 3:36– *“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”*

If you never have repented for your sins and let Jesus into your heart, do so now. Tomorrow may be too late. Romans 10:13– *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”*

But, that’s not the end yet, for in the last pages of the Bible, Rev. 20:11-14– Here we see the final White Throne Judgment. Notice verse 13: *“Death and Hell delivered up the dead that were in them and they were judged by every man according to his works.”* We know that by *“the works of the law can no man be justified”*. **Their names were not written in the Book of Life; verse 15. So verse 14– Death and Hell (and all in it), were cast into the Lake of Fire.** This is the second death, which is Eternal **separation from God forever and ever.**

It is sometimes asked, “How can the saved be happy and rejoicing in Heaven when their loved ones have gone to Hell and are suffering such a terrible fate?” I don’t know; but I do know that we Christians will shed tears in Heaven, especially over those we could have won to Christ, and we did not. But in Rev. 21:4 (after all the judgments are over), it says, *“God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”* God has the power both to **forgive** and **forget**, and somehow I believe He will give the saints that attribute to **forget also.**

Our responsibility **NOW** is to warn everyone we can of the certain future in a literal Hell, if they have never accepted Christ as their personal Savior. This is your Christian responsibility, Acts 1:8-9– *“...and ye shall be witness unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when He had spoken these things while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight.*

Are you saved? Are you winning others to Christ?

LESSON 8 - HELL
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) Hell was created for the Devil and the fallen Angels.
- (2) We (all the human race) have inherited from our first parents (Adam and Eve), a sinful nature like unto Satan's.
- (3) All unsaved persons at their death go to HELL.
- (4) Christ died to pay for our sins, and to keep us from going to HELL.
- (5) Children until the age of accountability are covered by the blood of Christ and are therefore safe.
- (6) HELL is a literal place of burning fire.
- (7) HELL is a place of eternal torment.
- (8) There is not a drop of water in HELL.
- (9) There is no second chance to repent and turn to Christ after death.
- (10) The Devil, the fallen Angels, the wicked and all Nations that forget God, and every person that dies without accepting Christ will go to HELL.
- (11) This is eternal separation from God and is called the “second death”.

LESSON 9

Salvation

BEFORE STUDYING THE CHAPTER ON SALVATION-

Please Read the account of Christ's Passion and Crucifixion in the Book of JOHN, Chapters 18 through 10.



Prayer: "Oh GOD, thank you that out of the millions on earth you saw fit that I should hear the Gospel and be saved. Let me examine my heart today and make sure I have truly accepted Christ as my Savior. If I am not saved, Oh Lord help me today to be truly born in to your family. Amen."

Review the Scripture verses for Lessons 1-8.

Review "POINTS TO REMEMBER" all preceding lessons. Do the test for Lesson 7 in the test section.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(Psa. 9:17): **"The wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God."**

With the terrible chapters on SIN and HELL behind us, what a relief it is to write this wonderful chapter on SALVATION.

GOD hates Sin- But he loves the sinner. We read in GOD'S Word the puzzling but true fact that GOD in His foreknowledge planned for man's salvation even before the creation of the world. Revelation 13:8b speaks of "the Lamb slain before the foundation of the world."

The crimson thread (salvation through the death of Christ) runs throughout the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

Remember Lesson #6 on the fall of man after Adam and Eve disobeyed GOD. They died spiritually and became sinners. They were naked and could not stand before GOD. Genesis 3:7a: "And the eyes of them both were opened, and knew they were naked..." Their fellowship was broken.

Genesis 3, verse 15b says: "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed (Satan) and her seed. It shall bruise thy Satan's head, and thou shall bruise his Christ's heel.

Here in the third chapter of Genesis, the first book of the Bible, we have both the virgin birth and the atoning death of Christ set forth.

Notice it says of "her" seed- (the woman's seed) would the Savior come, setting forth the Virgin birth. Christ came of a woman not of man's seed. Why? Doctors and scientists tell us that the blood of the child comes from the father. Therefore, anyone conceived by a human father would have a fallen sinful nature and tainted blood. He, too, would need a Savior to die for him. Therefore,-GOD declares that our Savior, JESUS CHRIST, must not have a sinful nature, but must be Virgin born. The definition of a virgin is this - a woman who has never known (or had intimate relationship) with a man sexually.

Jeremiah 31:22b declares, “A woman shall compass a man.” Isaiah 7:14—“Behold a virgin shall conceive (not a young woman), and bear a son and shall call His name Immanuel. (God with us).”

You say, “that is a physical impossibility.” Yes! but not a **spiritual** impossibility.

Remember these facts—

In Genesis 2:7, **GOD made man** without the aid of wither a man or a woman. **Adam had neither a physical father or mother.** Genesis 2:7, “And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.”

Then in Genesis 2:21, 22— He made **woman** from man **without the natural use of a woman.** Eve was taken from the side of Adam.

Thus if GOD can make man without the natural use of a woman, as He did in creation of Adam, and a woman from a man then why cannot GOD make a man without the use of a human man? — He did in the Virgin birth. Jesus Christ in Matt. 1:20-21 we read, “And while he thought on these things, behold, the Angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: **for that which is conceived of her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son and thou shall call his name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins.**” All through the **Old Testament** the prophets pointed forward and kept telling us “He is coming!!” We turn to the **New Testament** and hear the proclamation, “He has come!!! He has come!!!”

In Genesis the third Chapter, we see another beautiful illustration (picture) of Christ and His work of redemption on the Cross of Calvary. **Please read the entire chapter of Genesis 3.** Now note verse 21—“Unto Adam and also his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and **clothed** them.” Adam and Eve and the whole human race (in them) died spiritually. Romans 5:12a “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”

So they sewed fig leaves together for a covering (GOD saw right through their self-righteousness). The human race is still trying to cover themselves by self-righteousness; trying to earn salvation. But GOD clothed them with coats of skin. Some innocent lamb had to die to give those skins. John 1:29—“Behold, the Lamb of GOD (CHRIST) that taketh away the sins of the world.”

My husband (Ed Martin), our three sons and I were missionaries in Japan for 15 years. Ed became a student of the Japanese language; and many beautiful truths were brought to light by the pictorial character writing in the language; which was first written by the Chinese. (The Japanese use the same writing brought from China for their written words. The spoken pronunciation is entirely different.) Some people believe that Noah was the first emperor of China— Be this as it may, but how else can these wonderful Gospel truths in the oldest language in the world be explained!

Here is the writing for the Chinese and Japanese word meaning righteousness:

 = Lamb
= Me
= Righteousness

The Lamb of GOD (CHRIST) over my sinful heart; in GOD’S sight I become righteous. Friend, That’s salvation.

The whole of Salvation is found in Paul’s writing in I Corinthians 15:3, 4: “For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **CHRIST** died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”

The birth, death and resurrection of CHRIST is salvation, for everyone in the world. But you say, “How can one death take the place for so many? The difference lays in the value— JESUS CHRIST—IS—WAS and EVER-MORE WILL BE **GOD!**

Here I have a one dollar gold piece:



Here I have ten pennies:



Which is worth more?– The one dollar gold piece, of course. So CHRIST is worth more than all the sinners of all ages.

CHRIST JESUS– was perfect man, and perfect GOD. CHRIST is His Heavenly name, JESUS is His earthly name.

Jesus died for every man, woman and child including **you**, including **me**. Then why isn't everyone saved? Matthew 7:13, 14, says, *“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat; Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”*

This free gift must be personally received, John 1:11, 12– *“He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the power to become the sons of GOD, even to them that believed on His name.”*– He came to His own race (the Jews) and His own (the **Jews** as a race) **received Him not. But** as many (you and me) **as receive HIM CHRIST** (as our personal Savior), to them gave He power to become the sons of GOD; even to them that believe on HIS name. Salvation is a free gift. How do you receive a gift? You must reach out your hand and take it.

That's the only way you can have salvation, be saved from Hell and go to Heaven; by reaching out the hands of your heart and taking CHRIST into your heart. Remember, **CHRIST over me** and in GOD'S sight. I am righteous. GOD sees Christ over my sinful heart, and I am righteous. This is an act of faith. You must believe that CHRIST is. That He died for you, and that He now sits at the right hand of GOD the Father waiting for you to become a Christian (Christ's little one).

If you never have done this before, will you right now? Just close your eyes; envision the hands of **your** heart, reaching out and taking Christ into your heart, and simply say, “GOD be merciful to me a sinner and save me for Jesus sake!” (This is not embracing a religion– this is receiving a person).

Fill in the blanks:

Your name _____ am now this day, (year, month, and day) _____
receiving JESUS CHRIST AS MY PERSONAL SAVIOR.

I have already accepted Christ. YES No

When _____

Where _____

“A man may go to Heaven:
Without health
Without honors
Without learning
Without friends
But **he can never get to Heaven
Without Christ.”**

LESSON 9 - SALVATION
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) God hates sin, but loves all sinners.
- (2) God planned for the human races’s salvation before the foundation of the world.
- (3) The wages of sin is death, so there must be death involved in the plan of redemption.
- (4) Jesus Christ (the second person of the triune God - head) was the Lamb of God slain (in the mind of God the Father) before the foundation of the world.
- (5) The Birth of Christ had to be of a Virgin woman, so that he would not have the sinful nature of man.
- (6) JESUS is Christ’s **earthly** name.
- (7) Salvation is not in a religion, but in a **PERSON – JESUS CHRIST**.
- (8) God’s salvation must be personally received.

LESSON 10

Being “Born Again”



Prayer: “Dear Lord; Please help me as I study this lesson to search my heart and soul and mind, to determine if I am truly “born again”. If I do not have the assurance of the Spirit that I have truly been born into God’s family, help me to do it today. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

Review – all scripture verses from Lesson 1-9. Write from memory the scripture verses for lessons 4 and 5 (on the sheets prepared for this in your test section.)

Read over “POINTS TO REMEMBER” in all the lessons you have studied so far.

Do the test for lesson 8.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(John 3:3): “**Jesus answered and said unto him, ‘Verily, verily I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’**”

Over these past weeks we have been studying the facts of the Bible– GOD, CREATION, SIN, etc., etc. Then in our last lessons we had God’s wonderful plan of salvation. Today we want to become very personal and ask you the most important question you have ever been asked in your life. That is, have **you** been BORN AGAIN–born into God’s family? The scripture verse you just read said **no one** can even see the kingdom of God unless he has been born again. You don’t need to hope so, or wait until after you die to know. You can **know now!** I John 5:13– “*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that **ye may know that ye have eternal life.***”

Jesus often taught by using parables (illustrations). That is, He used something people knew and understood to explain a spiritual truth that they did not understand.

In the third chapter of John, Jesus is talking to Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.

John 3:1-12 “*There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, ‘Verily, verily I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’ Nicodemus saith unto him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time his mother’s womb, and be born?’*

Jesus answered, ‘Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit, Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit.’ Nicodemus answered and said unto him, ‘How can these things be?’ Jesus answered and

said unto him, 'Art thou a master of Israel and knowest not these things? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen;

and ye receive not our witness. If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things.'"

Nicodemus, rich, educated, a scholar of Jewish law, yet in verse 9 he asks, "How can these things be?" Jesus tells him that a physical birth of a baby into the human family is also a picture of the spiritual birth of a human being into God's family. Again I go back to my teaching of Child Evangelism. In those days we used a large board, covered with flannel on a standing easel. When we put up pictures that were cut out of flannel they stuck to the board; so the children could see what we were teaching. It is still true that we remember far more what we see if through the eye gate, rather than just hearing through the ear gate.

I am now going to try to picture for you in words the likeness between the physical birth and the spiritual birth.

1. PHYSICAL BIRTH– It is absolutely necessary for the male sperm (seed) be planted in the mother's womb before the miracle of a new life begins to grow.

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– The seed (the Word of God) must be planted in the human heart before the spiritual–"germ" of life can begin to grow.

2. PHYSICAL BIRTH– The Mother carries the unborn child under her heart for 9 long months, and makes preparation for the birth of her child.

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– Before the foundation of the world, God loved us. For centuries he planned for our Spiritual birth into His eternal family.

3. PHYSICAL BIRTH– Through physical pain, blood, tears, long hours of labor, and sometimes death, a Mother gives Physical Birth.

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– On the cross Christ took our sins upon Himself, shed His precious blood (They pierced His side and out came "blood and water.") His dying shout was "It is finished".

4. PHYSICAL BIRTH– When the physical baby enters into the world, the baby must **cry**. That cry starts the breathing cycle that will continue throughout life. If for some reason the doctor cannot get the breathing started the baby is **dead**.

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– Spiritually, we are all dead in trespasses and sins, but when we cry out, "God be merciful to me a sinner and save me for Jesus sake." **That cry** starts our Spiritual breathing. We are born into the family of God.

5. PHYSICAL BIRTH– After the birth, the baby is washed in a little warm water or olive oil.

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– The new baby Christian has been washed clean in the blood of Christ.

6. PHYSICAL BIRTH– The baby is clothed with warm soft garments prepared before hand by the mother.

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– The Christian baby is clothed with the righteousness of Christ.

7. PHYSICAL BIRTH– The baby is named. The first name is a matter of choice, but always, the last name is the same as the father's last name.

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– We also receive a new name– Christian– **Christ**-ian, or Christ's little one.

8. PHYSICAL BIRTH– It is a legal **must** that the baby's– name - Time of birth, etc. be recorded by the government, thereby receives a birth certificate.

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– The new Christian's name and record of spiritual birth is written in the Lamb's Book of Life. (Rev. 20:15)

9. PHYSICAL BIRTH– In order for the baby to grow, it must have food; - first milk, then juices, but as he grows he begins to eat solid foods, then meats. **Without food a baby cannot live.**

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– In order for a Christian baby to grow, he must feed on his Spiritual food – the **Bible**, – First, the milk of the Word (easy basic facts). Then on the deeper truths, the **meat** of the Word. One cannot become a mature Christian without studying the Bible.

10. PHYSICAL BIRTH– **Sleep** is another thing a baby (or anyone) cannot live without. Sleep restores strength, and aids in growth; A baby sleeps a lot, and it is a daily necessity.

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– **Prayer** for a Christian is like sleep to a baby. We **cannot** do without it. Prayer restores our spiritual strength and helps us to grow in the things of the Lord. It is a daily necessity.

11. PHYSICAL BIRTH– **Exercise**– A baby must physically exercise in order to develop. Crying exercises the lungs, kicking the legs, moving the arm is all part of growth. Later crawling, then walking, etc.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH– **Exercise**– The Christian must also exercise spiritually if he wants to grow, witnessing to others about Christ, giving out tracts, over-coming temptations, are all spiritual exercises that help us to grow spiritually.

12. PHYSICAL BIRTH– **Growth**– A baby is a beautiful thing – everyone loves a baby, but how sad if the baby doesn't grow– one year – two years – five – ten, and if he is still in a crib sucking this thumb we say, "That is awful,"–and it is!!

SPIRITUAL BIRTH– **Growth**– A new Christian is also a beautiful thing; everyone loves to be around a new believer. But what if a year, two years, five – ten, he is till of the spiritual growth of a baby. That's awful– but sad to say many, many Christians never grow! Don't be one of them.

Please re-read points 1-4 in our life of physical and spiritual birth illustrations. Now; ask yourself– was there a definite time and place when you received Jesus Christ into your heart, and was born into the family of God?

Perhaps you do not remember the exact date, etc., but you know that you are saved. Praise God, He knows the place and time. That's what is really important!

But, if you are not sure, perhaps you think so. Why not settle any doubts about this important matter right now?

Just now, from your heart, cry out to God, repeat the following prayer.

Dear God, I _____, PUT YOUR NAME, this day _____, DATE, realize that I am dead in trespasses and sins. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay for my sins. Right now, I am reaching out the hands of my heart and taking Jesus Christ into my heart as my own personal Savior. Wash away my sins and make me your child. Thank you for doing this; you are now my Heavenly Father, I am your child. I have been born into your family. In the name of Jesus Christ I make this prayer. Amen."

I John 3:1– "*Behold what manner of love the Father bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God...*"

If you have received Christ today, this is your **Spiritual Birthday**. Turn to John 3:16 in your Bible and along the margin write the year, month and day so that you will always remember it.

You are now a babe in Christ, and need plenty of (1) food – read the Bible; (2) sleep – spend time in prayer; (3) exercise – witness, attend church, etc. II Peter 3:18–"*But grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.*"

**LESSON 10 - BEING “BORN AGAIN”
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”**

- (1) Jesus said, “unless ye are born again ye cannot see the kingdom of God.”
- (2) Being “born again” means being born spiritually into God’s family.
- (3) Spiritual birth into God’s family, parallels the physical birth into the human family.
- (4) There is a time and a place when one is born physically. There is a time and place when one is born spiritually.
- (5) We are born into the human family through the agony, tears and blood of our mother. We are born into God’s family through the shed blood and death of Jesus Christ.
- (6) The human baby at birth must give a cry in order to start the cycle of **breathing**. The spiritual baby must cry to God to start breathing.
- (7) The baby’s birth; name, etc. must be recorded at the City Hall. A new Christian’s name is recorded in the Lamb’s Book of Life in Heaven.
- (8) You **can know** that you are saved. I John 5:13 says, “these things are written that ye may know that ye have eternal life.” God cannot lie.
- (9) A new baby needs food, sleep and exercise in order to grow physically. A new Christian needs to read the Bible, spend time in prayer, and live the Christian life to grow spiritually.
- (10) To be born into God’s family, is the most important thing you will do in your life on earth, as **eternity** depends on this one thing.

LESSON 11

The Holy Spirit



Prayer: “Help me to understand the importance of the Holy Spirit in my Christian life; open my heart and mind to this great truth. For Jesus’ sake. Amen.”

Review all scripture verses from lessons 1-10.
Write from memory the verses for lessons 6 and 7.

Read “POINTS TO REMEMBER” in lessons 1-10.

Do the test for lesson 9.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(John 15:26): **“But when the comforter is come whom I will send unto you from the Father even the spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of me.”**

In this lesson, I am going to be quoting much from Billy Graham’s book, *“The Holy Spirit”*. Wherever you see quotation marks and the initials B.G., that quote was taken from the above mentioned book.

Turn back to Lesson #2 and read again about the Trinity– one God in three persons God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. They are equal in attributes and power.

In Matt. 28:19-20, the disciples were told to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the **Father**, the **Son** and the **Holy Spirit**. That does not mean that there are three Gods– it is not 1+1+1=3. **No**; it is 1x1x1=1.

Don’t worry if you can’t understand this in its complexity–just have faith. Heb 11:6 says, “Without faith it is impossible to please God...”

The Holy Spirit is a person and should always be interpreted **“He”**–never **“it”**.

Before Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection, Christ knew he would soon be leaving His Disciples, so in Chapter 14 of John, He plainly told them He would be going back to God, the Father, but He had good news. He would not leave them alone. The Holy Spirit would come and not be with them **but be in them!** He– the Holy Spirit would be their teacher, comforter and guide. Open your Bible and read the entire Chapter of John 14. It will bless your heart. Read again these verses, 16, 17, 26; John 14:16– *“And I will pray the Father and He will give you another Comforter, that He shall abide with you forever.”* Verse 17: *“Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth Him; but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”* Verse 26: *“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, He shall teach you all things, in my name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance whatsoever I have said unto you.”* Also read Chapter 16:5-14–

“But now I go my way to Him that sent me and none of you asketh me, whither goest thou? But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your hearts. Nevertheless, I TELL YOU THE TRUTH: IT IS EXPEDIENT FOR YOU THAT I GO AWAY: FOR IF I GO NOT AWAY, THE COMFORTER WILL NOT COME UNTO YOU. AND WHEN HE IS COME, HE WILL REPROVE THE WORLD OF SIN, AND OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND OF JUDGMENT. BECAUSE THE PRINCE OF THIS WORLD IS JUDGED. I HAVE YET MANY THINGS TO SAY UNTO YOU, BUT YE CANNOT BEAR THEM NOW. HOWBEIT WHEN HE, THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH IS COME, HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH, FOR HE SHALL NOT SPEAK OF HIMSELF: BUT WHATSOEVER HE SHALL HEAR, THAT SHALL HE SPEAK: AND HE WILL SHOW YOU THINGS TO COME. HE SHALL GLORIFY ME; FOR HE SHALL RECEIVE OF MINE, AND SHALL SHOW IT UNTO YOU.”

How wonderful that Jesus not only died for our sins, and assures us of eternal life, with Him in Heaven, **but** the Holy Spirit abides in each believer. **NOW** helping to live the Christian life, right down here in our earthly life.

At the time of our conversion, we receive the Holy Spirit (please do not confuse this with the filling of the spirit). We shall study that a little later. The **Holy Spirit** seals us into the body of Christ.

Eph. 1:13b, 14– *“...in whom also after ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. Who is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory.”*

Romans 8:9 *“But ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man (person) have not the Spirit of Christ, he **none of this.**”*

I Cor. 12:3– *“Wherefore I give you to understand that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed; AND THAT NO MAN CAN SAY THAT JESUS IS THE LORD, BUT BY THE HOLY GHOST.”* So you see, we cannot be saved without the work of the Holy Spirit.

In the Bible, we see the work of **God the Father** predominantly in the Old Testament– the work of **God the Son** (Jesus Christ) is paramount in the Gospels;– the work of **God the Holy Spirit** is now working in the age of grace. For the Holy Spirit is the one who convicts of sin, and works in us repentance unto salvation, which Christ wrought for us on Calvary.

Then, it is **He** (the Holy Spirit) that enables the Christian to live a victorious life; for He, God the Holy Spirit dwells in us.

Read all of Romans, Chapter 8.

At Christmas time we celebrate Christ's Birthday into the human race. He took on a human body, and lived among us for 33 years.

When did the Holy Spirit come to the earth? Jesus promised He would come and He did come 50 days after Christ's resurrection, 10 days after Christ's ascension back into Heaven. This day is called "Pentecost" (meaning fiftieth).

"Pentecost marked the commencement of the present age of the Holy Spirit. Believers under His guidance, even as the disciples of Jesus were under Christ. **From Heaven Jesus still exercises Lordship over the Christians, but not physically with us now. He transmits His directions by means of the Holy Spirit.**" B.G.

Let's read the story of the Pentecost in Acts 1:7-9: *"And He said unto them, it is not for you to know the times and seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power. But ye shall receive power after the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all of Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."* The Acts 2:1-8– *"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from Heaven as a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as fire, and He sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews devout men, out of every nation under Heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, **the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.** And they were all amazed and marveled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which now speak Galileans. **And how hear we every man in his own language, wherein we were born.**"*

Notice the Scripture says they were **filled** with the Holy Spirit. **Review verse 4.**

Each believer is baptized **into** the body of Christ (the Church) by the Holy Spirit when that person accepts Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. I Cor. 12:13: *"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have all been made to drink into one Spirit."*

Each believer is also commanded to be filled with the Holy Spirit each day of his life. Eph. 5:18– ***AND BE NOT DRUNK WITH WINE, WHEREIN IS EXCESS, BUT BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT.*** That **"be filled"** literally means **not a one time experience!** But **be ye constantly being filled** with the Holy Spirit. That is our great privilege as a child of God.

I am going to quote here from Billy Graham's book of "The Holy Spirit" please read this quote at **least three times.**

"Quite clearly Jesus did not say that His death on the cross would mark the cessation of His ministry. The night before His death He repeatedly told the disciples that He would send the Holy Spirit.

The night before He was to die, He told His disciples *'It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you.'* (John 16:7 KJV) Before He could send the Holy Spirit, who is the Comforter, Jesus had to go away: first to the death of the cross; then to the resurrection; then the ascension into Heaven. Only after that could He send the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Before He ascended into Heaven He told them to stay in Jerusalem until they were *'baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days hence!'* (Acts 1:5 KJV)

That's why John the Baptist proclaimed the two-fold mission of Christ as first, *'the lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.'* (John 1:29 KJV) Second, he predicted that Christ's ministry at Calvary would be followed by His ministry through baptism with the Holy Spirit (John 1:33).

When Christ arose from the dead this baptism with the Spirit that was to signify the new age still lay in the future; but it was to occur fifty days after the resurrection.

Ten days after the ascension, Pentecost dawned. The promise was fulfilled. The Holy Spirit came on 120 disciples. A little later when Peter was explaining it to a much larger crowd, he referred to the gift as 'the gift of the Holy Spirit'. (Acts 2:38 KJV).

John Scott reminds us, 'The 3,000 do not seem to have experienced the same miraculous phenomena,' (the rushing mighty wind, the tongues of flame, or the speech in foreign languages). 'At least nothing is said about these things. Yet because of God's assurance through Peter they must have inherited the same promise and received the same gift (verses 33, 39). Nevertheless, there was the difference between them: the 120 were regenerated already, and received baptism of the Spirit only after waiting upon God for ten days. The 3,000 on the other hand were unbelievers, and received the forgiveness of their sins and the gift of the Spirit **simultaneously** – and it happened immediately when they repented and believed, without any need to wait.'

This distinction between the two companies, the 120 and the 3,000 is of great importance, **because the norm of today must surely be the second group, the 3,000 and not (as is often supposed) the first.** The fact that the experience of the 120 was in two distinct stages was due simply to historical circumstances. They could not have received the Pentecostal gifts before Pentecost. But these historical circumstances have long since ceased to exist. We live after the event of Pentecost, like the 3,000. With us, therefore, as with them, the forgiveness of sins and the 'gift' of 'baptism' of the Spirit received together.

From that day onward, the Holy Spirit has lived in the hearts of all true believers beginning with the 120 disciples who received Him at Pentecost. When they received the Holy Spirit, He untied them by His indwelling presence into one body—the body of Christ, which is the Church.

There were, it is true, several other occasions recorded in the Book of Acts which were similar to Pentecost, such as the so-called 'Samaritan Pentecost' (Acts 8:14-17) and the conversion of Cornelius (Acts 10:44-48). Each of these, however, marked a new stage in the expansion of the Church. Samaritans were a mixed race, scorned by many as unworthy of the love of God. Their baptism by the Spirit was a clear sign that they, too, could be part of God's people by faith in Jesus Christ. Cornelius was a Gentile, and his conversion marked still another step in the spread of the Gospel. The baptism of the Spirit which came to him and his household showed conclusively that God's love extended to the Gentiles as well.

In view of all this, no Christian need strive, wait, or 'pray through' to get the Spirit. He has received Him already not as a result of struggle and work, agonizing and prayer, but as an unmerited and unearned gift of grace.

W. Graham Scroggie once said something like this at Keswick: 'On the day of Pentecost, all believers were, by the Baptism of the Spirit, constituted the body of Christ, and since then every separate believer, every soul accepting Christ in simple faith, has in that moment and by that act been made partaker of the blessings of the baptism. It is not, therefore, a blessing which the believer is to seek and receive subsequent to the hour of his conversion!'" (End of quote from Billy Graham's book on *"The Holy Spirit"* published by Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, Warner Books, Edition, 1978.)

Let's study further on the point of being filled with the Holy Spirit, or the fullness of Spirit. Eph. 5:18— "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess but be filled with the Spirit." Which literally translates— "KEEP ON BEING FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT." Paul says go not get drunk with wine for that is dissipation, **but** be filled with the Spirit. —Here there is a contrast between two things: alcohol overrides a person's own normal abilities and actions and makes him do things he never would do in his own nature. Therefore, when a believer is filled with the Holy Spirit, he is enabled to do exploits for God that he could never do with his own natural abilities. God has made many a shy, backward man into a great preacher, etc., etc. We should do nothing of a spiritual nature in the energy of the flesh, but rather in the power of the Spirit. The sad fact is that millions of God's people do not have this fullness of God's Holy Spirit. Why??

God wants to fill every Christian; it is a command "BE YE FILLED". The reason we are not filled is because we are so full of ourselves, our own interests, the things of the world, etc., there is no room for the Holy Spirit to fill us. It is up to each individual Christian as to how much of the fullness of the Holy Spirit he has. If we empty ourselves, **halfway**, He can fill us **half full**. If we become an empty vessel, wanting only His will in our lives, He can fill us full. Remember, this is not a one time experience; it is a daily thing! We all know that some days we spend more time in the Word of God and in prayer and are closer to God; fuller of the Holy Spirit than on other days. When we are pre-occupied with ourselves, and the things of the world, someone has said, "When our cup runs over, then our saucer gets some." Therefore, it is only when our "cup runneth over" can we be of help and a blessing to others.

It is only through Bible study, prayer and Christian fellowship that we can stay close enough to God to be a vessel that He can fill us with His Holy Spirit, and use us for His honor and glory. Yet this is the command of God for each believer, and it is our duty.

Only when we are filled with the Holy Spirit can we bring forth the fruits of the Spirit.

The Gifts of the Spirit

The New Testament lists the gifts of the Spirit in three passages—Romans 12:6-8—*“Having the gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy according to the proportion of faith; or ministry let us wait on our ministering, or he that teacheth, on teaching; or that exhorteth, on exhortation; he that ruleth with diligence; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness.”* Eph. 4:11-12 — *“And he gave some apostles; and some, prophets; and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”*

I Cor. 12:7-11— *“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another discernment of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues; But all these worketh that one and the self same Spirit; dividing to every man severally as He will.”*

Gift and the Body of Christ

“The Bible teaches that every redeemed person is given at least one gift by the Holy Spirit: Now there are varieties of gifts... But to each one given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” B.G. (I Cor. 12:3,7) God holds use responsible by the way we use our gifts.

“The Apostle Paul likens the Church to our physical bodies, where each member has a unique function yet all parts work together Paul said, *‘For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot should say, Because I am not a hand, I am not part of the body, is it not for this reason any less a part of the body...But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.’* Paul continued by saying that, **“There are many members, but one body.”** And the eye cannot say to the hand, *I have not need of you, or again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.’* (I Cor. 12:14-21) He added that even those members of the body that seem the most feeble or the least needed are necessary parts of the body. They are all essential for the body’s proper functioning.”

“As with the human body, so the body of Christ is a complete organism made by God.” B.G.

“Yet each member of the body is unique. There can never be ‘you’ or ‘me’. In a sense, your gift or mine is unique. God often gives similar gifts to different people, but there is a uniqueness about this that makes each of us distinct from any other person who has ever lived. If any one of us is missing the body is incomplete, lacking some part.” B.G.

How can you know what spiritual gift you have? First you have to be aware that you do have a spiritual gift—**you do!**

Then make it a matter of careful, thoughtful prayer. Be much in prayer as you read your Bible, so that God can speak to you and give you direction in your life. Start to do the Christian works that come that God can speak to you and give you direction in your life. Start to do the Christian works that come naturally to you— like the gift of helps (simply helping others); one of the most needed gifts. Many Christians have **many** gifts. Why? Because they used what they had, then the Holy Spirit gave them more.

Remember the parable in Matt. 25:15 where the men were given talents 10, 5, and 1? The one with ten used his to make ten more; the one with one, hid his so he wouldn’t lose it, and what happened? The Master said to take away his one and give to him that had ten. Why? Because they used what they had, then the Holy Spirit gave them more.

We are told to seek earnestly the best gifts and these are listed.

Read all of I Cor. 13. (verse 13— *“And now abide faith, hope, charity (love); but the greatest of these is charity (love).”* The greatest of all the spiritual gifts is LOVE.

Perhaps you are wondering about speaking in tongues. That really means an “unknown” language. On the day of the Pentecost the Disciples were preaching and teaching in languages unknown to them, but the hearers heard in their own tongues. Acts 2:6– “Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.”

Chapter 14 of I Cor. lists speaking in an unknown tongue (even with an interpreter) as the least of the gifts.

Because we Christians have the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, we are to have the “fruit of the Spirit.” Gal. 5:22-23– *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, against such there is no law.”*

“These fruits are like clusters of grapes. The **first cluster** of the **fruit**, Love, Joy and Peace, has a primary Godward relationship, with outward results that others can see. Thus we speak of the **love** of God, **joy** of the Lord, and the **peace** of God. The **second cluster**—**patience, kindness and goodness** has to do with the kind of Christian we are, in our **outward** relationship to others. If we are unkind, and rude, short tempered, we lack the second cluster of fruit.

The **third cluster** of spiritual fruit—**faith, meekness, temperance** (self-control) has to do with the **inward** man. Faith means to be faithful to our Christian commitments!” B.G.

We as Christians can **grieve** the Holy Spirit, and we do that when our lives are not God honoring. Eph. 4:30– *“And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”*

Anything untrue or deceitful that we do— doubt, worry, unloving; such characteristics grieve Him. Anything that is unclean, defiling or degrading in our lives grieves the Holy Spirit within us.

The Holy Spirit is likened to a dove— Matt. 3:16– *“And Jesus, when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and lo the Heavens were opened unto Him and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him.”*

A dove is a bird that is quickly disturbed; the slightest wrong movement, and he is gone. Oh! How careful we should be not to grieve the Holy Spirit!

We are also told not to **quench** the Holy Spirit. I Thess. 5:19– *“Quench not the Spirit...”* The word ‘grieve’ suggests the sense of hurting or making the Holy Spirit sorrowful. The word ‘quench’ means to ‘put out’ or ‘put a damper on.’” B.G.

By lack of prayer, Bible study, sinful deeds, etc., we put out the fire. You have often heard the expression, “he is on fire for the Lord”. When we quench the Holy Spirit, we are no longer “on fire for the Lord”.

What about the unpardonable sin? The sin of blaspheming the Holy Spirit— Matt. 12:31-32– *“Wherefore I say unto you, all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men, but the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.”*

Can this sin be committed by Christians? **NO! NO!** This sin can only be committed by unbelievers. Anyone who has accepted Christ as Savior sealed into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit.

“The unpardonable sin is the total, final, irrevocable rejection of Jesus Christ.” B.G. So long as the Spirit strives with a person, he has not committed the unpardonable sin. Resisting the Spirit is a sin committed by unbelievers, **but it is a sin that when carried on long enough, leads to eternal doom when the person dies never having accepted Christ.** (Please write us regarding above; space forbids here.)

Christians don’t have to sin, but we do sin because we still have the old human nature, but that is forgiven by confession. I John 1:9– *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* If a Christian continues in sin, he may die a premature death and also be judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ, losing all his crowns and rewards.

Does that mean that when a Christian sins the Holy Spirit leaves him, and he is no longer saved?— **No!**, for remember, we have been sealed into the **body of Christ** by the same Spirit. When the Holy Spirit is grieved, He does not withdraw Himself from the believer, but He does bring about an absence of Joy and Power in our lives; until we

renounce and confess our sins. I John 1:9 *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

"We are inwardly wretched when we are out of communion with the Holy Spirit; He deliberately makes us miserable, until we return to Christ in brokenness, contrition and confession." B.G.

If you claim to be a Christian, and can continue to live in sin and wickedness without the inner misery and conviction, I would advise you to examine your heart to see if you can truly say you are in "the faith", for God will not allow His child to go unconvicted and living a disgraceful wicked life; that is to disgrace His name.

LESSON 11 - THE HOLY SPIRIT
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) The Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity that makes up the God Head. 1x1x1=1
- (2) The Holy Spirit is a person and should always be addressed as “He”.
- (3) Jesus promised that when He returned to Heaven, He would send the Holy Spirit to be with, and in the believer.
- (4) Pentecost– (50 days after Jesus resurrection from the dead) the Holy Spirit came down and filled the 120 believers who were praying in the upper room.
- (5) We are baptized into the body of Christ (the true Church) by the Holy Spirit at the time of our conversion.
- (6) The Holy Spirit dwells in each believer as the earnest or (down payment) of our redemption.
- (7) Each Christian has received the command from Christ to be **filled** by the Holy Spirit, that is “*Be ye constantly being filled,*” a daily experience as we walk with the Lord.
- (8) The Holy Spirit within us is grieved (made sorrowful) when we sin, and do not live a God glorifying life.
- (9) When we grieve the Holy Spirit, we do not lose our salvation, but we lose our Joy and are miserable until we confess our sins, short-comings; and get back into fellowship with God.
- (10) The unpardonable sin can only be committed by the unsaved, and is a willful, deliberate, rejecting of Jesus Christ unto death.
- (11) Christians should manifest the fruits of the indwelling Holy Spirit which are: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, faith, meekness, and temperance.
- (12) Every believer has at least one spiritual gift, and will have give account to God for how he has used his life and his special spiritual gift and gift(s).

LESSON 12

The Church - Baptism - _____ The Lord's Supper



Prayer: "My dear Heavenly Father- I thank you that out of millions on earth, you saw fit that I should understand your great plan of salvation and have the privilege of accepting your son, Jesus Christ, as my own personal Savior. Thank you for saving me!- Now, help me to understand the privileges and obligations that are mine as your child. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen."

Review all scripture verses from lessons 1-11. Write from memory the verses for lessons 8 and 9.

Read "POINTS TO REMEMBER" from all the previous lessons. Are you beginning to have them memorized also?

Do the test for lesson 10.

Read the Memory Verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(Acts 2:47b): **"And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."**

The **Church**- What does the word church mean? We usually think of a building with a steeple going high up into the sky. In Pennsylvania we have little white Methodist churches scattered in almost every little village and hamlet, and large magnificent edifices in the cities. These are churches, but they are not **THE CHURCH**. The Church is not an organization or a building.

The Church is a organism- **"a called out body" made up of every person who has accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior** since the say of Pentecost, and will not be completed until the last soul is saved, before the coming rapture when the Church: (all saved people) are raptured up to meet Christ in the air. I Thess. 4:16- *"For the Lord Himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first."* I Thess 4:17 *"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them, in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord."*

We shall study this great event in detail in a later lesson.

The true Church is made up of all races, tribes and tongues- of all denominations; Jews, Catholics, Protestants. Anyone and everyone who has accepted Christ's atoning work on the cross and whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life- each one becomes a member of the true Church which is also the body of Christ.

*There are local assemblies, called the local church. In Revelation, we read of the Church in Asia, the Church in Laodicea, etc. In I Cor. 1:2, we read about the Church in Corinth. The born again believers of these local churches of all ages, make up (though unseen) **The Church**.*

We think of the church or temple as the place where God dwells. That was so during the Old Testament time. But, now during the dispensation, after the death, burial and resurrection of Christ and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the body of each believer becomes the temple of God, where the Holy Spirit dwells. I Cor. 6:19– ***“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God...”***

What a sobering fact; our bodies are a temple of the Holy Spirit. One scripture says, How can we commit adultery and join our bodies with that of a harlot? How can we then destroy God’s temple (our bodies) with nicotine, etc.? knowing this should make us purify ourselves and have a clean holy temple.

The local church is often spoke “of as the church that meets in (so and so) home”, so the church is **not the building**.

The smallest local church is where 2 or 3 believers are gathered together in His (Christ’s) name. Matt. 18:20– *“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”*

In Heb. 10:25, we are warned not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. The regular fellowship with the believers is essential to Christian growth.

BAPTISM

The Church has only two ordinances– Baptism and the Lord’s Supper.

Baptism is observed at the beginning of our Christian life. (Baptism is not part of salvation). Baptism is a picture of what has happened in a life when one accepts Christ. **The Greek word, “Baptizo,” means to dip, to plunge, to immerse for the purpose of dying** (It can never mean sprinkling or pouring.) **All Christians are commanded to be baptized.** Matt. 28:18-20– *“And Jesus came and spoke unto them saying ‘All power is given unto me in Heaven and in earth, Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”*

This is a picture of our identification into the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. You go down in to the water=death; you are under water=burial; you come up out of the water=resurrection. This is a public declaration to the world of your identification with Christ.

Notice that in Baptism, you are not left under the water, but as Christ came out of the tomb in resurrection power, so we come out of the water; a declaration of being raised with Christ (after burying the old life) to walk in newness of life with Him. II Cor. 5:14-15– *“For the love of Christ constraineth us, because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead; And that He died for all, that they who live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him who died for them, and rose again.”*

I repeat, Baptism does NOT save you! “You do not need to go through the water to get to the blood;” but , it is the only thing we can do, just as Christ did. Read Jesus’ baptism in Matt. 3:13-15– *“Then came Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbade Him, saying; ‘I have need to be baptized by thee, and comest thou to me?’ And Jesus answering said unto him, ‘Suffer it be so now; for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness.’ Then he suffered Him.”*

If there are circumstances that hinder you from being baptized right away; that does not affect your salvation. The dying thief on the cross who accepted Christ, never had a chance to be baptized. Yet Christ said, *“Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.”* Luke 23 - Read verses 39-43.

As soon as possible after salvation you should seek a good Bible-believing, Bible-practicing church; be baptized by immersion. Join the local church and become an active member.

Again, I repeat– joining a church, being baptized does **not** save you. The only way to be saved is to repent of your sins, and accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. John 3:36– *“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him.”*

THE SECOND ORDINANCE OF THE CHURCH IS “THE LORD’S SUPPER.” That is: believers partaking of the bread and wine (symbolizing the broken body and poured out blood of Christ).

I Cor. 11:23-26— *“For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you. That the Lord Jesus the same night in which He was betrayed took bread. And when he had given thanks he broke it, and said, Take eat, this is my body, which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when He has supped saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood; this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord’s death ‘til he comes.”*

Remember, these are symbolic; they do not become sacraments. That means that the bread and wine do not actually become the flesh and blood of Christ, but are the symbols of the flesh and blood.

The Lord’s Supper— (or communion) is taken all during the Christian life. I Cor. 11:23-28 explains this. **That as often as you do this**, you are remembering his death until He comes (for the Church in the rapture).

- (1) The Lord’s Supper was originated by Christ himself.
- (2) To partake of the Lord’s Supper is a command, **“This do”**.
- (3) The purpose of the ordinance is to keep us in remembrance of Christ’s death (looking back), until His coming (looking forward) to His return. This also reminds us of where we come from, and where we are going, thus helping us to live holy lives.
- (4) Every Christian is to participate in the taking of the Lord’s Supper. It is the Lord’s table, not any particular church’s. Some churches have a closed communion; and that is not scriptural as it should be open to all Christians.
- (5) **It is very important that each Christian examine his own heart and life before taking communion, and be careful that there is no unconfessed sin in his life.**

I Cor. 11:27-31— *“Wherefore, whosoever shall eat this bread and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep, for if we should judge ourselves, we should not be judged.”*

This is a very important ordinance. How often it is observed is up to each church— some churches do it each Lord’s day some once a month, and others less often. There is no set rule. But *“as of as ye do it,”* you remember the Lord’s death until He returns.

LESSON 12 - THE CHURCH - BAPTISM - THE LORD'S SUPPER
"POINTS TO REMEMBER"

- (1) The true word "Church" does not mean a building.
- (2) "The Church" is called out "body of believers".
- (3) "The Church" is made up of every born again believer from the day of Pentecost until the last soul is saved before the rapture (or going up to heaven of the church) at Christ's second coming.
- (4) There are visible local assemblies called "the Church of Athens", etc. or the Church in so and so's home.
- (5) The simplest form of a church is where two or three believers gathered together in His (Christ's) name.
- (6) The Church has only two ordinances - Baptism and the Lord's Supper.
- (7) Baptism ("Baptizo") means "going under" or immersion.
- (8) Baptism does not save.
- (9) Baptism is a picture of the believer buried in the likeness of Christ's death. Coming up out of the water, pictures Christ's resurrection. Thus, we are raised to walk in newness of life.
- (10) Baptism is done as early in our Christian lives as possible, and is for a testimony of what has happened inside.
- (11) The Lord's Supper is to be observed with other Christians all through our Christian lives.
- (12) Its purpose is twofold- to remind us of Christ's death. His body symbolized by the broken bread; the wine - His poured out blood. It also keeps us looking forward to His coming again.
- (13) It is dangerous to come to the Lord's Supper with unconfessed sin in our hearts and lives.

LESSON 13

The Christian Life



Prayer: “Dear Heavenly Father: Now that I am a Christian, help me to live as a Christian should live. Help me to bring honor to your name and to win other people to Jesus. This I ask in His name. Amen.”

Review all scripture verses from lessons 1-12.
Write from memory the verses for lessons 10 and 11.

Review all “POINTS TO REMEMBER”, think on each lesson and see how many points you can remember from each lesson.

Do the test for lesson 11.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(I Cor. 10:31): “**Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.**”

You are a Christian! What does that mean? Remember the lesson on being born into God’s family?

Christian mean— Christ’s little one. I John 3:1— “Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God; therefore, the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not.”

You can know for sure that you are saved. **How?** By simply believing in the Word of God. I John 5:13— “*These things I have written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the son of God.*”

Some days you won’t feel like you are a Christian, and some days you won’t **act like one**. But we must go by faith in the Word of God.

Here’s a little poem my husband sometimes quotes:

“Three men were walking on a wall
Feeling, Faith and Fact,
When Feeling got an awful fall!
And Faith was taken back.
So close was Faith to Feeling,
He stumbled and fell too
But Fact remained and
pulled Faith back
And Faith brought back Feeling too.”

You heard that God so loved you, that He sent His only son (Jesus) into the world to die for **you**.

Jesus so loved you that He was willing to die for you— that is, He took **your sins** upon Himself. He was separated from God the Father for you. When He cried with a loud voice, “It is finished” - He meant that now the way was open for you to be brought back into fellowship with God.

You believed this message and by faith you repented for your sins. **Repent**, means to have Godly sorrow for your sins, and turn from them.

Then as a simple act of faith you received God’s gift to you. You ask Jesus to come into your heart and wash away your sins. You called unto God to save you. “*Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*” - Thereby you become a son of God; a Christian.

Now what happened?

You were sealed into the Church, the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit. Eph. 1:13: “In whom you also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the Gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.”

You received a new nature. II Cor. 5:17: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.”

We now have two natures - the old sinful nature, plus the new nature. After we get our new bodies, we will no longer have the old nature that is constantly trying to pull us back. Praise God for that!

Now through the Holy Spirit, Christ lives in you. Col. 2:20 - “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me, and gave Himself for me.”

Who is Christ? God - the Son. Where is he? - **In your heart.** Then, is there anything impossible for you? **NO!** **Because Christ (God) is in you.** Gal. 1:24 - “*To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory.***” Phil. 4:13 - “***I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.***”

Christ is now your Savior, and had saved you from an eternity of Hell.

Now He wants to become your Lord, and he becomes **that** when you yield your body, soul, and spirit to Him. God desires to have nothing but His will in your life. Romans 12:1 - “*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice holy acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service.*”

Let’s review again what it takes for a Christian to grow from a babe in Christ to a mature Christian. II Peter 3:18 - “*But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...*”

(1) **Our first point of growth to become a mature Christian is Food - Reading and studying the Bible;** first the milk of the Word (the easy things); then the meat (on to the more difficult things) such as our next lesson will be; future events.

Only Christians can understand the Bible, because we have the Holy Spirit as our teacher. I Cor. 2:14— “*But the natural man receiveth not the things of the spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto Him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*”

Make it a practice to read some of the Bible everyday, preferably in the morning before the rush of the world gets to you.

I suggest for the new Christian to read first of all the Gospels of John then the Epistles, Ephesians, Phillipians, Colossians; then the entire New Testament; then the whole Bible. It is good to set a goal to read the Bible through at least once a year. This is the only book that never grows old. There is always something new for you each time you read it. **Daily read:** 3 chapters in the Old Testament, 2 chapters in the New Testament. This will take you through the Bible in one year.

(2) Our second point of growth for a Christian is Prayer.

Reading the Word of God, is **God speaking** to you.

Prayer is you speaking to God; that wonderful communion between a Father and His child.

This is a point where the Devil will fight you. It is hard work to really pray, but it is an **absolute** must if you are going to grow in your Christian life.

Here again, it is always best to talk to God in the morning. David said, "I will pray morning, noon and night." Make Bible reading and prayer the top priority in your life.

How long can you go without sleep? – 16 hours – 24 hours – 26 hours? Not long, until you are completely fatigued. You can't think, you can't function; so it is spiritually impossible to be spiritual when one goes without prayer. There is a saying, "**one week without prayer makes one a weak Christian.**" Believe in God's promises and make them your own. He will give you the desires of your heart. You are His Son or Daughter. Your prayer life will change your life. Don't just pray for yourself– pray for others. Here's a little prayer hand illustration that may help you as you pray. Remember the position on your hand as you pray.



1. Praise and thanksgiving to God - confession of sin.
2. Your family.
3. The President, your pastor, church, missionaries, etc.
4. The sick, bereaved, needy, and imprisoned.
5. Yourself - your personal spiritual growth, needs and wants.

(3) Our third point is to Witness. – "Ye shall be witnesses unto me..." Acts 1:8.

You may not know a lot of things about the Bible, but you do know what God has done for you– **pass it on.** That is what a witness is. You thought this was the task of the preacher, missionary, etc. **NO! YOU! – Every believer is to become a witness for Christ.** Tie your arm up in a sling for months, and what happens? The muscles become useless. Just so with our Spiritual muscles unless we run the good race in life, by faith. Climb the mountains of difficulty, unless we do, we will become weak Christians.

We are told to be "overcomers" - I John 5:4 - "*For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world, and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.*" You can be an overcomer, because **Christ liveth in you.**

We have a powerful enemy, the Devil – Satan. He hates you, and wanted you to go to Hell, to be tormented in Hell with **Him** forever. However, now that you have accepted Christ, you have escaped that eternal doom.

Now, Satan's job is to keep you from becoming a strong Christian. He will try to destroy your testimony. I Peter 5:8 – "*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary, the Devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.*"

The Devil will tempt you to do evil. I John 2:16 – *“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”*

Lust of the flesh – “Go ahead, do it!”

“if it feels good, do it! etc. etc.

Lust of the eyes – “If it looks good, take it”, etc.

Pride of Life – “I want to be rich; I want to be powerful; I want – I-I-I.”

These are the three areas in which the Devil will tempt you. But in I Cor. 10:13 we read that “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”

Now, that you are a Christian, will you never fail? Will you ever think an evil thought? NO! Remember, you still have the old nature that is warring against the new nature. Gal. 5:17 – *“For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that you would.”*

Always remember that He (Christ) who is in you is greater than he who is in the world (the Devil), so we should and can have victory.

But what if you do fail, and fall into temptation? Does that mean that you are lost all over again? No!! Remember, you are a child of God and you were saved for eternity. Often Christians disgrace the Lord and they no longer have fellowship with Him; but they will be saved, so as by fire. I Cor. 3:15– *“If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”*

What to do when you have sinned – As soon as you realize you have sinned in **word** or in **deed, stop right then** (don’t wait until bedtime); immediately confess **that sin to God asking His forgiveness.** I John 1:9 - *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

As a Christian you become many things – a **light** – to show others the way; **salt** – to make others thirsty to have a drink of eternal life. Read Matthew 5:13-16.

It is also very important to become a member of a Bible-believing, Bible-practicing Church – become active. Work towards the heart of the Church. Exercise your spiritual gifts. **Give of yourself** – your time, your money. **Be an example of a Christian in word and deed.**

Determine in your heart and mind that by the help of God you will be a strong Christian. Memorizing the scripture verses in these lessons will help you all your Christian life.

LESSON 13 - THE CHRISTIAN LIFE
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) The word Christian means Christ’s little one.
- (2) You may know that you have eternal life by believing God’s Word (I John 5:13)
- (3) You are sealed to the Church, the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit when you accepted Christ as your Savior.
- (4) You received a new nature (a spiritual nature) when you became a Christian.
- (5) We still have the old fleshly sinful nature when you become a Christian.
- (6) Christ now lives in us, by the Holy Spirit, who gives us the power to have victory over Satan and sin.
- (7) It is the indwelling Holy Spirit that enables us to understand the Bible.
- (8) To become and remain a strong Christian, one must spend time in reading the Bible and praying, and in fellowship with other Christians.
- (9) Every Christian is to be a witness for Christ in his or her everyday life.
- (10) The devil tries to destroy our testimony through - 1. the lust of flesh. 2. the lust of the eyes; and 3. the pride of life.
- (11) When we get out of fellowship with God, we need to immediately confess every known sin, and get back into the Word.
- (12) A Christian can never lose his salvation, but he can lose his joy and peace with God, lose his rewards and stand ashamed at the Judgment Seat of Christ.
- (13) “Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together,” Hebrews 10:25. Become an active member of a Bible-believing church. We need the fellowship of other Christians.

Future Events



Prayer: “Dear Heavenly Father: Help me to live each day in such a way that will glorify you, and help others to come to Christ; as I study what is coming in the future, may it help me to make each day of my Christian life count for eternity. Thank you. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

Review all scripture verses from lessons 1-13.
Write from memory the verse for lessons 12.

Review “POINTS TO REMEMBER”, for Lessons 10, 11 and 12.

Do the test for Lesson 12.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

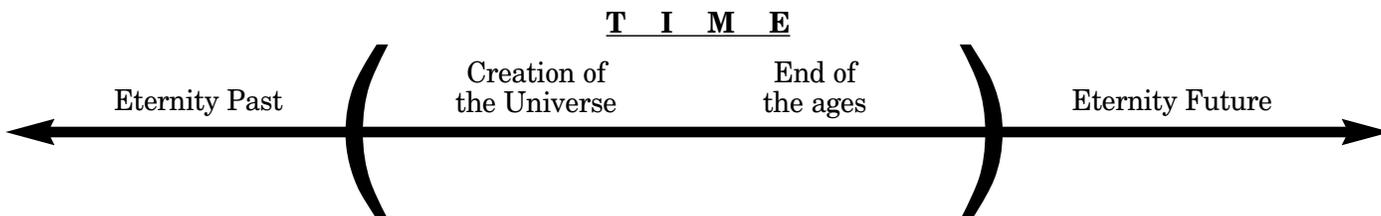
(I John 3:2,3): “Beloved, now we are the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him: for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”

We are now nearing the end of the church age (the age of Grace). The next great event on God’s time calendar is the **Second Coming of Christ**, to take His Church (all believers) out of the world. At this time, Christ will not come all the way to earth. I Thess. 4:16-17 –“For the Lord Himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain **shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and so, shall we ever be with the Lord.**”

This is the first part of the Second Coming of Christ. Seven years later He will come back to the earth with the Church, and set up His Kingdom and rule and reign here on earth with the glorified Saints for 1,000 years.

Remember in our past lessons we studied the creations of worlds, man, etc. This was a special act of God. God is eternal, and lives in eternity. These creative acts of God started a period known as time.

TIME is simply a parenthesis in eternity. Let me illustrate it this way:



“Time” is simply a pause in eternity.

Some Bible scholars have broken this period of **“Time”** down into what they call dispensations (when a certain period begins and ends). But that is too lengthy for us to study at this time.

Nearly all Bible Scholars believe that the **Rapture** (the taking out) **of the Church is very very near.** “On the clock of time the little hand is pointing at 12 and the big hand is ticking off the minutes and now stands one minute to 12. **Are you ready??**

Will you as a Christian be ashamed at His appearing? I John 2:28 - *“And now little children abide in Him that, when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.”*

We do not know the day or the hour that Christ shall come. But Christ said we should be able to discern the times and the seasons, by heeding the conditions that Christ said would prevail here on earth prior to His coming. Matthew 24:6-8 - *“And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places. All these are beginning of sorrows.”* Matt. 24:verse 36. *“But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of Heaven, but my Father only.”* Matthew 24:verse 37. *“But as the days of Noah so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be.”* Matthew 24:verse 39. *“And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away: so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be.”*

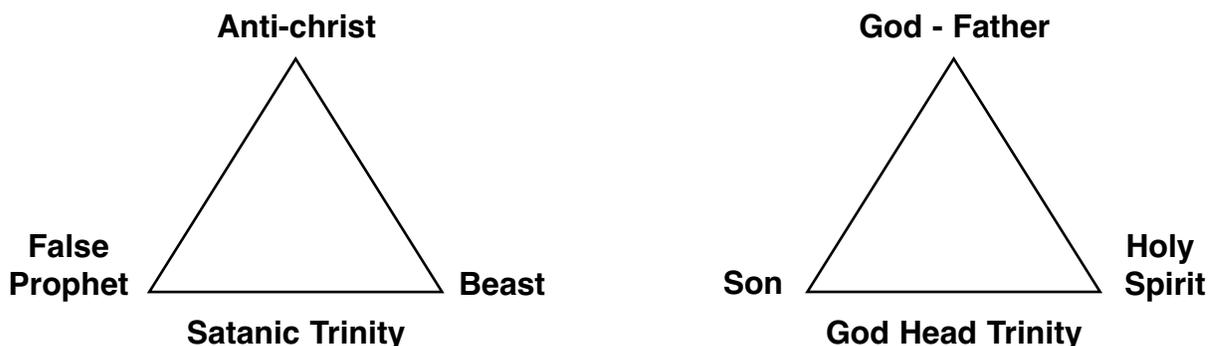
This could be today’s newspaper headlines.

The rapture of the Church is not the end of the world as we know it.

After the rapture of the Church, this earth enters into a terrible time, known as **The Tribulation Period**, a period such as the world has never known. **This period will last 7 years.** If it lasted longer, there would be no life left on earth.

After the Rapture, the world, the Governments, people, etc. will be in such a chaotic state that they will grasp for someone to be their world leader. **This person comes forth and is called the Antichrist.**

Here we have the Satanic trinity (in contrast to the God-Head Trinity).



Antichrist will not be revealed until after the rapture of the Church. Read II Thess. 2:1-10 (open your Bible here and read for yourself. Verse 7 refers to the Holy Spirit being taken out at the rapture of the Church).

Verse 8 says, *“Then shall the wicked one be revealed.”* He will be a man endowed by Satan with much power. Man’s number when in scriptures is 6. **His number is 666; again** referring to the un-Holy Trinity.

The Antichrist will have great power and will set himself up as God and demand to be worshiped as such. II Thess. 2:4 - *“Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, **showing himself that he is God.**”*

He will have the mark of the beast 666 put on the hand or on the forehead of every one living. If a person does not have the mark of the beast, they cannot buy or sell. Rev. 13:13-17 - *“And he (Antichrist) doeth great wonders, so the he maketh fire come down from Heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth, by the means of those miracles which he had the power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them*

that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and enslaved, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads. And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his names.

After the Church is raptured, the Antichrist will make a pact of peace with the Jews. This pact is broken after 3 1/2 years (the middle of the 7 year Tribulation Period). Then begins the **Great Tribulation**. Read **Rev. Chapter 6 through Chapter 19**. These are the chapters in Revelation that deal with the Tribulation.

The question comes to mind - Will anyone be saved during the Tribulation Period?? Most Theologians hold to the view that anyone who has heard the Gospel during the age of Grace and has rejected Christ's offer of free salvation cannot be saved during the Tribulation Period, using scripture in II Thess. 2:9-12 - *"Even him whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders. And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but has pleasure in unrighteousness."*

Others believe that people can be saved if they refuse the mark of the beast and are beheaded for their faith.

However, we do know that there will be countless numbers of Jews and Gentiles saved during the last 3 1/2 years of the Tribulation Period. These will be **people who have never heard the Gospel, and who have not taken the mark of the beast**.

During the **last 3 1/2 years** (The Great Tribulation) there will be 144,000 Jewish men preaching the **Everlasting Gospel**. Rev. 7:4 - *"And I heard the number of them which were sealed a hundred and forty and four thousand of all the children of Israel."*

Read Revelation 14:1-6.

How will the tribulation end?? At the end of the 7 year Tribulation Period - Christ with all His Saints, riding on white horses shall descend to earth. (**This is the second half of the second coming of Christ.**)

Rev. 19:11-19 - *"And I saw Heaven opened, and behold a white horse, and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he has a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood, and his name is called, The Word of God. And the armies which were in Heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, and with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried in a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of Heaven, "Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men both free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army." **This is the battle of Armageddon.***

Christ and his followers make war and have victory over Satan and his followers. Thus ends the conflict of the ages that began in Heaven when Lucifer, the bright and morning star, rebelled against God and became Satan, and continued in the Garden of Eden where the human race fell.

This victory ushers in the 1,000 year (millennial) reign of Christ.

Christ rules and reigns with his Saints on this earth for 1,000 years. AT LAST HIS KINGDOM IS COME!! Amen and Amen.

Creation has been restored completely. There will be no war, famine, pestilence, earthquakes, sickness, etc. (all these things are the results of sin).

There will no longer be fear or hurt between man and animals. Isa. 11:6-9 - *“The wolf shall dwell with the lamb; and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the suckling child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”*

Christ will rule with the rod of iron and Israel will be head of all nations. Once again, Isa. 2:1-4 - *“The word that Isaiah, the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths, for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up the sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.”*

During the 1,000 year millennium period, Satan is bound in the bottomless pit.

Rev. 20:1-7 - *“And I saw an angel come down from Heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. **And he laid hold on the dragon, the old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years. And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more. till the thousand years should be fulfilled, and after that he must be loosed a little season.** And I saw thrones and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them, and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worshiped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”*

*“**But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.** This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God, and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. **And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out his prison.”***

The beast and the false prophet have already been cast into the lake of fire. Rev. 19:20 - *“And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshiped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire with brimstone.”*

After the millennium - God, one final time, shows the character and nature of Satan. Satan is loosed from the bottomless pit for a short time. Rev. 20:7 - *“And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison.”*

What does he do? Rev. 20:8-9 - *“And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for battle; the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city; and fire came down from God out of Heaven, and devoured them.”*

The people that Satan gathers together to war against God are people who were born during the millennium period, living under perfect conditions, but still with the fallen nature. They flock to Satan at the first opportunity. Here we see the true wickedness of man’s hearts.

Fire comes down from God the Father and devours them, and the Devil is cast into the lake of fire forever and ever!! Rev. 20:10 - *“And the Devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever.” **GOODBYE DEVIL!***

Then comes the judgments. We will study these in the next chapter.

There is one more thing in store for the earth. It will pass away with a fervent heat. II Peter 3:10, and 12 - *“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in which the Heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with a fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of the day of God, wherein Heaven being on fire shall be dissolved and the elements shall melt with fervent heat.”*

Then comes a new Heaven and a new earth. II Peter 3:13 - *“Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new Heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.”*

Rev. 21:1 - *“And I saw a new Heaven and a new earth: for the first Heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.”*

Please read the description of the new Heaven and the new earth in Chapters 20 and 21 of Revelation.

Time has passed away. We are now in eternity future that is forever!!!

LESSON 14 - FUTURE EVENTS
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) Time is simply a parenthesis (pause in eternity).
- (2) The cross is the central point of all time.
- (3) The next great event on God’s calendar is the rapture of the Church (all born again people).
- (4) The Bible and the conditions of the world - all shout that Christ’s coming is very near.
- (5) After the rapture of the Church, there follows the Tribulation Period.
- (6) The Tribulation lasts for seven (7) years.
- (7) There is the unholy trinity made up of the Antichrist, false prophet and the beast.
- (8) The number of the Antichrist is 666. (6 is the number of man.)
- (9) Antichrist will set himself up as God and demand to be worshiped as such.
- (10) He will cause all persons to receive his mark in their foreheads or hand.
- (11) Anyone who receives the mark (666) can never be saved.
- (12) There are people saved during the last 3 1/2 years during the Tribulation Period, but they are martyred for their testimony.
- (13) Christ and His saints overcome the Antichrist and Christ sets up His millennial kingdom at the end of the Tribulation.
- (14) Millennium means 1,000 years.
- (15) During the millennial reign, Satan is bound in the bottomless pit.
- (16) At the end of the millennial reign, Satan is loosed and he again makes war upon the Holy City.
- (17) God sends fire down from Heaven – this is the last war.
- (18) Satan is cast into the lake of fire forever and ever.
- (19) The present Heaven and earth pass away - then comes the new Heaven and the new earth.
- (20) Then begins - eternity future.

Judgments



Prayer: “Dear Lord - As I study this lesson on judgments, help me to examine my heart and to judge myself that when I stand before you, I will not need to be ashamed. This I pray in Jesus name. Amen.”

Review all scripture verses from Lessons 1-14.
Write from memory the verse for Lessons 13.

Review “POINTS TO REMEMBER” for Lessons 11, 12 and 13.

Do the test for Lesson 13.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(Heb. 9:27): “**And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.**”

The Bible clearly teaches that everyone shall give an account to God for the things they have done here on earth.

This is not unreasonable. A child must give account of himself to his parents, the student to the teacher, etc., so why not the creature to the **Creator**.

The principles of Judgment is recognized among men. When someone breaks the law of the land, he is judged and if found guilty is punished by imprisonment.

There are five (5) great Judgments mentioned with detail in the Bible.

1. **The first great Judgment was of man** - Back in Genesis when Adam and Eve broke God’s Commandment – “*Though shalt not...*” God judged them, found them guilty and pronounced the Judgment of death (not only physical but spiritual) upon them. That sentence was passed upon the whole human race. Rom. 5:12 - “*Wherefore as by one man sin entered the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned.*”

2. **The second great Judgment was when Christ took our sins upon Himself.** II Cor. 5:21 - “*For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.*”

The guilt of the whole world was laid on Him (Christ).

That is the reason Christ has to take upon Himself human flesh. For remember, **Christ is God, and God cannot die!!** Therefore, to die for our sins He had to take upon Himself humanity. Phil 2:6-8 - “*Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal of God. But made himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men; And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*”

Before he was born the angel of the Lord said to Joseph, **“Thou shalt call His name, Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins.”** Matt. 1:21 - *At his birth He was wrapped in swaddling clothes (burial clothes). He was born to die.*

What is death? Spiritual death is separation of the soul from God. This is called the **second death**, and is experienced by all those who refuse to take Christ’s substitutionary death for themselves.

The first death is physical death - that is separation of the body from the soul.

On the cross, God the Father, Himself, began at the beginning of sin in the Garden of Eden, and began to roll (all the sins of each human being) as a huge scroll. Then He went back to the end of time and rolled the other way, gathering up every sin that will ever be committed. **These were laid on Christ at the cross.** Thus all the sins of the human race were literally laid on Christ. Isa. 53:6 - *“All we like sheep have gone astray: we have turned every to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him, the iniquity of us all.”*

All sin was laid upon the sinless Christ and He became sin for us. Can’t you just hear the hiss of the serpent in the very word SSSin?

At that moment Christ actually became sin; God hates sin; sin separates from God. Hanging there on the cross, **Christ took our second death, Hell, for us. He was separated from God.**

Christ cried out – “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” Christ had taken our sins. The fellowship with God the Father was broken! Oh how much God the Father loved us all to allow Christ to die in our place. John 3:16 - *“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”* **Oh ho God the Holy Spirit loves us to convict us of our sins and draw us to Christ.** Salvation is free; but it certainly wasn’t cheap!!

Then after three hours of darkness a triumphant CRY with a loud voice (not a weak dying moan); Jesus cried, “IT IS FINISHED.” What was finished?? The way for sinners to come back into fellowship with God.

Christ took our judgment; our Hell for us. But if the atoning substitutionary death of Christ is not accepted as our personal redemption; then we must be judged ourselves as the wages of sin is death. We will take our punishment which is eternal separation from God in Hell. Rev. 21:8 - *“But the fearful, unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”*

Christ’s death is sufficient for every sinner in the world. But, it is only **efficient** for the **whosoever’s** that receive Him.

This second judgment then was poured out upon Christ, that need never come into judgment. John 5:24 - *“Verily, verily I say unto you, He that heareth the Word, and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.”*

3. The third Judgment is future, and is called the Judgment Seat of Christ.

Remember in the last lesson we learned that after the Church (believers) are raptured, at the end of this age of grace; there is going to be seven years of tribulation on this earth.

The believers are now in Heaven with Christ. This Judgment takes place in Heaven while the tribulation is going on in the earth.

This is the Judgment of the Christian (not for our sins that would send us to Hell - remember, Christ bore that for us).

This is the Judgment for the way we have lived after we became Christians. II Cor. 5:10 - *“For we must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”*

Notice, **“we all” - every one of us** must give account to God.

At the Judgment Seat of Christ, each Christian will either receive rewards or suffer loss. I Cor. 3:12-15 - *“Now if any man build upon this foundation, gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man’s work shall be made manifest for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward; If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss, but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”*

All our works (after we are saved) will be tested by fire.

Hay - wood - and stubble will be burned up. All those things we have done in the energy of the flesh, for self pleasure, self gain, for the praise of men.

Gold - silver - and precious stones, stand the test of fire and remain.

(1) **Gold**- Gold stands for God. Therefore anything we do for His honor and glory shall remain.

(2) **Silver** - Silver stands for **redemption**. Anything we do for the salvation of souls, from leading a soul to Christ to giving out a Gospel tract to a cup of water given in Christ’s name all remain.

(3) **Precious Stones** - Christian graces - anything we do that enables us to be a better Christian, or help someone else to become a stronger Christian, lasts for eternity.

We don’t work to earn our salvation; that is a free gift, but after we are saved, we work **because we** are saved! Because we love Him; because we don’t want to see others go to Hell - so that we won’t be ashamed when we stand before Him.

4. **The fourth great Judgment** the Bible tells us about is also future. This is **“The Judgment of Nations.”** This takes place at the close of the tribulation period, after the Battle of Armeggedon; when Christ sets up His millennial Kingdom. Here is the scripture for this Judgment: Matt. 24:29-31 *“Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from Heaven, and the powers of the Heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in Heaven; and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of Heaven with power and great glory. And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of Heaven to the other.”*

Matt. 25:31-34 - *“When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory. And before Him shall be gathered all the nations; and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats. And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on His left. Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, “Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”*

Those nations that are placed on His right hand, had been kind to the “Jews” during the tribulation, while those placed on the left hand were nations that mistreated the Jews during this period. It is still true that he that blesses Israel, God shall bless. Gen. 12:3 - *“And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall families of the earth be blessed.”*

Now - truly His (Christ’s) Kingdom on earth has come, and we go into the 1,000 years reign with Him. Rev. 11:15 - *“And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in Heaven, saying, “The Kingdoms of the world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and He shall reign forever and ever.”*

Also read Isaiah 11:1-10.

5. The **fifth** and the last great Judgment detailed in the Bible is called, The Great White Throne Judgment.

This is the **Judgment of all the unsaved people of all ages.** Rev. 20:11-15 - *“And I saw a great white throne, and Him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the Heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened; which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things that were written in the books; according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and Hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. **This is the second death. And whoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”***

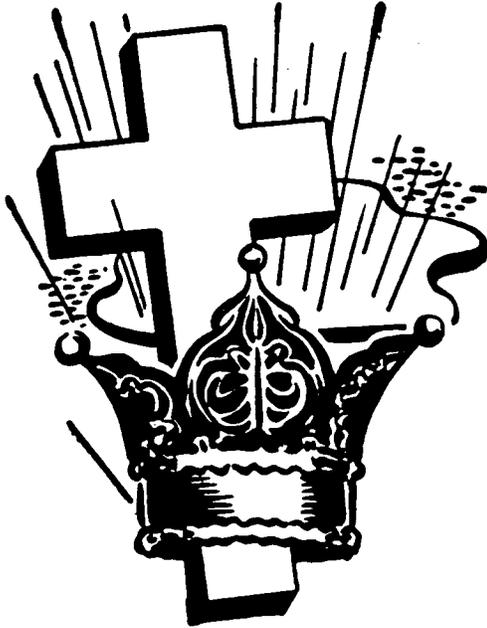
Read again verse 15 - **“And whosoever were not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”**

Notice only those whose names are **not** found in the book of life will stand before the Great White Throne to be judged. And they are not judged on how good or bad they have been but they are judged on whether or not their names are written in the **Book of Life. Everyone who has accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, has his or her name written in the book of life, and will never stand at this Judgment.** Review lesson 10, where it explains how your name can be written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.

LESSON 15 - JUDGMENTS
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) There are five main Judgments in the Bible.
- (2) Two Judgments are past; three are yet in the future.
- (3) The first Judgment occurred in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve sinned and the judgment of death was passed upon the whole human race.
- (4) Death meant both physical, which is a separation of soul and body, and spiritual, which is separation of the soul from God.
- (5) The second Judgment was when God laid upon Christ, the sins of us all at Calvary, and now all who come to God through Christ, stand in Christ's righteousness, and are brought back into fellowship with God.
- (6) The third Judgment is for believers and is called, “The Judgment Seat of Christ.” Here all Christians will be judged for their lives and works after they became a Christian. All our works will be tried by fire.
- (7) Only the works of gold (anything done for God's glory); silver (anything done for the redemption of souls); precious stones (anything done to help yourself or others to become better Christians) will with stand the test of fire.
- (8) The Judgment of the nations takes place after the Tribulation period, and this judgment is on how the nations have treated the Jews.
- (9) The Great White Throne is the judgment of unbelievers and takes place after the 1,000 years millennial reign of Christ on this earth.
- (10) Only those whose names are not written in the Lamb's Book of Life will take part in the Great White Throne Judgment. Their final end is eternity in Hell.

Rewards



Prayer: “Dear Heavenly Father - Help me to understand that salvation is entirely free; provided by the Grace of God. But if I am to receive rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ, I must earn them now in this life. Help me to live my Christian life in such a way that I’ll have some rewards waiting for me in Heaven. Thank you Lord. Amen.”

Review “POINTS TO REMEMBER” for Lessons 12, 13, 14.

Do the test for Lesson 14.

Review all scripture verses for lessons 1-15.

Write from Memory the verse for lesson 14.

Read the Memory verse 5 times.

MEMORY VERSE

(I Cor. 3:8): “**Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.**”

A gift and a reward are two entirely different things.

A “**gift**” is something you receive for **free** and is an expression of love - you cannot buy it or work for it. If you did that, it wouldn’t be a **gift**.

A “**reward**” must be merited in some way. It is somewhat like wages. **Wages are earned and received for services rendered here and now.**

Christians will receive rewards or suffer loss in Heaven according to how they have lived their lives down here on earth. Remember, the Judgment Seat of Christ studied in the last lesson?

The Christian is told to do all things heartily as unto the Lord “*knowing that of the Lord shall receive the reward of his inheritance.*” Col. 3:24

There are many, many blessings and benefits we receive now, as we live for, and serve the Lord. Actually if there were no Hell to shun or Heaven to gain, the **Christian life is still the happiest, most worthwhile, fulfilling life to live.**

The rewards we are studying about here, will be given in the future. Every Christian should strive to win them. In fact, your whole future for eternity depends on how we live now. “*If we suffer with Him, we shall also reign with Him.*” II Tim. 2:12. As someone has said, “*Our mansion up there will be according to the materials we send up.*”

These rewards are only for God's "born again" children; and only for those who have been steadfast in their faith, faithful in service, having lived a victorious Christian life in the midst of a crooked and perverse world.

There will be thousands of Christians who will be ashamed when they stand before Christ, and will receive no rewards, because their works down here do not merit them. **All our works will be tried by fire.** Only gold, silver and precious stones remain. Review lesson 15.

There are (5) five crowns spoken of in the scriptures that a Christian can receive from God if he meets the conditions. The rewards and crowns can be won or lost, the choice is ours.

The five crowns are:

(1) The Crown of Rejoicing.

I Thess. 2:19 - This crown is given to those who win souls to Christ; by preaching the Gospel; Living a Godly Life; Praying for souls to be saved; Giving financially for the spreading of the Gospel, etc., etc.

God knows each ones part in each soul that is saved. Prov. 11:30 - **"He that winneth souls is wise."**

(2) The Incorruptible Crown.

This crown is given to those who are temperate in all things, not indulging the appetites of the body. Here the crown is referred to as a prize to be obtained. This is a crown that each Christian should and can have if he really wants it. I Cor. 9:24-25.

(3) The Crown of Glory.

This is a crown that is given to faithful pastors, who faithfully and willingly care for the flock of God; and not for the sake of financial gain. I Peter 5:2-4 - *"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind. Neither as being Lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."*

(4) The Crown of Righteousness.

This crown will be given to all those who are looking for and love the appearing of Christ - (The Second Coming) when Christ comes for His own.

These Christians are loyal and faithful in Christ at all times. They love His appearing and are looking and waiting for it.

The Apostle John says in Rev. 22:20 - *"Even so, come Lord Jesus."*

II Tim. 4:8 - *"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day, and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."*

(5) The Crown of Life.

This is the crown that will be given to all those who endure trials and temptations, even unto death for Jesus sake. Rev. 2:10 - *"Fear none those things which thou shalt suffer; behold, the Devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days; be thou faithful unto death, and I will thee a crown of life."*

Many of those who receive this crown will be martyrs for the sake of Christ; like the Bible martyrs, Stephen, John, Peter, Paul, etc. It is said, "the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church."

In many parts of the world today, right now, behind the Iron Curtain in the Communist countries, Christians are dying for their faith in Christ.

We here in America, have such an easy path. Christianity is socially accepted. **We have so many "marsh-mallow" Christians.**

However, it may not be too long before we here in America will have to take a stand (no longer straddling the fence). In fact, the lines are being drawn on issues like school prayer, abortion, etc. We need to take our Christian stand on these issues.

If this country ever went “Anti-Christian” would you choose Christ even though it meant suffering, imprisonment, or even death??!

I feel this crown is one that should be desired, if it were the Lord’s will.

There are other great things awaiting us in Heaven. I Cor. 2:9 - *“But as it is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”*

Ask yourself this question. Will I have any works to stand before Christ? Will I receive a crown? Will I hear the words, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”?

If not, change your living and purposes in life while there is time.

It is also important to know that there will be so called **“rewards” for evil doers. Isa. 3:11** - *“Woe unto the wicked! It shall be ill with him; for the reward of his hands shall be given to him.”*

Gal. 6:7-8 - *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked; **for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.** For he that soweth to his flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap everlasting life.”*

LESSON 16 - REWARDS
“POINTS TO REMEMBER”

- (1) A reward is not a gift; a reward must be merited.

- (2) Christ will give Christians rewards in Heaven for works done while living on earth.

- (3) Not all Christians will receive awards. Many will suffer loss and stand ashamed before Christ.

- (4) There are five crowns that Christians earn:
 1. The Crown of Rejoicing
(for soul winners)

 2. The Incorruptible Crown
(For living a Godly life)

 3. The Crown of Glory
(for faithful pastors)

 4. The Crown of Righteousness
(for those who love Christ's coming)

 5. The Crown of Life
(for those who suffer for and perhaps die for Christ)

- (5) These rewards will be given at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

HOPE AGLOW MINISTRIES, INC.

Doing something about crime in America for over 30 years.

What is Hope Aglow Ministries? There are several answers to that question.

The ministry was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia on June 7, 1971, providing a distinct, legal entity with its own Board of Directors, by-laws and constitution. Our board is comprised of members of several local congregations.

We have always been "Committed to the Task of Prison Evangelism." For many years, we have been distributing this excellent introductory Bible correspondence course that helps an inmate get started in the right direction. Just as Dawson Trotman realized that there was a need to disciple the sailors he was leading to Christ, resulting in the creation of The Navigators, we realize we must disciple the inmates that we and others lead to Salvation. Our goal is to develop and implement a discipleship program that will meet an inmate at his level, and bring him to a fuller understanding of God's Word. With this accomplished, our next goal is to work with his family and many local churches to do all that is possible to have a Christian environment for him to come home to.

According to the Scriptures, we are all spiritual babies at Salvation and need to be milk fed the Word until we are able to feed on solid food. This applies equally to all, free and inmate alike. We can look around and see that most new converts who don't have someone feeding

them generally wither up and go back to their own ways.

At Hope Aglow, we have been used by God to lead thousands to Salvation and provided that first spiritual milk through our Bible courses, but we have never had the manpower to follow up on all these people. As the Lord provides the means, and without taking one step back from our present ministry, we want to establish a program to provide the kind of discipleship that is needed.

Now back to the original question, "What is Hope Aglow Ministries?"

We are a group of Christians from a variety of local congregations who have come together under a recognized non-profit banner to carry out the Great Commission in our jails and prisons.



Garry Sims
Director

Will you join us in making a difference?

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